

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The Registrar of the General Nursing Council for Scotland reports that the written part of the Final Examinations was held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen and Inverness, on May 21st. There presented themselves for Examination 34 candidates in Edinburgh, 154 in Glasgow, 24 in Dundee, 24 in Aberdeen, and 3 in Inverness. The Oral and Practical part of the Examination was held on various dates both before and after the written examination.

The results were:—

General Nurses' Examination.—Number entered, Paper on Medical and Surgical Subjects: First time 125, Second time 1. One failed in the Written part, and 125 passed. Paper on Nursing and Cooking, Number entered: First time 125, Second time 2. Two failed in the Oral and Practical Part, Number passed 125.

Fever Nurses' Examination.—Paper on Infectious Diseases, &c., 106 entered. One failed in Written part, 2 failed in Oral and Practical Part. Number passed 103. Paper on Nursing and Cooking: Number entered, First time 106, Second time 3. Five failed in the Oral and Practical Part. Number passed 103.

Sick Children's Nurses' Examination.—Number entered 8. All passed.

Mental Nurses' Examination.—Number entered 6. All passed.

The Preliminary Examination was held in the same centres on May 18th. There presented themselves for Examination 66 Candidates in Edinburgh, 215 in Glasgow, 25 in Dundee, 34 in Aberdeen, and 5 in Inverness.

The following tables show the details of the results:—

	Elementary Anatomy and Physiology.	Elementary Hygiene and Practice of Nursing, Part I.	Elementary Theory and Practice of Nursing, Part I.
Total entered	307	314	283
Failed in Written Part	47	27	11
Failed in Oral and Practical Part..	11	14	5
Total passed	249	273	267

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

The General Nursing Council for Scotland has the reputation of managing its business with characteristic national thrift, but may not this virtue be carried too far? We recently wrote for a copy of the 1926 Register, only to be informed that it is not yet in print, and here we are in July.

A copy of 1925 Register was not in stock, and we were offered one for the year 1923.

There is another item of expenditure of this Council the nurses would do well to request their representatives to readjust and that without delay.

We are informed that medical examiners are paid £5 5s. and nurse examiners only £3 3s. Both presumably are experts in the branches in which they examine—in the Theory and Practice of Nursing—and as the latter is of the utmost value it should be equally remunerated, especially as the funds are entirely provided by the pupils.

We make these few remarks as we heard it whispered a few days ago that an attempt may be made by our own G.N.C. to follow this inexcusable arrangement. As so much of our business is conducted *in camera*, we advise the nurse examiners to be on the *qui vive*. Registered nurses should unite to refuse less remuneration for equal work in the examination of nurses. If the remuneration is not adequate it should be increased, but not at the expense and prestige of Nurse Examiners.

NURSING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON NURSING HOMES (REGISTRATION).

On Tuesday, June 8th, the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Registration of Nursing Homes took further evidence after the Whitsuntide Recess, Sir Cyril Cobb, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

AN OCCUPATION WITH NO PROSPECTS.

The first witness called was Mrs. Ethel Phillips, S.R.N., proprietress of a Nursing Home, who was in favour of registration of such Homes. She stated that she had 18 beds in her Home, and the Nursing Staff, in addition to herself, consisted of three fully trained Sisters and four assistant nurses, the latter did no real nursing. She admitted, in reply to a question from Dr. Shiels, that it was not fair to keep the girls at work in an occupation which had no prospects for the future, and said she endeavoured to help them to obtain a certificate of some kind after they had been with her a certain time.

Dr. Douglas Drummond (a medical woman), Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Manchester, expressed the opinion that Nursing Homes should be registered, firstly as a protection to the public, and also as a protection to the properly conducted Homes. She stated that when Maternity Homes were registered in Manchester under the Manchester Corporation Powers Act of 1921 forty-one so-called Homes applied for Registration. Of these only fourteen were now on the Register, and there were, in addition, thirteen new ones.

A number of those whose Homes were refused registration as Maternity Homes stopped taking maternity cases and carried on as Medical and Surgical Homes, and could not be touched. The sooner the inspection and registration of Nursing Homes was enforced the better. She thought inspection should be carried out by a medical woman or a trained nurse, or by the Medical Officer of Health and a trained nurse conjointly. She considered five guineas as the lowest fee which should be charged to patients weekly if satisfactory care was to be given.

On Thursday, June 10th, Sir Cyril Cobb presided, when Sir William Hart, Town Clerk of the City of Sheffield, representing the Law Committee of the Association of Municipal Corporations, gave evidence. He considered a medical man would be a competent judge of the suitability of the nursing arrangements in a Home, but would not object to the assistance of a trained nurse.

NOTHING CONNECTED WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH SHOULD BE SECOND-RATE.

Dr. Lyster, Medical Officer of Health for Hampshire, representing the County Councils' Association, said that numerous complaints as to Nursing Homes of all classes were constantly being received by Medical Officers of Health. He himself had received many such complaints including those of neglect by or ignorance of nurses, unsuitable accommodation, and poor food. He considered that the County Councils should be the supervising authorities. He was not in favour of two classes of Homes, one staffed entirely with trained nurses, and another with a percentage only of those trained, and expressed the opinion that nothing connected with the Public Health Service should be second-rate.

Miss Barbier, Registrar of the College of Nursing, Ltd., considered that all Nursing Homes should be registered by the Ministry of Health, and their inspection should be carried out by the Ministry by means of trained nurses. She expressed the opinion that the number of trained nurses to patients in a Nursing Home should be one to two patients, or three at the most. The witness stated that chronic

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