The suggestion made by the Lambeth Guardians is a most extraordinary one. The training of nurses in fire drill comes under the heading of the general responsibility of Boards of Guardians for the safety of the sick entrusted to their charge, and is certainly not within the scope of the Syllabus of Training which should be enforced. We may add, in this connection, that in a large number of Nursing Homes attached to Training Schools adequate means of escape in the event of fire are not provided, and we do not see, under these circumstances, how the General Nursing Council could devise the Rule desired. The proposition of the Lambeth Guardians is absurd.

## Report of the Finance Committee.

The Report of the Finance Committee, moved by SIR JENNER VERRALL, Chairman, which was adopted, and agreed, made the astounding recommendation that the sum of  $\pounds_{150}$  for stamps for the Registrar and  $\pounds_{100}$  for stamps for the Examinations Officer be allowed (for a month) in addition to  $\pounds_{15}$  for Petty Cash.

month) in addition to £15 for Petty Cash. Little wonder if further house room is required for the work of the Council. Quite a considerable amount of space must be required to house the stamps !

The Committee further made no objection to recommendations 11, 12 and 13 of the General Purposes Committee; (1) "to draw at once a bonus of £35 for Miss Smith ("the Accountant" was added on the suggestion of Miss du Sautoy), whilst the question of salary is deferred pending the re-organisation of the permanent staff at an early date"; (2) to reply to a letter from Sir Ernest Hatch enclosing copy of a letter from the Howard de Walden Estate Agents, in respect of the house, 20, Portland Place, "that Restrictions 3 and 5 prohibit the Council from further considering the purchase of the house"; and (3) that the Assistant Registrar be granted one month's sick leave on full pay.

We hope Registered Nurses understand the import of the allowance for stamps. It represents for the general business of the Office 36,000 penny stamps, and for the Examinations Officer 24,000 penny stamps, for what period is not stated, but presumably for one month in each case.

As the registration fees for the four weeks reported cannot have amounted to more than  $\pounds 186$  18s., as the applicants numbered 89, and the Council has no other source of revenue, it will be seen that it has spent more than its whole income for the month on stamps; the Council must therefore be drawing heavily on capital, which should be • invested.

## Report of the Registration Committee.

DR. GOODALL, Chairman of the Registration Committee, presented the following Report, which was taken in camera:—

Applications for Registration,

APPLICATION					1			
Applications received du		eek end	ling	1 1 2	· · · · · ·			
December 15th, 1923	• • .	• •	• •	•••	. 25			
,, 22nd ,,		• •	•• /		24			
,, 29th ,,	••	••		•.•	9			
January 5th, 1924		••	••	• •	31			
Registration to January 5th, 1924.								
Applications received	•••	••	••		42,036			
Applications approved by the Council to December								
18th	••	• • •	••	••	32,360			
Applications for approval at meeting on January								
18th		••	•••	• •	1,403			
Applications ineligible to	meetin	g on Ja	nuary	18th	1,212			
Applications ineligible to be brought before meeting								
on January 18th	• •	••	••	••	30			
Applications withdrawn		• •	••	••	215			
Applications incomplete	• • •	••	• •	• •	6,816			
					<u> </u>			
					42,036			
1. (1997) - A.			٠					

General	930			
Male	••		· • •	ĨI
Mental	••	••		360
Mental			••	26
Sick Ch	22			
Fever ]	Register	•••	•••	54
				1,403

We wonder how long these unfortunate 6,816 candidates have been kept waiting.

It is interesting to note how the 1,403 applications submitted for approval come out as representing work divided between the 43 members of the clerical staff employed by the Council. As nearly as can be calculated each one is able to put through 13 applications per day. Some, no doubt, do more, some less, but that is the average.

## Report of the Education and Examination Committee.

The Report of the Education and Examination Committee was presented by MISS LLOYD STILL, Chairman of the Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL, referring to a bunch of Rules which was laid upon the table, moved for leave to bring them up as a matter of urgency. He thought that it was a matter of urgency that the Rules should go to the Minister. It could be done by leave of the Council.

Minister. It could be done by leave of the Council. MR. DONALDSON objected. He said the Council had had no opportunity of considering them, and could not possibly do so now.

THE CHAIRMAN agreed that, if Mr. Donaldson disapproved, these Rules could not be brought up.

On the recommendation of the Education Committee, the Keighley Union Infirmary was recognised as a complete Training School, provided that the present arrangements for surgical training with the Victoria Hospital, Keighley, continue; the Huntingdon County Hospital, and the Tynemouth Union Infirmary were granted provisional recognition for a further period to March 31st, 1924, and the City Hospital, Little Bromwich, was recognised as a complete Training School for Fever Nurses.

The fees for the Final Examination for Male Nurses, Fever, and Sick Children's Nurses were also fixed at  $\pm 3$  3s.

A Recommendation from the Mental Nursing Committee was also received : "That the fee for the Final Examination for Mental Nurses be the same as for the other Supplementary Parts of the Register."

## Discussion.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE moved that the Recommendation be referred back as there was shortly to be a Conference with the Medico-Psychological Association.

With the Menico-rsychological Association. THE CHAIRMAN reminded Dr. Bedford Pierce that it was his own Resolution. Was he going to make the nurses on the other parts of the Register pay for the Examination of the Nurses on the Mental Part? DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said "Certainly not." But he

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said "Certainly not." But he thought as they were going to confer with the Medico-Psychological Association on matters appertaining to the Final Examinations, it was only courteous to discuss the question of the Examination Fee with them. At any rate he should move it.

MR. DONALDSON seconded the motion.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the motion, if carried, meant that the question would come up again at the next meeting.

DR. GOODALL said he had gone to some trouble to be prepared to argue in support of the Recommendation



