

## Fever Nurses' Association.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The following report was presented to the Annual Meeting of the Fever Nurses' Association at the Offices of the Metropolitan Asylums Board last week:—

In this, the first Annual Report of your Council, the question of organisation necessarily occupies the first place.

Early in 1908 a Provisional Committee was formed with the object of establishing the Association, and this Committee, having laid down the general lines on which it was to be organised, and defined its chief aims, appointed an organising Sub-Committee to deal with details.

The latter Committee drafted the articles, standing orders, bye-laws, and special regulations of the Association, and when these had been considered and amended by the Provisional Committee they were duly adopted.

The Provisional Committee then, in accordance with the articles, co-opted sufficient additional members to form the first Council, which will hold office until the second annual meeting, in May, 1910, when the bye-laws respecting tenure of office by the President, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Officers, and Members of Council will come into force. In the articles the objects of the Association are defined, and among them, three have specially engaged the attention of your Council since its formation. These are:—

1. The adoption of a uniform standard of training for nurses in fever hospitals.

2. The establishment of a Register by the Association, in order to confer a definite status on nurses with fever training only, and in the case of nurses with general training, to provide some acknowledgment of the additional training in fever nursing which they have received.

3. To secure the recognition of fever training as an additional qualification in the case of general-trained nurses who may in the future be admitted to a State Register.

I. As regards the adoption of a uniform standard of training:—

In keeping with the special regulations, your Council has framed a syllabus of lectures and a schedule of ward-work for use in fever hospitals, and is now taking steps to have these and other features of their scheme of training accepted by hospitals possessing recognised training schools. Only fever hospitals which conform with the general regulations will be recognised by the Association.

II. As regards the Association's Register:—

As there is no officially recognised standard of training for fever nurses at present, in fairness to those nurses who have already gained experience in fever work, applicants will be admitted to the Register under less exacting conditions until May, 1911. Thereafter only those who are trained in fever hospitals recognised by the Association, and have passed the necessary examination, will be registered. It is most important that present fever nurses should take advantage of this period of grace and register before it is too late.

III. As regards State Registration:—

The position taken by your Council in regard to this question is that there should be on the General Council of State Registration a Medical Superintendent and a Matron of a fever hospital, both being members of the Association, to represent the interests of fever nurses; and that fever training should be registered as an additional qualification in the case of nurses who are admitted to the State Register in virtue of their general training. Your Council has reason to believe that these claims have the sympathy of those who are advocating the State Registration of general-trained nurses in England.

A further object of the Association, viz., the obtaining of recognition of fever training by general hospitals, on the basis that fever training should take the place of a portion of general training, and vice versa, cannot be dealt with until the Association's scheme of fever training is established. It will then be possible to come to some understanding with general hospitals on the above lines.

Finally, your Council desires to lay stress on the advisability of all fever nurses who are eligible becoming registered by the Association. The Association has been formed in the interests of fever nurses, and should have their support in carrying out the difficult work which lies before it. Moreover, the Association's certificate of registration will, it is hoped, become the hall-mark of efficiency in fever nursing, and those nurses who may wish to specialise in this branch of their profession in the field of private nursing, or to seek advancement in hospital, will find that it has a very definite value.

On the motion of the President of the Association, Dr. Goodall, the report was adopted, as was also that of the Treasurer, and a resolution was passed expressing the approval of the members of the steps that have been taken to organise the Association, and which they believe will be instrumental in improving the efficiency and status of fever nursing.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Metropolitan Asylums Board was also passed.

On the motion of the President a vote of thanks was accorded to the Hon. Secretaries, Dr. Bier-nacki and Miss L. A. Morgan. After the meeting tea was served and the members spent a pleasant hour together.

### EXAMINATIONS.

The following nurses have recently passed their final examination at the Camberwell Infirmary:—Misses Watts, Fossett, Elcock, Brunning, Tyde-man, Smith, Firth, Hall, Wright, Carpenter, Terry, Wyatt, Beverley, Osborne, Downie, Mansergh, Hunt, Roan, and Mason. The gold medal, given by the Medical Superintendent for nursing ability and general efficiency, was secured by Miss Dorothy Elcock.

The successful nurses appeared recently before the board, and were handed their certificates, and warmly congratulated by the Chairman upon the excellent results of their three years' training in the Infirmary. Two of the nurses (Miss Dorothy Elcock and Miss Florence E. Smith) have been appointed ward sisters.

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