

THE PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

DEAR MADAM,—With regard to the article in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING of June 25th, concerning the Probationer Nurses who have been dismissed from the Steyning Infirmary, perhaps the enclosed letter may be of interest. It is from the Rev. T. W. T. Miller.

Again, the worst feature of the whole business is that young girls have been turned out at a moment's notice, with no where to go.

Yours faithfully,

MAUDE MACCALLUM,
Hon. Secretary.

[COPY.]

The Rectory,
Southwick,
Brighton.

June 27th, 1921.

DEAR MADAM,—I thank you for your letter re Nurses from the Steyning Union. They were most disgracefully treated; turned out into the road and no provision made for them to secure rooms, that is why I took them in; and after three years of satisfactory work at the Steyning Union and passing their examinations, they have been refused their certificates because one of the doctors (the one who presented them for examination) refused to sign. The second doctor is quite prepared to sign if the other will.

All the Guardians have against them are two trivial complaints, which I, as a member of the Committee appointed to look into the case, declare to be without any foundation.

It is very unfortunate that they did not belong to the P.U.T.N., but I hope they will join the Union.

Unless someone does something, I fear the careers of these two nurses will be ruined.

The Ministry of Health will do nothing on their behalf; they seem to side with the Guardians.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) T. W. T. MILLER.

The Hon. Secretary,
Professional Union of Trained Nurses.

This matter was again before the Guardians at their last meeting, when a letter was read from the two Probationer Nurses, who had been suspended, stating that they were told at the meeting of the 7th June to appeal to the Ministry of Health. They had done so, but no notice had been taken of that appeal. When they entered the service of the Board they made the contract with the Board, not with the doctors. They were presented for examination and satisfactorily passed it, and they therefore demanded their certificate on or before June 21st. After consideration it was decided, on the motion of the Chairman, to send to the nurses a copy of the minutes stating that they had successfully passed the examination.

In the Church of St. Mary, Bryanston Square, on Sunday last, Field-Marshal Lord Grenfell unveiled a memorial tablet bearing the names of 160 men and one nurse from the parish who fell in the war.

NURSES' SALARIES, HOURS OF DUTY, AND CURRICULUM OF TRAINING.

CONFERENCE OF POOR LAW GUARDIANS.

Mr. Tom Percival, Clerk to the Tynemouth Board of Guardians, has issued to Boards of Guardians which have established nurse-training schools the following letter:—

23rd June, 1921.

DEAR SIR,

SALARIES OF PROBATIONER NURSES, &c.

Adverting to my circular letter of the 5th April last, I am directed to inform you that a conference of representatives of Boards of Guardians who have established training schools for nurses will be held at the Offices of the City of London Union, 61, Bartholomew Close, E.C.1, on Friday, the 8th July proximo (the day following the National Conference of Assessment Committees) at 2 p.m., at which conference it is hoped your Board will be represented.

AGENDA OF BUSINESS.

(1) Standardisation of salaries of Probationer Nurses in Poor-Law and Voluntary Hospitals.

(2) Question of hours of duty of Hospital Nurses (to be introduced by a representative of the Hunslet Board of Guardians).

(3) Circular letter from the Registrar, General Nursing Council, dated May 28th, 1921, with reference to the adoption by Poor-Law Training Schools of the curriculum of training laid down in the Syllabus issued by that Council.

(4) Any other business deemed by the Chairman to be relevant to the purposes of the Conference.

Yours faithfully,

TOM PERCIVAL—Union Clerk.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The street and other collections on Alexandra Day in London and metropolitan boroughs amounted to £38,667. This is an increase of nearly £3,000 on last year's total, and is considered extremely satisfactory.

Up to Saturday, £50,000 had been received at the Mansion House for the Metropolitan Hospitals Sunday Fund, including £5,000 from Lady Strathcona and Mount Royal.

Sir A. Mond announced in the House of Commons that he was now taking steps to appoint a Hospitals Committee, which would be responsible for the establishment of local voluntary hospital committees for the distribution of the State grant (£500,000), and for assisting in raising fresh revenue.

H.R.H. the Princess Royal, Duchess of Fife, will open the Great Northern Hospital of Recovery, at Grovelands Home Park, Southgate, on Saturday, July 9th, at 3 p.m.

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