

for a communication to the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses, in accordance with the decision of the Council.

"Your Committee beg to report that there have been no further developments in this matter, excepting that a communication has been received from the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses stating that the letter mentioned in your Committee's report of May 31st has been referred to the Executive Committee of the Central Committee for consideration and report."

THE POOR-LAW UNIONS' ASSOCIATION AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

The letter referred to as addressed to the Central Committee will be considered at the next meeting of its Executive Committee in October, nearly every member of which is engaged in responsible work in connection with the sick and wounded, and who therefore find the utmost difficulty in attending meetings. As there is no probability of the Nurses' Registration Bill receiving the consideration of Parliament at present, nothing was to be gained by making a hurried report on the matter.

THE IRISH NURSING BOARD.

We are pleased to note that under the heading of "The Irish Nursing Board" the *Medical Press and Circular* gives encouragement to Irish nurses to persevere in the organisation of their profession. It states:—"For the past year the promises of a radical change in the conditions attaching to the nursing profession in Dublin were welcomed as precursors of a well-needed overhauling of all things relating to the training and examination of the nurses. It is not too much to say that the standard of training in the Dublin hospitals has not been up to a strictly modern standard, especially in those institutions attended by large numbers of students. The fact of a student being in residence took away from the nurse a great many duties that she would otherwise become expert in attending to, and the fact that each hospital could fix its standard at examinations naturally deprived the staff of the enthusiasm for instruction of the nurses that examination by an outside body would provide. The Irish Nursing Board aims at constituting a nurse's society to which any qualified nurse can belong, and which shall hold examinations each year in subjects lectured on by the hospital staffs as before, with the exception that from the different hospitals in the city the nurses will compete under the same conditions and be examined on the same course of study. The good results that are promised by this long-looked-for change are certain to be realised. The hospitals will now be chary of sending up unprepared nurses for examination and the nurses will enjoy the luxury of regular and steady instruction which in some hospitals, at least, has existed more in the prospectus than in the actual fact."

THE FEEDING OF NURSES IN ATHLONE. LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD'S REPLY TO GUARDIANS.

We have been invited to insert the enclosed letter from the Local Government Board, Ireland, to the Athlone Board of Guardians, in reference to the incorrect statements *re* the feeding of nurses, which, in fairness to the L.G.B., we have pleasure in doing:—

Local Government Board, Dublin,
September 6th, 1917.

SIR,—The Local Government Board for Ireland have had before them the minutes of proceedings of the Board of Guardians of Athlone Union on the 25th ultimo, containing an entry to the effect that the two nurses temporarily employed in the fever hospital had threatened to leave unless given more food. The Board notice from the reports of the Guardians' proceedings in the public press that statements were made at the meeting to the effect that the Local Government Board would not let the Guardians feed the nurses; that the latter had gone away, and that the fever-stricken children were left without nursing attendance of any kind.

The Board were quite at a loss to understand how statements of this kind could have been made, seeing that they had by their letter of May 18th last, No. 25953, sanctioned in their entirety the Guardians' proposals as regards the rations of their officers. They accordingly directed their inspector Mr. Pack Beresford, to make further inquiry into the matter. He now reports that on the 1st instant he interviewed Nurse Fallon, the day nurse, and she informed him that she and her colleagues had plenty to eat, but what they wanted was money instead of rations, so as to vary the monotony of the fixed diet. They accordingly applied in writing to the Guardians for a money allowance in lieu of rations, but the Guardians, on the 18th ultimo, refused their request. The nurses stated that when making the application they did not know the value of their rations, which they now learn is 12s. 7d. per week, and they would have been quite satisfied with this sum. They never had any intention of leaving their work. Had the Board been asked, they would at once, in accordance with their usual practice, have sanctioned the granting of 12s. 7d. a week to each of these nurses in lieu of rations.

In view of the wide publicity given to the unfounded statements made at the meeting on the 25th ultimo, the Board have thought it advisable to place before the Guardians the actual facts of the case.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. E. DEVLIN, Assistant Secretary.

APPOINTMENTS.

Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.—Miss Doris King has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Manchester Children's Hospital, and at Guy's Hospital, London, and has been Sister at the Alexandra Hospital for Hip Disease, London. Miss King holds the certificate of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses.

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