

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

AGENDA FOR MEETING, OCTOBER 19TH, 1923.

For its meeting on October 19th, we note the following Recommendation, which still provides for a very insufficient standard, and it is to be hoped that the Council will extend the test for Nursing knowledge :—

6. REPORT OF THE EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION COMMITTEE.

The following Recommendation will form part of the Report :—

"That Recommendation 15, para. 10, Regulations for conduct of the State Examinations approved at the meeting of the Council on September 21st, be rescinded, and that the following be substituted—

"That the Preliminary Examination consist of one paper of three hours, and an oral and practical.

"That the paper include Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene and Nursing.

"That alternative questions be set in each subject.

"That in Anatomy and Physiology three questions must be answered, of which one must be in Anatomy and one in Physiology.

"That in Hygiene and Nursing three questions must be answered, of which one must be in Hygiene and one in Nursing.

"That the oral and practical include all the subjects.

"That full marks for the practical be double those for the paper."

10. Mr. Donaldson will move :—

(1) "That Recommendation 32, Clause 2, approved at the Council Meeting of July 20th, 1923, be rescinded, and that the following be approved—

"That the Booklet be issued free of expense to nurses, and that Nurses' tailoring and outfitting firms be invited to advertise therein, and so defray the cost of printing."

(2) "That in accordance with the Nurses Registration Act, 1919, Part 4, Clause 4, the Minister of Health be requested to allow the General Nursing Council to appoint their own Auditor in order that a proper Balance Sheet be prepared annually for publication."

Considering that the members of the General Nursing Council, upwards of one-third of whom are not elected by the Nurses, administer thousands of pounds of the Nurses' money (who finance the whole of its work), it is high time they rendered an account of their stewardship.

The General Medical Council issues annually an audited Financial Statement, and Registered Nurses have a right to such a Balance Sheet from the General Nursing Council.

HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Prince of Wales will attend the ball to be held at Grosvenor House, on November 15th, in aid of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, when Vassie's band will play.

The collections on behalf of the Hospital Saturday Fund last Saturday marked the jubilee of the movement, and a special effort was made to establish a record. Last year the Fund's income was £97,000, and only 8.6 per cent. was expended on administration. In celebration of the jubilee a special meeting of supporters is to be held on December 6th, at Central Hall, Westminster.

The Minister of Health has offered the doctors 8s. 6d. per panel patient, as against 7s. 3d. before the war. It is stated that the doctors will decline the offer. There is much to be said against the whole panel system. We should be glad to see it go—as it is quite impossible for medical practitioners to do justice to the great number of patients they have to attend—to say nothing of forms and ceremonies.

November 10th is Remembrance Day, and volunteers are required to sell Flanders poppies in aid of Earl Haig's Appeal for cases of distress among unemployed ex-Service men, widows and orphans. Between twenty-five and thirty million poppies, most of which are made during the year by severely disabled ex-Service men at the British Legion Poppy Factory, will be sold this Remembrance Day.

The accounts for Remembrance Day last year (the appeal states), show that over £200,000 was raised. This result, believed to be a "record" for any single "day" appeal, enabled the British Legion relief committees, of which there are about 1,300 throughout the country, to deal with but a portion of those who needed help.

Poppy Day Headquarters are at 34, Lowndes Square, S.W.

HEALTH WEEK.

The Committee of Health Week (appointed by the Royal Sanitary Institute and being widely observed from October 7th to 13th), has sent out to the press some admirable Health Notes, which we hope will be extensively quoted: (1) on Tuberculosis; (2) Cancer; and (3) Self Help in Health. The Health Week movement has received the patronage and active encouragement of Their Majesties the King and Queen, and this year over seventy communities, at home and in the Dominions, are directing their attention to educational work on behalf of health. In general, the programme will be directed by the local Medical Officer. There will be lectures and exhibitions and demonstrations, and there will be sermons from the pulpits and special lessons in schools. All voluntary bodies working for social welfare, whether among children or grown-up people, will concentrate on this vitally important question. Information about disease and how to prevent it should be open to everyone.

The Sanitary Institute, 95, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W., is a vigorous centre for the dissemination of scientific and practical knowledge on the national health. It would be well to become a member.

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