

the five-day week; during training, the student to be under the control of the local authority and not the hospital to which she is attached.

Whilst it is natural to grow impatient with those who say vocation is everything and pay and comfort nothing, at the same time we must not forget that without some humanitarian impulse no girl who takes up nursing is likely to prove successful. The careful study of this Report is of the greatest importance to every trained nurse, considering the almost revolutionary changes suggested in the nursing sphere of this country.

In conclusion, two most important questions remain. Will this system, if adopted, improve, maintain or lower the standards of British Nursing? And will it provide enough nurses to meet our needs? Time alone can provide the answer.

B. G. S.

KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON.

On December 9th the King Edward's Hospital Fund for London held what was probably the last meeting of the General Council on the traditional lines.

For 50 years grants from the King's Fund have meant a great deal to the London Hospitals.

His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, said, in part: "Soon after the foundation of the Fund large grants went to Guy's and the London, and beds closed for lack of funds were promptly re-opened. Later on King's College Hospital was helped materially over the period of special stress when it moved to Denmark Hill. After the war of 1914-18 the position was again difficult, and the Fund distributed £450,000 in the year 1920 from its own resources. Large grants were made towards building new hospitals in Woolwich and Ilford. All through the '20s and '30s help from the Fund was badly needed and several hospitals in Outer London received annual sums amounting to nearly a quarter of their total expenditure. In recent times, besides maintaining the ordinary distribution, we have been able to sustain in turn at times of crisis the Middlesex, Guy's, St. Thomas's, the Royal Northern, the Royal Free and the Westminster, and many others. Despite gloomy prophecies, no voluntary hospital on the Fund's list has had to close its doors for lack of funds.

"Among others, the training schemes we have financed for administrators and caterers and domestic supervisors are being developed, and that for administrators has already proved a great success."

Sir Edward Peacock, Treasurer, said that income was being well maintained. In 1946 the total net income was £470,000, and expenditure £364,000, leaving a surplus of £106,000. This year the total net income was £456,000 and expenditure £327,000, leaving a surplus of £129,000. Income from investments at £219,000 was slightly up, subscriptions and donations at £40,000 slightly down, but, in addition, the Fund had received £10,000 from the League of Mercy. A sum of £75,000 had been received from the Nuffield Trust for the Special Areas, compared with £125,000 in 1946. Legacies amounted to £135,000, as against £109,000 in 1946.

The distribution to hospitals was again £300,000, plus a small balance of £2,500 in special grants. To this must be added some £25,250 for special services, District Nursing, Emergency Bed Service, Nursing Recruitment Service, Dietetic Advisory Service, Travel Grants and Hospital Bursaries. It was already evident that the help which the Fund could give to the hospitals after they have passed under public control might be even more important than in the past.

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 January 23rd, 1948.

Election of Chairman.

There was only one nomination for the position as Chairman, and so Miss D. M. Smith was re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year.

Election of Vice-Chairman.

There were two nominations for the Vice-Chairmanship, and as one of the nominees stood down, Miss C. Alexander, Matron of the London Hospital, was appointed Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Appointments from the Privy Council.

MR. JOHN DIAMOND, M.P.; LADY LIMERICK.

Appointments from the Minister of Education.

MRS. FORBES; MISS A. CATNACH.

Appointments from the Minister of Health.

DAME KATHRINE WATT; DR. MACAULAY; MR. BARNES; DR. REES THOMAS; DR. R. BOMFORD.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £4,525 for Weekly Salaries, £1,020 for Postage, £400 for Insurance Stamps, £60 for Petty Cash, and £150 for Inspectors' Expenses, were allowed.

Registration.

It was agreed that an interview be sought with the Minister of Health, at which also the Council's Solicitor would be present, to discuss the question of reciprocal registration of nurses registered in H.M. Dominions.

It was agreed that the names of 87 applicants be entered in the Register of Nurses by reciprocity and 23 by examination.

It was agreed that the names of 125 Nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention and now wished their names re-included in the Register be re-included.

It was agreed that the names of 6,330 Nurses who had not paid their retention fee be removed from the Register of Nurses in accordance with Rules, Part II., Rule 5 (3).

The number of Nurses registered during 1947 were reported as: General Part of the Register by examination 6,607, by reciprocity 334; Supplementary Parts of the Register by examination 1,340, by reciprocity 122.

The total number of Nurses registered by examination and reciprocity from September, 1921, to December, 1947, were 188,352 by examination, and 132,465 by reciprocity.

It was reported that 206 Nurses had received Certificates of Registration as Sister Tutors, and it was agreed that an asterisk be placed at the side of their names in the State Register.

Education and Examination.

It was reported that a Meeting had taken place on January 5th at the Ministry of Health between representatives of the General Nursing Council and the Royal Medico-Psychological Association. It was agreed that the Minister of Health be approached with a view to the Syllabus of Subjects for the Preliminary Examination being revised without delay by the addition of the section on Normal Psychology contained in the revised Syllabus submitted to the Minister of Health for approval in February, 1947.

It was agreed that in so far as Hospitals approved as

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