

The Standing Committees.

The result of the ballot was as follows:—

Finance Committee.—No change.

Registration Committee.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was the only member eliminated and the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills elected. Miss Isabel Macdonald declined to accept nomination—Miss Alice Cattell was elected.

The *Registration Committee* is now composed as follows:—Miss Cattell, Mr. Christian, Miss Coulton, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss Dowbiggin, Dr. Goodall, Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills, Miss Peterkin.

Education and Examination Committee.—Thirteen members were nominated. Miss Susan Villiers was eliminated. New members on the Committee are Dr. Bostock Hill, Lady Hobhouse, and Miss E. Smith.

Mental Nursing Committee.—No change.

General Purposes Committee.—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss MacCallum were eliminated, and the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills, Miss Lloyd-Still, and Miss Peterkin were elected.

Disciplinary and Penal Committee.—New members, Mrs. Fenwick, Miss Swiss, and Miss Villiers.

Other Business.

On the Chairman enquiring whether there was any other business, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick stated that as she so strongly disapproved of the conduct of the Council at the present time, she must decline to sign cheques for the future, as she had been appointed to do as a member of the Finance Committee. She desired that someone else should be appointed for this duty.

Dr. Bedford Pierce: "I don't know why such an arrangement was made."

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick: "Because as the nurses entirely finance the Council's work it was thought advisable that the name of one of them should appear on cheques."

Sir Jenner Verrall undertook to sign cheques.

A Generous Offer.

Miss Alice Cattell asked permission to retire from the Registration Committee in favour of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, whose services she considered indispensable to the Committee.

The Chairman said in that case they must take another ballot.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick thanked Miss Cattell for her generous offer, but declined to avail herself of it.

The meeting then terminated.

THE WAR CHEST.

Councillor Beatrice Kent desires to express her gratitude for generous support of the propaganda of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, in its opposition to the present policy of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. She is well aware that many nurses can ill afford donations for such a purpose and sincerely thanks them for their self-denial in this connection.

NURSING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MARCH 15TH.

Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

MR. A. SHORT asked the Minister of Health if his attention has been drawn to the fact that, within the past month, two hospital probationers have been reported at inquests as found drowned, one in the Thames and one in the Clyde: and if he will have some inquiry made as to the conditions of service, hours of work, &c., at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, from which institution Miss Thyra Pound disappeared?

SIR A. MOND: I have made inquiries from the Hospital for Sick Children and find nothing to indicate that Miss Pound's death was in any way connected with her hours of work or the other conditions of service at the hospital. I have no information with regard to the Scottish case to which the hon. Member refers.

MARCH 21ST.

Registration without Direct Documentary Evidence of Credentials.

On Tuesday, March 21st:

MAJOR BARNETT asked the Secretary for Scotland whether he is aware that the new Rule 9 (a) passed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, approved by the Minister of Health, and now laid upon the table of the House, permits the names of nurses to be placed on the State Register of Nurses without direct documentary evidence of their credentials and character, as provided for under the existing rule; whether, as is required by the Nurses' Registration Act for England and Wales, Section 6 (3) the General Nursing Council for Scotland has been consulted as to this rule; whether it approves of the compilation of the State Register of Nurses upon indirect information supplied by secretaries of organised bodies of nurses instead of upon documentary evidence supplied direct to the Council, and whether the General Nursing Council for Scotland will be prepared to admit to its register, under the reciprocity agreement between the two countries, nurses who have obtained admission to the Register for England and Wales without furnishing such evidence.

MR. MUNRO: The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second and third parts of the question, I understand that the General Nursing Council for Scotland has not been consulted in regard to the proposed rule, and does not approve of it. In answer to the fourth part of the question, my information is that, pending the adjustment of this matter, the General Nursing Council for Scotland has not passed any rule providing for the re-registration on the Council's Register of Nurses already on the Register of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

MAJOR BARNETT: Is the right hon. Gentleman aware that the General Nursing Council for Scotland has asked for this rule to be withdrawn?

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