

a post on the Medical Staff of a Hospital recognised by the General Nursing Council as a complete Training School for Nurses, and preferably shall possess a University degree in Medicine or hold the qualification of Member of the Royal College of Physicians.

(b) That Examiners in Surgery shall hold, or have held, a post on the Surgical Staff of a Hospital recognised by the General Nursing Council as a complete Training School for Nurses, and preferably shall possess a University degree in Surgery or hold the qualification of Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons.

(c) That Lecturers in Medicine and Surgery shall also be registered Medical Practitioners, preferably those holding the above qualifications.

(d) That Nurse Examiners shall be fully qualified Nurses who have held the post of Ward Sister."

Mental Nursing.

On the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee it was agreed that The Manor, Epsom, be re-approved as a Complete Training for Male Nurses for Mental Defectives.

It was agreed that James Stuart Ian Skottowe, Esq., M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Bucks County Mental Hospital, Aylesbury, be appointed a member of the Board of Examiners.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Friday June 28th.

NON-MEDICAL TEACHERS OF ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY.

It will be learned with apprehension by those who support the one Portal to the Register that an Amendment to the Rules—proposed by Mr. Eason and seconded by Miss E. S. Innes—was carried by nine votes to eight at the recent Meeting of the Council, concerning the qualifications to be held by Examiners and Lecturers, in connection with the Preliminary Examination of nurses.

The Amendment provides that lay Professors of Anatomy and Physiology may rank equally with qualified Medical Practitioners as teachers of these subjects, a very retrograde step in the professional education of nurses. Quite simply the recognition of lay teachers of anatomy and physiology makes it possible for would-be probationers to receive instruction in these fundamental subjects from persons dissociated from medicine and nursing and from necessary clinical instruction, so valuable a part of their preliminary education, and of which the *Lancet* Commission scheme would deprive them.

Because we hear little of the tactics of the supporters of this disastrous policy, who have nominated seats on our Governing Body, we must not delude ourselves that they have ceased from advocating it with the powers that be. The truth is that were the members of the College of Nursing not divided on this vital professional question, the profession would have nothing to fear from the lay and medical minority on the General Nursing Council. As it is those of us who realise the retrograde nature of their policy need keen vigilance in support of self-government and an efficient nursing curriculum controlled by nurses.

FINAL EXAMINATION.

(c) The substitution of the word "registered" for "qualified" medical practitioners is correct.

(d) The same correction is required in reference to Nurse Examiners.

The rule now stands "that Nurse Examiners shall be fully qualified Nurses." The word "registered" should be substituted for "fully qualified," as unless Nurses are registered they are not fully qualified, neither do they possess legal status.

THE REGISTER OF NURSES.

To the Chairman and Council of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales we are indebted for a copy of the Register of Nurses for 1935, England and Wales. Vol. I, the General Part, and for the Supplementary Parts of the Register; Vol. II, which contains the list of: 1, Male Nurses; 2, Mental Nurses; 3, Nurses for Mental Defectives; 4, Sick Children's Nurses, and 5, Fever Nurses.

We always handle these handsomely bound red volumes, inscribed in gold lettering, with a wonderful sense of satisfaction, and realise how worth while was the thirty years' struggle for the legal status of the Nursing Profession.

Here in these covers are inscribed in columns the registered number, the names, permanent address, date and place of registration and qualifications of some seventy-three thousand Nurses.

A very comprehensive make-up and greatly approved by nurses from abroad, and we may add from Scotland, who have no such useful professional record for reference. The printing of the Register is very clear and uniform, especially good when we realise that the recording of thousands of names means that Vol. I is growing year by year and is now full three inches in depth, and that Vol. II is a full inch.

We consult the Register of Nurses constantly, and have very rarely found even a minor error, so that those who compile it are to be sincerely congratulated on their very intensive work.

From its inception the Register of Nurses has been handled by women, and its make-up was attained by a minority of nurse members on the first Council after a determined struggle. We consider it a model for other Nursing bodies responsible for the issue of such a statutory record, and the Registered Nurses of England and Wales owe a debt of gratitude to those who compile and supervise its issue.

The Register is the visible evidence of our legal status. The system by which it is evolved is by no means perfect.

We are still waiting for an up-to-date prescribed scheme of training, a qualifying curriculum and standard examination for Nurse Examiners, and the systematic inspection of training schools by independent and experienced Registered Nurse inspectors appointed by the Council, and who should be adequately remunerated. Such officers might well be selected from highly qualified Matrons preferably with a "D.N.," who also hold a Sister Tutor's Diploma. No doubt in time progress will be effected in many directions, but with the State Register of Nurses in hand, we must not demand miracles; it is evidence of world-wide progress in the organisation of the Nursing Profession.

LEGACIES FROM NURSES TO NURSES.

Bequests for the benefit of nurses are made by nurses in their wills recently published:

Miss Marguerite Howe, formerly of Glen Rosa, Old London Road, Hastings, a nurse at St. Thomas's Hospital, left £3,176.

She gave her jewellery and personal effects to her friends Florence Coles Pridham, Gladys Verena Louise Hillyers, Daisy Caroline Bridges and Ellen Elizabeth Mary Hutton, all Sisters at St. Thomas's Hospital.

She also gave her piano to the Nurses' Musical Society, St. Thomas's Hospital, and the residue of the property to St. Thomas's Hospital for the Nightingale Fellowship Benevolent Fund.

Miss Phyllis Gertrude Crossley, a Sister at University College Hospital, who died there in February, left £6,386. She gave £100 a year and her household and personal effects to her friend Nancy Maud Hodgson, also of University College Nurses' Home.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)