

9. In these circumstances unanimity could not be looked for.

10. The principal suggestions laid before the Committee are:—

- (a.) Registration of individual nurses.
- (b.) Registration of training-schools for nurses.
- (c.) Licensing of nursing homes, institutions and societies which supply or employ nurses.

11. Your Committee are agreed that it is desirable that a Register of Nurses should be kept by a Central Body appointed by the State, and that, while it is not desirable to prohibit unregistered persons from nursing for gain, no person should be entitled to assume the designation of "Registered Nurse" whose name is not upon the Register.

12. They recommend that this Central Body should be set up by Act of Parliament, and that its constitution should be defined in the Act, as was done in the case of the Central Midwives Board.

13. The Central Body should consist of matrons, nurses and representatives of the medical profession, of training-schools for nurses, and of the public.

14. Your Committee consider it desirable that the number of representatives should be kept within reasonable limits; they suggest eleven as a convenient number, and recommended that it should never exceed fifteen.

15. Your Committee recommend that the Central Body should admit to the Register of Nurses such nurses as have had a training at a recognised training-school for nurses for a period to be determined by such body, and have satisfied their training-school, whose certificate they must hold, stating that they are equipped with the knowledge and experience requisite for nursing, and that they are of good character.

16. They also recommend that the Central Body should decide what constitutes a recognised training-school for nurses, taking into consideration the number of beds, the accommodation for probationers, the facilities afforded for learning, and the general standard and conduct of the examination; for this purpose the Central Body should have the power of inspection. Your Committee further recommend that the examination be held at and by the training-school.

17. For the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Central Body a small registration fee should be charged. Your Committee consider that this fee should not exceed one guinea.

18. Your Committee have heard a large amount of evidence on the subject of the necessary period of training at a school. The great bulk of this evidence points to three years as the requisite period of training. They are themselves impressed with the advisability of such a period, but they recognise that a stereotyped rule might operate unfortunately. They therefore recommend that the minimum period

should not be fixed by Act of Parliament, but should be left to the discretion of the Central Body.

19. There should be an annual publication of the Register of Nurses. For this purpose the Central Body should make provision for striking off the Register the names of those nurses who have died or who have ceased nursing, and also of those nurses who, in the opinion of the Central Body, have been guilty of serious misconduct in the discharge of their duty, or of moral delinquency.

20. With regard to existing nurses, your Committee are of opinion that those who can produce evidence satisfactory to the Central Body both as regards efficiency and character should be placed upon the Register on payment of the registration fee.

21. The Committee are of opinion that it should be the duty of the Central Body at a date not later than four years after the passing of any Act for the Registration of Nurses to submit a Report to the Privy Council on the advisability of instituting a separate Register of nurses whose training is of a lower standard than that laid down for "Registered Nurses."

22. The claims for Registration of Mental or Asylum Nurses have been laid before your Committee. They are of opinion that a separate Register of "Registered Asylum Nurses" should be kept by the Central Body, to which should be admitted the names of nurses who have served for not less than three years (in not more than two Asylums), and have received the certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association, and can produce satisfactory certificates of good character.

23. An analogous but separate question has come before your Committee, namely, the treatment of nursing homes and institutions. Nursing homes are deemed to include all homes and places conducted for profit where patients are taken in for treatment. By nursing institutions are meant those societies or bodies which supply nurses to the public.

24. The evidence laid before your Committee has led them to consider the licensing of such homes and institutions to be highly desirable. The licence should be issued by the county or county borough authority in whose area the home or institution is situated, and no such home or institution should receive the licence unless it is conducted in conformity with requirements to be laid down by that authority.

25. The county or county borough authority should be empowered to draft regulations to be approved by the Local Government Board, and to appoint inspectors who should have the right of entry and inspection.

26. It should be a condition of such licence that when a nurse employed in a nursing home or sent out by a nursing institution is not a "Registered Nurse," the fact shall be definitely stated.

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