

THE CHAIRMAN told Miss Alsop she was out of order, if she had wished to speak on the subject she should have done so before the amendment was carried.

B.

Under heading B. the REV. G. B. CRONSHAW took a similar line in regard to the Final Examination to that which he had previously taken in regard to the Preliminary Examination.

Miss Cox DAVIES said: "We as Matrons should not have any objection if there were not sick people in hospital to be nursed. Medical men would be the first to complain if their patients were not properly cared for."

SIR JENNER VERRALL said without doubt the patients must be properly nursed, but added he was not going to mince matters, and that he said absolutely the Council was doing a stupid thing if it set up an Examination under conditions which it knew were absurd. It was practically not possible to find out what a candidate knew on a given subject in two questions.

Miss SEYMOUR YAPP said that if the Central Midwives' Board could find out in a paper of three hours what a candidate knew on such an important subject as midwifery she did not see why the General Nursing Council could not do the same.

Miss COODE expressed the opinion that the Council did not want to stress the Examination for what had been called "paper Nurses."

We did not gather that any definite motion was put to the meeting.

C.

Under Item C. the CHAIRMAN pointed out that Regulation 6 would have to be put more clearly. It would have to be redrafted. It was accordingly referred back to the Education Committee for this purpose.

D.

CERTIFICATE OF INSTRUCTION.

Miss SEYMOUR YAPP pointed out that candidates were directed to send a crossed cheque with their application. She supposed that at the present scale of salaries about 2 per cent. would possess a cheque-book.

THE CHAIRMAN thought that the collective fees would usually be sent by the Matron of the hospital concerned.

It was pointed out that a Certificate of Instruction might be filled in in a perfunctory manner, and that the person certifying should know how many lectures were given and how many attended by the candidate in each case.

E and F.

Some minor amendments were adopted under E. and F. when consideration of the Regulations for the conduct of the Examinations, and the Forms in connection therewith concluded. These were approved as amended, Regulation 6 being referred to the Education and Examination Committee to redraft.

The Council then went out of Committee and resumed.

The Report was then approved as amended.

Next week we shall publish the Reports of the General Purposes Committee and the Uniform Committee, together with "Points for Nurses to Note and Remember." Meanwhile we note the appointment as Registration Clerk of Miss Nellie Barker, Registered Nurse, No. 18,340. She holds the three years' certificate of Guy's Hospital (1907-1910). She has been Sister and Superintendent Sister, North-Western Railway Nursing Service, Lahore; Sister and Matron, Civil Hospital, Basrah, and Principal Matron, Civil Nursing Service, Iraq. She is a certified Midwife, and has had five months' secretarial training at the Secretarial College, South Molton Street, W.

We also put on record without delay the thanks due to Miss A. M. Bushby for her Protest (see page 201) against the substitution of a Compulsory Syllabus of Examination for the Compulsory Syllabus of Training for Sick Children's Nurses, to which nurses are entitled under the Nurses' Registration Act. It is to be regretted that the Direct Representatives of the Nurses on the other Supplementary Parts of the Register did not similarly voice the interests of their electorates. Miss Wiese did so in regard to Mental Nurses at the meeting of the G.N.C. on July 20th.

(To be concluded.)

VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF NURSES.

The Minister of Pensions announces that, with the consent of the Treasury, he has arranged for the scheme for vocational training of officers, nurses and men suffering from tuberculosis attributable to or still aggravated by service in the Great War.

Applications may be made up to December 31st 1923, and must be lodged in writing not later than that date with the Commissioner of Medical Services of the Ministry of Pensions for the region in which the applicant resides.

The Minister of Pensions also announces that officers and nurses who have hitherto been eligible to apply for admission to Ministry of Pensions Convalescent Centres, must, if they desire admission, make their application in writing not later than December 31st, 1923.

DEATHS FROM SMALLPOX.

It is certainly disquieting to know that of the twelve cases of small-pox reported in London since September 7th, two of the patients have died, so that the type of the disease is not of the "mild" kind.

It is high time the Ministry of Health took steps to urge protective legislation in opposition to the anti-vaccination faddists, whose crass ignorance exposes us to infection and maybe death. Oh! for a Poincaré, or a Mussolini! But in these days of expediency and bureaucratic government moral courage is not apparently a political virtue in this country.

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