

ence gained by the College may be helpful to this end. We recall the fact that historically every profession has had to attain a certain measure of organization from within before Parliament has seen fit to intervene to give legal recognition to what has been initiated by voluntary effort, and we feel it is highly desirable that there should be only one certificate of general training for all nurses wherever trained.

Membership of the proposed College is confined to qualified nurses, and the government rests ultimately with the qualified nurses on the register, the College therefore will provide a professional body capable of dealing not only with the training of nurses and other women workers in hospitals, but with the relations of so-called "V.A.D.'s" to qualified nurses.

The objects of the College will be:—

To promote the better education and training of nurses by encouraging uniformity of curriculum in the training of persons intended for the nursing profession.

To grant certificates of proficiency in nursing: (1) to persons who may pass prescribed examinations after training; (2) to those who may have been trained in recognised nursing schools, and have passed such examinations as the College or its Council consider sufficient, thus making provision for existing nurses; and (3) to grant certificates in any special branch of either medical or surgical nursing. It is possible that under due safeguards as to standard, the internal examinations of recognised schools may be accepted as qualifying for the certificate of proficiency.

To institute and conduct examinations of persons desirous of obtaining certificates of proficiency, to advise as to a course of study and technical training and to diffuse such information as may be calculated to insure the fitness of persons desirous of qualifying as nurses and obtaining certificates.

To make and maintain a register of persons to whom certificates have been granted by the College.

To promote the advancement of nursing as a profession in all or any of its branches.

To institute and conduct examinations in all branches of women's work connected with hospitals other than the practice of medicine, surgery and obstetrics, and to grant certificates to those who pass its prescribed examinations.

To provide, establish and maintain in London and elsewhere, offices, examination halls and lecture-rooms with all requisite equipment, and to institute and provide courses of lectures and demonstrations. If and when considered advisable to apply, petition for or promote a Royal Charter or Act of Parliament for the purposes of the College, and for the re-incorporation of its members.

At General Meetings of the College on a show of hands, every member present in person shall have one vote, and at a poll every member present in person or by proxy shall have one vote.

There shall be a President and not more than fifty Vice-Presidents of the College.

The first members of the Council to manage the affairs of the College shall be appointed by the signatories to the Memorandum of Association. Two-thirds at least of the Council of Management shall be Matrons of Hospitals, Superintendents of Nursing, or Sisters and Nurses still engaged in the active practice of their profession; the remaining members being medical men or women, and men or women of administrative experience to help on the business side of the undertaking.

The number of Members of Council shall not be less than fifteen nor more than thirty (unless otherwise determined by a General Meeting).

When the College has been established, vacancies on the Council are filled from year to year by the votes of the members, *i.e.*, by the general body of Nurses on the Register, and to ensure for them an effective influence in the election, they have a postal vote, not dependent upon personal attendance at the annual meeting. Thus the College will become self-governing and democratic in constitution, managed by the women and men chosen and trusted by the members themselves.

The Council will form a large Consultative Board from amongst physicians, surgeons, hospital Matrons, and principal officers, Superintendents of nursing in practice throughout the country, trained nurses and persons interested in the relations between nurses and the public.

It will be laid down in the Articles of Association that the Council must always invite and receive a report from the Consultative Board before coming to a determination upon (1) the courses of study and technical training for persons intended for the nursing profession, or (2) the conditions under which recognition may be extended to nursing schools.

The Council will also form an Examining Board from persons experienced in lecturing or teaching in nursing schools, or physicians or surgeons on the staff of hospitals to which nursing schools are attached.

The Council shall always invite and receive a report from the Examining Board before deciding (1) the scheme of examination to be instituted for the granting of certificates for proficiency in nursing. (2) The acceptance in whole or in part of an examination held in a nursing school recognised by the College for the purpose of determining the proficiency of a candidate for a certificate of the College. (3) The appointment of examiners. These two boards will thus be advisory boards to the Council, whose advice the Council will be bound to follow.

Every candidate for examination shall pay such fees as the Council may fix.

In view of the inclusion of the whole of the United Kingdom in the scheme, the signatories have taken powers to establish Local Boards, which may exercise in their respective areas "any of the powers, authorities and discretions for the time vested in the Council."

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