

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

We have pleasure in presenting in this issue a condensed abstract of the Annual Report of the Council of the British College of Nurses, presented to the Annual Meeting held at 39, Portland Place, London, W, on July 4th.

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1937-8.

In presenting the Twelfth Annual Report of the Council to the Annual Meeting of the British College of Nurses, the Council is glad to congratulate its Fellows and Members on their continued support of its policy of professional self-determination, in consequence of the valuable work which it has been able to accomplish for the Profession of Nurses during the past year.

During the year the Council has met ten times, and transacted a large amount of business, while Standing and Sub-Committees have given considered attention to the various activities of the College. Owing to the extra work involved in the International Congress of Nurses held in July, 1937, the Monthly Council Meeting of the College usually held in that month was cancelled.

The high ethical standard maintained by the College should attract the progressive element of the Nursing Profession at home and abroad.

This year the Council will lose the very valuable services of Miss G. Le Geyt and Miss S. Vian, Fellows, and Miss D. De M. Warren, Member.

As only three Nominations for election to the Council were received, there was no Election, and the Council confirmed the nominations of Miss E. F. Brownsdon, Sister-in-Charge, London County Council School Treatment Centre, Kenley Street, W.11, and Miss M. M. Ingman, Matron, St. Mary Abbots Hospital, W.8, Fellows, and Miss K. Fogarty, Sister and Assistant Sister Tutor, Fulham Hospital, Hammersmith, Member.

On receiving the College Diploma, Fellows and Members at home and overseas have expressed their appreciation of its beauty and the inspiration of its design. The College Badge, which can be obtained from the Secretary, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at the cost of 10s., which includes the engraving of the name and College number, and postage, has been much appreciated.

Of its high ethical standard and its courageous campaign in the cause of Professional Freedom, the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING has inspired many expressions of gratitude and admiration from Fellows and Members at home and abroad. During the past year the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, as the Official Organ of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, has rendered a signal service concerning the enormous amount of detailed information published in connection with the International Congress of Nurses, held in London from July 19th to 24th, 1937.

The Council of the College has been mainly concerned during the twelve months in consolidating its work in the following directions: (1) the promotion of efficient professional and civic education; (2) the economic security of its Fellows and Members; (3) their legal protection; (4) social activities; (5) benevolent help; (6) the collection of historical data connected with the Nursing Profession.

Fellows and Members continue to attend the Administration Classes with enthusiasm. The Council, by the courtesy of the various authorities concerned, arranged for an Administrative Class of Fellows and Members of the College, conducted by the Secretary, to visit (1) the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, travelling by river, and (2) the Hospital and Departments of H.M. Prison, Holloway.

The Third Class, which had been arranged to visit Dr. Barnardo's Girls' Village Home and Hospital on

March 10th, was postponed owing to an outbreak of measles. Educational Grants have been notified in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING as they were applied for.

The excellent Lectures delivered by the distinguished physicians and surgeons have been well attended and greatly appreciated by Fellows and Members. On October 12th Mr. Archer Ryland, F.R.C.S., lectured on "Operations on the Temporal Bone," illustrated by lantern slides. Mr. W. E. Cooke, Associate Physician, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, gave a series of lectures on: "Cholera," on November 30th, 1937, illustrated by lantern slides; "The Typhoid Group of Fevers," on February 22nd, 1938; and "The Dysenteries," on March 22nd, 1938, illustrated by lantern slides.

A course of six lectures on Air Raid Precautions, held weekly at the College from April 26th to June 14th. The first three of these lectures were delivered by Colonel J. Mackenzie, M.A., M.B., Ch., D.P.H., Home Office Medical Instructor on Air Raid Precautions, and the latter half by Colonel Newman, of the Home Office, has been of great use to Fellows and Members, and the attendance of about thirty throughout the course was satisfactory.

Many technical books have been added to the Library, and those qualifying for examinations have found the Lending Library very helpful.

The Reception of Welcome by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to Members of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses was an auspicious event, fraught with enthusiasm and expectancy of great things to come, when some two hundred members of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses and guests were welcomed by the President and Vice-Presidents of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, on Sunday, July 11th, at 39, Portland Place, London.

The public rooms, by the courtesy of the President and Council of the British College of Nurses, were thrown open for the occasion and looked their best, enhanced by the beautiful flowers and plants—the gift of the Fellows and Members of the College.

The guests were received by Mrs. Fenwick, President, and the Hon. Officers, in the Lecture Hall. Here, on each side of the large doors, were clusters of deep-pink hydrangeas, high ferns and roses; this floral scheme was continued in the Hall, where gold chairs and many flowers brightened the scene. Beautiful statuettes of Florence Nightingale adorned the mantel-shelves.

After a short address, in which a very warm welcome was extended by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, as the Founder of the International Council of Nurses, hospitality was extended to many distinguished guests.

Grateful thanks have been received from Miss Anna Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary, International Council of Nurses, to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and her associates for the free use of offices in the British College of Nurses for carrying on the work in preparation for the Congress.

The President, supported by Members of the Council wearing their Robes of Office, welcomed in the Council Chamber many Fellows and Members and their friends to the opening of the Winter Session of the College, which was held on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 39, Portland Place.

The President was in the Chair, and introduced the subject for discussion, "The Economic Relations of Certified Midwives and Registered Nurses under the New Midwives Act," and called upon Miss Isabel Macdonald to read the Address prepared by Miss M. Breay. A spirited discussion followed, when it was agreed unanimously to communicate with the Minister of Health, asking for further information on certain Clauses of the Act, and the meeting concluded with a very warm vote of thanks to

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