

COMING EVENTS.

February 15th.—National Council of Women of Great Britain. Luncheon to Commemorate the 21st Anniversary of Women's Suffrage, Maple's Restaurant, Tottenham Court Road, W.1, 12.45 p.m. Tickets, price 3s. Apply 92, Gower Street, W.1.

February 18th.—The British College of Nurses. Council Meeting, 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7. 2.30 p.m.

February 24th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly Meeting, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1. 2.30 p.m.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "Christian the Ninth." Hans Roger Madol.
- "Sir James Cantlie." Neil Cantlie and George Seaver.
- "Nelson's Wife." E. M. Keate.
- "My Life and History." Berta Szeps.
- "My Lloyd George Diary." Tom Clarke.

FICTION.

- "The Lake of the Royal Crocodiles." Eileen Bigland.
- "The General's Lady." Esther Forbes.
- "Murder in the Bud." Phyllis Bottome.
- "Wonder Trip." Sheila Burns.
- "The Valiant Woman." Sheila Kaye-Smith.

HISTORY.

- "The Thirty Years' War—And After." C. F. Wedgwood.

TRAVEL.

- "African Women," Sylvia Leith-Ross.
- "Morocco Awakes." Captain F. H. Mellor.

THE TRAGEDY OF RAMSAY MACDONALD.

A Political Biography—By L. Macneill Weir, M.P.

We desire that this book should be studied by those interested in how the people of this country are governed. That is a tragedy indeed. Those of us who spent years in the Lobbies of the Houses of Parliament, straining every nerve in support of legal status for Nurses, have little to learn of political expediency in high places. We would at the same time render an expression of sincere gratitude to the many honourable men of all parties whose generous support carried through both Houses the national reform of the Nurses' Registration Acts, in spite of determined opposition of persons in power. It would almost appear that to sit in the seats of the mighty, truth and honour are superfluous graces. "The Tragedy of Ramsay Macdonald" is a most heart-rending story. It leaves us lamenting and sad at heart that what might have been so stupendous an achievement in the uplift of our people—evaporated in their betrayal.

PRISON REFORM.

Another book to be secured and read is "Elizabeth Fry, Quaker Heroine," by Miss Janet Whitney, the story of one of the most lovable and outstanding women in history. Her chief work was amongst the prisoners in Newgate, at the time when she first visited it a place of inconceivable mismanagement and horror. She was instrumental in obtaining many reforms, and in comforting and tranquillising many who were at that time executed in public for the most trivial offences. Although her most world-renowned work was concerned with prison reform, she was interested also in nursing, obtained training in nursing for young women at Guy's Hospital, and elsewhere, and established a Private Nursing Institution in Devonshire Square, E.C. From this source Miss Nightingale drew some of the nurses who served in Crimean Hospitals.

UNJUSTIFIABLE ATTACK ON THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A copy of the following correspondence addressed to an Honorary Secretary of an affiliated Nurses' Association to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain has been sent for our information.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING (INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER), HENRIETTA PLACE, CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

The Hon Secretary.

January 16th, 1939.

DEAR MADAM,—The Council of the College of Nursing, having received a report of the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain which took place in November, 1938, have decided to register a protest against the conduct and procedure of that meeting. They venture to approach you, therefore, to ask whether your Association will support them in this action, and if so, whether they will be kind enough to sign the enclosed document and return it to me as soon as possible. I remain,

Yours faithfully,

FRANCES G. GOODALL, *Secretary.*

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING (INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER), HENRIETTA PLACE, CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

The President,

National Council of Nurses of Great Britain,
19, Queen's Gate, S.W.7.

DEAR MADAM,—The affiliated associations of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, whose names are appended below, desire to register a protest against the procedure followed at the meeting of the Grand Council, held on November 9th, 1938, on the following points:—

(i) Freedom of speech was denied to several representatives.

(ii) When the vote was taken on a resolution the decision was given that it had been passed *nem. con.* although there were delegates voting against it. Later a count of these votes, though asked for, was refused.

Yours faithfully,

As these statements are inaccurate and misleading, we advise the Secretaries of Affiliated Organisations who have been invited to associate themselves in this personal attack upon the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, to demand from Miss Goodall, Secretary of the College of Nursing, evidence, in writing, in support of the Council's accusations circulated by her.

NURSING AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

WHERE TO OFFER YOUR SERVICES.

The Central Emergency Committee for the Nursing Profession, recently appointed by the Minister of Health, is now established in an office at Romney House, Marsham Street, London, S.W.1. Trained and assistant nurses, as described on page 20 of the National Service Guide, should now, therefore, send their names to the Central Emergency Committee, and not to the College of Nursing.

Women who are willing to undertake a course of training for nursing in an emergency are advised to join the St. John Ambulance Brigade or the British Red Cross Society, of which particulars are given in the Guide. But if for one reason or another they do not wish to join one of these organisations they should send their names to the Central Emergency Committee.

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