

The Birthday Honours.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING has conferred many Honours upon his subjects on the occasion of his Official Birthday, and we congratulate those members of the Nursing Profession who have been included in the list.

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

O.B.E.

Mrs. E. E. A. Bargman, Superintendent Health Visitor, Surrey County Council.

Miss F. N. Udell, Chairman, Foreign Office Nursing Department.

Miss L. M. Croft, Matron and Lady Superintendent, Public Hospital, Napier, New Zealand.

ROYAL RED CROSS.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS A.R.R.C.

Miss L. P. Dewey, Senior Nursing Sister.

Miss D. Haigh, Head V.A.D. Nursing Member.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

FIRST CLASS R.R.C.

Major Dorothy Q. Wakeham.

SECOND CLASS A.R.R.C.

Captain Margaret G. Davidson ; Captain Winifred M. Hall.

Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS A.R.R.C.

Flight Officer Marjorie M. McLaren ; Flight Officer Grace E. K. Walker.

New Zealand Army Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS A.R.R.C.

Charge Sister P. M. Aitcheson.

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 May 25th, 1951.

The Chairman, Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., presided ; and Miss Loveridge was welcomed as a new member of Council.

Two nominations were made for the vacancy of Vice-Chairman of the Council through the resignation of Miss C. H. Alexander—Miss Calder, and Miss M. J. Smyth. A ballot took place and with Miss Smyth obtaining 13 votes against 10 for Miss Calder, Miss M. J. Smyth became the new Vice-Chairman.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £4,700 for Cash Account and £500 for postage were allowed.

Education and Examination.

It was reported that Miss L. G. Duff Grant had been appointed Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee in the place of Miss C. H. Alexander who had resigned.

General Purposes.

It was agreed that £252 be spent on Gestetner rotary

duplicators ; and it was reported that Miss L. E. Fleming had been appointed Assistant Examinations Officer.

Disciplinary Cases.

The case of Philip David Stonehill, S.R.N., 175243, R.M.N., 10395, was considered, and judgment postponed for one year.

The case of Ellen Cooper, S.R.N., 73034, was considered, and her name removed from the Register of Nurses.

The Council then went *in camera* to discuss a letter dated April 23rd last from the Secretary, Ministry of Health, regarding the items of expenditure which the Minister proposes to direct should be defrayed by Area Nurse-Training Committees, together with a draft memorandum drawn up by the Ministry for circulation to Area Nurse-Training Committees.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for June 22nd, 1951.

News from South Africa.

A Mysterious Virus Disease.

A MYSTERIOUS VIRUS DISEASE has been attacking adults and children on the Rand. At various stages of its development it suggests malaria or typhoid but blood examination points to some other infection. Its onset is marked by extreme lassitude for several days, with loss of appetite and even nausea at the sight of food. Then follow aches in the back and limbs, and an undulant fever develops, in which temperatures may rise to 104 degrees. A cough and spells of shivering also are symptoms. A number of patients are now under observation at the Johannesburg Children's Hospital. Pathologists are baffled by the disease which appears not to be any well-known malady. Africa still produces diseases new to science, and from time to time, a carrier, human or otherwise, conveys one of them, perhaps from a great distance.

Engagement Ring as Tiniest Baby's Bracelet.

The tiniest baby ever born in Klerksdorp, S. Africa, weighed 2 lbs. 11 ozs. at birth, fitted neatly into a shoe-box and could wear as a bracelet her mother's diamond engagement ring.

For a few weeks, little Rosemary was wrapped in cotton-wool and electric fires warmed her nursery day and night. When her weight reached 4 lbs. she was put into baby clothes. On leaving the nursing home, in just under two months, she had outgrown her bangle and weighed 5 lbs. 2½ ozs. She was then fed by feeding bottle every three hours.

Disposal of Poison Receptacles.

Several deaths of small children from poison, which have been occurring in South Africa, might have been averted by prudent disposal of the substances they consumed. The danger of merely tossing into dustbin tins which have contained poison was demonstrated at Paarl, where five native youngsters licked the contents of one which had contained arsenic. Three died. The public have been urged to burn poison-containers and then bury what remains. In East London, a child was killed by swallowing an ant-poison preparation, and another by drinking an inflammable liquid.

Into the Ward Came an Elephant !

Patients roused with their shrieks and shouts the little hospital of Calvinia, in the Karroo region, at the Cape, one night when into their ward, waving its trunk menacingly, stumbled an elephant. It took some orange peel from a table at a bedside and then lumbered down the ward, smashing chairs in its way and knocking over glasses. A surgeon heard the commotion and coped with the emergency by picking up a couple of oranges and luring outside the invader with them.

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