

THE SOCIETY OF MENTAL NURSES.

A new Society of Mental Nurses has been organised: the Society of Mental Nurses.

Miss O. F. Griffith, S.R.N., R.M.N., D.N., S.C.M., Assistant Matron, Mill Hill Hospital, N.W.7, is the Hon. Secretary of the organisation, and writes calling our attention to the aims of the new society, which has now prepared and passed its regulations.

"The Society," she states, "was formed only after much preliminary inquiry to see if any existing body could supply the great need for educational and professional work among trained and student mental nurses. The Mental Hospital Nurses' League formed for the same purpose had become inactive and found it impossible to revive. A meeting was then held to see whether support would be forthcoming and those present decided to form a society. We look forward to close co-operation with all other organisations which have the good of nurses at heart."

Membership.

All nurses who hold the Final Certificate of either the General Nursing Council or the Royal Medico-Psychological Association in Mental Nursing or Mental Deficiency Nursing are eligible for membership. The Central Executive Committee may admit to membership persons with exceptional qualifications or experience if they think fit. The fee for membership is £1 ls. per annum.

Objects.

The objects of the Society are admirable and aim at promoting the well-being of Mental Nurses in every particular. An excellently constructed Circular of Rules, Regulations, etc., has been compiled.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

List of Members.

- Mr. V. J. BRIAR, R.M.N., R.M.P.A., mental nursing certificate, Staff Nurse, St. James's Hospital, Portsmouth.
- Miss P. C. CHALLANS, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., mental deficiency certificate. Matron, Cell Barnes Colony, St. Albans, Herts.
- Miss O. F. GRIFFITH, S.R.N., R.M.N., D.N., S.C.M. Assistant Matron, Mill Hill Hospital, N.W.7. (*Hon. Secretary of the Society.*)
- Miss S. D. GUNN, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., mental nursing certificate, S.C.M. Matron, St. Bernard's Hospital, Southall, Middlesex. (*Chairman.*)
- Miss B. HIGGINS, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., mental deficiency certificate, Ward Sister, Mill Hill Hospital, N.W.7.
- Miss M. J. IRVINE, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., mental nursing certificate. Superintendent, London Scottish Nurses' Association. (*Hon. Treasurer of the Society.*)
- Mr. F. JOHNSON, R.M.P.A., mental nursing certificate. Head Male Nurse, Tranmere Institution, Birkenhead.
- Miss L. L. PAYNE, S.R.N., R.M.P.A., mental nursing certificate, S.C.M. Sister Tutor, First Class certificate, Battersea Polytechnic. Matron, Claybury Hospital, Woodford Bridge, E.18. (*Vice-Chairman.*)
- Miss N. REED, M.S.C., S.R.N., R.M.N. Student, Sister Tutor Course, Battersea Polytechnic. Administrative Sister, Kent County Mental Hospital, Barming Heath, near Maidstone, Kent.
- Miss M. SCOTT, S.R.N., R.M.N., Sister Tutor's certificate, Royal College of Nursing. Sister, Guy's Hospital, S.E.1.
- Miss K. SIMMONS, R.M.N., Assistant Organising Secretary and Social Worker, Central Lancashire Association for Mental Welfare.
- Miss K. S. TISSIMAN, S.R.N., R.M.N.A., School Nurse, City of Stoke-on-Trent.

We wish the New Organisation every success.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

- "The Life and Times of Princess Beatrice." M. C. Sara.
- "My Visit to Russia." Clementine Churchill.

FICTION.

- "Folly Bridge." D. L. Murray.
- "In This Thy Day." Michael McLaverty.
- "Prelude to David." Elizabeth Margetson.
- "Through the Storm." Philip Gibbs.
- "A Time to Hate." Stanley F. Donath.
- "The Clear Heart." Barbara Bingley.
- "Separation." Sonia Deane.
- "The Case of the Corporal's Leave." Christopher Bush.
- "Watering Place." Robert Liddell.
- "Listen, Beloved." Stella Morton.
- "The Dream Wakes." Ruby M. Ayres.
- "For Ever Amber." Kathleen Winsor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- "World Black Out" and "The Reeling Earth." Sarah Gertrude Millin.
- "Democratic Realism." A. C. Hill.
- "Sing High, Sing Low." Sir Osbert Sitwell.
- "The Guilds of the City of London." Sir Ernest Pooley.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN REASSEMBLES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read with great interest your report of the reassembling of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain. This organisation has a very serious duty in front of it, and as one long associated with the Council, having participated in the majority of the most valuable Conferences of the I.C.N., I hope Great Britain will stand firmly for control by the rank and file and encourage direct and personal participation by them.

We owe the inception of the Council to the great Matrons of the past, and their liberal attitude towards juniors created a strong sense of professional responsibility in all classes composing the Nursing Profession. Once again, let that spirit inspire. We shall thus soon regain the valiant spirit of the past and the profession of nursing will arise from its apparent apathy. We need personal responsibility for every Registered Nurse if we are to secure justice in the future.

ONE OF THE PIONEERS.

HIGH TIME THE CIVIL NURSING RESERVE CLOSED DOWN.

To the Editor, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I would be most grateful to you, if you would kindly publish this letter, so that Matrons of Hospitals and Sanatoria might be tempted to give their views on whether or not they think that it is now high time for the *Civil Nursing Reserve* to close down.

As you are aware, the Reserve was quite definitely a war time appendage of the Nursing Profession. It came into being so that married nurses—who had already left the profession—might return in emergency and help out in the hospitals. Also, it enabled office girls to help out in institutions after office hours, especially after big air raids. Civil Nursing Reserve members manned First Aid Posts (now no longer necessary); and it ought not to be forgotten

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