

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the Chair at the meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on Friday, October 25th, and all Members of the Council were present.

The Council approved the Report of the Education and Examination Committee, which was presented by Col. Mackintosh, the Convener of that Committee. In terms of the Committee's recommendations, following on an inspection by a Sub-Committee, a number of minor alterations in connection with the Examinations were approved.

The name of an additional Nurse Examiner was added to the Panel and the names of a number of Nurses who had already passed the Council's Examinations and had now attained the age of 21 were ordered to be placed on the Register.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the Chair and 14 Members of the Council were present at a meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on November 22nd.

Col. D. J. Mackintosh submitted the Report of the Education and Examination Committee which was approved. In terms of the recommendations of that Committee the Council resolved that in future the Hygiene Paper in the Preliminary Examination should consist of two questions on Hygiene proper and two questions on food stuffs, etc. comprising the last four headings on page 6 of the Council's Syllabus. A Sub-Committee was appointed to reconsider the Syllabus with a view to bringing forward any points on which amendments were thought desirable.

The Registrar's Reports on the October Examination were considered and the Council resolved to place on the Register the names of the Nurses who had passed that Examination and had attained the age of 21.

The Registrar reported correspondence with the Department of Health for Scotland as to the proposal to reduce the Examination Fee for the Preliminary Examination. It was resolved that this fee should be reduced from £2 2s. to £1 11s. 6d. and that an application for approval of this resolution be placed before the Department immediately.

Final Examination—October, 1929.

Report by Registrar.

The Registrar of the General Nursing Council for Scotland reports that the Written Part of the Examination was held simultaneously in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, and Inverness on Friday, October 4th, 1929, a Hall having been obtained for this purpose in each City.

There presented themselves for Examination 71 Candidates in Edinburgh, 212 Candidates in Glasgow, 39 Candidates in Dundee, 23 Candidates in Aberdeen, and 4 Candidates in Inverness, making a total of 349 Candidates.

The Oral and Practical Part of the Examination was held at Edinburgh in the City Hospital on 17th and 18th October; at Glasgow in Knightswood Fever Hospital on 24th, 25th, 26th, 28th and 29th October; at Aberdeen in the City Hospital on October 31st; and at Dundee in King's Cross Hospital on November 2nd and 4th.

The Inverness Candidates attended at Aberdeen for their Oral and Practical Examination.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR THE IRISH FREE STATE.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for the Irish Free State was held at the Offices, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on the 13th ult. There were present Senator

Sir Edward Coey Bigger (Chairman), Miss Halbert, R.G.N., Miss Walsh, R.G.N., Miss Smithson, R.G.N., Miss Harold, R.G.N., Miss Willis, R.G.N., Dr. Meenan, Dr. MacBride, Dr. Whitla, J. J. Harding, R.M.N., and the Registrar (W. O'B. Reidy).

The Registrar reported to the Council that the Total Number of Nurses on the Register was 5,087, divided into the following Classes:—General, Medical and Surgical Nurses, 4,044; Mental Nurses, 902; Male Nurses, 3; Fever Nurses, 89; and Sick Children's Nurses, 49.

At the Examination held last June 310 Candidates (Preliminary and Final) presented themselves and there were 35 failures.

The Council decided to recognise as training schools the County Hospital, Wexford, and St. Mary's Open Air Hospital, Cappagh, both of these hospitals having concluded arrangements for affiliation with Hospitals already on the Council's list of Hospitals recognised as complete training schools.

The Retention Fee payable by Nurses will be an annual charge as from next year.

Two interesting points arise in these reports. (1) That the General Nursing Council for Scotland intend to apply for permission to reduce the fee for the Preliminary Examination from £2 2s. to £1 11s. 6d. and that the General Nursing Council for the Irish Free State have instituted an Annual Retention Fee.

THE SCOTTISH NURSES' CLUB.

DENTAL DECAY AND PYORRHOEA—CAUSES, PREVENTION AND CURE.

This subject was discussed by Mr. J. Menzies Campbell, L.D.S., D.D.S., F.R.S.C., in a lecture delivered under the auspices of the Scottish Nurses' Club, on Thursday, November 14th.

Having briefly surveyed the history of dental diseases, the speaker described the teeth, their formation and functions, and also stressed the importance of the temporary teeth and their influence, for good or evil, on the permanent set.

Dental decay was discussed in all its aspects, while great emphasis was laid on the fact that an improper diet is the chief cause of this condition—improper, because it is too soft and also because it does not contain a sufficiency of the calcium (lime) and the vitamins so necessary for the development and maintenance of strong, healthy teeth. The speaker compared the diets and the conditions of the teeth of different nations in their different stages of civilisation, and was able to prove that the simpler and coarser the food, the less was the amount of dental disease. Treatment, both preventive and curative, was discussed.

Regarding that very prevalent complaint, pyorrhœa, he detailed some interesting facts, amongst them being that, in the Papyrus of Ebers, which is a record of medical discoveries between the years 3,500 and 1,500 B.C., there are included methods for the treatment of this condition, which, later, was well known and rampant amongst the citizens of the Roman Empire. The lecturer explained that the eating of too much meat, too many foods containing refined unnatural sugar, and of too few fresh fruits and vegetables produced a toxæmia (poisoning of the body) and from this pyorrhœa arose. Thereafter, the general mode of treatment was detailed.

The importance was stressed of the expectant and nursing mother eating a sufficiency of "tooth-building" foods, so as to ensure the development of strong, healthy teeth in the child. If an expectant mother's diet be deficient, then Nature will extract lime from her bones and teeth to meet the requirements of the child and, in consequence, the mother's teeth will become sore—an

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