

Medico-Psychological Association regarding the suggestion of the establishment of Short Intensive Courses for Nursing Orderlies.

The revision of the scale of salaries payable to the staff, and payment during sick leave to members of the staff of the Council was considered *in camera*.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for May 24th.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland was held on Friday, April 26th, 1946, when Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the chair.

Education, Examination and Registration.

Approval was given to various alterations in connection with Examination arrangements.

The Bangour Mental Hospital, Broxburn, West Lothian, was re-approved as a Training School for the Mental part of the Register.

The names of 12 nurses who had passed the Council's Examinations and had now attained the age of 21 were submitted and their registrations approved.

Reported 21 applications for re-inclusion in the Register after failure to pay the Retention Fee. These applications were accepted.

Reported two applications for Reciprocity. These two applications for Registration by Reciprocity were granted.

Council.

In terms of Section 16 (1) of the Nurses (Scotland) Act, 1943, it was agreed to advertise:—

(1) Amendments to Rule 22(C) of the Rules under the Nurses Registration (Scotland) Act, 1919.

(2) Rules for Training and Examination of Assistant Nurses under the Nurses (Scotland) Act, 1943, and amendment to the Rules referring to Assistant Nurses with Intermediate Qualifications.

It was also agreed to advertise that the Roll of Assistant Nurses will be closed for Existing Assistant Nurses on June 5th, 1946.

An addition to the Rules for Examination of Nurses for registration permitting a remission of six months' training for persons with war-time nursing experience was passed by the Council and forwarded to the Secretary of State for Scotland for approval in terms of Section 16(2) (3) of the Nurses (Scotland) Act, 1943.

Finance.

The proceedings of the Finance Committee were approved and the accounts were passed for payment.

Date of Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of Council be held on Friday, May 24th, 1946.

NO EVASION OF AGREEMENT PERMISSIBLE

In two years' time, the promised term of five years registration of Assistant Nurses in Scotland will terminate, and it is to be hoped there will be no attempt upon the part of the General Nursing Council for Scotland to evade the agreement.

Registered Nurses must demand the fulfilment of the promise.

In two years' time, if Assistant Nurses are employed by thousands in England, the Scottish Nurses have a very difficult task ahead. This Journal is at their disposal to support them by every means in its power.

THE QUEEN AND HOSPITAL DAY.

It is good news that Her Majesty the Queen is continuing her interest in Hospital Day, as for the next two years our historic General Hospitals will still need financial support—even if then their property and incomes are taken compulsorily by the Government through the National Health Bill.

At a recent meeting, held at St. James's Palace, the following message was received from the Queen:—

"It is possible that the year ahead may be one of change for the voluntary hospitals in this country, but whilst the question of State aid for them is under consideration, it is certain that in the meanwhile they will be as dependent as ever on the goodwill of the public.

"I know that this will be remembered by very many warm-hearted friends, and that they will not be left without financial support when they most need it."

The Lord Mayor, who was present, said they met on the eve of a great reform, for better or for worse, in the management of the hospitals. He felt that the occasion must be made both a tribute and a memorial to the great spirit of service displayed each year on behalf of the hospitals of London by so many thousands of willing helpers.

AFRICAN WOMEN ENTERING THE NURSING PROFESSION.

British Nurses will read the following information with interest.

There are more applications from non-European girls to enter nursing colleges than there are facilities to train them according to reports from South Africa.

Overcrowded hospitals and shortage of trained staff are the main difficulties in providing adequate medical care for Africans.

The Nursing Council has ruled that non-European probationers must have passed Standards VII. Most of them, however, reach Standard IX before starting their nursing careers.

Their syllabus is the same as that for European nurses and covers three and a half years. Nurses are paid £20 during the first year, £28 in the second, £36 in the third and £48 in the last year, and are eligible for benefits such as holiday pay and maintenance.

Miss J. McLarty, Matron of the Johannesburg non-European Hospital, gives good reports of student nurses under her care. They are interested, hard workers and particularly in the practical side of the training. They find the theory difficult because examinations have to be written in English, which is to many a foreign language.

Eleven candidates at this hospital wrote their final examinations at the end of 1945. Three failed the oral and theoretical examinations. There have never been any failures in the practical tests. Of the 25 probationers who took the preliminary examination last November, only one failed.

Probationers come to the Johannesburg Hospital to train not only from the Transvaal, but from the Cape Province, Basutoland, Swaziland and the Transkei. Natal has a large training centre in the King Edward VIII non-European Hospital.

Posts in rural districts, where nurses are so urgently needed, are not popular. Girls prefer the amenities of the towns.

It will be interesting to note the personal interest the Queen will take in nursing conditions in South Africa during the Royal visit next year.

Miss B. G. Alexander, O.B.E., who has done wonders for nursing in South Africa, will, no doubt, be able to give expert information to our Royal ladies who, we feel sure, will wish to avail themselves of her valuable experience.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)