

College be increased by two Fellows and one Member, bringing the total number of Councillors to 15, so that all branches of Nursing might be represented.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL.

This year the retiring Councillors will be Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., S.R.N., Miss Isabel Macdonald, S.R.N., Fellows; and Miss C. E. Nelson, S.R.N., D.N., Member.

The President reported that nomination papers of two Fellows and one Member for election to the Council had been received from Miss A. M. Bushby, S.R.N., Miss Elizabeth Martin, R.R.C., S.R.N. (Matron, Wood Green and Southgate Hospital), Fellows; Miss Edith Hussey, S.R.N. (Sister, St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, London), Member.

As no other nominations in order for election to the Council had been received, there would be no election, and it remained for the Council to confirm the nominations.

VICE-PRESIDENT.

Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., S.R.N. (Matron, Charing Cross Hospital, London), was elected Vice-President for the ensuing two years.

LIST OF GIFTS.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.—"Florence Nightingale," by Margaret Goldsmith.

Miss C. E. Nelson.—Scrapbook.

Mrs. E. Wates.—Flowers.

Miss M. Angel.—Beech leaves.

Miss E. Brodie.—Programme of The International Council of Women, Golden Jubilee 1888-1938; and Reception by H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent (for the History of Nursing section).

Adjutant Mary Layton.—Cloisonné pot.

Miss P. Keen.—5s. towards College Funds.

It was agreed that a very warm vote of thanks be sent to Mrs. Wates for the bountiful quantity of very lovely flowers received from her.

NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, July 15th, at 2.30 p.m. The meeting then terminated.

Following the meeting members took the obligation and afterwards tea with the Council.

Miss Lena Alma Koller, a Nightingale Student, was also welcomed, who expressed keen interest in the Nursing History to be gathered from collections and from the College Archives.

Adjutant Mary Layton, on leave from Salvation Army Hospital, Ding Hsien, Hopei, China, was also warmly welcomed.

FIXTURES.

July 15th.—Monthly Meeting of the Council at 2.30 p.m.

AN IMPRESSION OF A SOLEMN CEREMONY.

Ideally situated in Queen's Gate, the British College of Nurses presented a pleasing atmosphere, on the 17th June, when a visit was necessitated to take the Oath of Obligation. Once within the portals of Headquarters we realised it had been furnished by a connoisseur. The Reception room was full of interest—the Isla Stewart Memorial full of books of historic interest—a lifelike portrait of the late great Matron of Bart.'s, upright, facing the inevitable difficulties of a pioneer. Musings were cut short—the moment had arrived to pass into the Council Chamber—providing an environment befitting the solemn occasion.

The President and Members of Council present were standing, and the Oath of Obligation, solemnly taken, stressed the importance of the duties entailed by State

Registration and of the honour of belonging to such a notable and illustrious organisation as the British College of Nurses. The hand clasp of the President in fellowship bestowed the greater honour, namely that of welcome into a movement upholding the highest standard of professional duty, and the presentation to Members of Council was sincerely appreciated.

Tea, tastefully served, proved a welcome interlude, it gave a complete feeling of fellowship, and provided an opportunity for social and professional discourse.

The inspection of the Royal Mementoes Collection of porcelain under the descriptive guidance of a connoisseur proved educative and interesting. Of particular interest were the statuettes of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort—together with that great and illustrious pioneer Florence Nightingale, surrounded with mementoes of the Crimean War. Queen Victoria arm in arm with the Sultan of Turkey and the Emperor Napoleon III! Omar Pasha—his military attendant warming his hookah. The magnificent "Royal Patriotic Jug," published by S. Alcock & Co., Hill Pottery, Burslem, January 1st, 1855, depicting on one side the wounded being carried off the battlefield, and on the other the weeping widows and fatherless children.

Florence Nightingale attending the wounded—emphasising not only devotion to the sick, but claiming a high standard of skill in their cure.

It is well to keep before us the Florence Nightingale Pledge: "I solemnly pledge myself before Almighty God, and in the presence of this assembly, to pass my life in purity and to practise my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will endeavour to aid the physician in his work and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care."

And also of the Oath of Obligation which does well to remind us of our duty and high calling.

Time forbade further reflection—leave was taken of our revered President, the Councillors who have our interests so greatly at heart, and our devoted Secretary, and colleagues from China and U.S.A. A delightful afternoon, for ever to be held in memory, thanks to our esteemed leaders, who are at the present crisis of our fortunes in the front rank of those who are standing firmly for right against might.

D. V. H.

A GREAT JOY.

A Fellow writes from Palestine:—

"At Easter, I was granted a week's local leave and spent it in Jerusalem, where I stayed with friends, and through them I was able to visit several places now closed to tourist traffic. The whole week was a great joy and full of interest. Can't you imagine the thrill of spending Good Friday visiting Calvary and the Garden Tomb of General Gordon's choice of the site where most probably the Crucifixion and Resurrection took place? And certainly there seemed a strong feeling in the atmosphere of the Garden Tomb of reality—almost as though the events of nearly 2,000 years ago had happened recently. The catholic choice—the 'Church of the Holy Sepulchre,' left me quite cold; but in the quiet garden, with the soft whisper of the breeze in the trees, one was conscious of the presence of the Master, and could almost see Him and hear Him as he spoke to poor heart-broken Mary on the Resurrection morning."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)