

representatives of the Registered Nurses should be Registered Nurses elected by their colleagues, and so settle this thorny question once and for all. "Nothing is ever settled until it is settled right."

#### THE REVENUE ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEETS.

We invite our readers, and especially Registered Nurses, to study the Revenue Account presented by the Auditor appointed by the Minister of Health, for the year ending March 31st, 1924, and to form an opinion on the various items—for instance, nearly £6,000 for official salaries. Now that the Council has purchased a mansion, upkeep and service will necessarily be increased next year, and as the Council has now abolished all registration fees, and the Chairman states that next year they will have to draw upon their capital, for they will not have enough coming in to meet the expense of the examinations, it is difficult to see how all the other expenses are to be met. The Register may possibly be maintained on the Retention Fees, if paid, but apparently there is nothing to meet the other expenses.

#### REMOVAL OF NURSES' NAMES FROM THE REGISTER.

The Council, as the Registration Committee remarks, "in accordance with the Rules (Part II, 5, paragraph (3))" agreed to remove the names of 835 Nurses from the Register for non-payment of their Retention Fees. We doubt, however, their wisdom in so doing, without referring the question to the Minister of Health for his opinion. Those nurses who paid for admission to the Register under Rules which protected their professional status and training, have certainly just cause of complaint when, owing to the pledges they themselves had incorporated in the form of Rules, and given to nurses on a letter received from the College of Nursing, Ltd., officially signed on its behalf by its Secretary, the General Nursing Council for England and Wales broke those pledges, and, the barriers being down, Dr. Chapple was able in the House of Commons on June 13th, 1923, successfully to promote the College policy that "the door of admission to the first State Register should not be closed to Nurses who can show that they have *bona fide* acted as nurses of the sick for three years before November, 1919, and that they possess adequate knowledge and experience of nursing the sick, however such knowledge and experience may have been acquired."

When the Council which framed the Rules itself repudiated the guarantee it had given, after thousands of nurses had paid for Registration on that guarantee, are the Registered Nurses compelled to keep their part of the compact and pay the Retention Fee? We do not think the Council has acted advisedly in removing over 800 nurses from the Register without a full explanation and discussion of the position.

Nurses have a further grievance in that another Retention Fee will be demanded in September, and so far the 1924 Register due in January has not been published.

#### THE PERMANENT STAFF.

We hope that before the Minister of Health sanctions a Permanent Staff for the G.N.C. office of 35 persons, and supernumeraries as required, that he will acquaint himself with the number of the staff employed by the General Medical Council, before the passing of the Dental Act, and by the Central Midwives' Board at the present time.

Official sanction has been given by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to Messrs. Marshall & Snelgrove (Debenhams, Ltd.), of Oxford Street, W.1, to make the State Registered Nurses' Uniform.

Messrs. William Blackwood & Sons, 48, George Street, Edinburgh, and 37, Paternoster Row, London, have published (price 10s. 6d. net) a new edition of "Practical Nursing," originally written by the late Miss Isla Stewart, in collaboration with the late Dr. Herbert E. Cuff, F.R.C.S., and now re-written and enlarged by Dr. Gordon Pugh,

### GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The next Preliminary Examination of the Council will be held this month. The Written Part of the Examination will be held simultaneously at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen on Monday, July 14th, and the Oral and Practical Part of the Examination will be held at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen on consecutive dates, commencing July 28th.

### GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR IRELAND.

We are asked to state that before coming to a final decision with regard to the Uniform and Badge to be worn by Registered Nurses, the General Nursing Council for Ireland is anxious to ascertain the wishes of those who will be affected, and they will be glad to receive suggestions. These should be sent to the Registrar of the Council, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

### THE NURSES' REGISTRATION ACT IN VICTORIA.

The Members of the Nurses' Board appointed by the Governor-in-Council to administer the Nurses' Registration Act in Victoria, Australia, are Miss Bell, Miss Conyers, Miss Mann, Miss O'Reilly, Herbert Turner, Esq., William F. Maher, Esq., and Dr. Zwar. We learn from *Una* that at the first meeting of the Board, Dr. Zwar was elected Chairman.

### METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS' BOARD INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT.

#### CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION OF NURSES, APRIL, 1924. STATEMENT OF RESULTS.

	Sisters.	Staff Nurses.	Probationers.	Asst. Nurses.	Total.
Entered ..	1	17	104	16	138
Passed ..	1	7	79	9	96
Failed ..	—	10	25	7	42

The medals awarded by the Board to the probationers gaining the first three places were won on this occasion by the following nurses:—*Gold medal*—Probationer N. K. Finnigan, North-Eastern Fever Hospital. *Silver medal*—Probationer H. F. Biddlecombe, North-Eastern Fever Hospital. *Bronze medal*—Probationer M. Smith, Western Fever Hospital.

Probationer S. P. M. Robb who gained the third place in the examination was not qualified, under the Board's regulations, for the bronze medal.

### THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

#### THE BULLETIN.

It is not often that we have occasion to commend the College of Nursing, Ltd., but we are glad to note that its Council has realised the necessity of its *Bulletin* being edited by a trained nurse. It is incomprehensible that the members should have tolerated for a moment any other arrangement.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The apathy of the Members of the College of Nursing, Ltd., was never so strongly in evidence as at the Annual Meeting held in Mortimer Hall on June 26th. Of the 23,000 members the College is supposed to have, the Honorary Secretary of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses alone was interested enough in the Report to ask questions.

She first wanted to know who authorised the Secretary of the College to send a letter, dated December 29th, 1922, to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, from which the following is an extract:—

"... The (College) Council is in entire sympathy with these complaints,\* and begs respectfully to urge that the door of admission to the first State Register should not be closed to any 'Existing Nurses' who can show that they were in *bona fide* practice as nurses of the sick

\* As to the undue stringency of the conditions of admission to the State Registration.—Ed.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)