

7. That the entering of male and female nurses upon one Register already exists in respect of the mental nurse, so that the entering of Registered Male Nurses upon the General Part of the Register would not be creating a precedent.

"One argument only was put forward by the Committee of the G.N.C. which interviewed Mr. Glavin and myself—*i.e.*, 'that the Male Nurse does not nurse female patients and is therefore a specialist group of nurses comparable with the Sick Children's Nurse and Fever Nurse, etc.'

"This analogy does not hold, for nurses on the other Supplementary Registers *are* entered as specialist nurses and are concerned only with a special type of nursing or age group.

"The Registered Male Nurse is not a specialist in any one type of nursing. *He has been trained to nurse general illnesses.*

"This same argument, 'that he does not nurse women,' applies equally to the Male Mental Nurse, for he also does not nurse women, and therefore is not brought into contact with certain types of mental diseases peculiar to women; yet, in the case of the mental nurse, the Register is a common one."

The letter is signed by Mr. Frederick A. Mace, S.R.N., R.M.N., Nurse Tutor Certificat , Chairman of the Society of Registered Male Nurses.

THE ASSISTANT NURSES' COMMITTEE.

Finance.

The most important matter in connection with the organisation of the work of the Assistant Nurses' Committee by the G.N.C. is finance. Already the Council has agreed to the expenditure of £404 15s. 10d. for office furniture for this new department, presumably contributed by Registered Nurses. A very strict account of the financing of this new Act of semi-trained nurses should be at the disposal of the Auditors. It will, of course, run into thousands of pounds.

THE REGISTER OF NURSES MAINTAINED BY THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

We are indebted to the General Nursing Council for Scotland, for a copy of the Register of Nurses, 1943, maintained by it, and congratulations are due to all who help to compile this valuable Register. The war appears to have had no injurious effect on its compilation. Paper and printing are up to a high standard of excellence, and the binding of the Register in Royal blue very effective. The large majority of entries are trained at the leading nurse-training schools in Scotland, and constitute a most valuable body of professional workers, the standard of whose service to the country cannot be over-estimated. In handling the Register of Scottish Nurses for 1943, we wonder if it will be the last to maintain the standard of which they are so justly proud. We await the dilution by semi-trained women in rolls and lists with the utmost distrust.

Amongst those prepared to administer and organise the Roll of semi-trained Assistant Nurses are: Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., Chairman G.N.C., Miss D. M. Smith, Matron, Middlesex Hospital, Vice-Chairman G.N.C., Miss F. M. Campbell, a Principal Matron, L.C.C., and Miss R. Dreyer, Acting Matron-in-Chief, L.C.C., a lady of German-Swiss birth naturalised in Great Britain.

Dr. H. M. C. Macaulay, Middlesex County Council, a nominee of the Minister of Health, is Chairman of the Committee, and we wish him to realise how indignant many Registered Nurses are at the unjustifiable method by which their finances can be utilised to undermine their economic security.

A LOSS TO "THE LONDON."

The death of the Hon. Sir William Goschen, Chairman of the London Hospital, will be a very serious loss to it, as he was not only an invaluable business head, but was deeply interested in the welfare of the patients, to whom he was personally known as a very sympathetic visitor and an example to all those attending upon them. "The London" has its own very special atmosphere, and in the past 64 years since first we were privileged to work in its wards our affection for it has never faded.

That both Lord Knutsford and Sir William Goschen elected, when seriously ill, to be treated in its wards is proof of the high standard of the medical and nursing skill available for those admitted as patients.

THE PASSING BELL.

It is with deep regret that we report the deaths of the following Sisters while serving their country on active service:—

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

Miss Margaret Linda Hunt, S.R.N., died in West Africa after a short illness, on April 27th, 1943. She was trained at the City Hospital, Nottingham, and had held appointments at West Lane Fever Hospital, Middlesbrough, at Ward Hospital, and at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham.

Miss Margaret Florence, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., died in the Middle East, following an illness, on April 12th, 1943. She was trained at St. John's Hospital, Lewisham, and at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow. For some years she was engaged in private nursing in London.

Miss Geraldine Gilda Boehmer, S.R.N., died in North Africa on February 15th, 1943, following a motoring accident. She was trained at the North Middlesex County Hospital, and was appointed to the staff of the Southampton Borough Hospital.

Miss Francis Alexander Millar, S.R.N., S.C.M., died on active service in the Middle East. She received her nursing and midwifery training at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, where she served on the private staff. She was also on the staff of St. Nicholas' Hospital, Pyrford.

Miss Brenda Irene Wells, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., is now presumed to have been killed in action at sea on February 14th, 1942, following the evacuation of Singapore. She was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, the Maternity Hospital, Birmingham, and the London Fever Hospital, Liverpool Road, London.

TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

Miss Edith Mary Wilson, S.R.N., S.C.M., is now presumed to have been killed in action at sea on February 14th, 1942. She was trained at the Royal Victoria Infirmary and at the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne. She was engaged in health visiting in Sunderland for 10 years before being called up for military service.

"COMMON WEALTH."

In reply to enquiries, we have obtained literature concerning a new Party termed "Common Wealth." It is a new political movement brought into being in 1942 by the desires and actions of thousands of ordinary men and women, and it aims at a new civilisation and a new age.

After their treatment by the Ministers of Health and Labour, Registered Nurses will do well to enquire into the principles of any political movement which aims at honourable dealing and liberty of individual action.

Address for literature: "Common Wealth," 4, Gower Street, London, W.C.1.

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