

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 Friday, 21st December, 1951.

It was reported that the Report of the Council to the Minister of Health under Section 22 of the Nurses Act, 1949, covering the period November 24th, 1949 to March 31st, 1951 was laid before Parliament on 6th December, 1951.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee bills and claims submitted for payment were approved and the sums of £5,200 for cash account, and £1,000 for Examination claims were allowed.

It was agreed that £247 10s. 2d. be spent on filing cabinets; £385 12s. 9d for 1,000 copies of List of Persons admitted to or removed from the Register of Nurses, May—August, 1951; £275 on Kardex cabinets; and £60 to Council's architect in connection with alterations to entrance of 17 Portland Place.

The Revenue Accounts and Balance Sheet to 31st March, 1951 were presented.

Education and Examination

It was reported that the Committee had considered the question of candidates who complete the written part of the final examination, but who are absent from the practical examination through circumstances beyond their control, and recommended that:—

- (i) Where such a candidate reaches "credit" standard in the Morning Paper or Papers (i.e., Papers other than the Nursing Paper), the marks shall be carried forward to the following Examination only;
- (ii) Where such a candidate fails the Morning Paper or Papers, or fails one of these two Papers and does not reach "credit" standard in the other he or she shall be informed of this and shall be required to re-enter for the whole Examination;
- (iii) Candidates who wish to be considered for this concession shall be required themselves to apply to the Council within one week from the date on which they were due to have taken the Practical Examination.

The Committee recommended that subject to the approval of the Minister of Health, provisional approval as an experimental scheme under Section 3(1) of the Nurses Act, 1949, be granted for a period of five years, to the proposal submitted by the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1., whereby student nurses who undergo a training of four years' duration in accordance with a scheme based on the Hospital for Sick Children and are eligible to enter for the Final Examination for admission to the General part of the Register on completion of three years' training, shall be entitled to enter for the Final Examination for Sick Children's Nurses at the end of the fourth year of training spent in the Hospital for Sick Children following registration on the General part of the Register.

It was agreed that provisional approval for a period of two years granted to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, W.C.1. as a Training School for General Nurses in conjunction with the Middlesex Hospital, London, for adult nursing experience.

Disciplinary Cases

The Council postponed judgment on the misconduct proved against Florence Kate Hook, S.R.N. 45133; the case of Mr. R. J. Hadley, R.M.N. 13004, postponed from year in December, 1950, was dismissed; and the case of Margaret Hobson, S.R.M. 169662, postponed for one year in December, 1950, was dismissed with a caution.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting was fixed for January 25th, 1952.

Opening of the Veitch Physiotherapy and Dental Department, Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham.

A NEW PHYSIOTHERAPY AND DENTAL DEPARTMENT, equipped on the most up-to-date lines, accommodated in a transformed building at a total cost of £20,000 was opened at Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham, on Saturday, December 8th, by Mr. Raleigh R. Adam, who was Chairman of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, from July, 1947, to April, 1951. It is named after the late Mr. T. N. Veitch, who was Vice-Chairman of Group 25 Birmingham (Selly Oak) Hospital Management Committee, in whose memory a plaque in the entrance hall was unveiled also.

Provision is of general physiotherapy, sunlight and radiant heat, short-wave diathermy, medico-electric treatment, wax treatment, remedial exercises and hydrotherapy and there are essential waiting, administrative and staff rooms.

The main treatment room is divided by suspended rails and blue and white rubber curtains to form 19 cubicles, each equipped for massage, individual ultra-violet ray or infra-red treatments, Guthrie Smith apparatus, etc. The end cubicles, with curtains cleared, equipped with capstan wheel, wall bars and a full length mirror provide a large area for remedial exercises. A fully-screened short-wave room with five cubicles, having specially-designed shelf-holders for applicators is provided with access from the main treatment room. Copper mesh screening ensures freedom from interference with television or defence equipment. A special conductive floor polish will obviate difficulties from static electricity.

A large treatment room adjoins and has accommodation for seven combined electric treatment tables on one side, with a stainless steel Hubbard Bath for hydrotherapy and a stainless steel whirlpool bath in two major partitioned cubicles opposite. There is access from this room to lavatories for patients and staff.

A unique feature is the equipment for collective sunlight treatment. The unit comprises a changing room with four cubicles having wall panel radiators, two temperature-controlled showers and a footbath. The U.V.R. Room, 16 ft. square, has eight recessed-type U.V.R. wall fittings while four Sollux lamps yield infra-red radiation from ceiling height; a lamp in the centre of the room completing the actinotherapy equipment. Adequate heating is by wall panels. The three essential elements of ultra-violet rays, brilliant sunlight and warmth are combined in one room to give collective treatment to 12 children or 10 adults at one time.

Remaining sections include a wax treatment room, a consultant's room, the office of the physiotherapist-in-charge, a general registration office and a staff rest room.

A complete dental clinical suite in the same building has a separate entrance. The waiting hall, with direct access to a registration office, has an aquarium to amuse children. Two dental surgeries are on either side of a recovery room which is furnished with a divan as well as chairs and three dental bowls.

Alderman A. F. Bradbeer, Chairman, Group 25 Hospital Management Committee, presided at the opening ceremony.

Mr. D. A. Goldfinch, F.R.I.B.A., architect to the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, who designed the department and its decorative scheme, presented a silver key to Mr. Adam to commemorate the occasion.

Alderman Bradbeer paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Adam as first Chairman of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board which covers five counties, four million people and 300 hospitals. Referring to the transference of the hospital service to the nation, he said those who were giving voluntary service within the hospital set-up were living in times of difficulty, strain and anxiety. Personally, he was beginning

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)