

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The monthly Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held on Saturday, December 19th, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the chair, and there were present Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Vice-President; Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss G. Le Geyt, Fellows; Miss E. Eburah, Miss C. E. Nelson, D.N., and Miss D. de M. Warren, D.N., Members.

Regrets for absence were received from Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., and Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows. Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE TO KING EDWARD VIII.

The President said :—

“Momentous events have taken place since our last meeting. There has been a demise of the Crown owing to the Abdication of King Edward VIII, and we now owe allegiance to his successor, King George VI.

I would ask permission, therefore, before we pass on to other business to have recorded on our Minutes an expression of gratitude to our former well-beloved King for his twenty years' devoted service to the Empire as Prince of Wales. We have not forgotten his heroic service during the Great War, when for years he served at the Front, and gladly risked his life for his country, neither have we forgotten his far-reaching service when accredited representative of his Sovereign throughout the Commonwealth of Nations and to foreign lands. Instinct with generosity and charm he won good will for England throughout the world.

His fellow men of the poorer sort were indeed his brothers, and it was his instinctive sympathy with them which adds tragedy to his loss.”

It was agreed that this expression of gratitude should be inscribed on the Minutes.

The President reported the indisposition of Miss M. Breay, Senior Vice-President and of Miss A. S. Bryson, the Secretary, both ladies she feared would be off duty for some weeks.

It was unanimously agreed to send a message of sympathy to Miss Breay and Miss Bryson.

BUSINESS ARISING.

THE NURSING OF THE CHRONIC SICK.

Miss M. Breay, F.B.C.N., and Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., attended the Meeting arranged by Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., at 20, Portland Place, London, W.1, on November 26th, the Report of the Meeting was received from Miss Musson and considered.

It was reported that a copy of the Resolution adopted at the Meeting of the Opening Winter Session held on November 3rd, in opposition to the institution of an inferior grade of State Registered Nurses for the Chronic Sick, had been sent to :—

- Sir Kingsley Wood, Minister of Health.
- Sir Frederick Menzies, K.B.E., Chief Medical Officer of Health, London County Council.
- The Right Hon. Oliver Stanley, M.C., M.P., President, The Board of Education.
- A. S. McNalty, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., Chief Medical Officer, Board of Education.
- Somerville Hastings, Esq., M.S., F.R.C.S., Chairman, Hospitals and Medical Services Committee, London County Council.
- The Parliamentary Secretary, The Ministry of Health.
- The President, The General Medical Council.
- The Secretary, The British Medical Association.

Mrs. Hartree, President, The National Council of Women.
Miss M. Grobel, Secretary, The National Council of Women.

Acknowledgments have been received from :—

- The Ministry of Health.
- The Board of Education.
- Miss D. Bannon for Sir Frederick Menzies.
- Somerville Hastings, Esq., M.S., F.R.C.S.
- The General Medical Council.
- The Parliamentary Secretary, The Ministry of Health.
- The Secretary, British Medical Association.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF NURSES.

Miss A. M. Bushby, F.B.C.N. (in place of Mrs. Fenwick), Miss Isabel Macdonald, F.B.C.N., and Miss M. G. Allbutt, F.B.C.N., attended the meeting arranged by Sir Harry Pritchard, Secretary, Association of Municipal Corporations, at the County Councils' Association offices, 84, Eccleston Square, S.W.1, on December 8th. A Report was submitted.

Letter from L. Farrer Brown, Esq., Secretary, The Central Midwives Board *re* Midwife Teachers Examination course of instruction, the regulations regarding the Midwife-Teachers Examination prescribe that a candidate, prior to presenting herself for examination must attend a course of instruction approved by the Board in the subjects contained in the Examination Syllabus, and that the conduct of such a course has never been regarded as the monopoly of any Institution.

Letter from the Lady Hermione Blackwood of thanks for messages of sympathy conveyed to her from the Council on the death of her mother.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter of thanks from Capt. Cunningham-Reid, M.P., for the copy of the November issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING sent to him, and saying he has noted the Resolution adopted at the opening Winter Session.

Letter from Miss M. Robertson, F.B.C.N., giving particulars of her new post as Matron of a Holiday Home and Nursing Home for children of parents abroad.

Letter of thanks from Miss N. Dorsey for the invitation to Registration Day, which she and 14 students have pleasure in accepting.

Letter from Miss J. Walker, F.B.C.N., asking for information concerning “Commercial Nursing;” reply sent asking for further information.

Letter from Miss I. Macdonald, F.B.C.N., enclosing Report of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women, which she was unable to attend owing to pressure of work.

A large number of letters of good will and Christmas cards were reported from members at home and abroad.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

Applications for Membership were received, and all the applicants were elected.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented the Financial Statement for the month.

REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman of the History of Nursing Section, reported :—

“Since the last meeting of the Council I have received a very generous gift of £1 1s. from Miss F. M. Campbell. She would like to purchase a letter of Miss Nightingale's with this donation, if the price can be arranged.

Miss Bushby also presented Edward VIII Coronation Mug, Cup and Saucer, Calendar and Medals, which will be of historic interest in the future.

Miss C. E. Nelson presented a Jubilee Mug of King George V and Queen Mary.”

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