

British Medical Association.

PRIZES FOR NURSES.

THE COUNCIL OF THE British Medical Association is prepared to consider the award in 1953 of prizes of the value of 20 guineas for the best essay, and 10 guineas for the second best essay submitted in open competition by each of the following categories of nurses:—

- (i) Student Nurses.
- (ii) State Registered Nurses working in hospital.
- (iii) State Registered Nurses not working in a hospital, i.e., District Nurses, Private Nurses, etc.
- (iv) State-enrolled Assistant Nurses.

The subjects of the essays for 1953 are:—

Category (i) "Is nursing a vocation?"

Category (ii) "The rôle of the married nurse in the hospital service."

Category (iii) "The psychological approach to the patient."

Category (iv) "The nursing care of the paralytic patient."

The purpose of these prizes is the promotion of systematic observation among nurses. In awarding the Prizes *due regard will be given to evidence of personal observation*. No essay that has previously appeared in the medical press or elsewhere will be considered eligible for a Prize.

Nurses who are undergoing a course of training at a hospital are eligible to compete under category (i); nurses registered by the General Nursing Council are eligible to compete under categories (ii), (iii), or (iv), whichever is appropriate.

If any question arises in reference to the eligibility of a candidate or the admissibility of his or her essay, the decision of the Council of the British Medical Association shall be final.

Should the Council decide that no essay entered is of sufficient merit, no award shall be made.

The essay should be typewritten if possible, but a legibly written manuscript will receive equal consideration. It must be written in the English language, unsigned and have attached to it a note containing the name and address of the candidate and the category into which he or she falls. Essays which, it is suggested, should consist of 2,000 to 5,000 words, must be forwarded so as to reach the Secretary of the British Medical Association, not later than March 31st, 1953.

Preliminary notice of entry for this competition is required and a special form for this purpose is obtainable from the Secretary, British Medical Association, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

A MEETING OF THE Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, by the kind permission of Miss J. Loveridge, the Matron, and the Board of Governors, on November 27th, 1952. The President, Miss L. G. Duff Grant, presided.

New Members Welcomed.

The Nurses' League of the Chester Royal Infirmary and the Old Church Hospital, Romford, were admitted to the National Council.

Amongst a deal of business, it was reported that discussions were still going on between the National Council of Nurses and the Ministry of Health in connection with more supervision of foreign nurses coming to work in this country.

It was reported that the National Council of Nurses had been invited to prepare a Paper on "The Teaching and Supervision of Auxiliary Nursing Personnel," for the International Congress of Nurses in Brazil in 1953. Miss D. M. Smith, Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales had been approached to do this.

Election of Vice-President.

Miss D. C. Bridges, Executive Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, had been successful in the election of Vice-President, which link with the International Council of Nurses was of great advantage.

Election of Two Directors.

By the postal ballot, Miss M. Powell, Matron of St. George's Hospital, London, and Miss E. Merry, Superintendent of the Queen's Nurses, had been elected Directors of the National Council of Nurses.

The President's Address.

Miss L. G. Duff Grant gave her first Report as President of the National Council of Nurses, and reported a year of steady progress which included the gracious consent of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, to become the Royal Patron of the National Council of Nurses, and a message from Her Majesty to the Grand Council. Her Majesty was graciously pleased that a signed portrait of herself should be placed in the headquarters of the National Council of Nurses.

It was announced that the exchange of nurses scheme would be taken over by the National Council in January, 1953, which work had previously been executed by the Royal College of Nursing, to which Association thanks were accorded for their work in the past.

The Hon. Treasurer's Report.

Miss D. A. Lane, the Hon. Treasurer, gave a very satisfactory and detailed report of the finances of the National Council during the past year.

The Executive Secretary's Report.

Miss F. Rowe, the Executive Secretary, presented her Report which proved great achievement of her department during the year under review.

International Congress of Nurses, Brazil, 1953.

There was a good deal of discussion in connection with the nomination of President, International Council of Nurses, 1953-57, and also concerning the place where the next Congress should be held.

By vote, it was agreed that Great Britain should not nominate a President or the place where the 1957 Congress might be held.

As only 15 members of the National Council had been nominated to attend the International Congress in Brazil next year, which number could be granted currency to go, those nurses were approved.

GEORGE ROBEY AT PEOPLE'S PALACE.

In Aid of District Nursing Funds.

GEORGE ROBEY, the famous comedian, now in his 83rd year, opened a jumble sale at the People's Palace, Mile End Road, London, E.1, on November 15th.

The sale was organised by the Bethnal Green, Poplar and Stepney district nursing associations in aid of district nursing funds.

To remain independent under the National Health scheme, the associations are required to pay 10 per cent. of their expenses with funds obtained from voluntary sources. It is hoped that the jumble sale provided £500 of what they need.

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