

**MISS GLADYS M. HARDY, S.R.N., D.N.
(LOND.), F.B.C.N.**

**NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL, BRITISH COLLEGE
OF NURSES, LTD.**

Miss Gladys M. Hardy has been elected to fill the vacancy on the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., as a representative of the Fellows, vacant by the re-election of Miss Alice Stewart Bryson, F.B.C.N., as Secretary of the College under the new Constitution.

Miss Hardy's election will, we feel sure, be warmly welcomed by her colleagues for various reasons, primarily because she belongs to the younger generation, and is a woman of spirit and adventure, whose first interest is the progress, upgrade and efficiency of professional nursing. Miss Hardy has gained experience in various spheres of nursing, principally as a very efficient teacher for ten years.

She was trained in the nursing of infectious diseases at the Leeds City Hospital, Seacroft, Leeds, in General Nursing at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, after which she has been Ward Sister at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, and at Leeds City Hospital, Seacroft.

As Sister-Tutor her experience has been extensive, as she instructed the nurses of ten affiliated Cottage Hospitals to the Royal United Hospital, Bath, and at the Leicester City Isolation Hospital and at Charing Cross Hospital, W.C.2. She was appointed Matron of Battersea General Hospital, London, in 1938. State Registered in 1928, Miss Hardy also holds the Diploma in Nursing of the London University, and holds an examinership to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. She has also

been made an Honorary Life Member of the British Red Cross Society, for which Society she has given courses of lectures and conducted examinations.

During the past year as a member of the "Special Committee for the Protection of the Legal Status of the Registered Nurse," Miss Hardy has spent much of her spare time in speaking, writing and inspecting on the subject of the Assistant Nurse, and in claiming justice both for young women taken into institutions where their so-called training does not comply with the Nurses' Registration Act, and for the chronic sick, her advocacy is bearing fruit, and will, we feel sure, do much to protect both young Assistant Nurses and the unfortunate poor from a very grave injustice.

Miss Hardy believes in the policy of this Journal that basic standards of efficient nursing must be demanded by the State for all types of sick people—rich and poor—and that Public Assistance Bodies for their own convenience shall not continue to exploit the chronic sick by providing semi-trained attendants in their adversity. What is needed in the Nursing Profession at the present day are women of courage and initiative—and we welcome Miss Hardy in this capacity.

Literary Ability an Asset.

Primarily as a Registered Nurse and also as a newspaper woman, we note with admiration the literary ability and loyal support of trained nurses in every Dominion, where they own their professional journals, free from trade control, and to which they contribute up-to-date professional matter. Compare this power and efficiency with the futility of the majority of nurses in Great Britain, where they are content to be instructed through unprofessional channels and to resign the huge profits thus obtainable. We do not believe our Registered Nurses are devoid of literary talent, and this was recently demonstrated when Miss Gladys Hardy contributed an article on professional affairs to the *Daily Telegraph*, and found it published in the place of honour on the leader page—recognition which has seldom been accorded to a woman. Truth to tell, the article had a flair—which is a natural gift, and which it is hoped our new Councillor will use in support of professional affairs in the future, and thus encourage her colleagues to follow an excellent example. As the senior professional Nurse-Editor in the world, we can assure them that the pen has not only a duty, but a magic of its own.



MISS GLADYS M. HARDY, S.R.N., D.N. (LOND.), F.B.C.N.
Elected a member of the Council, British College of Nurses,
Ltd., 1942.

THE FUNCTION OF NURSING.

The function of nursing is to tend, to nurture, to protect and to educate. In fulfilling its functions it must needs keep in mind the human being as a whole from birth to old age, in health and in disease, in every condition and situation in life. Our democratic principles can only be applied when nurses everywhere have a deep concern for the spiritual values of nursing, and have a broad comprehensive vision for their own usefulness. There should be more knowledge in us than we need in our daily lives. We must use what we know that in so doing possibilities will be created for new experience, and thus widen our opportunities for service.—*Dean Effie Taylor, R.N., President, International Council of Nurses.*

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