

Gifts.

Miss J. C. Cowie.—Copies of letters written by Florence Nightingale to the Founder of what is now The United Society for Christian Literature, Dr. John Murdock of Glasgow. They were found in Madras where his headquarters were. Also two books: "The Travelling Bookman," by John Murdock of Madras, and "Other Lands," containing references to Florence Nightingale.

The Council expressed profound thanks to Miss Cowie for these unique gifts, the nature of which is so interesting. Some detail of them will be published from time to time in these pages.

Bring and Buy Sale.

Many beautiful gifts have been arriving at this office for the Bring and Buy Sale, which, it has been unanimously agreed, will be held at 19, Queen's Gate, on Saturday, October 14th, to open at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head, and it is much hoped that Fellows and Members will bring their friends also to buy.

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 July 28th. Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., presided.

On opening the meeting, the Chairman reported the appointment of Miss J. M. Calder, member of Council, to be Chief Nursing Officer, London County Council. It was agreed that good wishes be sent her for her future work.

It was reported that the Minister of Health had notified the Council of his agreement to the List of Nurses being published without the addresses of the nurses.

In reply to a request that the subsistence allowances for the Education Officer and Inspectors be increased, the Minister of Health stated that he saw no reason to increase the rates, as those in operation are the highest allowed to civil servants.

The Minister of Health, in a letter to the Council, said that the General Nursing Council was on the threshold of changes, and he wished to convey to the present members great appreciation of the work done during their term of office.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved and the sums of £7,200 for cash account (weekly salaries and Inspectors' expenses) for nine weeks, £1,000 for Examiners' claims, and £1,500 for postage were allowed.

It was agreed that estimates of £787 15s. for Kardex cabinets and £51 12s. for stands for them be accepted; that £35 4s. be spent on steel filing drawers for Index of Pupil Assistant Nurses; and £39 17s. 4d. for material for inclusion in Supplement to Roll of Assistant Nurses.

Education and Examination.

It was reported that the Education and Examination Committee has given further consideration, together with the Association of Headmistresses to the exemption of Part I of the Council's Preliminary Examination of candidates holding the General Certificate of Education in Anatomy and Physiology and Hygiene, and it was agreed that the syllabus for the subjects of Anatomy and Physiology and Hygiene as approved by Council and by the Association of Headmistresses be submitted for approval to the eight Examining Bodies (Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations, Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, University of

Bristol, University of Durham, University of London, Northern Universities Joint Matriculation Board and Welsh Joint Education Committee), who will conduct the examinations for the General Certificate of Education, with a view to its being in turn submitted by such bodies to the Secondary School Examinations Council for approval.

Approval and provisional approval of hospitals was granted, and Pre-Nursing Courses were approved.

It was reported that the Written Examinations were held on June 6th for the Preliminary and June 7th for the Final; and the Practical Examinations on June 13th to 16th for the Preliminary and June 20th to 23rd for the Final.

The results were declared as follows:—

<i>Preliminary Examination.</i>				
Part I only	..	..	..	3,203
Part II only	..	..	..	1,844
Parts I and II together	..	..	..	3,202
<i>Final Examination.</i>				
General Nurses	..	..	..	2,690
Male Nurses	..	..	..	234
Mental Nurses	..	..	..	111
Nurses for Mental Defectives	..	..	..	21
Sick Children's Nurses	..	..	..	151
Fever Nurses	..	..	..	88
				3,295

Attention is drawn to the fact that since the coming into operation on March 24th, 1950, of the Nurses (Amendment) Rules, 1950, framed under the Nurses Act, 1949, successful candidates at the Council's Final Examinations are no longer forthwith admitted to the Register of Nurses, but are required to apply for such registration and to pay an initial registration fee of £3 3s. which entitles them to retention in the Register without limit of time.

Successful examination candidates are therefore reminded that they are not allowed to be graded by the hospital authorities as Registered Nurses until they produce evidence that they have forwarded their registration fees to the Council; the official receipts for these fees bear the date on which the fee is actually received in the office, and the nurse concerned is admitted to the Register as from that date.

In connection with discussions with the Minister of Health and members of the General Nursing Council on the minimum age of 18 years for entry of candidates for training, the following letter has been received by the Registrar from the Minister:—

July 7th, 1950.

MADAM,

I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to your letter of 16th May on the subject of the age of entry of student nurses into training and to the meeting with representatives of the Council on 29th June at which this matter was fully discussed.

In the light of that discussion I am to say that, while the Minister does not think that the time is yet ripe for prescribing a rigid minimum age of entry into training, he would be prepared to approve the making of a rule, to come into operation 12 months after it is made, prescribing the age of 18 as the minimum age of entry, subject to exceptions being made at the discretion of the Council in particular cases where the strict application of the minimum age would be likely to be prejudicial to the hospital service.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) C. MILNE.

Disciplinary Cases.

The Registrar was directed to remove the names of Joan Dickson (*nee* Griffiths), S.R.N. 101777, R.F.N. 12557, and

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