

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.

A meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1., on Saturday, October 22nd, 1938, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair, and there were present Miss M. Breay and Miss A. M. Bushby, Vice-Presidents; Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss E. F. Brownsdon, Miss M. M. Ingman, Miss D. G. Tilby and Miss I. Macdonald, Fellows; and Miss K. Fogarty and Miss C. E. Nelson, Members.

Regrets for absence were received from Miss E. Brodie and Miss D. M. Dickinson.

BUSINESS ARISING.

It was reported that in accordance with the decision of the last Meeting of the Council a letter conveying the thanks and appreciation of the Council was sent to Lord Alness for his service rendered to British women in bringing before the House of Lords the British Nationality and Aliens Bill.

The President, in reporting the letter received from Lord Alness (published in the October issue of the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*), was sure that the Council was most gratified to receive his Lordship's encouraging reply and advised those present to communicate with him on the subject and also to try and secure the interest of the Member of Parliament of their constituency in support of the Bill.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A number of letters were received and considered. Several from members in financial stress. Recommendations for help were agreed. Reporting illness and other difficulties. Letters announcing appointments.

PROSPECTUS OF A PRE-NURSING SCHEME.

A circular letter and prospectus of a Pre-Nursing Scheme for external students at the West London Hospital, Hammersmith, was received from Miss C. M. Courtenay, the Matron, and considered. The scheme provides for the teaching of nurse students attending daily on the lines of a Preliminary Nursing School. The Council read the suggestions with interest and directed that a letter of thanks be sent to Miss Courtenay wishing it success.

ACCIDENT TO MR. WATES.

The Council learned with sincere regret from Mrs. Wates that her husband had sustained a fractured femur as the result of being knocked down by a motor cycle. The Council directed that a specially warm letter of sympathy be sent, wishing Mr. Wates a speedy recovery.

Documents were received from the Secretary of the National Council of Women. Copy of article on the "Greater Humanity Campaign" quoted in the October issue of *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, kind letters on the subject of "Women, Power and International Appeasement" from Miss L. Lind-af-Hageby and from the Rev. R. W. Thomson, Congregational Church, Bristol, *re* appeal to the youth of the world to outlaw bombardment from the air.

The President emphasised the conviction that murder of non-combatants by aerial bombardment should not be submitted to by civilised people, to accept death by such means was evidence of cowardice. Women should make barbarism impossible.

Letter read from Miss Hogg, giving an interesting account of her experience at the British Hospital, Haifa, Palestine.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The President presented the Financial Statement for the month.

THE REPORT OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING SECTION.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Chairman, regretted she had been very busy, but was pleased to report that Miss Dowse had presented a letter sent to her by H.R.H. Princess Christian thanking her for her work while she was Matron of the Herbert Hospital, Woolwich. This letter will be placed in the Royal Mementoes section.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported on the various activities of the College during the month. 769 communications had been received and 817 letters despatched from the office.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A discussion took place on the Resolutions and Amendments to the Constitution of the National Council of Nurses which appeared on the Agenda for the Executive Committee of the N.C.N. on Monday, October 17th.

It was reported that the Resolution submitted by the Council of the British College of Nurses would be acted upon, *i.e.*, to appoint a Special Sub-committee to consider the Constitution as a whole and make recommendations to the Executive Committee.

LIST OF GIFTS.

Miss E. Brodie: Beautiful hand-worked afternoon tea cloth.

Miss M. R. Angel: Flowers.

Miss B. A. Bowering: Flowers.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING: "Surgery and Surgical Nursing," by Michael Bulman, M.D., M.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.C.O.G.; "Domestic Pests, What they are, How to Remove them," by L. Hunter; "Principles and Practice of Medical Nursing," by Victor Knapp, M.D.; "The Nose, Ear and Throat for Nurses and Dressers," by Michael Vlasto, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

It was agreed that a special vote of thanks be conveyed to Miss E. Brodie for the gift of the very beautiful tea cloth which was so much admired by all present. "Far too good to use" was the general opinion.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, November 19th, at 2.30 p.m.

The Meeting then terminated.

OBLIGATIONS.

Following the meeting, the Council had the great pleasure of welcoming four colleagues who took the Obligation and signed the Roll, also visitors, all of whom took tea and discussed the nursing topics of the hour. It was good news that two young matrons present stated that they had no difficulty whatever in securing a supply of suitable, well-educated probationers.

Miss K. M. Fogarty, M.B.C.N., recently appointed a Member of the Council, holds the position of Assistant Sister Tutor at Fulham Hospital, Miss Beatrice A. Thorogood is the very able Head Sister Tutor.

FIXTURES.

November 19th.—The British College of Nurses' Council Meeting, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, 2.30 p.m.

The Report of the Scottish Departmental Committee on Nursing, to which we allude in another column, will be on the agenda for discussion.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Miss Ada Evelyn Shelley, of Golders Green, N.W., left £25 to Sister Violet Eeles.

Miss Rachel Doris Price Holmes of Cardiff, left £2,000 to Nurse Margaret O'Connor "as some token of my gratitude for the care and devotion which she had given to me during my lifetime."

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