

1939, in the Armed Forces, the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets, has, with His Majesty's approval, since been extended to certain other services, including the Civil Nursing Reserve, and the service of volunteer stretcher bearers enrolled at hospitals in the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

To qualify for the King's Badge, members of the Civil Nursing Reserve and volunteer stretcher bearers enrolled at hospitals in the Emergency Hospital Scheme must satisfy both of the following conditions:—

(a) they must have been awarded a pension or a lump sum under the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme in respect of a war service injury sustained since September 3rd, 1939; and

(b) they must have ceased to be members of any civil defence organisation.

Condition (b) above is in accord with the principle applied in the case of the Armed Forces, the effect of which is that the King's Badge cannot be awarded to a person while he remains a member of the Service.

Red Cross and St. John Members Admitted to the Roll of Assistant Nurses.

After consulting the Civil Nursing Reserve Advisory Council, the Minister of Health has decided that Red Cross and St. John members who are admitted to the Roll of Assistant Nurses must wear the Civil Nursing Reserve assistant nurses' indoor uniform but that they may be allowed to wear on those uniforms a metal badge of their own organisation as directed by the organisation concerned, and that they may also be allowed to continue to wear the Red Cross or St. John cap.

Red Cross and St. John Members from Canada.

Arrangements have been made for a number of Canadian Red Cross and St. John members to come to this country, for service as C.N.R. members in hospitals. These members, some of whom have already arrived, will all be mobile. They will be registered at the Head Office of the Ministry of Health and allocated to duty through the Regional Nursing Officers.

First Class Fighting Men.

Turkey has declared war on the Axis Powers. A plenary session of the Grand National Assembly voted unanimously for the decision.

This is good news as the Turk is a first-class fighting man. We came into touch with him in the Greco-Turkish War in 1897, when after the battle of Domokos, a contingent of wounded were admitted to the Military Hospital nursed by British Sisters at Athens. They impressed us greatly. Their modesty and good manners were amazing, also their appreciation of courtesy. Segregated in a beautiful marble floored ward in the Military School, the sheets were plainly marked "Sophia," as the Crown Princess was the Patroness of the hospital, and these enemy patients carefully arranged these sheets so that the royal ascription was always in view.

Feet which had tramped rough ground for many a mile were sadly scarred and ingrained, and after inspection we gave directions to Sister, when she returned on duty, that all feet were to be carefully soaked and cleansed. Imagine our amusement when we re-entered the ward to see bed clothes turned back and 13 pairs of spotless feet exposed to view!

Able bodied compatriots had made an excellent job of it, and many were the compliments sincerely appreciated, which increased the *entente cordiale*.

The Turkish declaration of War has carried the Anglo-Turkish Alliance into full effect and should be a marked advantage to both nations.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W., on February 23rd.

Business Arising out of the Minutes.

A letter was reported from the Minister of Health in connection with the extension of premises, and it was considered *in camera*.

Finance.

It was reported that H. M. Walton, Esq., had been re-elected Chairman of the Finance Committee.

On the recommendation of the Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £1,250 for weekly salaries, £630 for postage, £70 for insurance stamps, and £20 for petty cash were allowed.

Estimates for stationery to the value of £932 18s. 8d. including £29 5s. 0d. for Assistant Nurses, £10 14s. 6d. for list of Nurses, and £6 15s. 0d. for binding the *Nursing Times*, the *British Journal of Nursing*, the *Nursing Mirror* and the *Public Assistance Journal*.

Registration.

It was reported that Miss D. A. Lane had been re-elected Chairman of the Registration Committee.

It was explained that as the work of the staff had been thrown three months out of schedule owing to staff and supply of paper problems for holding the election of Council, it was recommended that in place of printing of full edition of the Register in 1945, a schedule of additions and deletions to the Register of 1944 be published; this was agreed.

Applications for approval for Registration were: General Register, by reciprocity, 6; Supplementary Part of the Register for Nurses for Mental Diseases, by reciprocity, 3; for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 2; for Fever Nurses, by examination, 8, by reciprocity, 3; total, 22.

It was agreed that the names of 51 nurses, who had hitherto not paid their retention fee, and now wished their names reincluded in the Register, should be reincluded.

List of Nurses.

It was agreed that the names of 24 General Nurses, 1 Male Nurse, 2 Nurses for Mental Diseases, and 13 Fever Nurses, be approved for admission to the appropriate parts of the List.

Education and Examination.

It was reported that Miss H. Dey had been re-elected Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee.

A draft letter was before the Council concerning the question of an approach being made to bodies responsible for the planning, building, and equipping of Hospitals in regard to improvements in such planning.

Several members of Council thought that such a matter should be more fully considered before any steps were taken to communicate with such bodies.

After some discussion it was agreed to appoint a Committee of Council to meet some architects and surveyors to get some constructive ideas before doing anything further in the matter.

It was agreed that in view of the difficulties at present being experienced by Hospitals as a result of war-time conditions, the date of implementation of the requirements regarding the minimum daily average occupation of beds in Hospitals approved as Training Schools laid down by Council on July 23rd, 1943, shall be postponed in respect of those Hospitals already approved as Training Schools until October 1st, 1947, or two years from the cessation of hostilities in Europe, whichever is the earlier date. The requirement shall, however, continue to be applied in the case of all Hospitals seeking recognition for the first time.

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