

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

NURSING EDUCATION UP TO DATE.

The letter recently sent out by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales notifying to those responsible for Training Schools for Nurses that they propose to require, as a condition of the admission of any person to the Register, that that person shall have undergone the training prescribed in the Syllabus issued by the Council, is receiving attention from Hospital Committees and Boards of Guardians, and we are glad to know that the Syllabus is being well received by those progressive Boards which realise that the organisation of Nursing Education together with Medical and Midwifery Education, has now become urgently necessary, if Nursing is to take its rightful place in any scheme for the raising of standards of national health.

The Hackney Guardians recently received a recommendation from their Infirmary Committee recommending the Board to apply to the General Nursing Council to place the Infirmary in the list of approved institutions, and proposed that the curriculum laid down in the Syllabus by the Council be adopted for training the Board's nurses.

We regret to note that the Rev. A. H. Dacombe (why are the clergy so reactionary?) said that if the Board adopted the recommendation "it would put them under the coercive and tyrannical option of the General Nursing Council." Having alluded to the success of their present *regime* and the substantial cost that the appointment of a Sister-Tutor would entail, he moved the reference back of the recommendation, which was supported by Mr. J. Cooper and carried.

We have no doubt wiser counsels will prevail, as the Clerk (Mr. Frank E. Coles) pointed out that the running of the infirmary was carried out economically owing to the large number of probationer nurses on the staff, and, in the event of the infirmary not being recognised, it would be difficult to attract probationer nurses, and that would mean eventually the employment of a highly paid staff of trained nurses.

Managers of Training Schools may as well recognise this fact. Women are not for the future going to train where they are not prepared for the State Examination preparatory to becoming "Registered Nurses."

We are of opinion that the General Nursing Council is only exacting the minimum standard of knowledge required in its very reasonable Syllabus, which has been most carefully considered by experts who fully realise the difficulties hospital and infirmary managers must confront in co-ordinating nursing education to bring it up to modern requirements.

But it is imperative that Hospital Committees, and Boards of Guardians, who expect to attract probationers, should organise teaching as laid down by the General Nursing Council.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

At a meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, held at 13, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on June 29th, the Registrar submitted a letter from the Scottish Board of Health, dated June 24th, desiring to know whether it was proposed that the Draft Syllabus prepared by the Council for Education and Training in General Nursing would apply also to Fever Nursing as to the first part thereof. After discussion, the Council unanimously resolved that the first part of the Syllabus should apply also to training of future nurses for the Fever Register and future nurses for the Children's Register.

Correspondence in regard to the future training of Mental Nurses was remitted to the Registration Committee.

The Registrar reported that he had not heard further from the Scottish Board of Health in regard to negotiations on the subject of nurses on the Board's existing Register of Fever Nurses, and it was arranged that the Chairman of the Council should endeavour to see the Board with a view to having matters expedited.

The remaining business was formal.

THE GREEK NURSING UNIT.

A cablegram from Mme. Contostavlos announces the safe arrival at Athens of Sisters Baxter and Browne, who are going on to Smyrna.

Sister Evans writes from Smyrna that the hospital in which she and Sister Oakley-Williams are working is very nice, with good quarters and food for the Sisters, and they are very happy, awaiting hard work from the offensive. The Crown Princess Elizabeth has arrived at Smyrna.

Many things which cannot be bought in Athens are needed to complete the fitting up of the hospitals, and the Queen of the Hellenes is working hard to help secure comforts for the sick.

Before leaving Athens the Queen Mother, Queen Olga, received the Sisters most kindly at Tatoi, the beautiful country seat of the Royal Family.

THE INFANT WELFARE CONFERENCE AND CHILD WELFARE EXHIBITION.

The Second English-Speaking Conference on Infant Welfare, in connection with the National Baby Week Celebrations, was opened at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday morning last by the Right Hon. Viscount Astor, who gave the Presidential Address.

In the afternoon of the same day the Minister of Health, the Right Hon. Sir Alfred Mond, M.P., opened the Child Welfare Exhibition at the same place. Many of the exhibits were both interesting and instructive, and we hope in our next issue to devote space to describing these in some detail. The last Session of the Conference is on Thursday, July 7th, from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and the Exhibition remains open until the evening of Saturday, July 9th, at 9 p.m.

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