

service 'down North.' The International Grenfell Association represents a constructive effort to help the people of these countries to better their conditions. Sir Wilfred died in 1940, but to the Grenfell Mission the challenge is clear. To carry forward as a living memorial the lifework of 'The Labrador Doctor.'

Let us help.

Everyone needs a Pocket Calendar. Miss Spalding, Grenfell Association, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, or the Hon. Mrs. Joseph Maclay, 21, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, C.2, will be only too happy to supply them. Card price, with envelope, 6d. Pocket Calendar 3d. each.

"VICTORY" OFFER TO EMPIRE BLIND.

Free Apparatus for Start in Life.

Any blind person in the British Empire about to start in life is offered, free of charge, any of the special apparatus needed by him or her for procuring a livelihood.

This "victory over blindness" offer, issued in London by the National Institute for the Blind, covers everything on the Institute's new list of special apparatus.

Among the appliances listed are tools for piano work, chair caning, shoe mending and carpentry; Braille shorthand and writing machines; and Braille tape measures, thermometers, graph boards and watches.

Archbishops and the Blind.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York have become vice-presidents of the National Institute for the Blind.

More Blind Children. Danger of Moral Laxity in War-Time.

Blindness among infants is on the increase, said Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., opening a new Sunshine Home for Blind Babies at Northampton.

Referring to the "serious increase in the prevalence of venereal diseases," Sir Beachcroft said that these diseases were among the causes of blindness, though not the main cause.

"It would be a terrible tragedy," he declared, "if a fresh crop of blindness resulted from moral laxity in war-time." The problem demanded the co-operation of every father and mother and of everyone concerned with public life and welfare.

CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

Whereas members of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade have hitherto been required to wear the Red Cross or St. John indoor uniform when on duty, both organisations have recently decided, and the Minister agrees, that any of their members who join the Civil Nursing Reserve as nursing auxiliaries and cannot themselves provide the indoor uniform of their own organisation may now wear the indoor uniform of the Civil Nursing Reserve when employed on Civil Nursing Reserve duties.

The aprons supplied to hospitals and first aid posts for nursing auxiliaries should be issued to Red Cross and St. John members who obtain the ordinary C.N.R. indoor uniform under these arrangements.

Red Cross or St. John members will be allowed to wear the badge of their own organisation on their apron or overall dress as directed by the Society or Brigade.

As regards the collection of clothing coupons Red Cross or St. John members who are supplied with C.N.R. indoor uniform will, like other members of the Reserve, surrender nine coupons annually for that uniform to their employing authority.

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 24th. Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from the Minister of Health, agreeing to an increase in the salaries of members of staff.

The Council approached the Minister of Health for sanction for an increase in the retention fee of State Registered Nurses from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per annum. The Minister has replied asking for a detailed statement giving full reasons for this request.

It was agreed that this should be done, also that the Minister be asked to amend the Rules to enable the fee of 2s. 6d. to be charged.

Correspondence.

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from the Minister of Labour and National Service in connection with the National Advisory Council for the Distribution of Nurses and Midwives, regretting that the General Nursing Council could not agree that Tuberculosis Nursing should be part of the Nurses' General Training.

Some suggestions were received from the National Advisory Council, and it was agreed that they should be referred to the Education and Examination Committee.

A reply was reported from the General Nursing Council for Scotland agreeing to the inclusion of male nurses in the General Register, and raising no objection to the abolition of the word "Supplementary" in connection with other parts of the Register.

No reply has yet been received from Northern Ireland.

A letter from the Minister of Health agreeing to the appointment of 1 Principal Clerk, 2 Shorthand Typists, 2 First-Division Clerks, 1 Second-Division Clerk, 1 Third-Division Clerk and 10 Temporary Clerks for the Assistant Nurses' Department. As these are less than was asked for, the Minister will review the matter at a later date.

The following resolution was read from the British College of Nurses, Ltd.

"That the Fellows and Members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., in General Meeting assembled, at 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, on Thursday, September 9th, 1943, express strong disapproval of raising the contributory fees of Registered Nurses; power having been taken in Rule 19 of the Nurses Act, 1943, to pool the contributions of Registered Nurses for the organisation, if necessary, of the Assistant Nurses Roll, and thus relieve them of the necessity of financing any deficit which may occur in its administration.

"Should the very limited subscription of £1 1s. 0d., for which Assistant Nurses are responsible, be insufficient, in the opinion of this Meeting the Treasury should be made responsible for the deficit, and not the Registered Nurses, whose economic status is seriously menaced in the Nurses Act, 1943, by competition with semi-trained nurses."

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £1,000 for Weekly Salaries, £600 for Postage, £60 for Insurance Stamps, and £20 for Petty Cash were agreed.

The Revenue Accounts and Balance Sheets for the years 1942 and 1943, as submitted, were adopted.

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