

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, May 17th, 1950, at 2 p.m.

The President, Miss Helena McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., was in the Chair.

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

A considerable amount of business was transacted, which included the award of financial help to a Fellow towards an unavoidable expense.

Letters of appreciation were reported in connection with the Lord Mayor's Thanksgiving Fund, and the Bring and Buy Sale.

News of the safe arrival in Portugal of the Nightingale Brick was received from Miss Fernanda Alves Diniz, Director, Escola Tecnica de Enfermeiras, Lisbon, in the following letter:—

"Dear Madame President,

Will you please accept and kindly forward to the Council of the British College of Nurses our most sincere thanks for the marvellous gift which you have made to our School.

"It represents a great honor for us to have a Brick from the home of Miss Florence Nightingale in this school.

"We owe to you and the Council of the British College of Nurses this honor, and both the Graduate Nurses and the Students are very grateful to you, Madame President, and to the Council of the British College of Nurses."

Financial Statement.

A satisfactory Financial Statement was presented and adopted.

Applications for membership were received, and all were elected.

Nominations for election to the Council were considered and agreed.

The Council noted with great satisfaction the welcome flow of overseas Fellows, Members and friends to visit us who were greatly interested in our continued resistance to the lowering of the standard of the Nursing Profession.

In complete contrast, the treasures largely collected by the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick claimed their sincere admiration.

Next Meeting of the Council.

It was agreed that the next Meeting of the Council be held in July, on a date to be arranged later.

After the termination of the Meeting, Fellows, Members and friends joined the President and Council at Tea, and to enjoy the last of the series of Lectures delivered by Mr. Francis Edwards, this time his theme was "the approach to Poetry," which we shall hope to publish in full in our next issue.

At the conclusion, Miss A. Stewart Bryson thanked Mr. Edwards for the delightful information he had imparted to his audience.

Inaugural Meeting of the College of Nursing, Australia.

THE INAUGURAL MEETING of the College of Nursing, Australia, was held on February 18th, 1950, at 8.15 p.m. The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, generously allowed the meeting to take place in their Hall. In the early days of planning, a great deal of help was given by some of the members of this College and the Council was very pleased to be able to hold their first meeting in the building belonging to a much older, but kindred College.

The guests of honour, Dame Enid Lyons, D.B.E., M.H.R., and Dame Katherine Watt, D.B.E., R.R.C., sat on the platform with members of the Executive, whilst the remaining

Council Members sat in the body of the hall. Colour was added to the scene by the scarlet hoods lined with white, worn over black gowns faced with red, which were worn by Council members, while the President wore a scarlet gown faced with black.

After the Presidential address during which the history of the College and its aims were outlined, the President conferred Honorary Fellowship on Dame Enid and Dame Katherine and gave each an inscribed parchment. Following this short ceremony, Dame Enid gave the Inaugural address, in which she congratulated the founders on their foresight and courage. Dame Enid referred to the shortage of nurses and stressed the fact that nursing is a vocation. She urged that training to fit women to undertake simple bedside care, should be instituted, as well as training those who are anxious to go further and undertake training for higher qualifications.

Dame Katherine Watt, Chief Nursing Adviser to the Ministry of Health for England and Wales, spoke of her visit to Australia and of countries she had visited en route, mentioning in particular India and Pakistan. She said how pleased she was that the College would have vacancies for overseas students and she hoped that English students would come here to train just as Australian students now go to England. At the conclusion of her speech, Dame Katherine declared the College open.

"UNA"—*Nursing Journal*. March 1st, 1950.

Nurses Act, 1949.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL for England and Wales announce that the Minister of Health has now approved Rules prescribed by the Council under the above Act. The Rules (which are now in operation) are published as Statutory Instruments and are obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, York House, Kingsway, W.C.2; they are entitled *The Nurses (Amendment) Rules, Approval Instrument 1950 (1950 No. 386)*, and *The Assistant Nurses (Amendment) Rules, Approval Instrument 1950 (1950 No. 691)*.

Provision is made in these Rules for the following matters to be dealt with by the Council:—

- (i) The introduction of initial registration and enrolment fees for persons applying for admission to the Register of Nurses and the Roll of Assistant Nurses whose names will in future be retained on the Register or Roll without limit of time.
- (ii) The collection of consolidated retention fees in lieu of annual retention fees, from nurses already admitted to the Register, the List, or the Roll, or who seek re-inclusion therein following the removal of their names for failure to pay their retention fees. On payment of the consolidated fee no further fee will be required for the retention of a nurse's name on the Register, List, or Roll.
- (iii) The amalgamation of the part of the Register for Male Nurses with the General Part of the Register.
- (iv) The registration of nurses trained abroad.
- (v) The registration of nurses trained prior to July 1st, 1925.
- (vi) The transfer of nurses from the List to the Register.

It is emphasised that in due course the Council will be communicating individually with nurses whose names appear at the present time on the Register, List, or Roll, in regard to items (i), (ii), (iii) and (vi) above, and it will greatly assist the work in the offices of the Council if such nurses do not make individual enquiries but await the Council's communication.

Applications for re-inclusion in the Register, List, or Roll, and for registration by virtue of training received abroad or by virtue of training received prior to July 1st, 1925, should be addressed to the Registrar, General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1.

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