

other appointments. Nurses from Great Britain who have been abroad for observation visits number 76; 441 nurses from overseas have secured salaried appointments, 23 extended their visits by securing other appointments, and 68 nurses from other countries have been in this country for observation visits.

The number of first interviews granted to nurses by the National Council of Nurses during the year was 867. Truly remarkable!

Miss D. M. Smith was elected a Vice-President, and Miss M. Craven and Miss L. Young elected as Directors.

The Auditors and Hon. Solicitors were duly re-elected and votes of thanks ended a very interesting meeting.

All then partook of a delightful tea served by the charming members of the London Hospital staff.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Programme of Study Courses Sponsored by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for 1956.

Participants will be accommodated in London.

April 5th-12th, 1956.

"Aspects of Mental Deficiency and Psychiatric Nursing, to include lectures and demonstrations on modern trends in these subjects."

This course is being arranged by the National Council of Nurses in conjunction with the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association and the Society of Mental Nurses.

April 22nd-29th, 1956.

The National Council of Nurses in conjunction with the Ophthalmic Nurses' Association is arranging an Ophthalmic Nursing Course and details will be available later.

July 22nd-29th, 1956.

The National Council of Nurses is sponsoring a course in Geriatric Nursing and Rehabilitation and the programme will include:—

"The modern approach to the nursing and care of elderly people when they are sick; the care of long term illness and disabilities, including methods of rehabilitation and ways in which the nursing of elderly persons can be made both interesting and easier for nurses than has hitherto been possible."

Further particulars of the above Study Courses may be obtained after January 14th, 1956, from Miss Frances Rowe, Executive Secretary National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, 17, Portland Place, London, W.1, for which a stamped addressed foolscap envelope should be enclosed.

Applications are being invited from members of the National Council of Nurses, from Members of National Nursing Associations which are affiliated to the International Council of Nurses and from nurses from countries in which the International Council of Nurses have appointed a National Associate representative.

Christmas.

England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again
'Twas Christmas broached the mightiest Ale,
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

SCOTT.

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.1, on November 25th, 1955. Miss M. J. Smyth, Chairman, presided.

Sir John Dain, the Returning Officer, gave his report on the election to the Mental Nurses' Committee of the Council. He told us that 21,210 persons were entitled to receive a Ballot Paper; by the appointed day 5,980 were received by him, 1,262 had been returned undelivered by the post office and 102 by relatives. He considers this is the result of the abolition of the annual retention fee and the loss of a regular opportunity for checking addresses.

The final result was:—

Valid papers counted	5,668
Invalid ballot papers—	
Identification envelope unsigned ...	321
Blank ballot paper	1
Packet improperly made	6
More than two crosses	2
Crosses ambiguously placed	2
	—332

Mr. J. E. Soley and Mr. L. B. Dexter were the successful candidates from a list of 14 nominations.

Two members of the Mental Nurses Committee are elected; four are appointed by the Minister of Health, and six are appointed by the Council.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sum of £4,800 for Cash Account, £400 for Postage and £4,000 for Examination Expenses were allowed.

Education and Examination.

It was reported that the Preliminary and Final Examinations had been held in October, and the Chairman announced the following results:—

Preliminary Examination

Parts I and II	2,002
Part I only	3,024
Part II only	2,913
	—7,939

Final Examination

General Nurses	3,320
Male Nurses	171
Mental Nurses	217
Nurses for Mental Defectives	47
Sick Children's Nurses	205
Fever Nurses	68
	—4,028

Mental Nurses.

It was agreed that, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health, a training of 18 months' duration for admission to the part of the Register for Mental Nurses, for nurses already registered on the part of the Register for General Nurses, should be held at Cheadle Royal Hospital, Cheadle; St. Clements' Hospital, Ipswich; and Shenley Hospital, near St. Albans; and to the part of the Register for Nurses for Mental Defectives at Stallington Hall Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent.

Chairmen of Committees.

Finance : Mr. P. N. Constable.

Registration : Miss K. A. Raven.

Education and Examination : Miss D. L. Holland.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases : Miss J. M. Loveridge.

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