

College for State Registration can claim her guinea from the College by presenting evidence that she has been registered by either the General Nursing Council for England, Scotland or Ireland and although the College Council has pleaded poverty and invited its members not to enforce a refund of their guineas for this purpose, the fact remains that they are pledged to pay it, and least said soonest mended.

We are of opinion that it is high time the College of Nursing, Ltd., followed the excellent example of the Royal British Nurses' Association and ceased to publish a voluntary Register. Now that a State Register has been set up by Act of Parliament it only confuses nurses to represent that Rolls of Members, which every company must keep, carry legal powers, and professional privileges. Moreover, their publication is a monstrous waste of money.

The General Nursing Council—the statutory body entrusted with the control of the Nurses' Register in England and Wales—is proving its ability to carry out its responsible duties in a reasonable spirit, and it is time the pretensions of the College in this connection were quietly shelved, especially as several of its members are doing such good work on the G.N.C. There are plenty of schemes for their welfare for social organisations of nurses to help forward. The day the King's consent was given to the Nurses' Registration Acts the definition of standards of Nursing Education and State Registration was entrusted to the General Nursing Councils set up by the Acts, and other societies will be wise to no further meddle therein.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACT (1920) AMENDMENT BILL.

The Unemployment Insurance Act (1920) Amendment Bill received the Royal Assent on Thursday, March 3rd, after the House of Lords had agreed not to insist upon their amendments with which the Commons had disagreed.

There is no direct mention of trained nurses in the Amendment Bill, and no provision for making employment as a nurse trained or in training one of the "excepted employments" under Part II of the First Schedule of the 1920 Act, and enquiry from the Ministry of Labour has so far failed to elicit whether they are indirectly affected.

The Minister of Labour has so far made no pronouncement as to the position of members of the nursing staffs in voluntary hospitals in relation to the Unemployment Insurance Act, and from inquiries at the Department of the Ministry of Labour in Tothill Street devoted to its Unemployment Insurance Branch we learnt that no decision had yet been made.

As nurses would only pay to benefit others, they had better continue to express their strong objection to being included in the Act to the Minister of Labour, Montague House, Whitehall, S.W.1.

PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASE.

At a Conference of Public Health Authorities recently, presided over by Lord Askwith at his own house, the following Resolution proposed by Dr. Mearns Fraser, Medical Officer of Health for Portsmouth, was carried unanimously:—

"That in view of the terrible effects of venereal disease on the health of the nation, and especially because of their effects on women and children, there is urgent need for health authorities to institute active measures to protect the inhabitants of their districts against these diseases."

It was further affirmed that the most important measure to be taken in this connection was the education of the public as to the manner in which the diseases are spread, and especially as to methods of self-disinfection.

The Resolution was carried unanimously after a number of Medical Officers of Health had taken part in the debate, and it was further resolved to forward it to Health Authorities throughout the United Kingdom with the request that they would take the subject into consideration.

HONOURS FOR NURSES.

The King held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace on March 8th, when His Majesty invested the recipient of the following Order, and conferred Decorations on trained nurses as under:—

THE MOST EXCELLENT ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

CIVIL DIVISION.—Commander, Miss Nora Fletcher.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

RECEIVED A BAR.—Matron Janet Dods, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Matron Helena Hartigan, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Matron Dorothea Taylor, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and Matron Millicent Acton, Territorial Force Nursing Service.

MEMBERS RECEIVED A BAR.—Sister Gertrude Allen, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; and Matron Annie Earle, Territorial Force Nursing Service.

MEMBERS.—Matron Agnes Wilson, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Sister Gladys Howe, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Sister Winifred Jones, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Sister Joanna Murphy, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Lady Superintendent Isabel Lloyd, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (India); Matron Eleanor Jones, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Matron Mary Rae, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Sister Margaret Greig, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Sister Gwenilian Roberts, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Sister Annie Sayer, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve; Matron Agnes Brooks, Civil and War Hospitals; Matron Letitia Clark, Civil and War Hospitals; Matron Annie Kirkham, Civil and War Hospitals; Matron Mary Munro, Civil and War Hospitals; Sister Hope Dibden, Civil and War Hospitals; Miss Emma Bramwell, Civil and War Hospitals, and Miss Hannah Newton, Civil and War Hospitals.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)