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TRAINED NURSING NOT REPRESENTED.

It is interesting to dissect this Consultative Council, and it is with a deep sense of disappointment, not to say regret, that the salient fact so far as Trained Nurses are concerned, is that Dr. Addison, the Minister of Health, has not availed himself of the powers permissible in the Health Act, of including women with a full practical knowledge of Nursing questions; and that the Allied Service of Nursing is not represented on the Consultative Council which was designed to include it. This is a very severe blow to the prestige of Trained Nursing, and an omission which should be rectified at the earliest possible moment. It is the more extraordinary, as in the summer the leading organisations of Trained Nurses were invited by the Minister of Health to nominate suitable women for his consideration, whose expert knowledge qualified them for such responsibility, and we believe the names of several such women were submitted to him. As the Consultative Council on Medical and Allied Services now stands, the Allied Service of Nursing is very conspicuous by its absence. The Council is composed of sixteen medical practitioners, of whom two are women, one dental surgeon, two chemists, and one hospital secretary.

That the Council may co-opt practising nurses and midwives onto a Committee, together with other persons "who have devoted themselves specially to the study of nursing and midwifery questions," "when questions are under consideration that specially affect the Nursing and Midwifery Services of the Country," is very little consolation to trained nurses and midwives. Indeed we are of the opinion that if the Consultative Committee of Medical and the Allied Services, does not include persons with practical knowledge of the Allied Services, it would be better they should not meddle therein. In this connection we once placed before Dr. Addison the advisability of instituting an advisory Nursing Committee, but fear it is now too late. Anyway, all over the country earnest nurses will learn of this latest lack of appreciation of their indispensable national service, with some indignation.

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

This Council will, as its name indicates, consider problems of Approved Societies' work arising in the administration of the cash benefits

(sickness, disablement and maternity) by Approved Societies under the Insurance Acts. Its membership includes persons familiar with the work of all the principal types of Approved Societies.

We are pleased to note that Miss Florence, the very able Secretary of the Women Clerks and Secretaries' Friendly Society, and Miss Mary R. McArthur (Mrs. Anderson) Secretary of the National Federation of Women Workers, are included in this Council together with 18 men.

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON LOCAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.

This Council will consider the administrative problems arising out of proposals for the development and extension of health services, and its membership has been composed so as to include persons familiar with the work of Local Authorities of various types, the Insurance Committees and the Poor Law Guardians.

Two women are also included on this Council, Miss Broadbent, member of the Marylebone Board of Guardians, chairman of the Marylebone Infirmary Committee, and member of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and Mrs. Dimsdale of the Cambridgeshire County Council.

WELSH CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL.

In the case of Wales there will be one Council consisting of thirty members. It will give advice and assistance in connection with such matters as relate to National Health Insurance (Approved Societies' work), Medical and Allied Services, Local Health Administration, and General Health questions in Wales and Monmouthshire.

Welsh nurses are to be congratulated—and so are the people, for Miss Crowther, Inspector under the South Wales Nursing Association, is included amongst the six women who have seats, i.e., Mrs. L. Andrews, Mrs. Breese, member of the North Wales Nursing Association, Miss A. M. Davies, Hon. Secretary, North Wales Nursing Association; Mrs. F. Rose Davies, member of the Aberdare Maternity Committee, and Lady Mather-Jackson, member of the Priory for Wales of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH FOR IRELAND.

The Chief Secretary, as Minister of Health for Ireland, has nominated ten persons, together with the ex-officio members to form the Public Health Council. Again, no trained nurse is included, the three women appointed being the Countess of Kenmare, Chairman of the Advisory Council for Ireland, Q.V.J.I., Dr. Alice Barry, and Mrs. J. McMordie.

THE PASSING BELL.

Captain Walter Elliot, M.P., desires to thank his friends for their many expressions of sympathy in his recent bereavement, amongst whom are many nurses.

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