

MISS COX-DAVIES said that her reasons for moving the Resolution had been covered by Dr. Goodall's remarks. The Council had a short time in front of it, and a debt behind it. In the short time of office remaining to the members they should endeavour to speed up Registration. The Registrar should be competent to put ordinary applications in order, leaving cases—reported by her as doubtful—to be examined by the Registration Committee.

MISS SWISS seconded the Resolution.

SIR JENNER VERRALL supported the Resolution, and MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said she really wondered whether this were not already the Registrar's business.

MISS MACCALLUM enquired if the office could not keep up with the work of providing material for the scrutineers how was it to carry out this added work?

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK said the Registration Committee were working under an instruction of the Council to scrutinise applications and references. They were responsible, not the Registrar. Any work held up—and 1,403 applications for registration still awaited consideration—were held up because the references were not in. Reference papers for applicants for registration in some instances were not sent out for months after the applications for registration were received. It was not the fault of the clerical staff in the office, who were most willing and industrious. It was the fault of the system in force there. She strongly deprecated the suggestion which had evidently been circulated that the work had in any way been held up by the scrutineers or the Registration Committee. Hundreds more applications could have been passed if they had been in order for the scrutineers to inspect. She objected to the instruction that the Registration Committee, at the dictation of the Registrar, should be compelled to recommend to the Council for approval applications they were not to be permitted to inspect.

MRS. FENWICK said the Council knew nothing of the organisation of the Office, and it was time it looked into it.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP, the REV. G. B. CRONSHAW, SIR JENNER VERRALL, and DR. BEDFORD PIERCE supported the Resolution.

MISS VILLIERS asked whether it was possible for the Registrar to do this additional work efficiently.

MISS MACDONALD, R.B.N.A., said her Council would never allow her to pass applications for membership.

MR. CHRISTIAN asked if it were possible for the Registrar to have the knowledge to scrutinise and pass the applications for the Supplementary Registers.

MISS COX-DAVIES said that was not the intention of the Resolution. The Registrar of a great Council should be qualified for such work as that defined in the Resolution.

No replies were given to the various questions. The Resolution was carried by 16 votes to 6.

MISS COULTON then moved:—

That the following Rule be substituted for Rule 43 (2):—

“Each of the foregoing Committees (other than the Standing Committee of the whole Council) appointed in the years 1920 and 1921 shall go out of office on the date of the first Ordinary Meeting of the Council next after the date on which this Rule comes into operation, and new Committees shall be appointed by the Council at that Meeting. Thereafter the said Committees shall be appointed annually at the first Ordinary Meeting of the Council in the month of January. Each Committee shall hold office until their successors are appointed. Any vacancy which occurs on any of the Committees shall be filled up by the Council at such next meeting of the Council as may be convenient.”

MISS COULTON, in moving the Resolution, said that the Sub-Committees (Standing Committees Etc.) were appointed when the Council came into office. Some members had never had a chance of serving upon any of them. She thought before the Council went out of office all the members should have an opportunity of doing so.

SIR JENNER VERRALL seconded the Resolution.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK opposed it. The term of office of the Council had only ten months more to run at the outside. She did not find it possible to think that the reason put forward was the only reason why the work of the Standing Committees should be upset when the Council was within ten months of dissolution. After what had happened in the last three months, she was inclined to think that it had reference to those whose opinions were not those of the majority.

THE CHAIRMAN objected to the imputation of motives.

MRS. FENWICK said she considered the proposal most undesirable. If every time members of the Council expressed opinions which were unpalatable to the majority, steps were to be taken to have the Rules altered, she could not imagine what the nurses and the public would think of the methods of the Council.

MISS MACCALLUM opposed the Resolution for the reason that nurses already had no confidence in the Council, and if it were carried, their distrust in it would be deepened. On every hand she heard it said by independent nurses that they had lost all faith in the Council.

MISS COULTON, in reply, reiterated the reason she had given.

The Resolution was then put to the meeting and carried by 16 votes to 6.

MRS. FENWICK asked that the names might be taken down.

AYES.

Lady Hobhouse, Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills, Sir Jenner Verrall, Miss Dowbiggin, Miss E. Smith, Miss Seymour Yapp, Miss Lloyd-Still, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Peterkin, Dr. Goodall, Dr. Bostock Hill, Dr. Bedford Pierce, Miss Steele, Miss Swiss, Miss Worsley, Miss Coulton.

NOES.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss S. A. Villiers, Mr. Christian, Miss MacCallum,

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