

ber 21st, when he intimated his intention to resign when his successor was appointed, he attended no meeting of the Council, neither did the members of the Council who went on strike for the same period, the result being that the national business of the Council was held up for over two months.

We think Members of Parliament have every right to know why the Minister of Health never notified the General Nursing Council of the appointment of a new Chairman, or what Government Department appointed him. Why the Privy Council did not notify the Council whom it had appointed in place of Mr. Priestley, resigned, and why the Board of Education did not notify the resignation of one of its nominees, and the appointment of another. Had the General Medical Council, or the Central Midwives Board, been subjected to similar treatment, we imagine they would have adopted effective means of showing their resentment of such methods of conducting public business, and, more, of such a neglect of public duty, for unquestionably the General Nursing Council has a right to be furnished with such information as has been withheld from it.

Because nurses are a poorly paid class of women workers who have only recently been accorded legal status, there is no reason why they should be treated with contempt by Ministers whose salaries they help to provide.

We are glad to note that the President of the Board of Education expresses regret for the error of his Department.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING.

At the Annual General Meeting of the British Medical Association at Glasgow, Sir William Macewen, F.R.S., LL.D., F.R.C.S., President of the Association for the ensuing year was inducted into the Presidential Chair by the retiring President, Professor David Drummond. He was, as reported by the *British Medical Journal*, accorded a hearty welcome, the representatives all standing. On behalf of the Executive of the Reception Committee, he welcomed the representatives to the city of Glasgow.

Sir William Macewen is well-known to, and revered by nurses, and it will be remembered that he took an active part in promoting the Nurses' Registration Bill when it was before the House of Commons. On the outbreak of war, his valuable professional services were placed at the disposal of the Government, for the treatment of the sick and wounded, to their great comfort and benefit.

At the Annual Representative Meeting on July 24th, it was resolved:—

"That the Council take into early consideration the effect of a recent Rule passed by the General Nursing Council (England and Wales) which permits the secretary of a nurses' organisation to certify nurses applying for registration."

THE BIRMINGHAM AND THREE COUNTIES TRUST FOR NURSES.

The trustees of the Birmingham and Three Counties Trust for Nurses have issued a report covering the period from the inception of the trust to December 31 last. They state that in October last the Scenic Fair Committee handed over to them a sum of £17,788 13s. 7d., being the balance of the proceeds of the fair after the payment to the College of Nursing, Ltd., of a sum of £2,223 11s. 8d., representing 10 per cent. of the total funds raised by the scenic fair, and a similar sum of £2,223 11s. 8d. to the Nation's Fund for Nurses, these two payments being allocated for the benefit of nurses in the Three Counties. A trust deed has been drawn up dealing with the disposition of the fund handed to the trustees. Part of the capital will be expended on the purchase and equipment of premises for a club or hostel for the nurses of the Three Counties, and the income of the balance of the invested trust fund will be dealt with as follows:—

(a) To establish and maintain scholarships for nurses in the Three Counties. The trustees have approved the following scheme submitted by the Birmingham Centre of the College of Nursing:—
(1) £150 for a scholarship to enable a nurse to train as a sister-tutor at King's College for Women, London (one year from October, 1922). The applicants to enter for the competitive examination held by the College of Nursing, Ltd., in June, 1922.
(2) Two scholarships of £25 each to enable two nurses to take their training in midwifery during the year 1922-23, the date for the next examination of the Central Midwives Board not yet having been published. These scholarships are already being offered.

(b) For the maintenance and upkeep of the hostel or club for the use of the nurses of the Three Counties when bought.

(c) For promoting and aiding the interests of all trained nurses of and in the Three Counties, particular regard being had to cases of illness and old age.

(d) For such other purposes as may from time to time be necessary or requisite.

The trustees have allocated £7,000 for the future purchase and equipment of club premises; £6,000 to endow the club when purchased, and £4,000 to endow scholarships. These three sums have accordingly been invested in approved trustee securities.

The trustees have experienced considerable difficulty in finding premises suitable for the club, and at the time of this report are still unsuccessful in spite of the most strenuous efforts. It is a great disappointment to them, they say, to meet with the obstacles and objections that have been put in their way by the owners of houses adjoining those which would otherwise have been suitable. A number of cases of nurses in the Three Counties have already benefited from the payments made by the trustees to the College of Nursing and the Nation's Fund for Nurses.

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