

the establishment of that set up under the authority of the State.

Public Health Nursing.

Dr. R. D. Smedley, Medical Officer of Health for West Sussex, and a nominee of the Ministry of Health on the G.N.C., is known to be very unsound as to nursing standards in Public Health Nursing, and we are glad to note that the attempt to nominate an Advisory Committee of the Association of County Medical Officers of Health "to assist the General Nursing Council" in defining "a method of training nurses to best assist the Public Health authorities," has not materialised, as no recommendation appears on the Agenda to delegate still further the Statutory powers of the Council so far as Registered Nurses are concerned. Let us hope we shall hear of the appointment of no more Medical Advisory Committees "to help the G.N.C." We realise the present Council is composed of a sadly ignorant majority, but the solution is, the appointment of experts with courage to do their duty to the Nursing Profession and the Public, and not to swamp the Nurses' Vote by recognising outside interference. Consultation with all, but fusion with none, should be the Council's policy—that is, unless the nurses' responsibility on their own Council is to be entirely eliminated.

The Direct Representation of the Registered Nurses on their Own Governing Body.

In accordance with the compact made with Major Barnett, M.P., by Mr. Neville Chamberlain, late Minister of Health, recommendations for an amended Schedule (Constitution of Council) are now under the consideration of the Council, and it behoves Registered Nurses to acquaint themselves with the present prescribed scheme. In practice it proved restrictive and confusing at the last election, and needs simplification so far as the representation of General Nurses is concerned. The simple method of election provided for nurses registered on the Supplementary Registers should be in force for those nurses on the General Part of the Register. Every Registered nurse is eligible for nomination, and every Registered nurse should have the freedom to vote for any person so nominated. The present "water-tight" compartments system ties the voters up in knots. The eleven General Nurses eligible should be elected by the nurses registered on the General Part of the Register, irrespective of their official status, just as those eligible are elected by nurses registered on the Supplementary Parts.

The Right to a Prescribed Syllabus of Training.

The hanky-panky of the G.N.C. to deprive Probationers in training of their right to a "prescribed" Syllabus of Training, as granted to them in the Nurses' Registration Act, is a question of such imperative importance to the Nursing Profession and the public, that we must now organise a live campaign to compel the Chairman, the General Nursing Council, and the Ministry of Health to conform to the law, which in this connection they have so far ignored. We have a sound example in the methods of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, which has organised in this particular, without subterfuge.

Its method is legal, direct and just to all concerned; whilst our advisory method is illegal, devious, and unjust.

In Scotland each Hospital is approved by the Council as a Training School subject to its teaching in accordance with the prescribed Syllabus, and each nurse applying for Registration has similarly to satisfy the Council that she has undergone systematic instruction in accordance with the Council's Syllabus. No Syllabus of Examination is required. THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING having stood alone in the Press for a quarter of a century as an advocate for State Registration of Nurses, now intends to support Registered Nurses in their demand for the just administration of their Registration Act.

We shall oppose a monopoly of control of the Nursing Profession by any caucus of unprofessional persons, whose determination is evidently to deprive us of our Statutory Rights.

The first Right we must secure is a Prescribed Syllabus of Training.
E. G. F.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR IRELAND.

The result of the first election of Nurse-members of the General Nursing Council for Ireland has now been declared. The directly-elected members of the new Council are as follows:—

TWO REGISTERED NURSES WHO ARE, OR HAVE BEEN, MATRONS OF METROPOLITAN HOSPITALS RECOGNISED BY THE COUNCIL AS TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR NURSES.—Miss Angela Halbert, Matron, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin; Miss Margaret O'Flynn, Matron, Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin.

A REGISTERED NURSE WHO IS, OR HAS BEEN, A MATRON OF A HOSPITAL IN THE IRISH FREE STATE OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN AREA.—Miss Margaret Walshe, Waterford County and City Infirmary.

A REGISTERED NURSE (NOT BEING NOR HAVING BEEN A MATRON OF A HOSPITAL) who is, or has been directly employed in the Public Health Service, or engaged in District Nursing.—Miss Annie M. Smithson.

THREE REGISTERED NURSES (NOT BEING NOR HAVING BEEN MATRONS OF HOSPITALS), who are, or have been, engaged in private practice.—Miss Maud Doyle, 54, Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin; Miss M. Lanigan O'Keefe, 46, Northumberland Road, Dublin; and Miss Alice Genevieve Phelan, Dublin Union.

TWO REGISTERED MENTAL NURSES (ONE MALE AND ONE FEMALE).—Miss Clara Stacey Willis, Grange Gorman Mental Hospital, Dublin; Miss James J. Harding, Clonmel Mental Hospital.

The Register compiled by the First Council appointed by the Chief Secretary for Ireland in 1920, contains over 3,000, and, like those compiled under the authority of the General Nursing Councils in England and Wales, and Scotland, is divided into a General Part, and Supplementary Parts for Fever Nurses, Sick Children's Nurses, and Mental Nurses.

The functions exercised by the Chief Secretary for Ireland when the Act was passed, are now transferred to the Minister for Local Government in the Irish Free State.

The Registered Nurses in Ireland have shown themselves lacking in gratitude, as well as wisdom, in not electing to the new Council Miss Margaret Huxley, and Miss Alice Reeves; who worked so long and so strenuously to secure for them the professional status which they now enjoy. These ladies showed public spirit in being willing to accept office, and although they will no doubt be glad to be relieved of the work entailed, neither the public nor the Nursing Profession can afford to lose their services.

PRACTICAL POINTS.

To Improve Circulation.

If a hot-water bottle to the feet does not improve circulation and produce warmth, place the bottle across lower part of spine—a wholesome glow throughout the entire body often results.

Hygienic Cleanliness.

After defæcation a child should be carefully washed and well dried.

The reproof to his new nurse of a dear little boy we know may be quoted:—

"Please, nurse, I am to be washed as well as papered."

The Editor will be pleased to receive such Practical Points for publication.

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