

Election of General Purposes Committee.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Villiers, Miss Coulton, and Miss MacCallum were appointed to form the General Purposes Committee.

Report of the Education and Examination Committee.

MISS LLOYD STILL, R.R.C., Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee, then moved that the following Report be received.

The Education and Examination Committee met on June 16th and 30th, and July 7th.

I.—To report that a letter was received on June 17th from the General Nursing Council for Ireland on the subject of the admission of nurses to the Register by examination, and stating that the Irish Council were of opinion that it would be desirable that the Rules in all three countries should be identical as far as possible, subject to modification on points of detail required to meet the different conditions obtaining in the three constituent countries. In respect of this to recommend:—

(1) That it would be desirable to have closer co-operation with the other two Councils in this matter.

(2) That there should be a basis of agreement between the three countries with the view of having the same set of Rules.

(3) That members of the three Councils should confer with this object in view, to lay down points to be agreed on before the Rules are drafted.

II.—To report that the Draft Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations for Education and Training in General Nursing had been amended (circulated).

To recommend its adoption in its amended form and to sanction its publication.

III.—To report that the Draft Syllabus for training in the Nursing of Sick Children and of Nursing of Infectious diseases is now under consideration.

IV.—To recommend that owing to the lapse of time the following resolution approved by the Council on February 2nd, 1921, be rescinded:

"That the first State Examination to be held by the General Nursing Council will be held in July and October, 1923, and in January and April, 1924. These examinations will be voluntary."

MISS LLOYD STILL then moved that the Report be agreed, and moved each item *seriatim*.

The following discussion took place on item II.

Its adoption was moved by MISS LLOYD STILL, seconded by Miss Sparshott, who made a suggestion as to whether it would be advisable to defer sending out the Syllabus of Training until the Examination Syllabus was sent out, or that a letter should be sent out to say that it will be coming along. People were not understanding the Syllabus of Training, and did not want to.

MISS WORSLEY agreed.

A member of the Council expressed the wish to discuss this question freely, but found a difficulty in doing so if everything was to be reported in the press.

THE CHAIRMAN thereupon desired the press not to report what followed.

After further discussion, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said opposition to the Syllabus was largely the aftermath of thirty years' opposition to State Registration of Nurses—opposition to the establishment of a Central Body with statutory power to compel the training schools to conform to a general standard. The whole trend of the voluntary hospitals had been individual. Individually, training schools had done splendid work, but there was no lever without a central authority to enforce a uniform standard.

It was only in recent years that medical men had ceased to deny the right of nurses to knowledge. They had been expected to make bricks without straw.

She hoped the Council would support the Education Committee, and approve the amended Syllabus.

The Council had considered the Syllabus in a most conciliatory spirit, but it must prove itself a vertebrate body.

MRS. FENWICK pointed out that if the amended Syllabus was not issued now, no examinations could be held in July, 1924, as arranged.

It was then proposed by MISS LLOYD STILL, and seconded by MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, that the Syllabus should be adopted in its amended form and its publication sanctioned; this was supported by Dr. Goodall, who expressed the opinion that those who opposed the Syllabus had not properly studied it. Opposition must be expected in these days whenever any advance was proposed. If he had to choose a Syllabus he would choose this one.

The motion was unanimously adopted, and it was agreed to recommend to the Education Committee to send out an explanatory letter with the Syllabus if they saw fit.

The Report was agreed.

Deputation from the Conference of Representatives of Poor-Law Nurse Training Schools.

The next business was to receive a Deputation from the Conference of Representatives of Poor-Law Nurse Training Schools.

The Deputation, received by the Chairman on behalf of the Council, consisted of the Rev. P. S. G. Propert (Chairman of the Association of Poor-Law Unions, Chairman of the above mentioned Conference), Mr. Tom Percival, Clerk to the Tynemouth Union (Secretary to the Conference), Councillor J. Frater (Chairman, Tynemouth Board of Guardians), Dr. Spurrell (Medical Superintendent, Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum), Dr. Brander (Medical Superintendent, Hackney Union).

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)