

The Witnesses.

The following witnesses gave evidence before the Committee:—

July 22nd.—Mr. L. G. Brock, C.B. (Assistant-Secretary to the Ministry of Health), Sir Wilmot Herringham, Chairman, General Nursing Council.

July 23rd.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, S.R.N., Member of several Nurses' Organisations.

July 24th.—Miss Innes, S.R.N., D.N., Matron, Leeds General Infirmary, for College of Nursing, Ltd.

Miss M. C. Herbert, S.R.N., Sister-Tutor, St. George's-in-the-East Hospital.

Miss K. E. Haywood, Matron, Walthamstow, Wanstead and Leyton General Hospital.

Miss D. C. Philpot, Matron, High Wycombe War Memorial Hospital.

July 28th.—Mr. Herbert Paterson, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.S., Med. Hon. Secretary, Royal British Nurses' Association.

Miss Maude MacCallum, S.R.N., for Professional Union of Trained Nurses.

Miss C. C. du Sautoy, S.R.N., Member General Nursing Council (in personal capacity).

Miss Duff Grant, S.R.N., Sister-Tutor, Leeds General Infirmary.

August 6th.—Miss Isabel Macdonald, S.R.N., for Royal British Nurses' Association.

Councillor Beatrice Kent, S.R.N., Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council.

Miss H. L. Pearse, S.R.N., Superintendent, London County Council School Nurses.

In Favour of the Right of the Nursing Profession to a Compulsory Syllabus of Training under the Nurses' Registration Act.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mr. Herbert Paterson, Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss C. C. du Sautoy, Miss Maude MacCallum, Councillor Beatrice Kent, Miss H. L. Pearse, and Miss D. C. Philpot.

In Favour of an Advisory Syllabus of Training and Compulsory Examination.

Mr. L. G. Brock, Sir Wilmot Herringham, Miss Innes, Miss M. C. Herbert, Miss K. E. Haywood, and Miss Duff Grant.

In Favour of Free Selection and Election of Candidates as Direct Representatives of Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mr. Herbert Paterson, Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss Innes, Miss C. C. du Sautoy, Miss Maude MacCallum, Councillor Beatrice Kent, and Miss H. L. Pearse.

In Favour of Reservation of Seats on the General Nursing Council, as Direct Representatives of Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register for Matrons, and Classes of General Nurses.

Sir Wilmot Herringham, and Miss Philpot.
Thus all the representatives of the Nurses' Organisations are in favour of a Free Election, and with the exception of the College of Nursing, Ltd., are in favour of a Rule for a Compulsory Syllabus of Training, as provided for in the Nurses' Registration Act, prior to Examination.

The Legal Position.

In his evidence before the Committee Mr. Brock stated that he thought the view of the Department (Ministry of Health) was that the rules in their present form (providing for an advisory Syllabus of Training) were in accordance with the Act, they had consulted the Solicitor of the Department in the usual way, but his opinion had not been given in writing. They had not consulted the Law Officers of the Crown.

We await the Report of the Select Committee with interest, when we shall deal with it in full and with the evidence upon which its conclusions are framed.

NURSING ECHOES.

It is announced that the King has conferred the decoration of the Royal Red Cross, First Class, on Princess Arthur of Connaught, under the provisions of his Majesty's Warrant dated October 25th, 1920.

Her Royal Highness, who can place S.R.N. after her name, and who is President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, is to be warmly congratulated upon this honour, and her "colleagues" offer her sincere good wishes.

Her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice was present at the recent Council Meeting of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses at 58, Victoria Street. Sir Harold Boulton presided.

Princess Beatrice presented long service badges to the following Queen's superintendents and nurses, who had recently completed 21 years' service:—Betsy Fulcher, Annie Milne, Helen Barry, Elizabeth Lathlean, Charlotte Scarfe, Catherine C. White, and Annie Woods.

Sir Harold Boulton spoke in appreciative terms of the valuable work undertaken by the nurses.

The report of the Executive Committee showed much activity on the part of the committee and the various sub-committees. The affiliated nursing associations have been asked to contribute to a Long Service Fund for Queen's Nurses, and it is hoped that this fund will be started very shortly. Of the replies received from the associations up to the present time, 80 per cent. have agreed to support the fund.

Unfortunately the supply of Queen's Nurses is insufficient to meet the demands, and unless the position improves, in the near future, the Council will be faced with a serious deficiency.

Queen's Nurses have earned for themselves a high degree of appreciation and regard from thousands of sufferers throughout the land. Why does not some wealthy sympathiser endow this fine Service for the sick? We often wonder.

Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association, which provides English trained nurses and midwives for the sick Europeans in India, is, we regret to hear, in urgent need of funds. Mary, Countess of Minto and other ladies interested in this most useful work, are making an appeal for financial support to the great business houses of India.

This Association was established in 1906, and during the last five years 7,991 cases have been nursed by a staff of 100 nurses, which has now fallen to 80 owing to monetary conditions. Homes for nurses are established in five provinces in India and Burma, and most of these have "hill stations." The P. and O. Shipping Company originally gave an annual grant of £1,000 to cover the nurses' travelling expenses. Three years ago this generous donation was reduced to £500, which, unfortunately, lapses this year. This creates a most serious situation, added to recent financial losses due to the failure of the Alliance Bank of Simla.

Owing to the aid and kindly help of its subscribers, the Association is self-supporting except for the expenses of passages, and it is to meet this serious difficulty that

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