

York shall also grant a certificate to any nurse of good moral character who has been engaged in the actual practice of nursing for not less than three years next prior to the passage of this Act (April 27th, 1903) who shall satisfactorily pass an examination in practical nursing within three years hereafter." In accordance with this provision of the law the examiners met the applicants at the four appointed stations, Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany, and New York, on June 21st, at 8.30 a.m.

The morning examination consisted in simple demonstration of some of the essential points in nursing. Nothing difficult or "catchy" was asked. Only such demonstrations were demanded and such questions were asked as would exhibit the deftness, common sense, and adaptability of the nurse. In the afternoon each applicant presented herself at the place appointed for the written examination. This also was designed to be a fair test of such points as a nurse must be conversant with in order to give intelligent care in a case of illness.

The results of the examinations have not yet been ascertained, but it is believed that it will prove satisfactory to all who have at heart the interest of both the public and the nurse.

The State Board of Nurse Examiners has almost completed its first year's work. It has been in many ways a year of interesting experiences, but at the same time, by virtue of its pioneer element, it has often been very puzzling, and the Board has felt its responsibility for establishing a right precedent, and one that at the same time can easily be maintained.

Legal Matters.

The Roscrea Board of Guardians last week investigated a matter which was brought under their notice by the Clerk. At the previous meeting, Mrs. Bridget Josephine Kelly, of Birr, was provisionally elected midwife for the Bourney Dispensary district, but as the certificate from the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, in the name of Mrs. Lizzie Daly, which she produced, had apparently undergone some alteration, the Clerk was directed to communicate with the hospital. Mrs. Kelly explained that her maiden name was Daly, and that when she tried to fill in the name Josephine she made a blot on the paper. The hospital authorities had since written stating that all they knew was that a Mrs. Lizzie Daly had been trained there in December, 1888. The Clerk also informed the Board that Mrs. Kelly had been lodging with Mrs. Daly, the midwife for Birr district, and it was alleged that without the latter's knowledge she took her certificate from a frame on the wall and altered it to suit her own name. She had admitted to him she had never been in the Rotunda. Since then Mrs. Daly had demanded her certificate. After a long discussion as to whether the Board or the hospital should prosecute, the Guardians decided to again communicate with the latter.

Nursing Echoes.

**** All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



The most efficient method of nursing the sick and wounded in war is a subject in which nurses are necessarily interested. They may at any time be required to render this service, and the large majority have no practical experience in this branch of work. It is well, therefore, that they should acquaint themselves with the conclusions formed by those who have served at the seat of war.

In a paper read before the British Medical Association on "The General Hospital in War: Its Working and Staff," Surgeon-Major C. R. Kilkenny, C.M.G., late Principal Medical Officer of the Portland and the Transvaal Imperial Yeomanry Hospitals, in relation to the nursing department, said:—

"The nursing is best entrusted to a Matron and Sisters—one to every six or eight beds. Separate staffs should be appointed for day and night duties. Some of the Sisters should undertake 'sick-room cookery.' Provision should be made for the treatment of Sisters in the hospital when ill. Female servants will have to be provided. Untrained ladies should be absolutely prohibited in the hospital except as visitors during visiting hours. High-class male nursing is not required, except for special cases such as insanes. The best type of man to work in the wards under Sisters is the disciplined soldier of good character. Of course, such men cannot be obtained unless unfit for duty in the field from causes such as defective teeth and hernia. First-aid work as at present taught is not of much use as qualifications for men in general hospitals. Men for employment as orderlies should have the nursing certificate, some practical experience in wards, and a knowledge of cooking."

In relation to the catering department, the speaker was of opinion that—

"In the catering department it is important to organise several centres for cooking, in accordance with the varying requirements and facilities for the distribution of food. Separate messes will be required for patients and staff, officers, Sisters, non-commissioned officers, and men. It is, however, often beneficial for sick officers and the medical staff to mess together. Messing for those on night duties must be carefully attended to. For acute cases of illness, pure 'sick-room' cookery will be constantly required in the wards, and, unless proper provision is made, Nursing Sisters will be found utilising oil and spirit stoves in their tents for this purpose—a most dangerous, inefficient, and unwholesome practice. A simple method is to provide a series of small ranges

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