

THE STATE EXAMINATIONS.

The results of the State Examinations are as under:—

FEBRUARY, 1929.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.
Complete Examination	1,735	144	1,591	1,113	478
Re-entries for Part Examination	198	21	175	117	58
Percentage of Failures, Complete Examination, 30 per cent.; Re-entries for Part Examination, 33.1 per cent.					

FINAL EXAMINATION.

Examination.	General Register.	Supplementary Parts of the Register			
		Male Nurses.	Mental Nurses.	Sick Children's Nurses.	Fever Nurses.
Entered—					
Whole	1,284	2	20	63	173
Part	197	—	4	11	28
Absent—					
Whole	75	—	1	3	17
Part	5	—	—	1	3
Present					
Whole	1,209	2	20	60	150
Part	192	—	3	10	25
Passed—					
Whole	921	2	16	41	112
Part	109	—	3	4	13
Failed—					
Whole	288	—	4	19	44
Part	83	—	—	6	12
Percentage of Failures—					
Whole	23.8%	—	20%	31.0%	28.2%
Part	43.2%	—	—	60%	48%

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the Chair and 11 members of the General Nursing Council for Scotland were present at the meeting held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on March 22nd.

Amongst the correspondence dealt with was a letter from the Contractors for the supply of the Registered Buttons stating that they intended to raise the price of these. After considering the figures the Council agreed to the increase proposed.

It was reported that the Council's Appeal against Assessments to Income Tax had been heard by the Court but that no decision had yet been given.

The Report of the Education and Examination Committee was submitted by Col. Mackintosh, the Convener of that Committee, and was approved. In terms of recommendations by that Committee, the Council resolved to communicate with the Nurses' Registration Board of Tasmania with a view to adjusting a scheme of reciprocal re-registration with that Board. It was also resolved that the name of Dr. James H. Robertson be placed on the Council's Panel of Examiners in Anatomy and Physiology and Hygiene for the Preliminary Examination. The names of Examiners to conduct the May Examinations were selected from the Panel and other arrangements made in connection with the next Examinations.

The names of those Nurses who had passed the Council's Final Examination in February and had attained the age of 21 were ordered to be placed on the Register, and on the recommendation of the Finance Committee an estimate was accepted for binding copies of the Council's Register for 1929.

STATE EXAMINATIONS, SCOTLAND.

The results of the State Examinations in Scotland are as under.

Successful Candidates.

General Nurses, 78 First Paper (General) only, 32. Second Paper (General) only, 6. Fever Nurses, 55. First Paper (Fever) only, 3. Second Paper (Fever) only, 1. Sick Children, 15. First Paper (sick children) only, 1. Second Paper (sick children) only 2.

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

In studying the list of results in the State Examinations the percentage of failures appears extraordinarily high, and we ask ourselves what is the reason for it. It may be caused in several ways,

- (1) The Examination may be too difficult.
- (2) The candidates may not be sufficiently well educated.
- (3) Their instruction may be inadequate.

We are not disposed to consider the examinations too difficult, both from the nature of the questions, and because of many candidates who entered for the examinations from one hospital, dating from the first examination, only one has failed. Why then should there be from other hospitals a percentage of failures from 23.8 in the case of the General Part of the Register and of 48.2 in the part examination, and with 31.6 per cent. in connection with the candidates for the Sick Children's Part of the Register, rising to 60 per cent. in the case of the part examination for the Sick Children's part of the Register?

Lack of general education may be the determining factor in the failure of some candidates, but we think that there must be in the larger proportion of failures a lack of adequate preparation of the examinees.

And this brings us to another point. How are prospective probationers to know in which Nurse Training Schools the results in the State Examinations are such that if they enter one of these they may reasonably hope in due course to pass the Examinations and be placed upon the State Register? They cannot know, because no list of the successes and failures of the Training Schools is published. This is certainly most unfair to the successful schools, and also to intending probationers.

THE HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS COUNCIL.

The third annual general meeting of the Health and Cleanliness Council was held on March 20th when a large number of its members, including representatives of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, of health and education committees of county, borough, and urban district councils, and of welfare centres and allied movements assembled at the Hotel Cecil for lunch, the President of the Council, Dr. G. F. Buchan, occupying the chair.

Following the toast of the King, Lieut-Colonel F. E. Fremantle, M.P., as reported in the *Lancet*, proposed the prosperity of the Health and Cleanliness Council in a speech eloquently describing what such a Council had done and might do. He said that he felt himself among friends who had journeyed along parallel roads with himself, engaged with the same spirit in the common task of propagating health and cleanliness. He commended in high terms the literary propaganda of the Council, which was now distributed all over the country, and specially commended for study the lecture which Prof. Bostock Hill had delivered before the Royal Sanitary Institute in January last, in which there was surveyed the whole of health progress, bringing to notice the personal hygiene inculcated by Moses, the water-supply and sewage disposal of Rome, the epidemiological lessons to be derived from London during the great plague and fire, the message from Erasmus to Cardinal Wolsey about the sweating sickness, and the work of Dr. Thomas Trotter, physician to the Navy at the end of the eighteenth century. But, he added, Prof. Bostock Hill had ended by emphasising the necessity of cleanliness of mind and the cultivation of the health spirit, and that line, the speaker thought, was the essential one, which really went to the root of the health movement of to-day.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)