

## NURSING ECHOES.

The uniform Committee of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, under the chairmanship of Miss Alexander, Matron of the London Hospital, has for some time past, been preparing new styles of uniform for State Registered Nurses.

These new styles are now ready for inspection, and Registered Nurses themselves are to have the opportunity of approving and criticising them, before the final choice is made.

Representatives from Associations of Nurses are to be invited to view the styles during the afternoon of October 24th, 1947.

We hope these Associations will send as their representatives, those Nurses with good taste in clothes, and who have a flair for good tailoring, combined with simplicity and smartness. Younger Nurses who will be wearing the uniform would obviously be the representatives to send, providing they were really "dress conscious."

"Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery."

We understand that the Royal College of Nursing are now to give their members the right to use the letters M.R.C.N. after their names, and that the Council reserve the right to elect particularly distinguished *persons* to be Fellows of the Royal College of Nursing.

The italics are ours. Does *persons* mean particularly distinguished *nurses* or does it mean that particularly distinguished *persons* outside the Nursing Profession may become Fellows, as they are already permitted to govern the College from the Council?

The members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., have always enjoyed the privilege of being either Fellows or Members and using the appropriate letters after their names.

Unlike the Royal College of Nursing, the British College of Nurses, Ltd., would never permit "particularly distinguished persons" to govern the College from the Council. The British College of Nurses, Ltd., is governed entirely by Registered Nurses.

At the Annual Meeting of the Association of Sick Children's Hospital Nurses, held at Birmingham, the following changes of Honorary Officers were announced:

Miss Coulton, Founder President, retired.

Miss D. A. Lane, Matron, The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, elected President.

Miss Rockingham, Hon. Treasurer, retired.

Miss M. Hall, Matron-in-Charge, Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, Banstead, Surrey, elected.

Miss I. G. Robertson, Hon. Secretary, retiring as from September.

Miss V. Chapman, Crescent Nursing Home, Windsor, elected.

Bramhope Manor, in Yorkshire, was the scene of the Nurses' Christian Movement Summer School, this year, and it proved an excellent centre for walks on the moors, boating on the River Wharfe, and more distant excursions to Ilkley, and up Wharfedale to Bolton Abbey and Grassington. Some 30 nurses were resident

the whole week, coming from places as far afield as Edinburgh, Manchester, Bristol, and Guildford. Most were still in training and represented 11 hospital branches of the Movement; others were district nurses. A number of nurses from hospitals in Leeds, Bradford and Harrogate joined the party from day to day as off-duty time permitted.

The mornings were occupied with "Study Groups" based on the Epistle to the Romans, and much helpful discussion always followed the introductory talks given by Miss Topping (General Secretary N.C.M.). The great foundation truths which fill the Epistle were closely studied, and the subject seemed to reach its climax in the inspiring talk given by Miss Dorothy Farrar, Ph.D., on St. Paul's words on prayer: "The Spirit helpeth our infirmities."

Other interesting meetings were those in which representatives told about the activities of the branch in their hospitals; and then Miss Ferguson told of conditions in Palestine and the work in the Hebron Mission Hospital of which she is Matron.

From the *Male Nurses' Journal*, for July, we quote the Editorial, and it seems that female nurses will now have to look to their laurels!

"To the Male Nurse there is no doubt that the most significant news this quarter is contained in the Rushcliffe Nurses' Salaries Committee Notes No. 15 (which may be obtained from His Majesty's Stationery Office, price 1s. 6d.).

"The Committee recommends 'that in the event of a Male Nurse being appointed to a position equivalent to Matron or Assistant Matron, he should receive the salary recommended for a female officer of that grade.'

"By his acceptance of this report, the Minister of Health has shown that there is now no reason why a suitably qualified man cannot be appointed to the highest post in Nursing.

"We recall that when the Rushcliffe Committee first dealt with Male Nursing positions, there were no men appointed as Tutors in General Hospitals, and it was thought by some that such a procedure would be contrary to the interests of the profession.

"But the Committee thought it necessary to make a salary scale for Male Tutors and following this official sanction, the Employing Authorities took the initiative and appointed men as Nurse Teachers.

"We have now reached the day when the demand has exceeded the supply.

"It is difficult to visualise what the outcome of this new recommendation will be, but there is no doubt that, when some Hospital Authority with a progressive policy creates a precedent, and the public become accustomed to a man in this position, other posts will follow.

"The question will again be raised: What will the 'Male Matron's' designation be?

"It has been suggested that such titles as 'Warden,' 'Supervisor of Nursing Training,' 'Director of Nursing Training' would be applicable.

J. S."

The Journal also states that there is a Male Queen's Nurse in Leicester, and that the Queen's Institute of District Nursing has started training men in district nursing, with opportunity of promotion in the service.

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