

enclosed Memorandum concerning the terrible plight of Private Nurses since the outbreak of hostilities.

By Private Nurses we mean those who are attached to various Licensed Associations, and who are sent out to various Hospitals and Institutions to do temporary relief duties where an emergency arises or a shortage of Nurses.

Voluntary aid with a smattering of Nursing is the chief obstacle and is unjust to the public as well as to the Nurses.

The Nurses being linked with the medical world, we feel sure of the help of every member of the Profession in this crisis and as we are bringing this Memorandum to the notice of many influential people in the hope that this grave wrong will soon be righted, we therefore call upon your able assistance by making some mention of the facts contained therein in your well-read paper.

With every trust in your help,

We are,  
Yours faithfully,

LONDON AND DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION,  
N. HEANY,  
*Organising Secretary.*

The Memorandum was influentially signed on behalf of eight Associations licensed by the London County Council.

After consideration, warm sympathy having been expressed by the members of the Council, the following Resolution was proposed by Miss M. S. Cochrane, seconded by Miss K. Fogarty.

#### Resolution.

"That the Council of the British College of Nurses do everything in its power to help the Deputation being formed to present the condition of trained Registered Nurses to the Ministry of Health."

It was agreed that a letter be sent to Miss Heany, together with a copy of the Resolution, informing her that the Council is warmly in sympathy with Registered Nurses in their protest against competition for a livelihood with Auxiliary Nurses and other untrained persons, as employed by the Government to nurse the sick during the War, which has already resulted in lack of employment and serious economic hardship for fully qualified Registered Nurses.

#### The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

A letter was received from the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain recommending that, owing to the difficulty of securing representative meetings of Members at the present time, meetings of the Executive Committee and the Grand Council be suspended for the present.

The Secretary was directed to inform the President of the N.C.N. that the Council was in favour of the postponement of meetings at the present time. The Council expressed satisfaction that the National Council of Nurses had a surplus in the three sections of its activities, and felt sure that Miss Villiers, acting for the Treasurer, would exercise economy in the conduct of business.

#### The Deaths of Two Fellows.

The President expressed very deep regret in reporting the deaths of two most loyal Fellows:—

Miss Minnie Ellis Rowell, on October 27th, and Miss Margaret Jane Carruthers, on November 12th.

The Council desired that an expression of sincere regret be sent to their nearest relatives.

It was agreed that a meeting should be summoned in the New Year if urgently required.

The meeting then terminated.

#### THE ROYAL CHRISTMAS CARDS.

We are informed that the Royal Christmas Cards will not be available this year until close to Christmas, and it is with sincere regret that they cannot be dispatched to Fellows and Members in the Dominions and foreign countries in time to convey good wishes from the Council. But as we have learned year after year how greatly these beautiful souvenirs are valued and preserved, the cards will be dispatched as soon as obtainable; in the meanwhile, every good wish for the season.

#### OBITUARY.

It is with sincere regret and a sense of loss that the deaths of two of the most loyal and generous Fellows of the College are recorded.

#### Miss Minnie Ellis Rowell, F.B.C.N.

Miss M. E. Rowell died on October 27th, and a memorial service was held at St. Peter's Church, Vere Street, W.1, on October 31st, which was attended by many members of her devoted family and large circle of friends. The service was conducted by the Rev. R. S. Lound, Vicar, and by the Rev. S. H. Jarrett, Vicar of St. Paul's, Old Brentford. Upwards of 100 beautiful floral tributes testified to the love of a large circle of friends! Miss M. E. Rowell trained at Guy's Hospital, after which she served with the Imperial Yeomanry during the South African war, having charge of an extensive part of Dielfontein Hospital. Later she returned to Guy's for maternity training and later, as a private nurse, was one of the most esteemed and successful members of the Registered Nurses' Society for a term of years.

In 1908 she opened a nursing home in Beaumont Street, which she carried on most successfully for 31 years. Miss Rowell was a very public-spirited woman, and took a keen interest in many local charities in Marylebone, and was vice-president of the League of Mercy for the borough to the time of her death.

Miss Rowell possessed a keen sense of professional responsibility. She took a keen interest in the Registration campaign, and joined the British College of Nurses as a Fellow in 1926, and earnestly supported its work for the elevation of nursing education and professional self-government. She belonged to that generation of nurses who loved their work dearly and did all in her power to raise it in the esteem of the public. Her death is widely deplored by colleagues and friends.

#### Miss Margaret Carruthers, F.B.C.N.

Miss Margaret Carruthers passed away at her home in Keswick, on November 12th, after a long illness patiently borne. Miss Carruthers trained at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, and held posts of responsibility as Sister and Matron, but was best known to her colleagues as Lady Superintendent of The Edith Cavell Home, at Windermere, where for many years she devoted her charming personality in making it a real home for visitors who needed care or restoration to health.

Miss Carruthers was a staunch supporter of the policy of the British College of Nurses, and her death is a great loss to the nursing profession.

Much sympathy will be felt for her sisters united in sincere affection. Miss Carruthers rests in lovely surroundings at Keswick.

#### THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE.

The names and date of death of Minnie Ellis Rowell and Margaret Carruthers will be inscribed in the lovely Book of Remembrance of the British College of Nurses.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)