

described, viz., general, private, and lying-in. Nurses are grouped as general, mental, and midwifery. The qualifications necessary for registration are described, and the fact that in hospitals subject to certain Hospitals Acts preference will be given to registered nurses in making appointments is noted.

From the short description given above it will be seen that many of the matters regarding which legislative provision is made are such as have been the subject of comment time after time both in this and other professional journals. The necessity of making venereal diseases notifiable and of requiring the registration of private hospitals, and for the protection of the public and more especially of the nurses, the registration of nurses has been repeatedly pointed out. Apparently not the slightest attention has been given to these matters by the Imperial Parliament. Queensland, more wide awake and go-ahead, has seen the wisdom of taking steps, and is now well in advance of the Motherland. It is to be hoped that we shall soon be on a level, if not ahead, of Queensland in this and other matters.

Notes of Empire and World Abroad.

For nearly fifty years Octavia Hill, who passed away last month in London, England, labored for the welfare of the poor of that city. A member of the Royal Commission on the Poor Laws, the ruling passion of her long and useful life was to provide decent and sanitary dwellings for the poor, without destruction of self-respect or thrifty initiative.

The text of the British Rural Cottages Bill recently issued, seeks to establish a department of the local government board to be called the Rural Housing Department, which shall consist of three commissioners, one of whom shall have the qualifications of a medical officer of health, another experienced in the erection of cottage dwellings in rural areas, and another possessed of a knowledge of agricultural conditions. The duties of the commissioners will be to ascertain the

extent to which there is accommodation for cottages in rural areas, or would be a demand if suitable land for the provision of cottage accommodation were available at reasonable terms; and they may cooperate with public bodies or may make inquiries and take such steps as they may think fit in this respect.

The Local Government Board, London, England, has issued a circular to the councils of boroughs and urban and rural districts relative to the notification of cerebrospinal fever and acute poliomyelitis, or inflammation of the grey matter of the spinal cord. It is pointed out that in response to the circular of December 12 last, relative to these diseases, many local authorities have taken steps to make these diseases notifiable, but this action has not been taken universally. The Board are advised that more general action is now desirable, and they have, therefore, decided to require general notification of these diseases by means of an order, under Section 130 of the Public Health Act, 1875, so that all cases may at once be brought to the notice of the public health authorities.

The Congress of the Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire adopted at the meeting this year the proposal of the Toronto Board of Trade in favor of preferential trade within the British Empire by 122 votes against 9. Fifty-eight Chambers abstained from voting. The next Congress is to be held at Toronto in 1915.

Advance Notices, Alphabetical.

Chambers of Commerce of the British Empire, Toronto, Ontario, in 1915.

The Royal Sanitary Institute, Henry Saxon Snell Prize.—This prize, consisting of 50 guineas and the silver medal of the Royal Sanitary Institute is offered, 1912, for an essay on "Suggestions for Improvements in the Ventilating, Lighting, Heating and Water Supply Appliances for an Operating Room and Its Accessory Rooms of 400 Beds" (No Students). For conditions of the competition applications should be made to the Secretary of the Secretary of the Royal Sanitary Institute, 90 Buckingham Road, London, S. W., England.