

Probation of Offenders Act in her own recognisances of £5 for 12 months, and decided to postpone their judgment on the facts proved against Miss Norris for a period of 12 months.

#### Increase in Staff.

The Council then went *in camera* to recommend that an increase in staff throughout the offices be approved, and that the Minister of Health be asked to sanction this increase.

#### Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for June 22nd.

### THE SCHEME OF COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL TRAINING PUT FORWARD BY THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The scheme put forward by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, preparatory to State Registration, is meeting with considerable criticism. We have received from the Battersea Polytechnic Public Health Association comments from the General Meeting of May 5th, at which apparently useful criticism was advanced. As it is well to consider criticism from an intelligent source, we quote the opinion of the Association in full:—

#### BATTERSEA POLYTECHNIC PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

##### A—LECTURES.

(1) That 8 lectures in Gynaecology by a Gynaecologist would be adequate, instead of 16.

(2) That 8 lectures in Children's diseases would be adequate, instead of 12.

(3) That, as many subjects—namely Tuberculosis, Fevers, Skin diseases, Orthopaedics, diseases of the ear, nose, throat, which have previously been included in a course of General Medicine and Surgery are to be given as separate courses, 18 lectures each, in Medicine and Surgery will be sufficient, instead of 24.

(4) The 36b lectures in theory of Nursing for the Preliminary syllabus will be adequate only if Sections I and II of the proposed syllabus are not included.

(5) That lectures in Psychoses and Neuroses are valueless unless preceded by a course in General Psychology, and that these later should be given by an Educationist.

(6) That a proportion of lectures in anatomy, physiology and bacteriology should be in the form of demonstrations with practical work done by the student, and that teaching on these lines should be insisted upon by the General Nursing Council.

##### B—LECTURERS.

That a careful selection of Doctors for lecturing to Nurses is advisable, and that they should have at least three months' training in methods of teaching before being appointed Lecturers, such training to be taken at a University.

That Hospital Committees should be asked to appoint Doctors with a view to the training of Nurses as well as the cure of the sick, because the cure of the patient depends so much upon the training of the nurses.

##### C—AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE.

(1) That unless a Block System is brought into universal use, the Scheme is too comprehensive for a four-years' training.

(2) That the Council insist that there should be a certain amount of experience in the nursing of the chronic sick.

##### D—THE BLOCK SYSTEM.

(1) That a *satisfactory* Block System is essential to cover the new scheme as well as to raise the present low standard of Nursing education. The present syllabus is taught

under conditions that are educationally unsound, and if this method is still employed to cover the proposed scheme, it will have disastrous results on standards of practical nursing.

(2) That legislation is desirable to make such a training universal throughout the country.

##### E—INSPECTION OF TRAINING FACILITIES.

(1) That a census of facilities should be taken at all Hospitals by a specialist body of the General Nursing Council, and that this body inspect training schools periodically.

(2) That this body should include qualified Sister Tutors who are representative of the smaller non-medical training schools as well as the Medical Schools.

(3) That this body approve the link-up of specialist and parent hospitals.

The Association also put forward a strong recommendation that any scheme of training which will be put into practice in the future should come up for review at the end of eight years from the date on which it comes into force.

*Footnote.*—A Block System is not satisfactory if at any time during the course of her training a Student Nurse is required to attend Lectures on days when she is nursing in the wards and departments, though on such days discussion classes occasionally are very desirable.

The minimum period of training in a Block should be four consecutive weeks.

### PRINCESS TSAHAI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FUND.

We are glad to give further publicity to the appeal which is being issued by the Committee of the Princess Tshahi Memorial Fund and to learn of its financial success.

As we know, it was the generous ambition of the Princess Tshahi of Ethiopia to build a hospital in the capital city of her country, which would include provision for sick children not hitherto available in any Ethiopian hospital, and would be a teaching institution where her young compatriots with a vocation for hospital service could obtain the necessary training.

Her father, His Imperial Majesty the Emperor Haile Selassie, had created a Trust for her, represented by a holding of £13,704 in British War Loan. In the summer of 1942, returning on what was then a perilous journey to her country, the Princess signified her desire that, in the event of her death, this Trust fund might be used towards founding a hospital in Addis Ababa.

The lamented death of the Princess occurring soon after her return to Ethiopia, the above Trust reverted to the Emperor. His Imperial Majesty, in accordance with the Princess's known desire, has most generously placed the whole amount at the disposal of the National Provincial Bank, Ltd., Overseas Branch, 1, Princes Street, London, E.C.2., for the use of the Princess Tshahi Memorial Council, as and when it can be suitably employed in the hospital project.

The Council most gratefully acknowledges, with warm thanks to the Emperor, this generous gift. £3,000 of the benefaction has already been remitted to Addis Ababa to roof the hospital building, and work is proceeding.

A further considerable sum is required to equip and endow the hospital, which commemorates the initiative of the young Princess, whose devoted service in British hospitals is gratefully remembered, and which will be a helpful tribute to friendship from this country to a loyal and sorely tried Ally.

Communications may be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, E. Sylvia Pankhurst, 3, Charteris Road, Woodford, Essex.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)