

Welcome to New Councillors.

The President welcomed to office the three new Councillors; Miss Janet Kerr, Miss Elizabeth Martin, Fellows, and Miss Dorothy deM. Warren, Member, two of whom have served before and proved their interest in and devotion to the well-being of the Nursing Profession.

Votes of Thanks.

In support of Votes of Thanks, warm gratitude was expressed to the valiant members of the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force and to the Nursing Services, Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

The President reminded the meeting that members owed warm gratitude to several voluntary workers who had devoted time for years on their clerical business, including Miss A. Stewart Bryson (acting Secretary), Mrs. Jessop and Miss H. Hawkins (for 26 years) and Miss Gooding. She felt sure they would wish an expression of their gratitude conveyed to these generous friends.

The meeting voted an expression of gratitude.

To the caretaker of the shattered mansion, a vote of thanks was recorded for her skilled care of the premises and furniture.

Q.A.I.M.N.S. PROFESSIONAL AND MILITARY STATUS.

The Chairman reported that recently Dame Katharine H. Jones, late Matron-in-Chief, Q.A.I.M.N.S., had delivered an instructive and inspiring Address to a group of Matrons on "Q.A.I.M.N.S. Professional and Military Status," and the claim to the title of their rank, which women medical officers and dental officers have.

The Chairman invited Dame Katharine, who was present, to address the meeting, which she was kind enough to do, advocating the recognition of nurses in the Service as commissioned officers. She presented a short account of some of the difficulties which immediately resulted to Q. A. Nurses on their receiving recognition as commissioned officers.

The subject was realised to be one of imperative importance to all military nursing services after the war, and it was agreed to send copies of this valuable Address to members of the College and national organisations in the Dominions, and, where possible, abroad.

Correspondence.

The following communication from the Royal Victorian College of Nursing, Melbourne, Australia, was received with great pleasure, and was to be acknowledged with sincere thanks.

Royal Victorian College of Nursing.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,

At the quarterly meeting of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing, Miss Logan, a Victorian nurse who has returned from overseas after a very trying experience on the Continent at the outbreak of war, paid a very warm tribute to the wonderful kindness and generous assistance rendered to her on arrival in England by the President and Members of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd.

Members were very touched by the warm hospitality extended to one of their fellow-members, and requested me to convey to you and to the Council of the British College of Nurses cordial greetings and grateful thanks for the kindly care and sympathy shown to an Australian nurse so far from her homeland.

With best wishes to you and deep appreciation of your splendid efforts to safeguard the interests of nurses and to further the progress of the nursing profession, not only of Great Britain, but of countries from beyond its shores.

I am, Yours faithfully,

MURIEL ANDERSON, *Secretary.*

Political Sub-Committee.

Having considered an important communication from Sir Waldron Smithers, M.P., it was agreed to nominate a sub-committee to deal with the political situation of Registered Nurses, as the result of the Nurses Act, 1943, had already made apparent the injurious effect of such legislation.

Resolution to the Minister of Health.

The following Resolution was passed unanimously, and it was directed that it should be sent to the Right Honble. Henry U. Willink, K.C., M.P., Minister of Health.

RESOLUTION.

"The Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., in Annual General Meeting assembled, wish to draw the attention of the Minister of Health to Regulation 19 of the Nurses Act, 1943, whereby Parliament has broken its contract with the Registered Nurses under the Regulations of the Nurses Registration Act, 1919, in so far as its ambiguous provision empowering the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to utilise the fees subscribed by the Registered Nurses for the upkeep of professional standards, in the organisation of a class of unqualified women enrolled as Assistant Nurses. "The members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., in Annual General Meeting assembled, enters a strong protest against their money being utilised for this purpose, and calls upon the Minister of Health to have Regulation 19, Nurses Act, 1943, amended, so as to prevent this professional injustice."

Vote of Thanks to the President.

Upon the proposition of Miss M. C. Ping a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President.

The Meeting then terminated.

A HAPPY REUNION.

A happy reunion of Fellows and Members was held, and mutual congratulations expressed, that no further damage to the College had resulted from the passing of numerous flying bombs and rockets which had caused serious damage around the district.

Several members of Council had contributed cakes, tea and sugar, and many old friendships were renewed.

The use of the beautiful antique silver kettle presented by the late Miss Bushby emphasised her loss. All present looked forward to active participation in the struggle for the maintenance of nursing standards already attained, and in danger of depreciation by the bestowal of legal status on unqualified Assistant Nurses.

CONTRACTORS DISCUSS "SERVICE AND INTEGRITY."

The annual general meeting of the Textile and Clothing Contractors' Association was held recently in Manchester and was attended by virtually all of the biggest legitimate contractors to Hospitals and Public Institutions. Stress was laid upon the importance of continued loyalty to the standard of ethics laid down in the constitution—which includes the interchange of beneficial ideas, the promotion of the spirit of service and goodwill and the development of efficiency in service. Service and integrity must still be the watchword of the Association. The report showed that mutual consultation had eased the problems of wartime trade and that general good had come from negotiations with the Ministries involved and with Institutions. Such negotiations could better be carried out by an association than by individuals. In view of the vital national service rendered by hospitals and institutions, the Association hoped that it would have more freedom to give the service desired. Doubtless control would only be gradually relaxed, which made it all the more important for such an Association to act in co-operation.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)