

## 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, at 3 p.m., on September 12th, 1951.

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.

Among the expressions of thanks conveyed by Fellows and Members on their Festival of Britain Visit to London, arranged by the Council, were warm appreciation of the kindness of the hostesses, Miss M. B. MacKellar, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., Matron, Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital (Moorfields), and her staff, and Miss A. A. Ward, S.R.N., M.B.C.N., Matron of the Neasden Hospital. A member wrote: "I arrived back after a very enjoyable week in London. . . . Will you kindly convey to your committee my sincere and grateful thanks for giving me the opportunity to visit London and see the Festival. . . . I was so thrilled, too, to see the College . . . the rooms and all they contain are a credit to the College—and to the late founder, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick; what a wonderful woman she must have been and what a lot we owe to her!"

"Miss A. A. Ward was a marvellous hostess. I saw more of your wonderful London than I have ever done in my life, thanks to her. Everything was most enjoyable and I am deeply grateful to all concerned."

It was agreed that a grant be awarded from the Ethel Mary Fletcher Fund to a member whose income has greatly decreased through dwindling dividends!

### The National Council of Women of Great Britain

Mrs. Thomas Barber, D.N., who expressed herself willing to attend the Annual meeting to be held on October 12th, was appointed the delegate of the College.

### Financial Statement

A satisfactory financial statement was reported and adopted.

### Next Meeting of the Council

It was unanimously agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Monday, October 15th, at 3 p.m.

The Meeting then terminated.

The Council would like our readers to know that the Collection of the History of Nursing is still on view for some

weeks—on Wednesdays from 2 to 4 p.m.—during October, for anyone who would like to see it.

## A Nightingaleiana Greeting.

FRIDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1951, brought a happy occasion when, in connection with the Festival of Britain Study Tour, inaugurated by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association and the British College of Nurses, Ltd., combined to extend hospitality to some forty-five of our International Colleagues of the Study Group.

The guests were received by the President, Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., supported by members of the Council and Miss V. West, S.R.N., Hon. Secretary, and members of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association.

In a short speech of welcome the President said: "I need not say how warmly you are welcomed here to-day at this our united 'At Home,' to join with us in the cup that cheers and then see the History Section of the College.

"A great soldier once remarked that 'the one thing worth knowing, was history'; a sweeping statement! nevertheless it is all to the good that Nurses are becoming more history-minded, and it is in the hope that the guests may see much to add to their knowledge of this great subject, so especially related to their own profession, that the Council has taken this opportunity of having some of the collection on view.

"I say 'some' advisedly, as our relics and documents concerning the stupendous life work alone of Miss Nightingale, from blue books to original letters, are so numerous that for want

of space we have to limit things to 'some.' I would like to say, also, that the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick, Founder of the History section, in her shrewd appreciation of human ability, was an enthusiastic supporter of the late Miss A. M. Bushby—a Vice-President—as Chairman of the History of Nursing Section of the College, and it was to the latter's indefatigable efforts that we owe so much of our collected treasure. Margaret Breay used to say 'Mrs. Fenwick is so versatile in her interests,' a fact which we realise in the China and Pottery of Royal Mementos and personalities outside nursing to be seen."

Tea was served in the Library and at the conclusion of much happy chatter, one of our International Guests gave a charming little speech of thanks on behalf of herself and her



Statuette of Miss Florence Nightingale, O.M., by G. Knoblock, 1912, in our Collection.

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