

The Report of the Conference on Mental Nursing held on November 16th was on the table.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said he thought the Conference had served a very useful purpose.

MR. CHRISTIAN enquired to whom the Syllabus of Training for Mental Nurses had been referred. What about the Conciliation Committee, the Joint Committee between the authorities and the workers? It was the National Asylum Workers' Union that had brought about general training in Asylums.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said his difficulty was how these workers could give assistance in saying what the training should be. Medical students were not consulted as to the medical curriculum.

In reply to SIR JENNER VERRALL, DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said he was aware that the Union had brought about general training in some hospitals.

MR. CHRISTIAN said not in some, in all, they had brought about general training throughout. The Conciliation Board was a most important body of workers and authorities, and he thought it should be consulted.

SIR JENNER VERRALL said that the Chairman of the Committee would consider the view and act in the best interests of the Council.

It was agreed to have a Conjoint Meeting of the Mental Nursing Committee and the Education Committee.

The Report was approved.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.

MISS VILLIERS presented the Report and moved it be received and agreed.

It included a recommendation for three extra temporary clerical helpers, at salaries of £2 10s. and £2 per week. There was some criticism on the limited amount of salary, and it was pointed out that there would now be thirteen clerical workers in the office with an annual expenditure on salaries of nearly £3,000.

The Report was approved.

Report of the Finance Committee.

SIR JENNER VERRALL presented the Report of the Finance Committee, and moved it be received and agreed.

Amongst the recommendations it was proposed that the Syllabus printed and published under the authority of the Council have the Council's address, together with that of the printer, on the cover; also the price of each pamphlet printed upon it. To recommend:

First or Third Class Fares.

"That the Council be advised to take into its early consideration the continuance of payment of first-class fares, or their reduction to third-class."

SIR JENNER VERRALL said he put the proposal forward with a good deal of hesitation, but they were spending a good deal of money, and the Finance Committee were in duty bound to consider the question of economy. The Finance Committee had not decided to suggest this should be done. It was put forward for the consideration of the Council.

MISS COX-DAVIES strongly dissented from the proposition.

MISS SPARSHOTT, as one of the members who came from a distance, said she was quite willing to travel third-class. The carriages were comfortable and the restaurant quite good.

MISS WORSLEY said now that travelling was so much better, she was quite ready to support the view expressed by Miss Sparshott.

DR. BOSTOCK HILL supported Miss Cox-Davies. He thought it would be a false economy. Also he believed it was customary in the case of similar bodies to pay first-class fares, and it would be an implied slur if the General Nursing Council differed from other bodies.

MISS DOWBIGGIN was of the same opinion.

SIR JENNER VERRALL said it was not proposed to do anything at present, but merely to ask the members of the Council to take the suggestion into consideration.

The Report was approved.

Correspondence re Recording Nurses Certificates in the published Register.

At the beginning of the meeting it had been agreed that the correspondence in reference to the question of recording the Nurse's Certificates of Training in the Qualification Column in the State Register should be considered at this stage in the proceedings. Mrs. Fenwick deferred presenting the Report from the Registration Committee until the letters had been read.

Amended Schedule Necessary.

Communication from the Minister of Health.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

November 17th, 1921.

MADAM,—The Minister's attention has been called to the fact that the Council have under consideration some modification of the particulars to be inserted in the Register. In this connection, I am to point out that the Council are required by the Act to make rules for regulating the formation, maintenance, and publication of the Register, and that they have in fact done so in Part 2 of the rules already approved by the Minister. If the Council should decide to add to or otherwise vary the particulars set out in the first schedule, it would be necessary for them to submit an amended schedule accordingly, and it will not be competent to them to enter in the Register any particulars other than those indicated in the schedule, until the amendment has received the Minister's sanction.

I am, Madam,

Your obedient servant,

The Registrar,
General Nursing Council.

(Sd.) L. G. BROCK.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK asked to what communication Mr. Brock's letter was a reply, as the Council had not yet addressed the Minister on the subject?

As neither the Chairman nor the Registrar could answer the question, Mrs. Fenwick hoped the information would be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Letters were then read by the Chairman of the meeting.

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