

#### NOMINATION OF HON. OFFICERS FOR ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Council was reminded that to maintain the expert character of the National Council of Nurses it was necessary to have various sections represented.

After discussion it was agreed that nominees should represent Mental Nursing, Municipal Hospital Nursing and District Nursing, to replace experts retiring in rotation.

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously to nominate the following candidates for election as Vice-President and Directors to the National Council of Nurses:—

Vice-President (1)—Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Matron, Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone. Chairman, Mental Hospital Matrons' Association. Senior Director, Mental Nursing.

Directors (2)—(Miss M. G. Allbutt, Matron, Fulham Hospital, L.C.C., President, Fulham Hospital Nurses' League, Municipal Hospital Nursing.

(3) Miss Elsie Ivett, District Superintendent, Queen's Institute of District Nursing (to replace Miss Farrant) District Nursing, subject to her satisfactory replies to the following questions:—

1. Are you in favour of the One Portal to the State Register?

2. Are you in favour of working for the revision of the new Midwives Act at present in force, in so far as it permits Midwives who do not hold the State Certificate in General Nursing to undertake the nursing of the sick poor?

#### TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEM OF THE INCREASING SHORTAGE OF PROBATIONERS FOR TRAINING.\*

The problem of the increasing shortage of Nurses for Training was discussed. It was a very serious question, calculated to depreciate standards of nursing. It was agreed to again consider the subject at the next Meeting to see what could be done, as the shortage of suitable probationers was an economic and National question and would sooner or later have to be taken up by the Government.

#### LIST OF GIFTS.

Mrs. Myers of Dunningwell.—Coronation Number of *The Illustrated London News*. A superb issue.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.—"Florence Nightingale," a Biography by Margaret Goldsmith.

Miss Justine Kushke, President, Latvian Red Cross Nurses' Association, Riga.—*Gift to Mrs. Fenwick*, book, "Zelsirdiga Masa," in memory of Mrs. Marta Celmins. An exquisite book.

Miss Robins.—"St. James Magazine," Vol. 1, containing an article on Florence Nightingale.

Miss A. A. Macwilliam, Mrs. E. Wates, Miss S. H. Vian, Miss M. Chitson, Miss M. Angel.—Flowers.

*Donations to the College Congress Arrangements Fund:—*

Miss Brownsdon ... ..	£1	1	0
Miss D. B. Slater ... ..	1	1	0
Miss Urquhart ... ..	5	0	
Miss E. Thompson ... ..	5	0	

#### THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, October 23rd, at 2.30 p.m.

#### OTHER BUSINESS.

##### THE DRAFT CHARTER OF THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

The President reported that she had received a copy of "the Draft Charter for the Nursing Profession," issued by the Trades Union Congress General Council, which dealt with the problems of the economic conditions of the

\* Since this discussion the Minister of Health has announced that he will set up a Committee of doctors, nurses, and lay authorities to enquire into this and other Nursing conditions.

Nursing Profession. Also copies of an illustrated leaflet entitled "Off Duty," inviting nurses to join a trade union.

"The Draft Charter" was published in the current issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

As it was the duty of the Council to watch vigilantly matters of professional interest, the President asked the members of the Council to study the Charter and leaflet for consideration at its next meeting, and to consult their colleagues on this movement.

#### THE CONTROL OF PRIVATE NURSES.

The President drew the attention of the Council to a questionnaire recently issued by the College of Nursing, suggesting its control of Private Nursing Co-operations, and, incidentally, conditions and rules for Associations desirous of being placed on its Roll. This questionnaire was of a very penetrating nature—calculated to control the economic conditions and personal liberty of private nurses by a body not economically responsible for their professional remuneration and who might or might not be members of the College of Nursing. This was a very remarkable claim, which should be studied in all its bearings, and was too important a matter on which to form an opinion without due consideration.

The questionnaire would be published in the October issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING\* and she invited the Council to study its provisions and to consider it in detail at the next Meeting.

The Meeting then terminated.

#### OBLIGATION.

A member attended and took the Obligation and was welcomed into the College by the Council with whom she took tea.

#### FIXTURES.

October 23rd.—Monthly Meeting of the Council. 2.30 p.m.

#### OPENING OF THE WINTER SESSION.

We hope that Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses will note that the Opening of the Winter Session will take place at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Wednesday, November 3rd. Tea 4.15 p.m. Lecture, 5 p.m.

Miss Breay will give a Paper, open for discussion, on the subject of "The Economic Relations of Certified Midwives and the Registered Nurses, under the new Midwives Act."

It is hoped that Fellows and Members will attend without further invitation.

#### ADMINISTRATION CLASSES.

The first Administration Class of the Session, held on Tuesday, October 5th, proved most popular, and twenty-three Fellows and Members, accompanied by Miss A. Stewart Bryson, thoroughly enjoyed their trip down the river to Greenwich, instructed on the boat as to historic monuments and events passed by the way. The objective of the lesson was the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich,—a most fascinating National Institution—"To have seen the coat, breeches and gold buckles of the great Nelson, worn at the Battle of Trafalgar, aroused patriotism in the first degree." We shall hear more of this visit in our next issue.

"Fame has no necessary conjunction with praise: it may exist without the breath of a word! it is a recognition of excellence which must be felt but need not be spoken; even the envious must feel it and hate it in silence."

Mary Russell Mitford.

"It is wise and well to look on the cloud of sorrow as though we expected it to turn into a rainbow."

Madame Guizot.

\* Published on page 272.

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