

## An Examination for School Nurses.

Once more the general feeling that nurses should afford evidence of efficiency in the branches of work which they undertake is evidenced by the decision of the Royal Sanitary Institute, Margaret Street, London, W., to institute an examination for School Nurses as well as for Health Visitors, to whose work the special duties of School Nurse approximate.

The syllabus includes the general structure of the body, personal hygiene, air, water, food, clothing, the dwelling, the elements of home nursing, the care of infants and young children, the prevention of communicable disease, first aid treatment of injuries, ailments, and accidents, such as cuts, burns, scalds, bleeding, fits, drowning, suffocation, poisoning, bites, and stings, and statistics, including an elementary knowledge of the terms birth rate, death rate, zymotic death rate, and rate of infant mortality. All of these are subjects with which the School Nurse should be thoroughly acquainted. Candidates for the examination are required at the time of making application to furnish satisfactory evidence that they have had opportunities of gaining a practical knowledge of the subjects set out in the syllabus. Amongst other requirements the candidate must be able to write legibly, spell correctly, be able to make an outline sketch to scale, and read ordinary building plans, and must possess a fair knowledge of arithmetic, so that she may be able to prepare a report on any subject connected with her work, creditable to herself and to the authority employing her, whereby it will be seen that the School Nurse is expected to be a well-informed person, possessed of an intelligent interest in matters not connected with nursing proper, but with which it is very desirable she should be acquainted in connection with her special branch of work. The fee for the examination is £2 2s., of which 10s. 6d. must be paid to the Secretary of the Institute on making application, and the remainder a week before the examination.

It behoves the School Nurse to make herself thoroughly efficient, in order that she may take her share in raising the standard of national health through her work for the children in the schools, and may, as a public official, uphold the dignity and honour of the profession to which she belongs. We are glad, therefore, that through the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute she will be able to offer evidence that her efficiency has been tested and proved.

## Progress of State Registration.

Sister Agnes Karll, President of the German Nurses' Association, reports that through it many hundreds of applications for Registration by the State have been made on behalf of its members. She writes: "I think you can imagine what that means, as the authorities, of course, wanted many details about the personality and professional work of each one of them. The year of grace ended on June 1st, and we were sending in applications of new members to the last moment. Each month has brought us eighty new members on that account, so we have had a very busy time. Different examination boards asked all kinds of questions, and some of them did not think without confirmation from the authorities in Berlin that we had the right to make application for our nurses. So I had a good deal to write after the main thing was finished, but I got everything straightened at last. One of the doctors on the board of examiners in one of the Prussian provinces sent us at once a most enthusiastic letter enclosing a donation of five marks, so that was a good beginning.

Most of our nurses will be accepted for Registration, but we are not quite sure about some of the younger ones. Any who are not accepted as applying in the period of grace will go in for examination as soon as possible. Our members have a very strong feeling about Registration, but some of the nursing institutions have taken no interest, and their nurses simply know nothing about it. It will be hard for these nurses later on. They will find their position, if they are unregistered, very difficult, and if they wish to get registered now they will have to pass the State examination and pay a considerable fee as well."

They have got so far in the United States as to begin to seriously discuss "What Work shall the Nurses' Societies do after Registration is Secured?" Miss Isabel McIsaac suggests that they will do greater things and better work in the future.

A Session was devoted to Registration at the eleventh annual meeting of the Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States, held at San Francisco, when the Interstate Secretary presented a fine Report on "The Effect of Registration on the Profession and on the Individual," "Difficulties of Examining Boards," "Work of the State Association after Registration Law has been Secured," and "Progress of Registration in Foreign Lands."

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