

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES, LTD.

A meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., was held on Tuesday, February 3rd, 1948, at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, at 2.30 p.m.

The President, Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., was in the chair.

Prayers having been read, the Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

In a considerable amount of business arising out of the Minutes, the following letter was received from the Ministry of Health in reply to the Council's considered opinion on the Report of the Working Party on the Recruitment and Training of Nurses.

December 4th, 1947.

WORKING PARTY REPORT ON THE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF NURSES.

MADAM,—I am directed by the Minister of Health to thank you for your letter of November 28th, setting out your Council's views on the above Report.

These have been noted and will be considered in conjunction with the observations submitted by other interested bodies which are being consulted on the conclusions reached in the Report.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient servant,

J. MCCREE.

Letters of grateful thanks were received from the Associations to which annual donations are sent from the College; and for Christmas Cheer Benevolent Grants, appreciative letters from Fellows and Members were reported.

A letter from Miss Katharine Densford, President of the American Nurses Association, expresses thanks for the *Illustrated London News*. She writes: "Which illustrates so beautifully the Royal Wedding of Elizabeth and Philip. We are indeed happy to possess this publication, which will be shared with members of the professional staff."

In reply to correspondence with the National Council of Women of Great Britain, it was unanimously agreed to support the Petition to admit women into the House of Lords.

Financial Statement.

A very satisfactory financial statement was presented and unanimously adopted.

Election of Fellows and Members.

Applications for membership of the College were received and all were elected.

The meeting then terminated.

Miss Jessie Holmes, S.R.N., an inmate of the Home for Incurables, Streatham, S.W., and a valued Fellow of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., writes in *The Remembrancer* of the Guild of the Companions of the Cross:—

"I have been asked to write a few lines for *The Remembrancer*. I do think that the Guild of the Companions of the Cross does suggest a high ideal for those who are trying bravely to bear some Cross remembering that our Blessed Lord asked for the Cross to be removed; it was not—but strength to endure was given. So it is with us.

"The Guild draws all sufferers together, and the very

praying for fellow members lessens our pain. It does not matter about large numbers as the following little story shows us. A new Scotch minister was sent to take a Sunday School class and found only one boy. Oh! his disappointment, but the boy was David Livingstone!

"I am a Scotch Hospital Matron of the 1914-1918 war, but am an arthritis cripple now and a very happy one—knowing that while "Bear ye one another's burden" is good, it is also good not to lay too heavily our own Cross on others, every man must bear his own burden.

"It is always a joy and a great strength to know that Father Healey is coming, and our fellow sufferers are always greatly helped by his visits; also Mrs. Brabazon our good and very active Secretary."

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

PRIZES FOR NURSES.

The Council of the British Medical Association is prepared to consider the first award in 1948 of three prizes, each of the value of 20 guineas, for the best essay, and three prizes, each of the value of 10 guineas, for the second best essay submitted in open competition by each of the following categories of nurses:

- (i) Pupil Nurses.
- (ii) State Registered Nurses working in a hospital.
- (iii) State Registered Nurses not working in a hospital, *i.e.*, District Nurses, Private Nurses, etc.

The subjects of the essays for 1948 shall be:

Category (i)

"Suggested Improvements in the Methods of Training Nurses."

Category (ii)

"Nursing the Patient, not the Disease—the Nurse-Patient Relationship."

Category (iii)

"Difficulties of Nursing in the Patient's own Home and Their Solution."

The purpose of these prizes is the promotion of systematic observation among nurses. In awarding the Prizes *due regard will be given to evidence of personal observation*. No essay that has previously appeared in the Medical Press or elsewhere will be considered eligible for a prize.

Nurses who are undergoing a course of training at a hospital are eligible to compete under category (i); Nurses registered by the General Nursing Council are eligible to compete under categories (ii) and (iii).

If any question arises in reference to the eligibility of a candidate or the admissibility of his or her essay, the decision of the Council of the British Medical Association shall be final.

Should the Council decide that no essay entered is of sufficient merit, no award shall be made.

Each essay must be typewritten or legibly written in the English language, must be unsigned and have attached to it a sealed envelope containing the name and address of the candidate and the category into which he or she falls. Essays must be forwarded so as to reach the Secretary of the British Medical Association not later than May 31st, 1948.

Enquiries relative to the prizes should be addressed to the Secretary, British Medical Association, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

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