

advances of medical science in the treatment of the sick all classes of disease had had to be nursed. Infectious diseases had been removed from general to special hospitals. Mental nursing had been a separate section—thus nurses trained in special classes had arisen. In the future it was probable that a general nurse would not be considered thoroughly trained unless she had experience in the nursing of children and of infectious diseases. But in framing the Rules present conditions had to be considered; thus in addition to the General Part of the Register, provision had to be made for the following Supplementary Parts: (1) A Register of Male Nurses who were specialists, inasmuch as they only nursed one sex; (2) a Register of Mental Nurses (in the future, no doubt, cases of diseases of the brain would be treated more and more as those suffering from other diseased organs); (3) a Register of Sick Children's Nurses, who preferred this branch of nursing; and a Register of Nurses trained in hospitals for Infectious Diseases. What was required was a sound basis of general knowledge for all classes of nurses, so that in the future they would be eligible for a General Register, and specialise later as they preferred.

#### TITLE OF "REGISTERED NURSE."

The Council had selected a very beautiful Seal, and also a beautiful Certificate, on which the Seal would be stamped, granting the title of "Registered Nurse."

#### RECIPROCITY WITH SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

Mrs. Fenwick explained that, as the Minister for Health in England had no jurisdiction over the Health Departments in Scotland and Ireland, consequently Acts for the Registration of Nurses in Scotland and Ireland had been passed, establishing General Nursing Councils on the same lines as the English Act. These Acts provided that Rules should be made with respect to the conditions of admission to the Registers between the nurses of the United Kingdom. These had not yet been drafted, owing to the fact that the Scottish Board of Health had failed for months to approve of the Scottish Rules. Upon the decision of the Secretary for Scotland untenable demands had been disallowed, so that it was hoped that the three Councils could now arrive at agreement.

#### RECIPROCITY WITH THE OVERSEAS DOMINIONS.

The Nurses Acts were Imperial Acts and provided for reciprocity between the United Kingdom and the Overseas Dominions where equivalent standards of State Registration were in force. This should be a great link between the nurses of the Empire and draw them together in closer association and friendship.

#### REMOVAL FROM AND RESTORATION TO THE REGISTER.

The Rules governing the removal and restoration of nurses from the Register had been very carefully drafted, and provided for every measure

of justice to the respondent. No nurse could be removed from the Register without the charges being sent to her under registered letter by the Registrar, as printed in a Special Schedule. Every facility was provided for her defence, and if aggrieved by the removal of her name from the Register a nurse had power of appeal to the High Court. After proof of good conduct, rules had been framed to consider the restoration of a nurse's name to the Register.

#### THE FIRST REGISTER.

It was decided to publish the first Register in July, 1922, so that those nurses who wished to have their names placed on it would do well to apply as soon as possible. Like the Medical Register, no doubt the Nursing Register would be regarded as evidence in Courts of Law. Moreover, the nominated Council must, at the latest date, go out of office in December, 1922, to be replaced by the elected Council, which holds office for five years. Thus those nurses who desired to vote for the sixteen Registered Nurse representatives must be on the Register before that date. It was most necessary that there should be a wide and representative electorate so that the best candidates should be placed in office.

#### HOW TO REGISTER.

The Second Schedule provided for the Application Forms. These could be obtained from the Registrar 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, and if carefully filled in would save the Registrar an enormous amount of unnecessary correspondence and work. This Form made it obligatory that original Certificates should be submitted for inspection. The Council had been entrusted by Parliament to compile a correct Register, and to do this it was its duty to verify documents. This duty could not be deputed to unauthorised persons.

#### UNIFORM AND BADGE.

Trained Nurses had long agitated for a protected Uniform and Badge. The Act granted this privilege. It was a difficult question, requiring much considering. The Council had invited expressions of opinion from the nursing profession on this question and an enormous correspondence was the result. At an early date it was hoped to find time to consider the matter, and arrive at a popular conclusion. Once agreed upon, such uniform should be worn with circumspection, so that it would command public respect.

#### RULES FOR FUTURE NURSES.

The Education and Examination Committee of which Miss Lloyd-Still, the Superintendent of the Nightingale Training School for Nurses, was Chairman—and all would agree such an appointment was eminently suitable—had devoted great care and consideration to drafting the Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations for Education and Training in General Nursing, for the Nursing of Sick Children, and for Fever Nurses, they were now

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