

work, and will make for a higher standard of health, although the sick list is a very short one."

The Chairman wisely appreciates the good work of the Staff, and refers to the harmonious relations between the Administrative, the Executive, and the Honorary Staff at Charing Cross Hospital. Of Mr. Inman, the House Governor, we are told that *Qui vive* is his motto, and in that he is loyally supported by a splendid Staff. . . . "As to the Matron (Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C.) and her Nursing Staff, and the Lady Almoner and her assistants, well, they are all so splendid that without going into politics at all, it makes me very happy that women have votes! Can I say more?"

Nothing indeed that self-respecting Registered Nurses appreciate more!

This fine Hospital is doing a great work on sound economic principles and is *really* a voluntary hospital.

It deserves support for this fact alone and we are glad to note that last year its income of £61,715 exceeded its expenditure of £61,038 by £677.

Let us hope "Debt free" will be reported again this time next year.

The Queen, attended by the Lady Victoria Forester, visited Queen Mary's Maternity Home, Hampstead, recently. This is one of many visits.

The Duke and Duchess of York will visit the Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney Road, on Tuesday, March 24th, when the Duchess will open the Princess Elizabeth Ward. The Duchess of York will receive purses of £5 and over on that day. Situated in a densely crowded area, this hospital is really in need of funds.

An organising body has been set up and preparations are already under way for an International Cancer Congress to be held in Madrid in October next year.

Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, who is very interested in the work of the Cancer League in Spain and has herself served as a Red-Cross Nurse, will be President of the Congress.

An International Cancer Exhibition with industrial as well as scientific exhibits will be held concurrently with the Congress.

A gift of £32,000 from Mr. Samuel Insull, of Chicago, to the London Temperance Hospital in memory of his parents, who many years ago were interested in the hospital, will facilitate the many improvements projected.

#### THE MENTAL TREATMENT ACT.

The Mental Treatment Act which came into force on January 1st, introduced changes long overdue, bringing the provisions for the care of the insane more in accord with modern ideals.

The new Act authorises the reception of voluntary patients into public mental hospitals. A still more important provision, in the opinion of the Board of Control, is that for temporary treatment of non-volitional patients on the recommendation of two medical practitioners without the intervention of any judicial authority. This provision, according to the Board, is a striking advance in the assimilation of the treatment of mental treatment to that of physical illness.

Another important change is the statutory recognition of the out-patient clinic, and local authorities are now empowered to provide such clinics.

## GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The One Hundred and Twenty-first Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at 20, Portland Place, London, W., on Friday, February 27th, at 2.30 p.m. Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman of the Council, presided.

The Chairman reported that she had sent a message of condolence with the nurses of New Zealand in the terrible catastrophe which had befallen them. This was approved.

Also that a letter had been received from the Minister of Health saying that the alterations in regard to the State Registered Uniform submitted by the Council had been laid before Parliament for the prescribed time, and that there had been no amendments.

The Chairman said therefore that the authorised tailors and milliners would now be able to make the uniforms, and hats according to the approved alterations.

The Chairman also notified that she had received a letter from Dr. Buchan resigning his seat on the Council as he had been appointed a member of the Central Midwives Board, and that this therefore was the last Council Meeting he would attend. She felt sure that the Council would like to take this opportunity of expressing to Dr. Buchan their regret at his resignation.

Dr. Buchan expressed his appreciation of the very kind reference to his resignation by the Chairman, and the manner in which it had been received.

#### Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee Bills and Claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sum of £130 for Postage Stamps, £20 for Insurance Stamps, £5 for Petty Cash, and £5,500 for Examiners' Claims and Expenses in connection with the February State Examinations, were allowed.

#### Registration.

The Registration Committee reported that they had elected Miss Margaret Hogg, C.B.E., R.R.C., Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year.

On the recommendation of the Committee the Council agreed to issue duplicate silver badges to six Registered Nurses who reported the loss of their badges a year ago.

The Committee submitted 23 applications for Registration, one by examination and five by reciprocity to the General Part of the Register, one by reciprocity to the Supplementary Part of the Register for the Sick Children's Nurses, 14 by examination and two by reciprocity to the Supplementary Part of the Register for Fever Nurses.

It was decided to reinclude in the Register the names of 172 Nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their Retention Fee and now wished their names reincluded.

The Chairman said that there was misconception in regard to the Retention Fee and nurses who did not understand that it was prescribed in the provisions of the Nurses Registration Act were still writing to the Press concerning it. It was agreed that an explanatory statement should be sent to the Press.

#### Education and Examination.

On the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee it was agreed:—

"That the following hospital be approved as a Complete Training School for Fever Nurses:—Isolation Hospital, Rush Green, Romford."

"That the following hospital be provisionally approved as a complete Training School for Fever Nurses, for a period of one year from 27th February, 1931:—Mill Hill Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Huddersfield."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)