

help the patient to get up sputum. In old people a heart stimulant such as digitalis may be necessary.

In the convalescent stage a general tonic will be ordered, probably one that contains nux vomica.

The patient is kept in bed until the temperature has been normal for several days. Convalescence should be long, chill should be avoided, and no strenuous exercise undertaken for some time.

QUESTION FOR NEXT MONTH.

How may infectious diseases be communicated? What precautions are taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease?

CONGRESS ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE.

FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE.

A Meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee of the Congress Arrangements Committee was held on Thursday, September 23rd, 1937, at 4.30 p.m., at 39, Portland Place, W.1.

There were present: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in the Chair, Miss M. Breay, Miss M. A. Gullan, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, D.B.E., R.R.C., Miss I. Macdonald, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., and Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P.

The Minutes of the last Meeting held on June 21st were read, and were signed by the Chairman.

The Meeting was called for the purpose of considering the draft Report for Audit.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick read a Report to the Meeting to be presented in full to the Congress Arrangements Committee at its forthcoming meeting in which she announced that owing to the carefully organised expenditure, free office accommodation and service at 39, Portland Place, W.1, and voluntary service, there was an approximate excess of income over expenditure of £1,220 9s. 3d., a very satisfactory result to the Congress Appeal. The cost of the Congress as agreed in detail by the Committee had amounted to £1,751 1s. 3d.

CONGRESS ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE.

The Congress Arrangements Committee has been summoned to meet on Friday, October 15th, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, at 2.30 p.m., to receive:

1. A General Report by the Chairman.
2. To receive a Report from the Hon. Treasurer, and presentation of Audited Accounts.

It is hoped that members of the Committee will find it convenient to attend.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The half-yearly meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses will be held on Friday, October 29th, at 2.30 p.m., at 39, Portland Place, W.1, at which, with other business, a Report will be received of the business transacted at the meetings of the Board of Directors and Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses in July last.

NURSING ECHOES.

On page 2 of the front cover of this issue we publish full particulars concerning the forthcoming election of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales of 11 nurses registered on the general part of the State Register of Nurses, 1 Registered male nurse, 1 Registered mental nurse, being a man; 1 Registered mental nurse, being a woman; 1 Registered sick children's nurse, and 1 Registered fever nurse.

Every nomination paper must state the name, registered address and registered qualification or qualifications of the candidate nominated, it must be signed by not fewer than six persons having the requisite qualifications for nominating the candidate; and the address and registered qualification or qualifications of each one so signing must be appended to her signature.

The nomination paper must be accompanied by a declaration in writing acknowledging that she consents to be nominated, and must be delivered by post or otherwise, before the hour of noon on the 1st day of November, 1937, addressed to the Returning Officer, The General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1, from whom forms of nomination may be obtained.

With an electorate of 80,000 nurses a contested election is almost prohibitive, but it is a very unwholesome condition of affairs when all candidates are nominated by one organisation of nurses and elected by direction. Without free competition in selection lack of initiative sooner or later is sure to occur, and reforms always necessary from time to time are unobtainable. The Registered Nurses have provided themselves with a magnificent new mansion as headquarters in London. It should be possible to inaugurate a few reforms for the benefit of nursing education as a whole and also it is necessary by some publicity, to make the public and the Press realise that *a nursing profession exists*.

Representatives of the Press complain that as the work of the Council is conducted more and more *in camera*—it is almost a waste of time to attend Council meetings. Let us hope the newly elected Council will be less secretive, with the exception of the consideration of disciplinary cases, open discussion would be wholesome, especially concerning expenditure.

Quite frankly we have never had a more unpopular Council in office than that about to retire, especially in connection with the Government nominees. Let us hope the Government will realise, when selecting representatives, that we object to be governed by privileged people and the medical Press.

The late Richard F. Drury, of Ramsgate, who died on August 9th, left £500 to the Elderly Nurses' Fund, a very welcome gift. Devoted women who trained from 40 years ago, when remuneration was very insufficient, even for personal needs, are now passing out of active nursing ranks with only a pittance saved, if that, many with only the old age pension to look forward to.

Sir Abe Bailey has announced in the *Times* that

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