

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

The Annual Meeting of the Grand Council of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will be held on Thursday, November 25, 1948, at 2.30 p.m. at Guy's Hospital, London, S.E.1.

Programme for the Day.

11 a.m.—Lecture on the Surgical Treatment of Congenital Cyanotic Heart Disease (The Blue Baby Operation), by R. C. Brock, Esq., M.S., F.R.C.S., illustrated by Dr. Blaloch's film of the operation, accompanied by a talk on the "Investigations of the Congenital Heart," by Dr. Hills, radiologist of Guy's Hospital in the Physiological Theatre of the Medical School.

2.30 p.m.—Annual meeting of the Grand Council in the Nurses Home. This will be followed by tea at the kind invitation of Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., Matron—and the Board of Governors.

The Lecture will be open to all representatives and delegates of affiliated Societies of the National Council of Nurses.

THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE, PARIS.

By a Correspondent.

This month (November) is the diamond jubilee of the world-famous Pasteur Institute, Paris, which the writer had the privilege of inspecting in September, 1946.

During that lengthy period over 2,000 research workers, labouring weekly in the laboratories, have made some remarkable discoveries.

For example Roux and Calmette created the useful "B.C.G." with which infants are inoculated against phthisis; Marbin invented antidiphtheria serum; and Metchnikoff discovered phagocytosis. Fourneau mastered streptococcus, Weinberg conquered gangrene, and Lacasagne and Pieron contributed something towards the ultimate solution of the cause of cancer.

In the Annexe des Garches are produced the antitoxins which safeguard humanity against diphtheria, tetanus etc.

As of old, inoculation is provided against hydrophobia when necessary.

In 1923 Ramon discovered antidiphtheria antitoxin and 15 years later "polyvalent" antitoxins, which, of course, are a sure shield against several diseases simultaneously, including diphtheria, tetanus, typhoid, etc.

The room in which the great Pasteur himself inoculated hundreds against hydrophobia is still much the same as he left it and is a source of much interest.

It is worthy of note that Joseph Meister whom Pasteur inoculated against hydrophobia as long ago as July 1885, and who in fact was his first patient, was caretaker at the Institute for many years.

At the time he received that then unorthodox treatment he was a mere lad, covered with mad dog bites, who would certainly have contracted hydrophobia but for the timely inoculation.

The body of Pasteur lies beneath a handsome black marble tomb within a truly sumptuous Chapel of Repose.

The kitchen where the broths are prepared is interesting, as is the Animal House where the experimental guinea pigs and white mice are kept, the underground-railway station, not far away, is appropriately named PASTEUR.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W., on October 22nd. Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., Chairman, presided.

The Chairman reported that Miss I. W. Ptolmey, S.R.N., R.M.N., Matron of the Goodmayes Hospital, Essex, had been appointed by the Ministry of Health as an assessor to the Mental Nursing Committee in place of the late Miss Shepherd Payne.

The Chairman reported that it was agreed that pupils attending the Pre-Nursing Courses could sit for Part I of the Preliminary Examination at the age of 17 years instead of 17½ years as at present in force.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was agreed that bills and claims submitted for payment be allowed, and the sum of £2,300 be allowed for weekly salaries and inspectors' expenses.

Education and Examination.

Approval and provisional approval of hospitals as Training Schools was granted, and Pre-Nursing Courses, recommended by the Ministry of Education, were approved.

Uniform.

It was reported that the proposed State uniform for Registered Male Nurses has been considered.

Disciplinary Case.

It was agreed to postpone judgment for the period of one year in the case of Mrs. I. Allison, S.R.N. 41833.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for November 26th.

TEACH YOURSELF SERIES.*

ANATOMY.

A. D. Le Vay.

This is an excellent book and, for its size, gives a great deal of detailed instruction. The first chapter gives Definitions, Applications and History of Anatomy, followed by one on Positions, Terms and References, Nomenclature; The Body Systems, Symmetry and Segmentation before proceeding to the actual description of the body. These two chapters will be very helpful to those commencing to study anatomy. Still it is a great pity the Glossary, mentioned on Page 21, was omitted from the book. Well written, the subject matter is presented clearly, the illustrations are good and generally well placed.

On Page 88 read Fig. 115 for 114. Page 146 omits to give the shape of the angle formed by the lower ribs.

Two illustrations are numbered 95. The one referred to on Page 156 is on Page 155, not 159.

The illustration of the bony pelvis referred to on Page 179 has apparently been omitted, Fig. 107 mentioned being a duplicate of No. 157 referred to in the chapter on reproduction; though this illustration is also referred to on Page 182 as Fig. 106.

The Coloured Plates are very good, though it would be an advantage if they were numbered in accordance with the index.

Whilst any intelligent person could teach himself Anatomy by studying this book, it is well worth a place in all Preliminary Nurse Training Schools.

N.D., S.R.N., M.B.C.N.

*Hodder and Stoughton, Ltd., for English Universities Press, Ltd., Saint Paul's House, Warwick Square, London, E.C.4. Price 4s. 6d. net.

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