

to give the lecture, entitled "The Modern Art" based on the work of Picasso, to an audience comprised of nurses and their friends.

Prior to the lecture I displayed a number of paintings, some executed in the traditional academic style and others in surrealist style. In the course of my lecture I gave a detailed analysis of each painting, and compared the Realist with the Surrealist. From this comparison emerged an explanation as to how one could best appreciate the point of view of the Modern Artist and his Art.

I introduced Pablo Picasso, and to the best of my knowledge described this most famous of all artists, his painting, his recent change over from painting to pottery, and, in particular, his influence on Art and Artists throughout the world.

During the lecture I became aware of the very intense interest of my audience, and, on conclusion, I invited the nurses to open discussion. I was faced with a barrage of questions, each demanding a detailed answer. There were arguments to clarify points, all of which convinced me of the sincerity of my audience. I must confess that I enjoyed this period of open discussion. It gave me the opportunity for the first time of hearing an audience of nurses step outside their normal course of study to discuss Modern Art on a very intellectual and cultural plane.

I concluded a very pleasant evening by accepting a further invitation from Miss Bryson to have tea. Later, I left the British College of Nurses feeling that I had made many new friends and helped a number of people in their approach to Modern Art; also I was more than pleased to feel that I had contributed something, in a small way, to a very noble profession.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held on October 22nd, 1948, at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W., at 2.30 p.m.

Miss H. McLoughlin, President, was in the Chair; and, Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence.

Among letters received of congratulation on the very successful reopening of the College on October 1st the following communication from Sir Waldron Smithers was reported:—

"My wife and I would like to thank you very much for allowing us to come to your Reopening on Friday.

"It was nice to meet so many 'real' people, and we do wish the British College every success in the future."

The following letter from Miss Daisy Bridges, R.R.C., Executive Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, was read:—

"At the final Meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses, held on Tuesday, September 21st, 1948, a resolution was unanimously carried that the appreciation of Members of the Board be expressed to the President and Council of the British College of Nurses for the courtesy in making arrangements for the meetings to be held in the Council Chamber during the week of September 16th to 21st, and for putting an additional room at the disposal of the Board during this period.

"I am also asked to express the thanks of the Board for the delightful tea party arranged for their entertainment on Monday, September 20th.

"In forwarding you these resolutions, may I add a personal message of appreciation and thanks. All our Delegates expressed pleasure at the arrangements made for the Meetings and for the opportunity to meet members of the Council of the British College of Nurses, and I am most grateful for all your help during the period of the Meetings and for providing such generous hospitality for our guests before departure."

Interesting communications from the Dominions, asking for information concerning Nursing History and Educational Courses for Nurses, were considered.

In response to application for financial help, a weekly benevolent grant was awarded to a Fellow.

International Council of Nurses Conference.

It was agreed that, as it is not a Congress but an Interim International Conference that will take place in Stockholm in June, 1949, no Bedford Fenwick Scholarship will be awarded; this scheme was inaugurated for attendance at the Quadrennial Congresses.

The Financial Statement was adopted, and applicants for membership were elected.

The Annual General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting of members was arranged to be held on December 10th, 1948, at 2.30 p.m., to be followed by celebration of Registration Day and the ceremony of the Cutting of the Cake. Friends of members will also be welcome.

THE MANAGEMENT OF DOMESTIC STAFF IN HOSPITALS

A Conference was arranged on the Management of Domestic Staff in Hospitals by the Department of Extramural Studies, the University of Sheffield, in association with the Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Ministry of Health, and was held at the University Hall of Residence, Crewe Hall, from Monday, September 13th, to Friday, September 17th, 1948. Admission to the Course was by invitation and the cost borne by the Ministry of Labour. It was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Health and local Matrons and Domestic Supervisors.

Monday, September 13th.

The Conference was opened by Professor Eastham, M.A., M.Sc., Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University, who welcomed the members and introduced Miss Day Sage, Tutor to the Course, and the speakers.

Mr. Rudd, Assistant Regional Controller, Ministry of Labour, spoke on the "Management and Supply of Staff," stressing the fact that his office had to work to a list of priorities laid down by the Ministry and quoted the example of the textile industry which was first priority, in which there were 17,000 vacancies.

An effort was made to tie up local demands with national supply—e.g., the importation of foreign domestic workers for Hospitals. He did not hold out any hope of immediate improvement.

Mr. McCandless, Special Regional Officer, Ministry of Health, extended the Ministry's welcome and stressed the importance of such Conferences for the interchange of ideas.

Miss Day Sage, who had attended three of these Courses in other towns, explained the purpose and suggested some lines on which the Conference could work.

Mrs. Spikes, National Institute of Houseworkers, said that Training Centres had been set up as a result of a White Paper of 1944 to "raise the prestige of domestic work in order that more women be attracted to that work" (Minister of Labour in the House of Commons). Workers are trained for Private Domestic Service, are granted a diploma and placed in a selected position.

Miss Reisner, Assistant Secretary for Domestic Labour Supply, Ministry of Labour and National Service, spoke on "Labour Supply and Demand." Her talk, which was mainly on statistics, showed that although there was a shortage of domestics, the increase in Hospital beds and Hospital Service, the decrease in hours of work and the allocating of some work to domestics previously done by

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