

"Much had been said of the Civil Defence Services. The ambulance service carried 27,000 casualties, and first-aid posts with their mobile units attended to 40,000 minor cases.

"The special ambulance service for transferring patients from damaged hospitals to others and for the reception of oversea casualties, carried 52,000 in the 10 weeks from June 15th to August 31st.

"There were flying bombs that destroyed or damaged as many as 1,500 houses, others 1,000, an average of over 400 houses destroyed or damaged for each bomb, or, as Lord Halifax had put it in a broadcast to the United States, every hour during those 10 weeks 700 houses were destroyed or damaged in London or Greater London.

"In 10 months of the 1940-41 air attacks about 200,000 people passed through the rest centres, but in the 10 weeks of the second battle of London there were 98,000. Some 51,000 people were rehoused in requisitioned property and 57,000 were billeted.

"They started with a labour force of 21,000 in June for repairs; this total had been increased to 75,000, of whom 60,000 were engaged on repairs to houses and 15,000 on other buildings. This total was being increased to deal with the emergency, and everything possible would be done to see that as many tolerable homes as possible were created for the people of London in the coming months. This would call for the finest organisation and unselfishness."

Those of us who have not missed one day off duty throughout the Battles of London demand that the magnificent courage of the people be treated with honourable recognition.

A Wise Policy.

It is well to know that arrangements have already been made by the Ministry of Health to transfer upwards of 10,000 patients from London hospitals to safer areas. These patients have been transferred in special ambulance trains, some to Scotland and Wales, and others to the Northern and Western parts of England.

To facilitate such movements and to enable battle casualties and flying bomb casualties to be properly treated, hospitals all over the country have been asked to restrict admissions of civilian patients to those in need of immediate treatment.

The terrible tragedies which have been caused in hospitals by flying bombs have not been stressed in Press reports.

Red Cross and St. John. 3,500,000 Parcels in Six Months.

In the six months ended June 30th the Red Cross and St. John packed and dispatched nearly three and a half million parcels of food and comforts to British prisoners in Europe. The contents of the parcels weighed over 16,000 tons and took approximately 280,000 man-hours to pack by voluntary labour. Exclusive of packing and transport, the cost of the parcels was about £2,000,000.

To care for and comfort our prisoners of war should be the bounden duty of every woman living in safety, comfort, and plenty in Great Britain. Let each one question her conscience in this matter.

Britain to Equip another Soviet Hospital.

Mrs. Churchill, in a broadcast recently on the work of her "Aid to Russia" Fund, said that after the successful appeal for the Stalingrad Hospital they had been asked to equip a hospital for the city of Rostov. The request has been welcomed, and the Red Cross Aid to Russia committee and the Ministry of Supply are exploring the details.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on September 29th at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1. Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., R.R.C., presided.

It was agreed that a letter received from the Minister of Health be considered *in camera*.

A letter was reported from the Royal College of Nursing, requesting an opportunity for representatives to meet members of the General Nursing Council in regard to the draft Syllabus of Subjects of Examination for Assistant Nurses.

It was agreed to refer this request to the Assistant Nurses' Committee.

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, £250 for Postage, £60 for Insurance Stamps, and £25 for Petty Cash were allowed.

Estimates to the value of £382 9s. 11d. for Stationery were accepted.

Registration.

It was reported that the first volume of the Register of Nurses for 1944 has been received from the printers. It contains the names of 96,228 Nurses on the General Part of the Register, 460 Male Nurses, 4,572 Nurses for Mental Diseases, 266 Nurses for Mental Defectives, 3,855 Sick Children's Nurses, and 9,709 Fever Nurses. Total 115,090.

The receipt of a letter, dated August 1st, 1944, was reported from the Under-Secretary of State for the Dominions, enclosing a copy of the Nursing Act for South Africa, dated June 20th, 1944, providing for the training and repatriation of Nurses under a South African Nursing Council instead of under the South African Medical Council.

It was proposed by Dame Ellen Musson, and agreed, that the Council send congratulations to the nurses of South Africa.

Applications for Approval for Registration were:—Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; Fever Nurses, 10. Total 11.

It was agreed that the names of 12 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee and now wished their names re-included in the Register should be re-included.

List of Nurses.

Applications for admission to the List of Nurses were:—General Nurses, 62; Male Nurses, 3; Nurses for Mental Diseases, 8; Sick Children's Nurses, 3; Fever Nurses, 13. Total 89.

Education and Examination.

It was agreed that a Conference with representatives of Universities interested in the establishment of Courses for Sister-Tutors be held at the offices of the Council on October 20th, at 2 p.m.

It was agreed that it be a requirement that in Hospitals, or groups of Hospitals, approved as Training Schools, Preliminary Schools be established as soon as possible, and in any case not later than within two years of the termination of the war with Germany.

Applications were agreed of schemes of affiliation, and continual of approval of Hospitals as Training Schools for Nurses. Pre-Nursing Courses were approved.

Mental Nursing.

It was reported that members of the Boards of Examiners for the Final Examination for Nurses for Mental Diseases

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