

It is necessary to make definite application, supported by responsible persons, and an enquiry is held almost amounting to a re-trial, which must conform to the formalities laid down in the Rules.

Printed Register.

Under the Rules of the General Nursing Council governed by the Act, a Register of Nurses must be printed and published each year and placed on sale. The publication of a Register of over 63,000 names is a costly matter, and purchasers of the Register would find it of little value if the names and addresses were not up to date. (The charge is £1 1s., though the actual cost of printing is very much more.)

It will be seen that the work of keeping the Register correct and up to date is always going on, necessitating the employment of a number of clerks and involving a considerable amount of expense.

Fees Paid by Other Professional Persons.

Doctors. It has been argued that the Register of Nurses should be on the same basis as the Medical Register, and that doctors are not required to pay a yearly fee. It should be noted, however, that the original Medical Act was passed in 1858, long before the Nurses Registration Act, and, moreover, that medical practitioners are required *after qualification* to pay a fee of £5 for Registration after a very expensive professional education. Under the Medical Act (Section 14) the Registrar of the General Medical Council is authorized to send a registered letter to the last known address of any registered practitioner who is found to have changed his address without notifying the same. If no reply is received to that letter within a period of six months, it is lawful for the Registrar to erase the name of such doctor from the Register. The same proviso holds good, as in the case of Registered Nurses, that the name may be restored to the Register by direction of the General Medical Council, should they think fit to make an order to that effect. There is an arrangement by which all registered medical practitioners are written to during every period of five years. It must also be noted that medical practitioners are not "migratory" in the same degree as nurses, and that once they have started practice they usually continue to live in the same place.

Dentists. Under the Dentists Act of 1921 (passed after the Nurses Registration Act) a yearly fee of £4 is payable in respect of the retention on the Register of the name of any person registered after the commencement of the Act. Failure to pay this fee by a certain date entails removal of any name from the Register, and prosecution may follow.

Retention Fees Payable by Nurses Registered in the Dominions and Other Countries.

A yearly retention fee is exacted from nurses registered in the various overseas Dominions and in other countries where legal registration is in force, and is in some cases higher than that laid down in the Nurses Registration Act of Great Britain. For example, the fee payable in Australia is 2s. 6d.; in Canada (Alberta) it is four dollars (16s.), (Saskatchewan, it is two dollars (8s.), and in various states of the United States of America the fee ranges from 50 cents. (2s.) to two dollars (8s.).

The Receipts now Issued by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

The General Nursing Council for Scotland, in addition to the yearly retention fee of 2s. 6d., require every Registered Nurse to forward the *Registration Certificate* yearly for endorsement. The General Nursing Council for England and Wales do not require this for fear of loss in transit (these Certificates of Registration are always sent from the Council Office by registered post), but they issue a receipt for the fee yearly, which until 1930 was worded as follows:—

"Received from.....Registered No..... the sum of 2s. 6d., Retention Fee for the year ending September 1931."

This receipt could, if asked for, be shown as a guarantee that the nurse's name was on the Register during any year.

When the State Examinations came into force in 1925, a new form of certificate was issued, much smaller than the original Registration Certificate, therefore more easily carried about and available on demand. This certificate has a pocket, in which up to 1929 was an "Endorsement Card," which has to be forwarded yearly with retention fee for re-endorsement. It was found, however, that hundreds of nurses omitted to forward these cards, many stating that they had lost or mislaid them. The Council, therefore, decided to issue a new form of *receipt* which could serve as an "endorsement" for all Registered Nurses. This receipt should be kept with the Registration Certificate to show that the name of the holder is still on the Register, and, in the case of nurses registered "by Examination," it should be placed in the pocket of her Registration Certificate. It is in the interests of Registered Nurses, also of the public, that evidence of registration should be required and readily produced when applications for new posts are under consideration.

MARION S. RIDDELL, S.R.N.
Registrar.

General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

**THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.
REVENUE ACCOUNT, YEAR ENDED MARCH 31st, 1931.**

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries of Officers and Clerical Staff	8,891	18	3	By Registration and Certificate Fees	84	11	0			
„ Unemployment and Health Insurance	130	1	3	„ Retention Fees	7,146	0	11			
„ Rent, Rates and Property Tax	438	9	0	„ Examination Fees	32,952	13	0			
„ Insurance	80	6	7					40,183	4	11
„ Fuel, Light, Water, etc.	273	10	8	„ SUNDRY SALES, viz.:—						
„ Wages, Domestic Staff	306	14	5	Woven Badges	41	19	7			
„ Books, Printing and Stationery	1,219	19	3	Hat Bands	25	16	2			
„ Printed Registers	3,069	10	11	Uniform Caps.	2	14	8			
„ Purchases of Silver Badges	850	4	9					70	10	5
„ Postage, Telephones and Carriage of Parcels	1,603	1	3	Rules and Syllabus	157	1	6			
„ Travelling Expenses of Members	439	10	3	Printed Registers	52	10	0			
„ Repairs	8	4	9	Silver Badges	886	19	6			
„ Brokers' Charges	205	8	11					1,096	11	0
„ Miscellaneous Expenses, including Audit, Accountancy, Advertising and Legal Charges	405	18	4	„ Rent received				120	0	0
„ Examination Expenses	947	14	0							
„ Examiners' Remuneration	16,716	14	2							
„ Inspection Expenses	137	10	8							
„ Rules and Syllabus	57	17	6							
„ Bad Debt	4	0	0							
	£35,877	18	11							
„ Balance carried down	5,592	7	5							
	£41,470	6	4					£41,470	6	4

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