

## THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES, LTD.

A meeting of the Council took place on May 17th, at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.

The President was in the chair, and prayers were read by Miss A. Stewart Bryson, the Secretary.

Arising out of the Minutes, a communication was read from the Registrar of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales concerning regulations for uniform for Assistant nurses and also the use of professional titles. Apparently no rules have to date been agreed and printed on these matters.

### Correspondence.

Many letters were read and considered. Miss Anna Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary, I.C.N., notified the change of address from Newhaven, Conn., to New York City, U.S.A.

Concerning correspondence with the Minister of Health *re* Rule 19, the Nurses Act, 1943, a policy was decided upon, the determined aim of which would be its amendment to prevent the possibility of Registered Nurses being compelled, if necessary, to pay the deficit of the organisation of the Assistant Nurses Roll, for which the Act makes provision.

### Financial Statement.

A very satisfactory financial Report was received. There was a substantial surplus of last year's income, and the Council felt relieved that all expenditure in connection with blast could be met for the time being.

The four members enjoying the Ethel Mary Fletcher benevolence monthly acknowledged the help with thanks.

Several Fellows and Members had generously sent subscriptions towards the renewal of furniture, etc.

### Report of Progress of Repairs.

The report of progress of repairs was very satisfactory. Much more had yet to be done, for which time was necessary, but the Council agreed that "better than ever" must be its aim.

### Gifts.

Mrs. Lediard has very generously made a gift to the library of "The Windsor Tapestry" to be associated with the Royal Collection.

### New Members of Council.

Consideration was then given to new Members of Council and names approved. The loss by rotation of Miss Elizabeth Brodie, R.G.N., R.M.N., F.B.C.N., and Miss Emily J. Haswell, S.R.N., whose services had been invaluable, were sincerely regretted.

The Council, having the power to bestow financial support to other institutions, agreed to send a subscription of £5 to the Nurses' Christian Movement, in memory of Margaret Breay.

It also agreed to send £5 to the Nurses' Memorial to King Edward VII in Scotland, Hazelwood House, Dumbreck, Glasgow, where retired nurses can live in comfort, both of which institutions were greatly valued by nurses.

### Date of Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council should be held on Wednesday, June 14th, at 2.30 p.m.

The meeting then terminated, and tea was served in the Secretary's office, which had been entirely restored, in which fine furniture had been installed, and which was decorated with lovely flowers from Mrs. Wates' wonderful garden.

### THE PUBLIC WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH.

So impressed were the public by the venereal disease advertisement "For my son aged 11," which appeared in the *People* recently, that more than 30,000 orders have been received by the Central Council for Health Education for sex education booklets.

## THE WAR.

### Allies in Rome.

There has been more heart burning concerning Rome than on any other spot on earth, during this struggle to the death—and victory. The Fifth Army entered Rome on Sunday, June 4th, and our vanguards reached the heart of the city at midnight. Certain it is, no one wished injury to its historic stones, but crimson was the ground around, and precious young lives must be no further sacrificed.

### Courage.

Courage which inspires most noble virtues is told in glorious events. Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Everitt, of Ashton, Saffron Walden, embraced death without tremor when she died clasping in her arms the man she tried to drag from a wrecked bomber blazing on the ground.

Fireman Nightall and Driver Gimberg who, having uncoupled the rest of a goods train, drove off with a blazing truck load of bombs to save a town from annihilation. Nightall died when the bombs exploded, as did Signalman Bridges, who, after helping the others, stayed at his post of duty.

No doubt posthumous honours will be awarded, but those who loved them will realise their glory for all time.

### A Serious Loss for Sick and Wounded.

It is reported that Dame Katharine Jones, D.B.E., R.R.C., S.R.N., Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, will cease in a few weeks' time to hold supreme office. This is a very serious decision upon the part of the Nursing Committee, or whoever is responsible—as during war it is not every woman, however skilled a nurse, who is by character, temperament and experience suitable to command, as senior officer, the most important military nursing service in the world. Dame Katharine Jones has held this high office since the beginning of this stupendous war, and has organised the service for the benefit of our sick and wounded men on every front. Why, therefore, are they to be deprived of her invaluable services at this critical moment? It is not every one who is born to command, and when a Matron-in-Chief has proved her rare capacity in a time of stress, the powers that be should cease interference with details of service which they cannot improve.

We sincerely sympathise with our sick and wounded in this irreparable loss.

### Scottish Hospital for Poland.

Scotland is to provide Poland with a prefabricated hospital after the war. This was intimated at a meeting of the Glasgow Executive of the Scottish Polish Society, when it was agreed to raise the £10,000 for a ward in the hospital.

The estimated cost is £75,000, and the scheme has been approved by the Polish Ministry of Labour and Welfare. The hospital will be reserved for women and children.

### British Plastic Lenses. Supplies for the Red Army.

Soldiers of the Red Army who need spectacles will soon be wearing British-made ones. This is the outcome of a request from Russia to Britain, to meet which ophthalmic manufacturers are rushing through a big order for the Ministry of Supply. They aim to have hundreds of thousands of spectacle lenses and frames ready by June as a first instalment.

Russia will be getting the advantage of the industry's latest product—a plastic lens in which Britain has taken the world lead and which has only recently been made available to civilians here.

But nothing is to be denied to the splendid Russian Army which we can supply. Its exploits of valour are the wonder of the world.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)