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EDITORIAL.

NURSING IN 1921.

During 1921 interest in the Nursing World has centred chiefly on the work of the General Nursing Councils for England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

Early in the year the General Nursing Council for England and Wales decided upon the form of Certificate to be issued to State Registered Nurses, and adopted a Seal, bearing the figure of Hygeia, Goddess of Health, the national floral emblems, the name of the Council, and the date of its foundation. Both the Certificate and the Seal with which it is stamped are very handsome, and will be greatly valued by the Registered Nurses whose applications for Registration conform to the Statutory Rules.

On February 23rd the agreement for the lease of the Headquarters of the Council at 12, York Gate, N.W., was signed, a furnishing committee was appointed which, with infinite pains, furnished and decorated it in a most charming manner at moderate cost, and on June 10th it was fittingly opened by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, who, from the year 1887, has given her support to the movement for State Registration of Nurses.

On April 28th an important informal Conference on Nursing Education was held under the presidency of the Chairman of the Council, Mr. J. C. Priestley, K.C. It was a most successful gathering, attended by over 300 Matrons, Superintendent Nurses, and Sister-Tutors, the principal work of which was to consider the Draft Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations and Training in General Nursing recommended by the Education and Examination Committee. It demonstrated not only the appreciation of the action of the Council in consulting the heads of the Training Schools before the Draft Syllabus assumed its final form, but also the great interest aroused in the Council's work.

The following places have been decided upon as the first examination centres, to be added to if necessity arises:—London, Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Cardiff, Carlisle, Norwich, Nottingham, Portsmouth, Exeter and Sheffield.

The question of equivalent standards for Registration is one which has engaged the attention of the Council. The standards decided upon by the English and Irish Councils were practically the same, both requiring evidence of training in a general hospital. The Scottish Council, on the other hand, proposed to place nurses trained in Fever Nursing only on the General Register. Until this difficulty was adjusted the signature of the Rule in regard to Reciprocal Registration by the Minister of Health was in suspense.

With this exception the Rules framed by the Council under Section 3 of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, for the admission of Existing and Intermediate Nurses to the Register were signed by the Minister of Health on July 14th, and on November 26th the Minister forwarded to the Council the signed copy of the Reciprocity Rule with Scotland and Ireland which will be laid before Parliament at the beginning of next Session.

In regard to the proposal that Removal from the Register should be automatic in the three Kingdoms, the Council adhered to its Rule 29, which gives a nurse, removed from the Register of Scotland or Ireland, an opportunity to show cause why her name should not be removed from the English Register. If she does not desire to do so her name will be removed; but should she desire to show cause, the case will be dealt with as if the complaint had been originally made to the English Council.

The meeting of the General Nursing Council on July 14th was an important and memorable one. The Rules drafted by the Council (with the exception of Rule 16) were signed by the Minister while it was in session, the Registration Committee were empowered to open forthwith the Register for Existing and Intermediate Nurses, and the Syllabus of Educa-

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