

was submitted from the representative of the London Passenger Transport Board:

"So far as the so-called 'speeding up' is concerned, there is absolutely no truth whatever in the statement that our men are fined for being late. Indeed, they are not punished for this in any way. It is only if a man is known to be continually late without reason that the subject is taken up with him. The Board's schedules are so drawn up that ample time is given to proceed from one end of the route to the other, except in abnormal circumstances, and if such circumstances should occur, nothing is said if they are late.

In six years the average fleet speed has only gone from 9½ to 10½ miles per hour, despite the fact that the type of bus which is now on the road is an improvement in every particular to that which was in use in 1932. I should question whether any private car owner expects only to have increased his average speed by less than 10 per cent. during the past six years.

The Board's officials are doing everything they can to ensure that passengers are given proper time to board and alight.

From this, I think you will see that not only do the Board enjoy an exceptional reputation for the skill of their drivers and the safety of their vehicles, but that they have been doing and will continue to do everything they can to see that their passengers' comfort is safeguarded."

The President said she felt sure the Council would agree with her in admiration for the skill and civility of the drivers and conductors of the Board's buses; it also would welcome the assurance of the Board that it was doing everything it could to ensure that passengers were given proper time to board and alight. Recently time for boarding had been far from sufficient. An improvement may now take place.

The following letter had been received from F. W. Maughan, Esq., Ministry of Transport:—

Ministry of Transport,
Metropole Buildings,
Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.
3rd March, 1938.

MADAM,—I am directed by the Minister of Transport to refer to your letter of 22nd January, 1938, and to state that he deeply regrets to learn that a number of persons associated with the British College of Nurses have received injuries as a result of road accidents. This problem is continually receiving the Minister's attention, and I am to assure you that every possible step is being taken to promote greater safety on the roads.

I am to add that the Minister has been in communication with the London Passenger Transport Board in regard to the accidents referred to in your letter in which the Board's vehicles were involved and he is advised that every care is taken by them to ensure the safety of their passengers.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient servant,

F. W. MAUGHAN.

The President hopes that every member involved in an accident will report to the Secretary. There were several suggestions which might be given publicity for safer rules for the road.

Several letters have been received from Matrons and others asking for advice in difficult circumstances, from which it would appear that the staffing of hospitals is becoming an increasing difficulty, in some instances seriously affecting the health and happiness of administrators. Letters of thanks for help and advice have been received.

Several letters were reported expressing thanks for arranging the visit to Holloway Prison, which had been of deep interest to those attending.

Letter from Mrs. M. Watt, General Secretary, National

Council of Women, enclosing draft programme for the International Council of Women Jubilee Meeting at Edinburgh, from 11th to 22nd July next.

Letter from Miss V. M. Weddle reporting she has received a First Class Housekeeping Certificate from Battersea Polytechnic, after attending evening classes for this course for two years.

PENSIONS.

Correspondence was considered *re* pensions, and an intimation was received that upon the recommendation of the Council the Trustees are prepared to grant a pension to Mrs. M. of £25 per annum, starting on the 25th inst., and payable on further quarter-days.

A most grateful letter was submitted from Mrs. M., who rejoiced that this additional income would permit her to retain her room and home.

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 Bushby reported that she had received several communications from dealers asking her to visit them *re* Florence Nightingale treasures, and stated that although she had very little money in hand she intended to go at the earliest possible date to see their things.

Miss Bushby also reported that she had received a letter from America asking was it the case that Miss Florence Nightingale had been in Spain, and that she had replied to them explaining that Miss Nightingale never was in Spain, and that she had received confirmation of this fact from a relative of Miss Nightingale's.

Miss Bushby reported that she had sold more stamps, and was pleased to be able to state that she had been able to help sick and old nurses.

The President thanked Miss Bushby on behalf of the Council for a further grant from her stamp fund.

THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.

The Secretary reported on the various activities of the College during the past month.

AIR-RAID PRECAUTIONS.

Subsequent to enquiries that Lectures on Air Raid Precautions are available, the Council unanimously agreed to approach Colonel J. Mackenzie inviting him to give a Course of Six Lectures to Members of the College on Air Raid Precautions, to be held at 39, Portland Place, W.1.

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL.

The President reminded the Council that the Notice of Election must be advertised in the April issue of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and expressed sincere regret that the Council would lose the greatly valued services of Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss S. H. Vian, Fellows, and Miss D. deM. Warren, Member, who would complete their term of office in July.

It was agreed to publish the Notice of Election as heretofore in the April issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. Two vacancies for Fellows and one for a Member.

LIST OF GIFTS.

Miss Kathleen Smith, R.R.C.—Concert Tickets.
Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C.—Photograph of herself; Antique Rose Bowl.
Miss M. R. Angel.—Flowers and Foliage.
Miss MacWilliam.—Flowers (most lovely anemones).
Miss A. S. Bryson.—"The Science and Art of Nursing," four vols.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)