

ments. It was therefore issuing an invitation to its Constituent Associations to raise a Congress Fund, as it was estimated that £1,000 would be required to meet expenses during its preparation. She felt sure that the Matrons' Council would take a live and sympathetic interest in this appeal.

A lively discussion ensued on a variety of subjects brought before the Council, and on the termination of the meeting, tea was served, and many old and new friends continued to discuss subjects of professional interest with their genial President and with one another.

#### THE STATE REGISTER OF NURSES.

The State Register of Nurses for 1936 is now ready, published in two volumes. One containing the names of nurses who have received general training, and the other the names of those trained in specialties. The actual number of names appearing in the Register is as follows:

GENERAL PART ... ..	64,562
SUPPLEMENTARY PART FOR—	
Male Nurses ... ..	268
Mental Nurses ... ..	4,911
Mental Defectives Nurses ... ..	237
Sick Children's Nurses ... ..	2,250
Fever Nurses ... ..	5,496
	13,162
TOTAL	77,724

#### GLASGOW SCHOOL OF SOCIAL STUDY AND TRAINING.

A full time Course for nurses wishing to train for the Health Visitor's Certificate begins in October, covering six months. It prepares students for the Examination of the Royal Sanitary Association, and is recognised by the Department of Health for Scotland and the Ministry of Health in England.

For further information apply to Miss Helen Story, Hon. Secretary, 21, Ashton Road, Glasgow, W.2.

#### DR. ANNA HAMILTON, CHEVALIER OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR.

We have received with much pleasure the March issue of *Bagatelle* the Quarterly Bulletin of the Florence Nightingale School at Talence, Bordeaux, and of its former pupils. This issue (No. 9), marks the resumption of publication of the Bulletin, and is entirely and appropriately devoted to a biographical notice and other articles concerning Dr. Anna Hamilton, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, through whose unceasing efforts for the School "the miracle of Bagatelle" arose. First by the bequest of Mlle. Elizabeth Bosc of her Domain of Bagatelle outside Bordeaux, to the Maison de Sante Protestante in the Rue Cassagnol, in that city; by the sympathetic help which Dr. Hamilton received in the United States of America, where she visited various cities, making a personal appeal for the hospital, and then by the decision of the American Nurses, to build the Florence Nightingale School and Nurses' Home at Bagatelle, as a Memorial to their colleagues who succumbed during the Great War. As our readers know, the last months of Dr. Hamilton's life were passed at Bagatelle and there she died on the 19th of October, 1935 "having accomplished, thanks to perseverance, and her uncommon tenacity, the work to which she had devoted herself."

#### AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS. Medical Service Scheme.

Major H. S. Blackmore, formerly medical officer in charge of air raid precautions for the St. John Ambulance Brigade, has been appointed medical officer to the Air Raid Precautions Department of the Home Office.

### SCOTTISH DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON TRAINING OF NURSES.

On June 25th, 1934, the Right Hon. Sir Godfrey Collins, K.B.E., C.M.G., M.P., Secretary of State for Scotland, appointed the following persons as a Departmental Committee on Training of Nurses: Sheriff A. C. Black, O.B.E., K.C. (Chairman), W. L. Burgess, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., The Lady Susan Gilmour, Miss Mary R. Knight, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., T. B. M. Lamb, Esq., M.A., O.B.E., Sir Henry Mehan, D.L., LL.D., John Reid, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., F.R.F.P.S., Miss E. D. Smail, A.R.R.C., Miss Christina Whyte, John Young, Esq., M.B., C.M., with Mr. W. T. Mercer as Secretary.

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE.

The terms of reference were:

"To enquire into the training and system of registration of nurses in Scotland and to recommend what amendments, if any, should be made in the Nurses' Registration (Scotland) Act, 1919, or the rules made thereunder, and what other steps, if any, should be taken to improve the existing system of training and registration."

The Committee have now made their Report, which has been presented by the Secretary of State for Scotland to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.\*

#### Scope of Remit.

The Committee state: "In our enquiry we have proceeded upon the view that the terms of reference confine us in the main to a review of the machinery for the training and registration of nurses set up under the provisions of the Nurses' Registration (Scotland) Act, 1919. Registration, which was granted to nurses by the above Act, is a relatively self-contained subject, but the question of training opens up a much wider field of investigation. We have taken our enquiry as applying to the curriculum of nurses from the time they enter on training to the time when they have acquired sufficient knowledge and skill to deal competently with the patients placed under their care. Beyond this range of training there are available for nurses courses of post-graduate instruction, leading to higher specialised posts (e.g., sister tutors, superintendents, health visitors). The additional training for these posts seems to us to be out with the scope of our remit, and, as the following pages will show, our concern has been with the fundamental training of the nurse or what might be called her period of apprenticeship to fit her to take her place as a qualified member of the profession."

#### Introductory.

In their introduction to the Report the Committee state:

"We think it is true to say that the training of nurses arose out of the needs of hospitals to have at their disposal a body of efficient attendants for the sick. Each hospital naturally directed this training towards its own purposes. While there was at first little in the way of uniformity, in course of time a certain degree of uniformity in the fundamental principles of a nurse's training was achieved, modified as was natural by the varying needs and purposes of individual institutions.

"The position has, however, been complicated by the developments which have taken place in the hospital provision of the country. In the third quarter of last century there were relatively few hospitals, and these hospitals dealing, as they performed had to, with disease of all kinds,

\* To be purchased from H.M. Stationery Office at 120, George Street, Edinburgh; Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; or through any bookseller. Price 1s. net. Cmd. No. 5093.

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