

STATEMENT WITHDRAWN.

We hope our readers will note that at the Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, held at the Ministry of Health on Friday, June 16th, a letter was read by the Chairman from Mrs. Bedford Fenwick requiring that the statement made at a previous meeting by Dr. E. W. Goodall, Chairman of the Registration Committee, should be publicly withdrawn.

The statement made was that Mrs. Fenwick had "scrutinised" the Applications and Papers of four nurses holding conjoint Certificates (which had presumably been passed by the Registrar) recommended by the Registration Committee, and registered by the Council on April 21st ult., and which were not eligible for registration under the Statutory Rules.

Dr. Goodall owned that he had made the statement upon information received from the Registrar, and withdrew it.

So far so good. For months past false statements have emanated, apparently from the Office of the Council, concerning Mrs. Fenwick. When made behind her back, at the Ministry of Health and elsewhere, such statements are difficult to disprove, but when made face to face in the Council the same difficulty does not arise.

Should this campaign of calumny be encouraged for the future, Mrs. Fenwick will take effective measures to protect her professional and personal reputation.

NURSING ECHOES.

The Lady Mayoress has issued invitations to a party at the Mansion House, from 9 to 11 on Wednesday, July 12th, to members of the Territorial Army Nursing Service, of the City and County of London, and others; uniform (Territorial or Civil) with badges and decorations will be worn. Since a Lady Mayoress issued invitations to a similar party the Great War has convulsed the world and the T.A.N.S. has had its baptism of fire. The decorations to be worn at the Mansion House will indicate that its members did their duty in alleviating the resulting suffering in all parts of the world.

As we go to press, the Overseas Nursing Association is holding its Annual Meeting at Kent House, Knightsbridge, S.W., by kind invitation of Mrs. Saxton Noble, Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, Patron of the Association, being present, and its President, Lord Gladstone, in the chair.

The twenty-sixth Annual Report of the

Association (formerly the Colonial Nursing Association) states that the number of O.N.A. Nurses who have been employed abroad during the year is 467, of whom 104 have been working as Private Nurses, and in Hospitals not under Government, 13 in the Dominions, and 325 in Government Hospitals in the Crown Colonies.

During the year the Association has selected two Matrons for the Government Hospitals in Palestine, and a Matron for the Mental Hospital at Bethlehem. Two Nurses have been sent to the Anglo-American Nursing Association in Guatemala, and a Nursing Sister has been sent to the British and American Hospital, Valparaiso. Four Nurses have been selected for the General Hospital in Bermuda, and a Nursing Sister has also been selected for a Venereal Disease Centre in Uganda, where her knowledge of that branch of nursing should prove of great value.

A Reunion of Nurses will take place at the North Middlesex Hospital, Silver Street, Edmonton, on July 14th, when a hearty welcome will be extended to all former Sisters and Nurses who are able to attend. There will be a short service in the Chapel at 3.30, when an Address will be given by the Rev. R. C. Evill, Vicar of Edmonton and Chaplain to the Hospital. The hospital grounds should be looking beautiful, and the function will no doubt be most enjoyable.

The remark made in an article in the *Weekly Dispatch* by the Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital as to a "recent decision to debar two nurses from their certificates for using scent" referred evidently to the Paddington Hospital, which has recently received so much publicity owing to the report of the outside examiner of the nurses, Miss Millicent Ashdown, which we published last week.

Feeling sure, from our knowledge of this school and of its able Matron, Miss Copeman, that no probationers connected with it could have been deprived of their certificates for so insufficient a reason, we communicated with Miss Copeman, and found that no such miscarriage of justice had taken place. Furthermore, she assured us that the nursing staff do not use scent, scented soap being the outside limit indulged in in that direction.

We are in agreement with much that Miss Lloyd Still writes, but we think it important that the public should not be allowed to suppose that nurses are deprived of the rightful reward of three years' hard work and study on any such trivial pretext.

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