

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association was held at the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7, on Monday, November 6th, when Miss J. Ruddy, M.B.C.N., was in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and a large amount of correspondence was dealt with.

It was unanimously carried that Miss J. Ruddy be invited to continue to act as President of the Association for another year, which she consented to do.

Applications for membership were received and all were elected.

The Resolution *re* "Training of Nurses," proposed by Mrs. Keynes and passed at the annual meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, was considered, and it was agreed that a letter be sent to the Executive Committee of the N.C.W. strongly opposing the following Resolution—

RESOLUTION.

"That this Council is of opinion that in order to increase the number of suitable candidates for the Nursing Profession it should be made possible for pupils to take part of the Preliminary Examination before leaving a secondary school, thus stimulating their interest and relieving the pressure of the first year in hospital."

Arrangements for the next meeting to be held early in the New Year were considered, when Miss McLoughlan very hospitably invited the members to hold their next meeting at East Ham Hospital.

After a very refreshing tea, very kindly arranged by Miss Macdonald, the meeting terminated.

As agreed by the meeting, the following letter has been sent to the Chairman and Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Great Britain:—

To the Chairman and Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Great Britain.

Dear Madam,—

At the meeting of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association, held on November 6th, the Resolution on the "Training of Nurses," proposed by Mrs. Keynes, of Cambridge, and passed at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain at Torquay, on October 12th, was considered, and it was agreed to send a letter opposing this Resolution.

The Committee of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association unanimously agreed that the recommendation involved in the Resolution proposed by Mrs. Keynes, to divide the Preliminary State Examination of Nurses, is impracticable, but it is of opinion that, as Examiners and Sister Tutors do not complain of the candidates' lack of knowledge in anatomy, physiology, etc., but of ignorance in general elementary subjects, extra time might with advantage be spent at school in acquiring general knowledge, in learning how to spell correctly, how to write legibly, and also how to speak English grammatically.

That in no sense could tuition given outside the hospital environment substitute any period of the term of General Training, as laid down by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919.

THE LEAGUE OF FEVER NURSES.

The inaugural meeting of the new League of Fever Nurses was held on Monday, November 6th, at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. (by kind permission of the Royal British Nurses' Association).

Miss M. Drakard was elected Chairman of the meeting.

The League was then duly constituted and the Constitu-

tion and Bye-laws were considered *seriatim*, and with a few alterations were adopted.

The officers elected were: Hon. Secretary, Miss M. Drakard; Hon. Treasurer, Miss A. Stewart Bryson. Nominations were received for the offices of President and Vice-Presidents, and the names put forward were duly elected—Miss P. Solomon, Matron, Colindale Hospital, President; and Miss M. Watson, Sister Tutor, Park Hospital, Hither Green, and Miss Bell, Assistant Matron, London Fever Hospital, Vice-Presidents.

A further meeting will be held very shortly, when the Committee will be elected, and the work of the League commenced.

All members of the old Fever Nurses' Association are eligible for membership of the League, and are asked to get in touch as soon as possible with the Hon. Secretary, whose address is, "Wee Hoose," Datchworth, Knebworth, Herts.

THE LEAGUE OF SISTER TUTORS.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held at Clive Court Restaurant, Maida Vale, W.9, on Saturday, January 27th, 1934. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.; Dinner at 7.30 p.m.; Tickets 3s. 6d. per head may be had from Miss Ballard, St. Leonard's Hospital, Shoreditch, N.1. Please apply before January 15th, 1934.

This, we believe, is the first Dinner to be organised by the League of Sister Tutors. It promises to be a most interesting occasion and it is anticipated that the speeches will be lively.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., Chairman of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, occupied the Chair at its Meeting on December 15th, and 14 Members of the Council were present.

Under correspondence dealt with was a letter from the General Nursing Council for England and Wales intimating that the Council had decided against the splitting of the Preliminary Examination. The question was discussed at length and was continued to a future meeting.

The report of the Education and Examination Committee was submitted by Colonel Mackintosh, C.B., M.V.O., the Convener of that committee, and was approved. In terms of the recommendations of the Committee, the Registrar was instructed to write to the County Medical Officer, Dumbar-ton, giving the reasons for the Council's refusal to recognise Duntocher Fever Hospital as a Training School for Fever Nurses in affiliation with a larger Hospital. On the recommendation of the Committee and after a report by the Advisory Committee of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, Gogarburn Certified Institution, Corstorphine, Edinburgh, was recognised as a complete Training School for Nurses for Mental Defectives.

In place of Miss Ingram, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow, who was unable to act, Miss Annie Robertson, Glasgow, was appointed as an additional Examiner for the Examination for General and Sick Children's Nurses in February.

The Registrar reported that there were approximately 400 Retention Fees outstanding at 30th November when the Register was closed and instructions were given to the Registrar as to applications by Nurses for reinclusion.

HOW ABOUT RECIPROCITY?

The General Nursing Council for Scotland having decided to split the Preliminary Examination before coming to any arrangement with the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, which has decided against it, has placed itself in a position of difficulty on the question of reciprocity.

The Registered Nurses in Scotland should have been consulted before a decision was taken on this question.

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