

Rules of July, 1921, requiring a minimum of one year's hospital training before admission to the Register, is fresh in the memory of all our readers.

At the meeting of the General Nursing Council held on March 16th a letter from Miss M. S. Rundle, Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., was presented by the Registration Committee, having been referred to it by the Council at the February meeting, in connection with the question of the admission to *bona fide* nurses to Registration. Miss Rundle wrote that the Council of the College was in entire sympathy with complaints it had received regarding the undue stringency with which the General Nursing Council was alleged to have carried out the provisions of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, concerned with "Existing Nurses" and the class now known as Intermediate. The Council urged that the door of admission to the first State Register should not be closed to any "Existing Nurses" who could show that they were in *bona-fide* practice as nurses of the sick for three years before November, 1919, and that they possessed adequate knowledge and experience of the sick, *however such knowledge and experience might have been acquired.*

The Council thereupon "obliged," and approved a Rule which permitted nurses *bona-fide* engaged in nursing prior to 1900 to be admitted to the Register without hospital training, thus admitting the principle of Registration without hospital training. Dr. Chapple secured the approval of the House of Commons to a modification extending the same latitude to women engaged in attendance on the sick for not less than three years prior to 1st November, 1919, as stated by the Secretary of the College to be the desire of its Council.

This Rule has now become law, the Council, with characteristic weakness and futility, taking no steps to protect the Registered Nurses from injustice, or to preserve its right to the discretion vested in it by Act of Parliament.

If the portents are true it behoves Registered Nurses to be watchful against further inroads upon their privileges in this respect. There is no strong person at the helm in the General Nursing Council. It has no settled principles or policy, and is consequently like a rudderless ship, tossed about by every adverse current.

SCOTLAND.

In Scotland the Register of Nurses has been published, a Badge authorised, and distin-

guishing letters for nurses on the different parts of the Register adopted.

NORTHERN IRELAND.

In Northern Ireland Registration of Nurses is being carried out through the Joint Nurses' and Midwives' Council of Northern Ireland.

IRISH FREE STATE.

The election of nine Direct Representatives of Registered Nurses to represent the nurses registered on the Register of that Council is to be held. Voting papers, in the event of a contested election, to be returned by noon on December 31st.

INDIA.

The Trained Nurses' Association of India, at its Annual Conference, passed a Resolution urging the State Registration of Nurses, and authorising representatives from twelve provinces to draw up Rules for the training, examination, and registration of Nurses throughout the Indian Empire.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

In the United States of America an event of outstanding importance is the appointment of Miss A. W. Goodrich, D.Sc., as the Dean of the first University Undergraduate School of Nursing in the United States, at Yale University.

A WORD TO OUR READERS.

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING (with which is incorporated the *Nursing Record*) prints, this week, the 1,573rd number published under the direction of the present Editor. We leave our readers to compute how many pages, words, and letters have had to be carefully scanned in these issues.

The policy of the Journal for the past thirty years has always been constructive, educational, professional, public spirited, and the promotion of public rather than personal advantage. "What touches us ourself shall be last served"—words which our incomparable Shakespeare puts into the mouth of Julius Caesar—are words which we claim as the inspiration of this Journal.

To judge from letters received since we announced that henceforth the Journal will be published monthly instead of weekly, this policy has commended itself to the intelligent and conscientious group of nurses who form its *clientèle*, and in our monthly issue precisely the same policy will be pursued.

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