

(b) A scheme of training for admission to the parts of the Register for General Nurses and for Sick Children's Nurses whereby nurses who complete three years' general training in accordance with the scheme approved between Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, and Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool, may enter for the Final Examination for Sick Children's Nurses on completion of a further one year's training at Alder Hey Children's Hospital; such further period of training being allowed to count from the date of completing the Final General Examination (provided the three years' training has been completed by such date) and provided application for registration on the part of the Register for General Nurses is made within 30 days of the receipt of the results of the Final General Examination and such application is accepted; providing always that in the event of a candidate failing the Final General Examination or failing to make application for registration within 30 days of the receipt of the Examination results, training for admission to the part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses may not be deemed to commence until the date of registration on the part of the Register for General Nurses.

Disciplinary Cases

The case of Grace Ethelwyn Edwards, S.R.N.99241, and of Walter Thomas Manning, R.M.N.22510, were before the Council. It was agreed that the name of Grace Ethelwyn Edwards be removed from the Register of Nurses, and the Council postponed for one year their judgment on Walter Thomas Manning.

The next Meeting of the Council

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for May 28th.

The Midwife.

More Births and Fewer Infant Deaths

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL announced recently, that provisional figures for England and Wales show that this year for the first time since 1947 the number of births registered in the March quarter is greater than the number registered in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

Live Births

Live births registered numbered 173,784, representing a rate of 16.0 per thousand population. Comparable figures for the first quarters of 1953 and 1952 were 171,705 (rate 15.8) and 173,338 (rate 15.9).

Deaths

There were 153,116 deaths registered, representing a rate of 14.1 per thousand population, compared with 171,268 and a rate of 15.8 in the first quarter of 1953 (when influenza was widely prevalent) and 146,948 (rate 13.5) in the first quarter of 1952.

Deaths of children under one year of age numbered 5,239, giving a record low rate for a March quarter of 31.0 per thousand related live births, compared with 5,645 and a rate of 33.8 in the corresponding quarter of 1953. In the first quarter of 1938 the corresponding figures were 10,585 and 69.3 respectively.

Stillbirths

There were 4,220 stillbirths registered, giving a rate of 23.7 per thousand total live and stillbirths, compared with 3,957 and a rate of 22.5 in the corresponding quarter of 1953. The figures for the first quarter of 1938 were 6,185 and 38.3 respectively.

Some Vital Statistics of 1953.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S Quarterly Return for the December quarter, 1953, is just published.

The main figures of births and deaths, etc., in England and Wales for December quarter, 1953, have already been published in the Registrar General's Weekly Return for week ended January 16th. This notice refers to information not previously published.

Population

The estimated home population of England and Wales at December 31st, 1953, is shown to be 44,166,000 (21,249,000 males, 22,917,000 females). This is an increase of about 420,000 since the last census was taken in April, 1951, and of 123,000 over the estimate for end-1952. The increase since December, 1952, for people aged 65 years and over is 68,000 and for children under 15 years of age 61,000 while the remainder—those aged 15-64—declined by 6,000.

Population Projections

Projections of the population of England and Wales show that, on certain stated assumptions, the total population will increase to 45,378,000 in 1963, 46,175,000 in 1973, and 46,617,000 in 1983, declining to 46,382,000 in 1993.

Expectation of Life

On the basis of the death rates for the year 1952 the expectation of life of a boy at birth is 67.06 years and of a girl 72.35. This compares with 48.53 and 52.38 respectively, on the basis of the death rates for the years 1901-10.

Marriages

The number of marriages registered in the December quarter was 68,535, which was 1,244 lower than that for the December quarter of 1952 (69,779). The average for the corresponding quarters of the five years 1948-1952 was 77,589. There were 344,488 marriages in 1953, representing a rate of 15.6 per thousand population, compared with 349,308 and a rate of 15.9 in 1952.

Measles

Following the highest biennial peak of notifications since 1940 (when notification of measles began) amounting to 351,362 cases in the first quarter of 1953, measles notifications dropped to 11,040 in the December quarter, the lowest figure recorded since 1945. An analysis of deaths registered in the September quarter 1953 shows that deaths from measles dropped to 13 in that quarter, compared with 142 and 80 in the first two quarters.

Other Causes of Death

Deaths from accidental poisoning continued to rise reaching 659 in the first three quarters of 1953 compared with 586 during the corresponding nine months of 1952, while deaths from accidental burns dropped from 593 to 522. The number of suicides increased in the same period from 3,299 to 3,541.

Death Rates in Cities Abroad

In the December quarter the death rate per 1,000 population in Greater London was 9.8. This compared with 10.1 in New York and Copenhagen, 9.0 in Stockholm, 8.7 in Oslo and 8.2 in Rome.

Infant Mortality

A comparison of death rates of children under one year of age in September quarter, 1953, shows that the England and Wales rate of 22 per 1,000 related live births compared with: Netherlands 19, Australia 25, U.S.A. 26, Scotland 28, France 33, Italy 64.

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