

attend without being specially appointed by the Boards, they can then only do so in a private capacity, and it considers, consequently, their expression of views will be weakened by the fact that they are not officially appointed to say anything.

We hope that the Voluntary Hospitals, the Committees of which have a free hand to pay reasonable expenses incurred by their Matrons in attending the Conference, will adopt the course advocated in the case of the Poor Law Matrons, so that a thoroughly representative Conference may express considered opinions on the important questions placed on the Agenda for discussion.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6th, 1921.

Eleven members were present, and in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Dr. H. E. Fraser was moved to the Chair.

A letter was submitted from the Scottish Board of Health informing the Council that the Board had appointed Miss Margaret M. White, Superintendent of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 26, Castle Terrace, Edinburgh, to be a member of the Council. Miss White was present, and Dr. Fraser welcomed her on behalf of the Council.

The Registrar was instructed to endeavour to arrange a meeting with the Scottish Board of Health to discuss certain points outstanding with them in regard to the Draft Rules already submitted.

Miss Gill called the attention of the meeting to a report in the *Nursing Mirror* of April 2nd, of a meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales held on March 24th, 1921, in which it was stated that the Chairman of the English Council had announced that he had discussed with two gentlemen from Scotland and one from Ireland, representing the Scottish and Irish General Nursing Councils, the question of registration of nurses trained in one country and working in another. The Registrar was instructed to communicate with the Editor of the *Nursing Mirror*, and to point out that this statement was inaccurate as the Council had no knowledge of any such meeting and no one had any authority from them to discuss such a question.

It was remitted to the Registrar to prepare the Report required by Section 9 of the Nurses Registration (Scotland) Act for submission to the Scottish Board of Health on the work of the Council to December 31st last.

The Registrar submitted the Report of the Government Auditor on the Accounts of the Council to December 31st, 1920.

It was arranged that the next meeting of Council should be held on 20th inst.

IRREGULAR PROCEEDINGS.

In reference to the action taken by Miss A. W. Gill as a member of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, the Registrar of which was instructed to inform the Editor of the *Nursing Mirror* that "no one had any authority from them (the General Nursing Council for Scotland) to discuss such a question," we find, on referring to our representative's notes of the discussion on the matter referred to at the meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, held on March 24th, the following report:—

"Mrs. Bedford Fenwick moved that the Report of the Registration Committee be received. This was seconded by Dr. Goodall.

To recommend the following Rules:—

"Part II of Draft Rules (page 3).

"To follow first paragraph of 4.

"An applicant resident in England or Wales shall be permitted to apply for admission to the Register of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, notwithstanding she may have been trained as a nurse in Scotland or Ireland."

Mrs. Fenwick explained that this Rule provided that existing nurses would be able to register in the first instance in the country in which they were resident.

The Chairman then reported that on the previous Thursday he was invited to go to Mr. Brock's room. He found there two gentlemen from Scotland and Sir Coey Bigger from Ireland, who were discussing the very Rule that Mrs. Fenwick had dealt with. They held the view that every nurse should, in the first instance, register in the country in which she was trained. He (Mr. Priestley) pointed out the inequity of this procedure and eventually both parties ended by cordially agreeing with the English view. He did not know if it was now necessary to insert the words "resident in England or Wales."

Mrs. Fenwick said she would not oppose the deletion of these words. Now that representatives of the Scottish and Irish Councils had apparently agreed to the English view, the insertion of the words might not be necessary; but the method of procedure was very informal. If a Rule agreed upon and recommended to the Council by the Registration Committee was to be altered because gentlemen from Scotland and Ireland had discussed their business with the Ministry without consulting them, she considered the proceedings very irregular, and was of opinion that all suggestions from the Scottish and Irish Councils should be placed before them officially through the Registrar.

The Chairman said he had made a note at the time that both Councils would agree with the recommendation of the English Council. If not, the Chair asked leave to reinsert the words "resident in England or Wales."

With this understanding the adoption of the Rule omitting the words "resident in England or Wales" was proposed by Mrs. Fenwick and seconded by Miss Cox-Davies, and carried."

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