

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 30th, 1947, at 2.30 p.m.

Miss Helena McLoughlin, S.R.N., President, was in the Chair, and prayers having been read by the Hon. Secretary, Miss A. Stewart Bryson, S.R.N., the Minutes were agreed and signed.

Business Arising Out of the Minutes

The following letter was received from Miss Helen Dey, C.B.E., R.R.C., President of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, thanking the Council for the donation sent at the request of the late President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in gratitude to the outstanding pioneer nurses from St. Bartholomew's Hospital—Isla Stewart, Margaret Breay and Elizabeth Kennedy.

St. Bartholomew's Hospital,
London, E.C.1.
April 18th, 1947

DEAR MISS BRYSON,—Thank you very much indeed for your letter and for the cheque for £50 enclosed at the request of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. This is a most marvellous gift and will indeed help the League very much.

We have very little money in our General Fund, our subscription has always been so low, and I know that the Committee will be more than grateful to hear of the assistance that can be given in sending Mrs. Thacker, Assistant Matron of this Hospital, to America, which the League had already decided to do, so that in no sense is the cheque too late.

I hope you will convey to the Council of the British College of Nurses my deep gratitude. I am naturally very happy to know that some of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's last thoughts were towards the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

Yours sincerely,

HELEN DEY,
Matron and Superintendent.

Correspondence.

Letters of sympathy on the death of the late President Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, from members of Parliament were reported from:—

Sir Ernest Graham-Little, B.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., M.P.—

"I am indeed grieved to hear of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's death. I had the greatest admiration for her, and am only sorry I have not had any recent contacts with her. As you know, I have been desperately busy with the Health Bill and Educational matters in Parliament, but I should have liked to have had some talks with her on the nursing question—now alas, too late."

Sir Waldron Smithers, M.P., J.P., writes—

"I learnt with very great regret that your President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, had passed away, and I hope you will allow me to send you my deep sympathy in your great loss.

"She will be hard to replace, and England, in her hour of need, wants more people like her . . .

"I realise to the full what a loss Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's passing must be to you all, and indeed to the whole nursing profession."

A letter of thanks for, and appreciation of, the booklet sent by our late President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, "Queen of To-morrow" was reported from The South African Nursing Association.

March 21st, 1947.

DEAR MADAM,—On behalf of the S.A. Nursing Association may I express our sincere thanks for and grateful appreciation of your kindness in sending "Queen of To-morrow" as a gift for the Association's library.

The book is doubly appreciated as our Royal Family have endeared themselves to all South Africans during their tour of this country.

Yours sincerely,

M. G. BORCHERDS, *Chairman.*

Letter of thanks from Miss G. Hall, General Secretary of the Canadian Nurses' Association for the booklet "Queen of To-morrow."

Letter from Miss Alice Morse, Director, Grant Hospital, Chicago, that she will see Miss H. McLoughlin, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Atlantic City, to receive the Nightingale Brick.

Letter to Mrs. Genara S. M. de Guzman, President Filipino Nurses Association *re* Nightingale Brick.

A letter was reported from Miss M. V. Lush, a Fellow of the College, giving particulars of her new appointment as Matron of Ashburton and Buckfastleigh Hospital, South Devon, to whom the Council agreed to send congratulations.

Gifts.

It was reported that a parcel had been received from Miss Pearl Morrison, F.B.C.N., from Canada, containing an assortment of cake mixtures and sweetmeats, with a special message for the late President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Applications for Election.

Applications were received for membership of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., and all were accepted.

Financial Statement.

A satisfactory Financial Statement was presented to the Council.

The Meeting then terminated.

The Tea Party.

After the meeting the members of the Council assembled in the secretary's office for tea—where they were joined by the Rev. Thomas Barber, to wish God speed to those who were so soon to start on their journey for Atlantic City, U.S.A., where they would take part in the International Congress of Nurses, an experience long anticipated.

It then transpired that the surprising spread of delectable dainties awaiting the company was largely the result of the very generous gift received from Miss Pearl Morrison, of Toronto, Canada, who has been a most loyal Fellow of the College since its inception and whom the President hoped to have the good fortune to meet at the forthcoming Congress. After much topical chatter of things to come, it was agreed with acclamation to send a very warm vote of thanks to Miss Pearl Morrison for her kind generosity and all the trouble it entailed.

Her sympathy with us in this old country which she expressed in so practical a manner, greatly touched the Council.

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