

The CHAIRMAN asked whether there were any objection to the two amendments made by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to the Report, and there being none they were agreed.

The CHAIRMAN said the scheme for plural voting was one for which no one voted if he could help it. In the University of London some men had two faculties. They were made to choose which vote they would exercise. They were never allowed a double vote. They could let it be known that a nurse could vote as a General Nurse, or for a representative of the nurses on a Special Register. He did not think they should be allowed to vote in connection with two parts of the Register.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK said that was the view she held, but Dr. Goodall had put forward practical reasons for the course they had adopted. Their late Chairman had ultimately approved of plural voting.

MISS CATTELL thought to vote in one part would be quite sufficient, and that it would be easy to arrange.

The CHAIRMAN said it was not a question whether it would be easy; it was a matter of justice.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said that up to the present very few mental nurses had registered. Eventually he thought the Mental Nurses would be under-represented, and the Male Nurses of whom there were few, over-represented, though he realised a male nurse could not be cut in half. Would it be possible to defer this? Perhaps the position would be different in six months' time.

DR. GOODALL hoped this would not be put back. Another point which had influenced the Committee in regard to plural voting was the practical difficulty to the Registrar of sorting out the different votes.

SIR JENNER VERRALL said that persons claiming to take part in a Parliamentary Election had to substantiate that right. When they made their claim the lists were consulted to see whether their names appeared on the lists.

REV. G. B. CRONSHAW said there was no difficulty in arranging about voting. He thought a nurse should support the interest that she represented at the moment.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK said the Committee had provided for the representation of specialists, and by plural voting their votes might be swamped by those on the General part of the Register having special qualifications.

DR. GOODALL said nurses might have 25 votes each, but only one vote for the specialists; thus the Fever Nurses had only one vote each for their representative.

MISS DOWBIGGIN pointed out that the nurses who were on Supplementary parts of the Register as well as on the General part had paid for that privilege.

LADY HOBHOUSE moved:—

"That no nurse have more than one vote."

SIR JENNER VERRALL seconded.

MR. CHRISTIAN said nurses on the General part

of the Register must have more than one vote, as they had a right to vote for eleven candidates.

The Resolution was lost by a large majority.

SIR JENNER VERRALL then moved:—

"That a Nurse whose name appears on more than one Register shall select the one in respect of which she shall exercise her right to vote, and shall vote in the corresponding section only."

This resolution was also lost.

Further discussion took place in which Dr. Bedford Pierce, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Swiss, the Chairman, Mr. Christian, Miss Seymour Yapp, and Dr. Goodall took part.

The adoption of this part of the Report was then carried.

Items II and III were approved.

Item IV.—Mrs. Fenwick reported that since the Meeting of the Registration Committee on February 10th, 107 more applications had been carefully scrutinised, and she proposed they be added to the 81 recommended, making a total of 188.

This was approved.

Item V was approved, and the Report as a whole agreed.

Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

The next item on the Agenda was "The Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee to move that his Report be received and agreed."

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said he had no Report to present. The Mental Nursing Committee had met too shortly before the Council meeting for him to be able to do so.

He reminded the Council that at its last meeting he had given notice he would move that six mental nurses be added to the Mental Nurses Committee. Since then he had seen the representative of the Minister, and the Solicitor to the Minister, and had been informed that this would not be in order.

Report of the Finance Committee.

SIR JENNER VERRALL, Chairman of the Finance Committee, then moved that his Report be received and agreed.

The Report was as follows:—

The Finance Committee has met once, on February 9th, 1922.

1. To recommend that the bills and claims submitted for payment be approved.

2. To recommend that the estimate of Maddock & Sons for £1 12s. 6d. for a new lead supply pipe in the scullery be accepted.

3. To recommend that the estimate of Chinchin & Co., for £49 4s., for a new filing cabinet for the Registration Room, similar to that previously supplied, be accepted.

4. To recommend that the Office be closed on February 28th, 1922, Princess Mary's Wedding-day.

(Sgd.) T. J. V.

Alluding to paragraph 211 (of the Minutes) SIR JENNER VERRALL pointed out that permission had been given to engage three temporary clerks for three months; two had been engaged, and the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)