

In reply to a question asked by the Council, the Conjoint Board is of the opinion that a candidate who passes in the written examinations, but fails in the practical (or *vice versa*), should be obliged to pass in both written and practical at any subsequent examination she may enter for.

W. MOORE,

Chairman of Conjoint Board of Examiners.

Dr. O'Sullivan briefly referred to the successful inauguration of the new system of training and examination in midwifery and gynaecological nursing. The plan of demanding general training before entering upon the special was fundamentally sound, and the special curricula now required by the V.T.N.A. were just what were needed. Two examinations had already been held. Some of the work done was excellent, and in several instances warranted the highest commendation.

Upon the motion of Miss Glover, seconded by Mrs. Harper, the report was carried.

PRELIMINARY EDUCATION.

A suggestion brought forward as a notice of motion by the Vice-President, in the absence of Dr. Scott, of Ballarat, in relation to the Training-Schools was—

“That an Entrance Test Examination on General Education (Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic) be compulsory before being placed on the Nursing Staff. Each Hospital to hold its own examination.”

The principle embodied in this resolution, which was adopted, is a sound one, and evidence of general education is required of all candidates desiring to enter the liberal professions. As a detail of organisation, we are inclined to think that it would be better for candidates to be examined by a central board, the possession of the certificate of which should be a necessary preliminary to acceptance as a probationer.

We most heartily congratulate the Victorian Trained Nurses' Association on its splendid record of work in relation to nursing organisation. Although the system of Registration is at present voluntary, not compulsory, yet the publication of the Register, and the organisation already effected in connection with it, will afford the strongest possible plea for a system of legal registration when Victorian Nurses approach Parliament in this connection.

In Memory of Dr. Livingstone.

An interesting ceremony took place at Zomba on Friday, September 25th, when the Livingstone Memorial Hospital was dedicated to the service of God and the relief of suffering natives.

The Church of Scotland Mission some time back acquired a plot of land in Zomba township bordering on the Mlanje road, a little below the foot of the Old Residency Gardens, and it is on this plot the hospital has been erected in memory of Dr. Livingstone and his wife. The cost has been borne by Mrs. A. L. Bruce, the daughter of Dr. Livingstone.

Central Midwives' Board.

At a meeting of the Central Midwives' Board, Dr. F. H. Champneys in the chair, held at the Board Room, 6, Suffolk Street, S.W., on November 26th, the following business was transacted:—

1. Letters were read from the Clerk of the Worcestershire County Council and the Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Croydon, inquiring whether illiterate women, unable to sign their own names, were eligible for enrolment as midwives under the Midwives' Act.

The Secretary was instructed to reply that, in the opinion of the Board, the express terms of Section 2 of the Act gave the Board no option to refuse an application from an illiterate woman otherwise qualified under the section.

2. In the case of a claim for enrolment on the ground of having been in *bond-fide* practice for the statutory period within the Commonwealth of Australia, the Board decided that as there was nothing in the Act to limit the area of practice to the United Kingdom, the claim might be admitted if otherwise eligible.

3. The following matters were, after discussion, referred to the Standing Committee for consideration and report:—

(1) Application of the Dundee Maternity Hospital for recognition of its certificate as an approved qualification under Section 2 of the Act.

(2) Claims for enrolment on the qualification of holding a certificate from one of the following bodies, not hitherto approved by the Board under Section 2:

(a) Sir Patrick Dun's Maternity Hospital, Dublin;

(b) Hospital for Women and Children, Lupus Street, S.W.

(3) Applications for recognition as approved institutions for the training of midwives under Section C of the Rules:

(a) District Nursing Association, St. James's Square, Cheltenham;

(b) Maternity Charity and District Nurses' Home, Plaistow;

(c) Brighton and Hove Hospital for Women; together with others already received.

4. After consideration of applications for certificates, the names of 213 women were passed under Section 2 of the Act, and ordered for entry on the Roll. Of this total, sixty-one claimed as holding the certificate of the Obstetrical Society of London, four that of the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, five that of the Glasgow Maternity Hospital, and 143 were admitted as having been in *bond-fide* practice for one year prior to July 31st, 1902.

5. Draft Rules of Procedure on proposed restoration to the Roll of a name removed were considered, amended, passed, and ordered to be submitted to the Privy Council for approval.

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