

DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.

12. The duties and powers of the General Nursing Council shall be as follows:—

I. To frame rules—(a) regulating their own proceedings; (b) regulating the issue of certificates and the conditions of admission to the Register of Trained Nurses; (c) regulating the course of training and the conduct of examinations, and the remuneration of the examiners; (d) regulating the admission to the Register of women already in practice as trained nurses at the passing of this Act; (e) regulating, supervising, and restricting within due limits the practice of trained nurses; (f) defining the particulars required to be given in any notice under this Act;

II. To appoint examiners;

III. To decide upon the places where, and the times when, examinations shall be held;

IV. To publish annually a Register of trained nurses who have been duly certified under this Act;

V. To decide upon the removal from the roll of the name of any trained nurse for disobeying the rules and regulations from time to time laid down under this Act by the Central Nursing Council, or for other misconduct, and also to decide upon the restoration to the roll of the name of any trained nurses so removed;

VI. To issue and cancel certificates.

And generally to do any other act or duty which may be necessary for the due and proper carrying out of the provisions of this Act.

Rules framed under this section shall be valid only if approved by the Privy Council.

By carefully studying this clause it will be found that the General Nursing Council will be empowered to consider the present condition of nursing in all its bearings, and after due deliberation to define an educational curriculum, appoint examiners, and control the Register of Trained Nurses.

PROVISION FOR EXISTING NURSES.

13. Any woman who, within two years from the date of this Act coming into operation, claims to be certified under this Act, shall be so certified provided (1) she holds a three years' certificate of training from a hospital approved by the General Nursing Council, and is of good moral character, or (2) produces evidence of training satisfactory to the Council, and that, in addition, at the passing of this Act she had been for at least three years in *bonâ fide* practice as a nurse, and is of good moral character.

Applicants for Registration must produce evidence that they are at least twenty-one years of age.

Under this clause the rights of Nurses trained before the present standard of three years' training and certification became general are safeguarded. Legislation involving rights of this kind is never retrospective, and it is provided that full justice shall be done to existing Nurses who have been

trained and engaged for three years in the bonâ-fide practice of their profession.

FEES AND EXPENSES.

14. There shall be payable by every woman presenting herself for examination or certificate such fee as the General Nursing Council may, with the approval of the Privy Council, from time to time determine, such fee not to exceed the sum of two guineas. All such fees paid by nurses in practice at the passing of this Act, and by candidates for examination, and all fines and penalties recovered under this Act shall be paid to the General Nursing Council. The said Council shall devote such fees to the payment of expenses connected with the examination and certificate, and to the general expenses of the Council. The Council shall, as soon as practicable after the thirty-first day of December in each year, publish financial statements made up to that date, showing the receipts and expenditure during the year and also the assets and the liabilities of the Council at the aforesaid date, which statement shall be audited and certified as correct by an Accountant who shall be a member either of the Institute of Chartered Accountants or of the Incorporated Society of Accountants.

15. All monies payable to the Council shall be paid to the treasurer of the Council, and shall be applied to defray the expenses of carrying this Act into execution.

16. There shall be paid to the members of the Council such fees for attendance and such reasonable travelling expenses as shall from time to time be allowed by the General Nursing Council.

The sum of £2 2s. has been suggested as a maximum fee to be paid by candidates for examination and registration.

PENALTIES FOR PERSONATION OR SUBSTITUTION.

17. (1) From and after the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and —, any woman who not being certified under this Act shall attempt to personate any nurse certified under this Act, or who shall take or use the name or title of Registered Nurse or the abbreviation R.N. (either alone or in combination with any other word or words, or letters), or any name, title, addition, or description implying that she is certified under this Act, or is a person specially qualified to practise nursing of the sick, or is recognised by law as a Registered Nurse, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten pounds, or in default thereof three months' imprisonment.

PENALTY FOR OBTAINING A CERTIFICATE BY FALSE REPRESENTATION.

18. Any woman who procures or attempts to procure a certificate under this Act by making or producing, or causing to be made or produced, any false and fraudulent declaration, certificate, or representation, either in writing or otherwise, shall

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