

should keep in mind the urgent needs of these shrines of mercy. We note that in his will Colonel Sir William Fitzthomas Wyley of Coventry, left £7,200 to the Cathedral Church of St. Michael, Coventry, to endow a canonry, and £500 for the maintenance of the Crypt Chapel, and £2,800 to the Cathedral Council for general purposes; to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Citizens of Coventry, for a public park and public museum, his mansion house known as The Charterhouse, and certain lands, and also the option to purchase the remainder of the land and premises belonging to him there: £500 to Fords Hospital, Coventry; £1,000 to Rugby School; and £1,000 to King Henry VIII School, Coventry.

A fine example of how to rebuild our stricken cities by patriotic citizens.

A Call to U.S.A. to Decide Its Attitude.

When Miss Dorothy Thompson, the popular American journalist, was in England recently, we looked for straight advice to U.S.A. to come into the war and that immediately—but no. We were disappointed. Now we note with pleasure that Miss Thompson is back in U.S.A., that she is calling on her country to decide its attitude. She writes in the *Sunday Chronicle*:

"The United States should declare war. Now. It should declare it when the declaration will have huge political consequences."

And further:

"Or it should make up its mind to live in Hitler's world, on Hitler's terms, as the most despised of nations—a country that was only big, not great."

Millions of Americans are in sympathy with this opinion.

"Hospitals Under Fire."

If a reminder were needed of the part played by London voluntary hospitals last winter, Mr. George C. Curnock's book, "Hospitals Under Fire," would serve the purpose admirably.

The book records stories which have their setting in eight hospitals, dealing with "incidents" during the first few weeks of the autumn. The total of London's voluntary hospitals damaged by enemy raiders is now 73—43 seriously.

CIVIL DEFENCE AWARDS.

The King has given orders for the following appointment and awards for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

M.B.E.

Miss Ethel May Peacock, nurse, St. Olaves District Nursing Association, Bermondsey.

Nurse Peacock set out to attend to a maternity case during an air raid. Bombs fell near, and the block of flats in which she was working caught fire. Everyone had taken shelter elsewhere, and the nurse was left alone to cope with the case. Soon after the baby was born police came to clear the flats because of danger from an unexploded bomb. It was not possible to remove the mother and child to safety, so when the explosion occurred Nurse Peacock protected her patients from falling debris with her body. The nurse showed sustained courage throughout a night of intense danger.

INVESTITURE BY THE KING.

At recent Investitures the following Nurses attended to receive decorations, from the Grove Park Hospital, Miss Mary Fleming and Miss Aileen Turner, also Miss Elsie Stevens, Assistant Matron, and Miss Violet Frampton, Sister, at the Bristol Maternity Hospital, who each received the George Medal.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W., on September 26th. Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

Death of Miss Marion Scott Riddell.

The Chairman reported the death of Miss Marion Scott Riddell, the first Registrar to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, who from 1920—1934 served in that capacity, and proposed the following Resolution which was agreed, and the Council stood and paid silent tribute to her memory.

Dame Ellen Musson, Miss R. A. Cox-Davies, and some members of the staff were present at the funeral on September 25th.

Resolution.

"That this Council learn with deep regret of the death of Miss Marion Scott Riddell, first Registrar to the Council.

"They place on record their sincere appreciation of the ability and devotion with which she carried out her arduous and complicated duties during the whole of her term of office. They believe that the success which has attended her work will be a perpetual memorial to her.

"The members of Council desire to offer their heartfelt sympathy to her sister, and to the other members of her family."

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £600 for weekly salaries, £500 for postage, £50 for Insurance stamps, and £20 for petty cash were allowed.

The authorities of the Carnarvonshire and Anglesey Infirmary had asked to be allowed to return the cheque sent by the General Nursing Council for accommodation at the State Examination, as they were only too pleased to be of assistance to the Council in any way.

Registration.

Correspondence was considered with the Punjab Nurses' Registration Council on the subject of reciprocal registration of Nurses with the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, which was agreed upon certain conditions.

Applications for registration were: General Part of the Register, by Examination, 1; by Reciprocity, 12; Supplementary Part of the Register for Mental Nurses, by Reciprocity, 1; for Fever Nurses, by Examination, 31; by Reciprocity, 2. Total, 47.

On the recommendation of the Registration Committee, it was agreed that 210 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee, and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

It was reported that the Roll of Midwives for 1940 has been received from the Central Midwives' Board.

Education and Examination.

On the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee, it was agreed that:—

The scheme of affiliation between the Hastings Municipal Hospital and the Brighton Municipal Hospital be cancelled, but without prejudice to the position and rights of nurses already admitted thereto under the scheme, and that the name of the Hastings Municipal Hospital be removed from the list of approved training schools.

The schemes of affiliation between Beckenham Hospital in affiliation with Guy's Hospital, London; and between the New Sussex Hospital for Women and Children, Brighton, in affiliation with the Metropolitan Hospital,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)