

nurses. She thought the weaker characters needed moral support.

Miss K. F. ARMSTRONG expressed the view that, as the Scottish Committee on nursing conditions had said in their Report, many of their recommendations could only be carried out if Government grants were available.

Miss HILL, Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, said that that institution paid its Head Sisters a maximum salary of £150. Her hearers would realise what that meant. The work was hard, but they were happy to do it, and they were not overworked or underpaid.

Miss C. H. McARA, Hon. Secretary, Scottish Nurses' Association, said she did not like the word probationer. Why not nursing student? She did not believe in probationers being paid at all, but she believed in trained women having a salary of £200 a year if they lived in, or £300 if they lived out, which they should be at liberty to do if they wished. A nurse did not need looking after more than any other skilled worker. She considered the compulsory retiring age for all nurses should be 60, and preferably 55.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked that one of the greatest deterrents to girls entering the Nursing Profession was that the public thought of nurses as either of the type of Florence Nightingale or Sairey Gamp. When she told one father that nurses at Charing Cross Hospital were allowed occasional theatre passes he was horrified, and that was the last she heard of his daughter as an applicant for a probationer's post. It did not do to neglect public opinion.

MISS ABRAM, late President of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, expressed approval of an eight-hour day in three shifts. It was in force in the Calcutta Presidency Hospital, of which she had been Matron, and the more she saw of it the more she approved. The first shift was from 3 a.m. to 11 a.m. ending with dinner, at 11 a.m.; the second from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and the third from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. She did not find it bad for the patients, and the nurses saw the working of the wards at all hours. It was a definite advantage. The disadvantage was in regard to office administration, the arrangement of that was not so easy.

Miss B. MONK, President of the College of Nursing, said that must be so in regard to the arrangement of the Matron's time off duty.

Miss PARKEN, Matron of the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, inquired what happened at busy times, such as lecture times and washing times, and operations.

Miss HELEN DEY, President of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, expressed the view that the chief difficulty, if we were quite honest, was the financial one. A day of three shifts would entail the employment of twice the number of nurses.

Miss E. M. MUSSON, Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, asked how many Sisters were required on duty when there were operations, mostly, she supposed, between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

A speaker expressed the view that girls did not become nurses because they could not afford to be doctors, the two had quite different types of mind.

Miss COCHRANE from the Chair said that the discussion had been very interesting and instructive. She wished that a great number of young nurses, and of the public, could have been present. They would not, she thought, regard the senior members of the Nursing Profession as soured, frustrated spinsters.

The Session concluded with a cordial vote of thanks to the Chair, and to Miss Cockayne for her Paper, and to Miss Stewart as the Opener of the Discussion.

We hope to insert other instructive Papers in future issues.

LECTURE AND FILM.

At the close of the Conference Miss E. M. Mussom offered a very sincere vote of thanks to the eloquent Lecturer, Dr. G. W. B. James, which was warmly supported by an intensely interested audience of nurses.

The following very kind letter has been received from Dr. G. W. B. James:—

124, HARLEY STREET, W.1.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—

Thank you very much for your letter and your kind remarks about my lecture. I am not going to charge you at all for the lecture or the film, which is my own, and the kodascope . . . Believe me, I feel very happy to have been of some small service.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

G. W. B. JAMES.

We feel sure every nurse present at the Lecture and wonderfully realistic film will unite with us in gratitude, and in our pleasure in offering a few lovely flowers to Mrs. James, who honoured us by attending the Evening Session of our Conference.

CONFERENCE FINANCE.

The Managers of the Nursing Conference are to be congratulated that the assets have just covered its cost. This, of course, could not have resulted unless the usual honorary assistance had been given. Thus the National Council owes Miss A. M. Bushby a warm vote of thanks for daily attendance at the office to deal with the sale of tickets and correspondence.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS CONCERNING NURSING CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 10TH, 1938.

<i>Receipts.</i>		£	s.	d.
Donations from Affiliated Associations.	...	23	8	0
Sale of Tickets	... ..	31	19	5
		£55 7 5		
<i>Payments.</i>		£	s.	d.
Hire of Caxton Hall, Westminster	... ..	19	8	6
Clerical help and typing ... ..	...	23	0	0
Cost of printing Tickets and Posters	... ..	2	4	6
Stamps ... ..	...	2	0	0
Printing of Envelopes and Secretary's Complimentary Slips	... ..	2	2	0
Expenses of Operator of Film	... ..	2	2	0
Printing of Programme	... ..	1	1	0
Tips to Porters at Caxton Hall	... ..	1	0	0
		£52 18 0		

TO A NURSE.

For certain triumph over pain,
For labour with no thought of gain,
For vigils held and not in vain,
God keep you!

For lives that lean on your life's crutch,
For eyes that understand so much,
For healing hands of blessed touch,
God love you!

For broken rest and weary nights,
For sacrifices of dear delights,
For ideals kept and lonely heights,
God bless you!

ANNE CAMPBELL.

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