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EDITORIAL.

A DIPLOMA IN NURSING INSTITUTED BY LONDON UNIVERSITY.

It is with pleasure that we have received the announcement from the Registrar of the University Extension Board of the University of London, South Kensington, that the Senate at their last Meeting resolved that a Diploma in Nursing be instituted by the University.

The question of introducing such a Diploma, and the conditions under which it should be awarded, have been under consideration for many months, and an Advisory Committee appointed to inquire into the matter, and to make a considered Report.

The Regulations and Syllabuses proposed by the Committee have now been adopted by the Senate, and it is intended that the first Examination for the Diploma shall be held in the year 1927.

The Regulations have been framed for the purpose of fitting Registered Nurses for the more responsible posts now open to them, amongst which are those of Matron, Sister Tutor, and Superintendent of Public Health Nurses, hence the requirement of two years from qualification as a nurse, one of which must be spent in a hospital, or Public Health Department. The Diploma is thus, it is pointed out, of post-graduate type, and the Syllabuses which presuppose on the part of the candidate professional knowledge at least equal to that required for State Registration, are designed to be covered by a further course of one year of serious study.

The Diploma is open to men as well as women.

Every candidate for the Diploma must furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board, by means of a School Certificate of a University School-examining Body, or otherwise, of having attained a suitable standard of general education.

The Examination will be in the following subjects:—

Part A.

(r) Scientific Basis and General Principles of Nursing, including Elementary Psychology (three papers and an Oral Examination).

(2) History of Nursing to 1919, and Nursing Ethics (one paper). Part A is open to any Candidate who fulfils the conditions as to general education set out above, and who is on the General Part of the Register of Nurses, or on the Supplementary Part of the Register for Male Nurses, constituted under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, or is eligible to sit for the prescribed examination for either of those Parts of the Register.

Part B.

One of the following (in connection with each there are two papers and an Oral Examination).

(3) General Nursing.

- (4) Obstetric and Gynæcological Nursing.
- (5) Nursing of Children.
- (6) Mental Nursing, including Psychology (more advanced).

(7) Fever Nursing and Epidemiology.

- (8) Elementary Economics, Sociology and Hygiene in relation to the duties of Public Health Nurses.
 - (9) Hospital Administration.

Part B is open to any Candidate under the following conditions:—

(a) That her name has for not less than two years been on the General Part of the Register of Nurses, or that she has for not less than two years been eligible to sit for examination admitting to that part of the Register. (b) In respect of the alternative (4) that she holds the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board. (c) In respect of alternatives (5) (6) and (7) that her name has, for not less than two years been on the appropriate Supplementary Part of the Register of Nurses, or that she has for not less than two years been eligible to sit for the examination admitting to that Part of the Register. (d) In respect of alternative (8) that she holds the Health Visitor's Certificate issued under conditions approved by the Ministry of Health. (e) That she has for at least one year after qualification for registration held an appointment (i) in a hospital or in a group of hospitals recognised by the General Nursing Council as a complete Training School; or (ii) in respect of alternative (5), (6), or (7) in a hospital or group of hospitals recognised by the General Nursing Council for the Nursing of Sick Children, Mental Nursing, or Fever Nursing, respectively; or (iii) in respect of alternative (8) at a recognised Health Department so organised as to afford due facilities for practical experience.

The Examination will be both Written and Oral and will be conducted in accordance with the Syllabuses appended to the Regulations.

Candidates will be required to pass in Part A in subjects (1) and (2) in Part B in one of the subjects (3) to (9). They may, if they so desire, offer as an additional subject:—

(10) Methods of Teaching, and Elements of Educational Psychology. (The examination provides for one paper and an Oral Examination.)

The Examination for the Diploma is held once in each

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