

the medical and nursing care of thousands of the people who dwell therein. Capital expenditure on general and special hospitals under the control of the L.C.C. is estimated at £100,000 for the year 1937-1938. The Hospitals and Medical Services Committee, presided over by a medical man, has again under the newly elected Council failed to appreciate the demand of registered nurses, that they should have the benefit of professional nursing opinion on the Committee which controls at least a body of 10,000 nurses. We do not find the name of one registered nurse on the published list of the Committee. This reactionary attitude towards the profession of nursing is the more extraordinary, as the medical profession is rightly given wide influence on its various committees.

Medicine is represented on the Hospitals and Medical Services Committee by Dr. C. W. Brooks, Dr. S. Monckton Copeman, Mr. Somerville Hastings (chairman), Dr. Jeger, Miss Rickards (vice), with Dr. H. Winch and Mr. R. H. P. Orde (co-opted). Surely some of these gentlemen realise the value of co-operation with the nursing profession in these days.

It was intimated at the annual meeting of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary that a new nurses' home was to be erected from funds given by the Lipton Trust, and that the building would take the form of a memorial to Sir Thomas Lipton. The cost will be more than £100,000. Recently it was intimated at the meeting of the Glasgow Western Infirmary that a new block was to be added to the hospital from a donation to be given by the Lipton Trustees, and that this also would be a Lipton memorial.

SEATS FOR THE CORONATION PROCESSION.

In response to the notice that 200 seats for Registered Nurses had been allocated by the Ministry of Health to view the Coronation Procession, upwards of 1,000 applications were received at the Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. The ballot took place on April 7th. Miss Musson presided, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Coode took part. It was announced just before the meeting that the Ministry had allocated 200 more seats—so that 400 were distributed.

To make the distribution as representative as possible, the profession had been divided into sections—hospitals and institutions—district and health nurses, private nurses, mental nurses, etc.—so that five different ballot boxes were used.

The fortunate ticket holders owe Miss Musson thanks for the methodical system of distribution, which occasioned much thought and clerical work.

FIRST-AID NURSING YEOMANRY CORPS.

The Princess Royal, accompanied by the Earl of Harewood and her two sons, Lord Lascelles and the Hon. Gerald Lascelles, attended a military service in York Minster on April 11th. Before the service she inspected a guard of honour of women of the First-Aid Nursing Yeomanry Corps and afterwards took the salute at a march past of about 2,000 serving and retired soldiers who attended the service.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

NATIONAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN.

The Minister of Health and the President of the Board of Education have invited the Central Council for Health Education, which includes members nominated by the Ministry of Health, the Board of Education, the British Medical Association and a number of important societies concerned with national health to co-operate with their Departments in a national campaign to increase the use of the health services provided by local authorities and voluntary organisations.

In a letter addressed to the Clerks of the Councils of Public Health Authorities, Mr. Paul Scott Rankine, B.A., Secretary of the Central Council, states: It is a belief of the Ministers and of this Council—and experience of the valuable educational work already undertaken by many local authorities confirms—that sound and sustained publicity, especially if reinforced by a strong personal interest among members of local authorities and other individuals of standing in each locality, will make a marked change in the present state of affairs. At present a bare 50 per cent. of expectant mothers take advantage of the facilities for ante-natal examination and a similar tale can be told of other services in greater or less degree. Accordingly, it is proposed to undertake a national campaign on a substantial scale in the autumn of the present year.

The principal cost of the campaign, viz., the central provision and distribution to local authorities of attractive posters, leaflets, etc., will be borne by His Majesty's Government, but it is hoped that the authorities will be prepared to play their part and will give to the campaign the full support upon which it will naturally depend for success.

The Central Council, who have themselves advocated a campaign of this nature, have been asked to advise the Ministry and the Board on the production, for the purposes of the campaign, of suitable literature and other material, which will be distributed on a generous scale and free of charge through the Central Council to local authorities. It is proposed that the campaign should extend over six months, beginning with a general introduction both centrally and locally and then dealing in succession with important subjects by groups, a period of a month to two months being devoted to each group.

In the communication sent out to the Clerks of all Local Authorities, the Secretary of the Central Council explains that the campaign will occupy the period from October next to March, 1938. It will deal successively with important subjects by groups and it has been planned in three main divisions—the first dealing with the mother and infant, the second with co-operation between the home and the school and the third with the needs of adolescents and adults.

Posters, leaflets and other publicity material designed to focus public attention on each phase of the campaign will be sent out in large quantities for local display and distribution.

This campaign will be the first of its kind ever undertaken in this country.

We suggest that the Ministry of Health would be well advised to secure the interest and co-operation of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, particularly of its affiliated Associations, the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and the Association of School Nurses, whose help would be most valuable.

The Central Council for Health Education is located at Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

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