

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF GREAT BRITAIN.**

(a) Memoranda for consideration of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services, submitted by an *ad hoc* Committee appointed by the National Council of Women of Great Britain, July, 1938. This lengthy document containing recommendations inimical to Registered Nurses was referred for consideration.

(b) Letter from Mrs. Katharine M. Cowan (General Secretary), *re* the Annual Representative Council Meeting and Conference to be held at the Town Hall, Cheltenham, from October 9th to 12th, 1939.

Letter from Mrs. F. Dinning, F.B.C.N., sending £1 Is. subscription to the Nursing Standards Defence Fund, and stating: "I only wish that I could send more, but I have been ill and out of action for years, and have to live very economically on a small widow's pension. How well I remember the efforts made by those great pioneers, our beloved President, and others too. I signed the petition when I was Ward Sister at Seacroft, Leeds, about 1904-5. Do you remember 'the great betrayal'? This measure looks like being another."

Letter from Mr. E. J. Glavin, R.M.N. (Secretary, the Society of Registered Male Nurses), in which he states: "The Society of Registered Male Nurses has considered the Interim Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee at some length, and whilst we agree that Untrained Nurses should be brought under proper control, we are strongly of opinion that the use of the designation 'Nurse' in reference to them is not in the best interests of State Registered Nurses. It is our opinion that only those who are State Registered under the Nurses' Registration Act of 1919 should be entitled to the honour conferred by that registration. There are no other Nurses.

"We are of the opinion that it should be illegal for any but State Registered Nurses to use the designation 'Nurse,' and that, although there should be proper control of those who have some nursing experience and training, it should not be carried on under the Nurses' Registration Act, nor by the statutory body under that Act."

Letter from Miss Stainton, M.B.C.N., expressing thanks and appreciation of Miss Cochrane's kindness in arranging for her to have a refresher course at Charing Cross Hospital, which she started on Monday, 13th inst., going daily.

**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.**

The Chairman (Miss A. M. Bushby) explained that having been much engaged with other business in connection with the Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee she had no report.

**THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT.**

The Secretary reported on the various activities of the College and the completion of the fitting of carpets, etc., for the new Headquarters.

**THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON NURSING SERVICES.**

The Interim Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee was further considered and it was reported that hundreds of tickets had been applied for to attend the Meeting of Protest to be held at Caxton Hall on March 21st, when expert speakers had consented to take part in support of the Protection of the Sick and Prevention of the Degradation of Registered Nurses' Status.

The publications in the Press were reported as follows: As a result of the President's interviews with representatives of the *Sunday Express* Editorial Staff and the *Evening Standard* very satisfactory publicity has been

given to the College policy concerning its determination to protect the status of Registered Nurses so unjustly threatened in the Recommendations of the Interim Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services.

A letter (reported in the March issue of the *B.J.N.*) contributed by Miss Isabel Macdonald, and published in the *Times* on February 17th, and a letter published in the *Times*, February 25th, from Mr. Herbert Paterson, F.R.C.S., supporting Registered Nurses' opposition to the Recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services were warmly approved by the Council.

In accordance with the decision of the Council at its meeting held on Saturday, February 18th, the Resolution agreed was given wide publicity. It was agreed that the Protest to the Recommendation *re* the Registration of Untrained Assistant Nurses recommended by the Inter-Departmental Committee be given further publicity.

**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, this year, lose the greatly valued services of three of its most valued members.

**LIST OF GIFTS.**

The President reported that Miss Bryson, with her usual generosity, had made a most useful gift to the new Headquarters by having the banisters enamelled from top to bottom, thereby greatly improving the staircase.

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Saturday, April 22nd, at 2.30 p.m.

**OTHER BUSINESS.**

The President drew the attention of the Council to the long and devoted and expert service which has been rendered in the cause of Registered Nurses by Miss M. R. Angel (Manager of *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* for many years) and of Miss B. A. Bowering (in various offices for twenty-two years), members of the clerical staff, and proposed that a Silver Tea Service be presented to each of them, at 4 p.m., on March 30th, on the occasion of the opening of the College new Headquarters. This was agreed. The Meeting then terminated.

**DEATHS.****Mrs. Mary Forster Mein.**

The President expressed deep regret to report the death of Mrs. M. Forster Mein, who died in St. Stephen's Hospital, after a short illness. Mrs. Mein, who received her training at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, had up to the time of her death received a College Pension. She was an ardent supporter of the State Registration movement, and a member of the College since January, 1927, and in her death our Profession loses a fine courageous spirit.

**Miss Annie Hughes.**

Last month a letter reporting the death of Miss Annie Hughes was received with much regret; she had been a Fellow of the College since May, 1927. Miss Hughes, though comparatively young, had suffered from ill-health for some years, which she bravely endured, always hoping to resume work again, and much sympathy is felt with her relatives.

**FIXTURES.**

*April 22nd.*—Monthly Meeting of the Council at 2.30 p.m.

*April 25th.*—The Administration Class, by the kind invitation of the Matron, Miss G. E. Clubb, will visit Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Hospital, Halton Camp, Nr. Aylesbury, Bucks. Those wishing to attend should apply as soon as possible to the Secretary, The British College of Nurses, vacancies for 12 Fellows and Members only.

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