

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

DRAFT SYLLABUS OF SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL NURSING.

A Conference arranged between representatives of training schools (both of the larger and smaller groups and of the Association of Poor Law Unions), convened under the authority of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, was held in the Robert Barnes Hall, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., on Thursday, July 13th, for the purpose of discussing the Examination Syllabus drawn up by the Education and Examination Committee of the Council. Sir Wilmot Herringham, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.D., F.R.C.P., presided, and was supported on the platform by members of the Council. Invitations had been sent to 480 institutions, and there was an excellent response.

The Draft Syllabus submitted was as follows:—

PREFACE TO THE SYLLABUS.

A Nurse presenting herself for examination may be questioned on any of the subjects contained in this Schedule, including those on the Chart attached to the Syllabus of Training.

When the examination is divided into two parts, the first examination will cover the subjects of Elementary Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene.

EXAMINATION SYLLABUS.

I.—Elementary Anatomy and Physiology.

THE HUMAN BODY.

General View.—Cells, Tissues, Organs; their arrangement and structure. The body as a whole. Chief cavities and their contents.

THE SKELETON.

Skull.—Names, position, and brief description of bones of cranium and face. Cranial bones, frontal, parietal, temporal, occipital, sphenoid, ethmoid. Bones of face, upper jaw, malar, lower jaw. Formation of orbit. Nose. Mouth.

Spinal Column and Thorax.—General character of vertebræ. Varieties: cervical, dorsal, lumbar, sacral, coccygeal; the column as a whole, its curves, intervertebral discs and joints. Sternum, ribs, and costal cartilages.

Upper Limb.—Clavicle and scapula; humerus, radius, ulna, bones of wrist and hand. Joints.

Lower Limb.—The pelvis; femur, patella, tibia, and fibula; bones of ankles and foot. Joints.

MUSCLES AND JOINTS.

Muscles.—Their general features; voluntary and involuntary; differences in their mode of action. The position of the chief muscles of the body.

Joints.—Various forms of joints and their mechanism. Bones. Cartilages. Ligaments. Synovial membrane.

CIRCULATION.

The Heart.—Position, size, and function. Auricles and ventricles. Valves. Composition of the blood; arterial and venous. Coagulation.

Blood Vessels.—Arteries, veins, and capillaries; their structural differences. Names and position of the chief arteries.

Circulation of the Blood.—General, pulmonary, and portal circulation. Principal pressure points in hæmorrhage.

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

Alimentary Canal.—Position, structure, and functions of the mouth, teeth, glands, œsophagus, stomach, intestines. Processes of digestion, absorption, and assimilation.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

Lungs.—The organs of respiration: the nasal cavity; the larynx; the trachea; the bronchi. Structure of lungs. The pleura and diaphragm. Mechanism and process of respiration. The chief muscles concerned in respiration.

LYMPHATIC SYSTEM.

Lymphatic vessels. Glands. Thoracic duct. Lymph. The spleen and ductless glands.

EXCRETORY SYSTEM.

The Kidneys.—Structure and functions. Urine.
The Skin.—The epidermis. The dermis. Sweat glands. Hair and Nails. Functions.

NERVOUS SYSTEM.

Nervous System.—Cerebrum. Cerebellum. Spinal cord. Organs of special sense and spinal nerves. Reflex action.

II.—Hygiene.

Air.—Its composition and impurities. The principles of ventilation and their application to houses and hospitals. Radiation and evaporation.

Water.—Sources. Standard of purity for domestic use. Relation of impure water to the spread of disease.

Disposal of Refuse.—Various methods in use. Dry and water systems. General arrangement of house and hospital drainage and disposal of sewage on a large scale.

Personal Hygiene.—Habits. Exercise. Rest and recreation. Cleanliness. Clothing. Parasites.

Methods of Infection.—The nature of infection; its sources and modes of transmission. Insects and other parasites. Infection and disinfection.

Heating and Lighting.—Of houses and hospitals. Hygiene of the sick room.

III.—Theory and Practice of Nursing.

Ethical aspects. Hospital etiquette.
Ward work.
Care of linen and bedding.
Care of patients.
Blanket bathing. Cleansing of mouth, hair, and teeth.
Bed making.
Care of back.
Bedsore.
Water beds and cushions.
Care of the dead.
Charting.
Preparation for rectal and vaginal examinations.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)