

## NURSING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## NURSES' REGISTRATION.

The following questions were put and answers given in the House of Commons on Wednesday, August 10th.

LIEUT.-COLONEL SIR J. HOPE asked the Minister of Health whether, under the Rules for Registration of Nurses now lying upon the table of this House, a nurse who has been trained in Scotland and is practising in Scotland can be admitted to the English Register and thereby remove herself entirely from the jurisdiction of the Council of the country in which she is practising; and whether he will consider the amendment of both the English and Scottish rules so that all nurses should originally register in the country in which they are practising, but should be able to be placed on the register of the other country without difficulty or payment if they subsequently desire to practice in that other country?

SIR A. MOND: I am advised that it is not competent to the General Nursing Council to refuse to admit to the Register a nurse who is otherwise qualified on the ground that she is not practising in the country. Registration is purely voluntary and no nurse can be brought within the jurisdiction of any of the three Nursing Councils except by her own choice. A nurse practising in Scotland would derive no advantage from admission to the English Register, since she would not thereby be entitled to describe herself in Scotland as a registered nurse.

SIR J. HOPE: Is it not competent for a Council to draw up rules which would allow a nurse practising in another country to be placed on the register? Does the right hon. gentleman not realise that the whole object of the Act will be defeated if these Councils have no jurisdiction over the nurses in their own country?

SIR A. MOND: They have jurisdiction over the nurses practising in their own country.

SIR J. HOPE: No; if a nurse practising in Scotland has registered in England, is it not the case that the Scottish Council will not have jurisdiction over that nurse, although she is practising in Scotland?

We are of opinion that existing nurses should register where they please. As the Minister of Health reminded Lt.-Col. Sir J. Hope, the Acts are not compulsory. In the future, when a qualifying examination must be passed for registration, nurses will no doubt be required to be examined in the country where they are trained, and to register there in the first instance. At present, we assume that nurses will register where they are resident and at work.

## GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations for Education and Training in General Nursing, prepared by the General Nursing Council for Scotland, is now ready for distribution. Applications for copies should be made to the Registrar, General Nursing Council for Scotland, 13, ELVELLIE STREET, EDINBURGH. The price is 1s. 2d. post free.

The Syllabus will be required by all hospitals which desire to be approved as Training Schools by the Council. A short Syllabus, intended for distribution by the hospital authorities to their Probationers, has also been prepared by the Council, and is to be sold at a price of 2d. per copy in addition to postage. This will probably be required in considerable numbers by the larger hospitals.

## WHERE TO REGISTER.

*In England and Wales.*—Apply to the Registrar, G.N.C., 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

*In Scotland.*—Apply to the Registrar, 13, Melville Street, Edinburgh

*In Ireland.*—Apply to the Registrar, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

## THE STATE EXAMINATION IN NURSING.

Committees of Hospitals and Boards of Guardians are realising the importance of thorough instruction for their probationers. Recently the Paddington Guardians had under consideration the question of the salary of the Sister-Tutor at the Infirmary (Miss Dorothy Windley), who was appointed at the beginning of this year at a salary of £100, rising to £120 by £5 annually, and who holds a certificate from King's College for Women.

The Infirmary Committee reminded the Guardians that there had been considerable difficulty in obtaining an officer with this qualification, and reported that no further candidates possessing it would be available before September. The Committee considered that in view of the recent Syllabus issued by the General Nursing Council for the State examination of nurses, it would be inadvisable to disturb the arrangements which had been made with this object in view, and they realised that unless their probationers were successful at such examinations, the cost of the nursing staff at the infirmary would be considerably increased. Particulars had been obtained of the amounts paid at other infirmaries and hospitals, and having regard thereto and to the very satisfactory reports of the Medical Superintendent and Matron as to the manner in which Miss Windley had carried out her duties, the Committee re-submitted their former recommendation: That, subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Health, the salary of Miss D. Windley, Sister-Tutor, be increased from £100 to £150 per annum. This was adopted.

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