

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

The Monthly Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Saturday, April 23rd, 1938, 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 I. Macdonald, Miss D. G. Tilby, Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows; and Miss C. E. Nelson and Miss D. de M. Warren, Members.

Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

Regrets for absence were received from Miss M. Breay, Miss E. Brodie, Miss G. Le Geyt and Miss D. M. Dickinson.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Colonel J. Mackenzie consenting to give a course of six lectures at the College, beginning on Wednesday, April 27th, at 8.15 p.m., and continuing every Wednesday to and including June 1st, on Air Raid Precautions.

Letter from Miss D. de M. Warren, expressing appreciation of the experience she has gained during her term of office on the Council, which terminates in July.

A letter was considered from a member engaged in District Nursing in which she complained that having made certain complaints concerning conditions of service—upon being given leave to nurse her mother, one week later received a letter from the secretary asking her to resign. That she had written in reply, asking for an interview with the committee, which was refused. With consent of the nurse, a letter had been sent to the secretary stating that from the correspondence, it would appear that the nurse received notice of the termination of her engagement during absence without giving her the opportunity of stating her case, and expressing the opinion that no member of the nursing staff should be dismissed by the committee without giving her an opportunity of explanation and defence, and requesting that such an opportunity should be arranged. This had been granted, and the matter satisfactorily arranged.

Letters from Fellows and Members abroad congratulating the President upon attaining her Jubilee of Work for the organisation of the Nursing Profession.

Letters from the National Council of Women notifying

the Jubilee meeting of the I.C.W., to be held in Edinburgh from July. Also of the Annual Meeting and Conference to be held in London from October 14th to 16th next.

Resolutions to be sent not later than May 25th. Name and address of representative to be sent not later than Wednesday, July 27th.

It was agreed unanimously that Miss M. S. Cochrane be appointed to act as the College Representative to attend the N.C.W. Conference to be held in London, October 14th-16th.

Letter from Dr. Gall re an English Week in Budapest next summer at 19 guineas for 16 days.

Correspondence was reported with A. Speer, Esq., Public Relations Officer, N.A.L.G.O., concerning membership and the scope of the Nurses' Charter, the provisions of which are being urged upon local authorities throughout the country, was presented.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented a satisfactory Financial Statement for the month.

THE REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman, reported she had received a Prayer Book, given by Miss Florence Nightingale to a soldier of the 5th Dragoon Guards, James Simpson, while an invalid in the Palace Hospital at Scutari in 1855, presented to the British College of Nurses by Miss Tufnell. Miss Bushby also reported she had had presented to her a very beautiful Christmas Card which had originally been



A LETTER HEADING.

sent to the Matron of a Hospital, by Miss Nightingale; also a letter-heading with print of Lea Hurst, the home of Miss Nightingale. A copy of "La Belle Alliance March," composed and dedicated to Miss Nightingale by H. Sophia West, published for the benefit of the Sick and Wounded at Scutari. Also a signed copy of verses to "My Hospital Nurse," by J. C. Midgley.

All these treasures were presented by Miss Bushby to the College.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported on the various activities of the College during the past month. There has been many visitors, and those from the Dominions had brought greetings from Members resident there.

DATE OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

It was unanimously agreed that the Education Committee

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