

to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales the power to use the funds and property of the Registered Nurses for the organisation of a group of semi-trained persons on a Roll of Assistant Nurses is, in our opinion, totally unjustifiable, and we strongly object to any Minister of the Crown using our money without our consent to depreciate our professional standards of efficiency and the safety of the sick.

We therefore once more petition you to remove this serious wrong from the Statute Book of Great Britain which permits the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to use our money for purposes for which it was not subscribed.

The solution to, and the rectification of this wrong, becomes possible by the removal of Regulation 19 from the Nurses Act, 1943, and in this connection we venture to express the opinion that until this honourable course is pursued, there can be no basic principle for the foundation of a Profession of Nursing by women of intelligent and honourable status.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
Alice Stewart Bryson,
Hon. Secretary.

Correspondence with Sir Waldron Smithers. Resolution of thanks for his help *re* amendments to the Nurses' Act, 1943, sent from Annual General Meeting.

Copy of Resolution of thanks sent from the Annual General Meeting *re* the Nurses' Act, 1943, to: (a) Sir Ernest Graham Little, M.D., B.A., F.R.C.P., M.P.; (b) Lieut.-Commander G. I. C. Hutchison, M.P.; (c) H. N. Linstead, Esq., M.P., and replies received.

Letters of thanks received for donations sent from the College.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain Report and Agenda.

Notice was received from Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Hon. Secretary, that a special meeting of the Grand Council, probably towards the end of March, 1946, and an Executive Committee towards the end of February would be necessary as business had been referred to them, and notifying that any Resolutions to be placed on the Agenda should be sent to the Hon. Secretary on or before February 23rd.

Those present considered matters referred to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain for consideration and agreed upon policy.

They were decidedly in favour of raising the *per capita* subscription to the National Council of Nurses owing to the fact that reconstruction and organisation were costly matters, and that voluntary work was less procurable than in the past.

A member of the College had made application for legal advice concerning professional circumstances in which she was engaged, and this matter had been referred to the Solicitor of the College, who was giving her advice in the matter.

A large number of letters were dealt with showing a revived interest in the work of the Council on the termination of War.

A letter of thanks was received from Miss F. Munroe, President, Canadian Nurses' Association, for charming booklet sent with Christmas Greetings from the College.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

A satisfactory Financial Statement was presented showing, after payment of all expenses, a very substantial balance at the Bank.

The President pointed out that they had now a dozen recipients of weekly grants, the majority enjoyed by the older members, many of whom had suffered from blitz by enemy action.

The matter of providing for old and helpless nurses was one that might well be considered by sympathetic colleagues and the general public.

ELECTION OF FELLOWS AND MEMBERS.

The election of members then took place.

AN INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL IN MEMORY OF THE LATE DR. BEDFORD FENWICK.

Miss A. Stewart Bryson then proposed that an Educational Memorial should be organised in memory of the late Dr. Bedford Fenwick, whose personal initiative and general financial help had made the organisation of the British Nurses' Association possible, and the grant of its Royal Charter. He had also made it possible by financial support to secure to nurses, during their long struggle for State Registration, a professional organ in the Press.

No other member of the Medical Profession had initiated a professional policy for a Registered Nurses' Profession on the same sympathetic and financial basis as Dr. Bedford Fenwick.

The Council unanimously agreed that the Memorial should be founded at an early date, so that its benefits might be available next year at the International Congress of Nurses in New York.

A MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MISS MARGARET BREAY.

The President said she wished to propose from the Chair that there should be a Memorial established in connection with the College to the late Miss Margaret Breay, whose devotion to her profession and the sick was inestimable.

A few friends had considered the matter and were agreed that this Memorial should be of a Missionary nature, and they had the advantage of an interview with Miss Lilian Topping, S.R.N., Secretary of the Nurses' Christian Movement, and had decided that it would be well to await the arrival of Miss Gladys Stephenson, Matron, Methodist General Hospital, Hankow, China, now released from imprisonment, who hoped to be in England in the summer so as to consult her in connection with this matter.

The Council unanimously agreed that a Memorial in the name of Margaret Breay should be organised, preferably in connection with Chinese Missions.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH MESSRS. FAIRBROTHER ELLIS & CO.

A somewhat important correspondence with Messrs. Fairbrother Ellis and Co., was placed before the Council, and action agreed.

The meeting then terminated.

At tea, delicious cakes were served from Mr. Fairley, of Vancouver, and Miss E. Martin, R.R.C., and important professional matters were informally discussed, through which discussions friendly relations can be maintained between groups of nurses.

These considerations are of the utmost importance at the present time when the future status of the Nursing Profession has been cast into the melting pot.

THE DEATH OF MISS EMILY JANE HASWELL, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.

As we go to press we learn with the very deepest sorrow and heartfelt regret of the death of Miss Emily Jane Haswell, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., a woman of rare brilliant qualities, whose life's work has beautified the Profession of Nursing.

In our next issue we shall refer to the example of her professional life which is an inspiration to the Nursing World.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)