

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

NEW ZEALAND REGISTERED NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Wellington.

February 16th, 1944.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,

I wish to acknowledge a copy of "The White Cliffs," with its enclosed letter sending the members of our New Zealand Registered Nurses' Association Christmas wishes and also good wishes for the coming year.

I would like to offer you my heartfelt thanks for this contribution to our library—such a lovely copy of "The White Cliffs"—it is delightfully illustrated. I can assure you that it will be a very treasured addition to the library. This book has been widely published out here in New Zealand in a cheap edition only, and I know has been enjoyed and treasured by very many, because it is in tune with the times. Then again, so many of us have either been to England or have relatives there, and this little book is so beautifully written.

I do send our good wishes to you and to all members of the National Council of Nurses.

I am, yours sincerely,

L. M. BANKS,
Dominion President.

(War transport must be blamed for delay in the reception of this kind letter—but our National Council of Nurses will welcome it all the same.—ED.)

SOUTH AFRICAN TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Headquarters; 46, Church Street, Capetown.
March 12th, 1944.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, S.R.N.,
President, National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,—Your kind letter of November 22nd, 1943, reached me safely on January 28th, 1944, and on behalf of the Nurses and Midwives of the Union of South Africa, I thank you most sincerely for your kind greetings and the copy of "White Cliffs," which we all appreciate.

"White Cliffs" has been placed in the library at S.A. Trained Nurses' Headquarters, and will be read and enjoyed by many.

At present we are *very* busy indeed in our struggle to get our Nursing Bill through its Second and Third Readings in the House of Parliament, and, too, we are busy drawing up a Revision of Training for Nurses and Midwives—so we have much to do.

Miss B. G. Alexander is well, and at present very busy, as she is the Nurse Representative on the National Health Services Commission which is touring the Union of South Africa.

With many kind thoughts, and every good wish for the advance and progress of the Nursing Profession in Great Britain,

Yours faithfully,

S. M. MARWICK
(General President, S.A.T.N.A.).

46, Church Street, Cape Town.
March 27th, 1944.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N., President.

DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK,—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the above Association, the President read your Christmas letter, which was very much appreciated. My Executive Committee instructed me to convey to you cordial greetings and grateful thanks for

the magnificent work which you have done for the world's nurses.

We trust the activities of the International Council of Nurses will be resumed in full in the near future, as this wonderful organisation, of which you are the founder, has been responsible for bringing nurses of the nations together and has been an incentive and inspiration to all.

With our united good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

S. M. CRIBB,
Organising Secretary.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES, LTD.

A meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on Wednesday, April 19th. The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, was in the Chair. Prayers were read by the Secretary, Miss A. Stewart Bryson. The Council received with regret the intimation of the absence of several members owing to illness, and desired their sympathy should be conveyed to their colleagues.

Business arising out of the Minutes.

Correspondence with the Minister of Health.

In reference to former communication with the new Minister of Health, the Right Hon. Henry U. Willink, K.C., M.P., the following letter had been addressed to him :
SIR,

At a meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., held at the above address on Wednesday, March 8th, it was agreed to communicate with you in reference to the letter of January 19th last, to which we received an acknowledgement and promise that "It would receive attention." The subject to which our letter and enclosures referred was a request that you would be good enough to consider the amendment of Rule 19 of the Nurses Act, 1943 (promoted by your predecessor, Mr. Ernest Brown, M.P.), which rule permits fees subscribed by Registered Nurses to be pooled and used by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales for the organisation, if necessary, of Assistant Nurses, many of whom are unqualified women, and, therefore, a danger to the economic stability of the Nursing Profession. My Council sincerely hopes that you will give this important matter your early consideration, as considerable indignation exists amongst intelligent Registered Nurses at this undeniable injustice.

I remain, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

ETHEL G. FENWICK,
President.

In a reply dated March 17th, 1944, the President of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was assured that the matter was receiving attention. The Minister was thanked for his reply in a letter dated March 21st, 1944. The Minister later informed the President "that he has fully considered the Council's representations about Rule 19 of the Nurses Act, 1943, but he is afraid that he would not feel justified in re-opening a matter which was settled by Parliament as recently as last year."

To which communication the following reply from the President was sent to the Minister, dated March 27th, 1944 :—

"I have carefully read the communication in which the Minister expressed the opinion that he does not think he would be 'justified in opening the matter, which was settled by Parliament as recently as last year.'

"If the Minister can find time to study the debate on the Second Reading of the Nurses Bill in Parliament

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