

4. From Miss Dorothy Evans, National Organiser, Women's Publicity Planning Association, *re* mass meeting to be held on September 4th, at the Central Hall, Westminster, in support of the Equal Citizenship (Blanket) Bill, at 2.30 p.m. Tickets had been secured and it was agreed that the College should be represented on the platform as invited.

5. From Miss Stella Goostray and Miss Nellie Hawkinson, of the National League of Nursing Education, New York, reporting great success of the Fiftieth Anniversary meeting held recently in Chicago, when hundreds of nurses attended.

Other communications were considered.

#### A Compassionate Grant.

It was agreed to make a compassionate grant to a Fellow on the recommendation of her medical attendant, special treatment for relief during a long and serious illness having been necessary.

#### The Annual Report.

The President presented the draft annual Report to the Annual General Meeting to be held on September 9th, *prox.* To conform to the law under the Companies Acts, it was agreed to enclose a synopsis of the Report together with the notice of meeting and copy of the Memorandum Account of Receipts and Payments for the year ended June, 1943.

It was agreed that the annual report presented and agreed should be presented complete to the Annual General Meeting, together with the Financial Report and Audited Accounts, both of which were of an eminently satisfactory character.

It was agreed to send forward resolutions for consideration at the Annual Meeting.

#### Election of Members.

Applications for Fellowship and Membership were received and all candidates were elected.

The meeting then terminated, and tea was served in the Secretary's office.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

It is with very sincere satisfaction that our National Council of Nurses will learn of the very great success of the recent meeting of the National League of Nursing Education held at Chicago in June last. So long as our colleagues in U.S.A. keep the higher and safe standards of Nursing efficiency to the fore, we can hope—in the not far distant future—to demand that the grading in England and Scotland, enforced by recent legislation, shall be rectified, and the sick protected from dangerous inefficiency, promoted by ignorant expediency, made possible by ministerial autocracy in war.

In the meanwhile, Miss Nellie Hawkinson, of the National League of Nursing Education, writes:—

"An official note of thanks has gone from League Headquarters, but should like to add to it my personal thanks for the inspiring message which you sent to the anniversary banquet. It was a truly memorable occasion, and one which will be long remembered by those who attended."

Many of us were at this feast in spirit, and it is such occasions which inspire determination to conquer the ignorance and reaction of the men and women of straw, who, at present, hold our profession in durance vile.

### THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

In a recent communication received from Dean Effie Taylor, President of the International Council of Nurses, she writes: "That much thought has been given to the next steps which should be taken in definitely developing the activities of our Council. During the past two years the work has been restricted since our contacts with our member countries have been limited. At the present time, in one way or another, we are hearing a little more about nursing needs in foreign countries, and we are beginning to think that the time may not be too far distant when the undertaking of more definite activities will be indicated. It has been suggested to us by several of our interested members that we should expand the usefulness of the I.C.N. office considerably . . . As you know, during the past two years we felt it an unnecessary expenditure of our funds to keep the office going on a full-time basis, first, because the contacts we made were very few, and, secondly, because the activities were almost dormant . . . Be that as it may, we have come to the conclusion that activities are opening up, and it would appear that the office should again be expanded to use at least the full time of one secretary—and, possibly, some additional clerical help."

Dean Effie Taylor enclosed a paper on "Suggested General Activities for a Full-Time Executive Secretary in the Headquarters Office: I.C.N."

A copy of her suggestions has been circulated by Miss S. A. Villiers, S.R.N., the Hon. Secretary of our National Council, to the Vice-Presidents and Directors of the Council, and their observations tabulated and forwarded to Dean Effie. The replies were in sympathy with action being taken at Headquarters, by the President as far as possible. Reservations were expressed by those who realised that in Great Britain and in Europe generally the difficulty of communication was considerable at the moment, and that in U.S.A., Canada, and South America were fields of exploration which might be beneficial and left to the discretion of the Central Office in U.S.A. It is realised that during the past four years of war, a great debt is owed by constituent organisations to the American Nurses' Association which has kept financial expenditure at a minimum, and that until peace is agreed, there is little hope of augmenting the income of the I.C.N. to any great extent on a *per capita* basis.

Invested capital of the Council makes it financially sound for the time being.

The last Balance Sheet of our National Council presents a profit in every section, owing to very careful supervision and expenditure.

#### THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION.

One practical result from the Golden Anniversary Convention at Chicago will be exceedingly popular.

A plaque, to be known as the Mary Adelaide Nutting Award, was presented to the League on the opening night by Isabel M. Stewart and Effie J. Taylor, in honour of Miss Nutting. Replicas are to be made in the form of medals, to be awarded periodically to nurses or to others as determined by the Committee who demonstrate outstanding qualities of leadership in nursing. Keynote for the Convention was struck by Stella Goostray, President of the League, who urged in her report at the opening business session that special consideration be given to (1) Acceleration of nursing school programmes; (2) Relationship of nursing education to colleges and universities; (3) Greater use of auxiliary personnel; and (4) Public information.

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