

as the British wards and the women's wards, and supervises the food, stores and laundry.

Occasionally a sister may be sent out by aeroplane, car, train or boat to an out-station, if there is a serious case, nursing it there until the patient is fit to travel to Khartoum Hospital. Thus the sisters may have varied experience and see something of the country outside their own station.

A knowledge of Arabic is essential and a large store of common-sense and patience is required, besides a real love for the work and for the people, who may be British, Sudanese, Greek, Syrian, Armenian, Egyptian, or in fact any nationality.

From *The International Nursing Review*.

REVIEW.

A GUIDE TO THE PROFESSION OF NURSING.* Before and after State Registration.

We have received for review a copy of "A Guide to the Profession of Nursing, before and after State Registration" compiled and edited by Mr. Comyns Berkeley, M.A., M.D., M.C. (Cantab.), F.R.C.P. (London), F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

The Guide contains much useful information, but is marred by many inaccuracies and omissions and by careless proof correcting.

Thus in the list of Contents "General Nursing Council" should read "Councils," "Central Midwives Board" should read "Central Midwives Boards," "Nurses' Homes Registration Act" should read "Nursing Homes." In the Index "British College of Nursing," should read "British College of Nurses," and "Territorial Nursing Service" should read "Territorial Army Nursing Service."

Primarily it is apparently designed to promote the interests of the College of Nursing, all four illustrations being of this institution, and ample space in the letterpress is devoted to it and its allied societies.

The Guide is divided into nine parts (1) Post Graduate Courses, (2) List of Hospitals in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State approved by the General Nursing Council for complete Training in General Nursing, (3) Nursing Services open to State Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register, (4) Colleges, Associations and Clubs for Nurses, (5) Pension Funds for Nurses, (6) Relief Funds for Nurses, (7) General Nursing Councils, (8) Central Midwives Board, (9) Nurses (ing) Homes Registration Act.

The Post Graduate Courses concerning which useful information is given are those organised by the University of London, and the University of Leeds for a Diploma, of Nursing Courses at King's College of Household and Social Science, at the Battersea Polytechnic, and at the University of Leeds in preparation for a certificate as Sister Tutor. Details are also given concerning the Examination recently established by the Central Midwives Board for those who wish to qualify as Teachers. After December 31st, 1933, before entering for this Examination Midwives must have had a three years General Training in a Hospital approved by one of the four General Nursing Councils. The Examination consists of two parts. Part I. Written papers. Part 2. Oral. The conduct of a Demonstration or Tutorial Class. Lastly there are the requirements for those who wish to qualify as Teachers of Massage and Medical Gymnastics and Medical Electricity.

It is only comparatively recently that Registered Nurses have realized that if they desire to teach, instruction in, and knowledge of, the Principles of Teaching as well as those which underlie the Practice of Nursing are necessary, and the information collected as to where instruction in teaching suitable to their needs is to be found, will be useful to nurses.

* George Newnes Ltd., Southampton Street, Strand, W.C. Price 2/6.

The most regrettable and inaccurate statement in the book is that "Largely owing to the efforts of the College (the College of Nursing) the Act for the State Registration of Nurses was passed."

The campaign for this reform lasted for a period of thirty-two years (1887-1919) promoted by the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, which Societies worked and paid for the publicity given to the movement from start to finish.

Owing to their endeavours and representations a Select Committee of the House of Commons reported in favour of State Registration of Nurses in 1905, a Nurses' Registration Bill in charge of Lord Amptill passed through the House of Lords in 1908, the Bill of the Central Committee, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Richard (then Major) Barnett, M.P., in the House of Commons in 1919 passed successfully through a Standing Committee and only awaited the Report Stage and Third Reading before going to the House of Lords, when on behalf of the College of Nursing, Ltd., Viscount Goschen introduced, and moved in that Chamber on May 27th, 1919, the Second Reading of a Bill promoted by it. It was the only Bill introduced into either House on behalf of the College of Nursing, and was unquestionably designed to prevent the Central Committee's Bill from having an uninterrupted passage through Parliament.

When on the Report Stage the Central Committee's Bill was discussed it was talked out by the College advocates, and had the Government of that day not undertaken to introduce a Government Measure for the State Registration of Nurses in the ensuing Session, Trained Nurses in Great Britain might still be awaiting Registration by the State.

Yet Mr. Berkeley has the temerity to claim that "largely owing to the efforts of the College, the Act for the State Registration of Nurses was passed." We cannot believe he has the authority of the College for making this inaccurate statement. Anyway it is as prejudiced as it is ungenerous.

One of the most careless errors is that of the address of the Royal British Nurses' Association given in two instances as 104 instead of 194, Queen's Gate.

And why no mention of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain composed of twenty-nine affiliated Nurses' Organisations, with a subscribing membership of over 30,000 members?

And concerning Clubs, no list of Nurses' Clubs, and indeed this is a scant one, can be considered adequate which omits to mention the United Nursing Services Club, 34, Cavendish Square, W., for past and present members of the Nursing Services of the Crown.

Lastly, we should advise Mr. Berkeley if, and when, another edition of the "Guide" is published to secure as a collaborator a member of the Nursing Profession, and a proof corrector competent to revise the pages in the interests of accuracy. The "Guide" may then have a useful future.

M. B.

THE STETHOS HOSPITAL UNIFORM SERVICE.

As the number of our readers is constantly increasing in and around Manchester, we would draw attention to the service offered to nurses by Mr. J. H. Bounds, of 4, Whitworth Street, Manchester. Uniform dresses are made from fast dyed and fully shrunk materials carrying the "Stethos" guarantee. Aprons can also be supplied in materials which have been awarded the Certificate of the Institute of Hygiene for quality and merit.

We would recommend a visit to this establishment; see announcement on page iv of cover in this issue.

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