

Association," which every mental-trained nurse must pass before she is given a certificate of efficiency.

"There is no work which requires more patience, love, tact, and skill for one who wishes to be a good nurse. It is beginning to be realised that the nursing of bodily ailments is easy when compared with the ministrations to a mind diseased, and that only nurses of the best and highest type, patient, sympathetic, and high principled should be selected for this duty. It is for some of these nurses that, after three years' training, and on receipt of their certificate, I ask the Matrons if they could not obtain for them some reduction in their time of training when they come to seek further knowledge in the wards of a general hospital. The Medico-Psychological Association allows a certificated hospital nurse to go in for her examination at the end of one year. Ought not the hospital committees to try and meet mental nurses in a generous spirit, in shortening the time which must be given by at least one year? I am convinced both sides would derive benefit."

Among others, the following matrons joined in the discussion: Miss McNeil (President), Miss Huxley, Miss Lett, Miss Sampson, Miss Lamont, and Miss Carson Rae. The only conclusion arrived at was that the subject was a wide and important one, which could not be settled until a central body of nursing control existed to whom vital matters could be referred for discussion.

Nurses and the Pan-Anglican Congress.

In connection with the forthcoming Pan-Anglican Congress, a combined meeting for members of the nursing profession will be held in the Church House, Great Smith Street, Westminster, on Tuesday, June 23rd, at 2.30 p.m. Bishop Montgomery will take the chair, and the speakers will include Dr. A. Hume Griffith (Mosul) and others.

Seats in the body of the hall will be reserved free, without tickets, for nurses. Friends will be admitted to the gallery on payment of 1s., tickets for which may be obtained from Miss Richardson, 52, Lower Sloane Street, S.W.

Nurses' Uniform when Off Duty.

The desirability of wearing outdoor uniform in preference to changing into ordinary walking dress is a point upon which professional opinion is not unanimous. Some nurses prefer it, others find a greater relaxation in discarding uniform when off duty. Some of the subscribers to the Brentford Cottage Hospital seem to think that they should be able to point to its uniformed nurses as they pass in the street, with a sense of proprietorship. Do they, however, provide the outdoor uniforms of their nurses? If not, we commend to them the sound advice of Sister Lucas, head of the nursing staff, "Give the poor things a little freedom and let them wear what they like off duty."

Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses.

The Report of the Council of the Queen's Institute to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, as Patron, affords abundant proof of the necessity for the appeal recently issued on its behalf if the Council are to be able to carry out the work entrusted to them, and not only to maintain the work at its present level but to be prepared to respond to calls for extension.

The policy of the Institute has been to secure for Queen's Nurses a high standard of hospital and district training, with subsequent inspection, and then to leave their support to the districts employing them. It seems pitiful that the £90 a year which each well-trained worker costs should be often regarded as prohibitive. At the same time it must be recognised that the districts which need nurses most urgently are often those which find the greatest difficulty in raising the necessary funds, and we should like to see the Queen's Institute endowed with a special fund for the purpose of maintaining, or assisting in maintaining, thoroughly trained nurses in necessitous districts.

Another branch of work which the report points out is opening up to Queen's Nurses is school nursing. The obstacle to this work has so far been the inability of local education authorities to offer any remuneration for the nurses' services, but if adequate remuneration is forthcoming, as is now possible, there is no doubt that many local associations will arrange that their nurses shall undertake school nursing. The Council of the Institute are doing all in their power to obtain the approval of the Board of Education for the employment of Queen's Nurses for this purpose.

A noticeable increase has taken place in the number of associations formed on the provident basis, and the Council, while carefully safeguarding the interests of the very poor, view this tendency with approbation. In districts where such associations are formed the report points out that the subscriptions of the Guardians are of essential importance, and are to be regarded as payment for the services of the nurse to the very poor.

The Council reports that its efforts to bring Queen's Nurses in London into closer touch with the hospitals have resulted in much practical benefit. The hospitals are relieved of a certain number of patients who can be treated under the direction of local medical men in their own homes, and they are also able to discharge a number of patients at an earlier date with the assurance that their after treatment in their homes is in capable hands.

To meet the liabilities, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, of Associations employing District Nurses, the Council has made provision for any affiliated society to ensure itself against claims arising under the Act.

The Council are endeavouring to promote a higher standard of training in the affiliated homes which train nurses for their own staffs, and have been much gratified by the assent generally given to the idea of improved and wider training.

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