

have done. While, therefore, in the opinion of the Committee, these nurses have undergone a training and experience which should entitle them to register as Existing Nurses they are, for the reason just given, not eligible. The Committee is of opinion that, under the circumstances, the applications of these nurses should be treated as an exception to the rule laid down, and therefore recommends :

(d) That, subject to the approval of the Minister of Health, the training and experience of the nurses referred to in this report be considered to be adequate for the purpose of their registration as Existing Nurses, provided that their references are satisfactory. The number of these nurses who have so far applied for registration has been three only; but the Committee has reason for believing that others, though not in very large numbers, may apply if they learn that their applications conform to this recommendation.

6. The Committee has to report that, from March 11th to April 11th, 706 applications for registration have been received and acknowledged as follows :—

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|-----|
| General Register | .. | .. | 644 |
| Supplementary Registers | .. | .. | 62 |

7. Lists of 807 applicants for registration, whose applications have been found to be in conformity with the rules are appended, as also are lists of 152 applicants whose applications are not in conformity with the rules.

The Committee recommends :

(a) That the 807 applicants whose applications have been found to be in order be approved for registration, and that the Registrar be instructed to enter their names in the appropriate parts of the Register.

(f) That the appropriate certificate be granted to each of these applicants, and that authority be hereby given to affix the Seal of the Council to each certificate.

(Signed) E. W. GOODALL,
Chairman.

Discussion on the Registration Report.

In reference to the application of the Royal Free Hospital Nurses' League for recognition, Miss MACCALLUM enquired who were the President and Hon. Secretary. After some demur as to the necessity for furnishing any such information and Miss MacCallum urging that the Council had the right to the information, Miss Cox Davies said that she was the President and the Sister-Tutor at the Royal Free Hospital the Secretary. Miss MacCallum asked whether the Sister Tutor had had any training in secretarial work. She found that secretaries of societies who had were averse to assuming the responsibility imposed upon them by Rule 9 (A).

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK deprecated this little unofficial League of 178 members being accepted for recognition when all its members, who are certificated nurses, were eligible to apply to come

on in the ordinary way. She had received a communication from a Royal Free Nurse, who regarded this new Rule as the first wedge with regard to coercion. The Register was a voluntary one, and the nurses should be left entirely free to register or not as they chose. It was absurd that the Council should have to go to the expense of providing special forms for people to come on the Register as second-hand entrants when they were eligible to make direct application.

Miss Swiss did not consider the Rule would have the effect anticipated.

Miss SEYMOUR YAPP said the Rule provided for a simpler way of registering, and she thought it should be accepted without further controversy.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The letter received from the Registrar of the General Nursing Council for Scotland, on its behalf, enclosed the copy of a Rule adopted by that Council, and stated that before the Council submits the Rule to the Scottish Board of Health they will be pleased to receive any comments which the General Nursing Council for England and Wales desire to make upon it.

The General Nursing Council for Scotland further intimated their opinion that it is very desirable that, as far as possible, the Rules of the two countries in regard to admission to the Register should be kept in line. They feel that this would be done more easily if the Council making a new Rule were to submit the same to the other Council before sending it up for approval to their Minister of Health, and they will be glad if the English Council can arrange for this. They pointed out, further, that the matter is specially dealt with in the Registration Act of each country, but that hitherto they have learned of new Rules made by the English Council principally through the Press after the Rule had been sent for approval to the Minister.

The Rule submitted for observation by the Scottish Council was as follows :—

Rule 21 (a).

Notwithstanding anything in the last preceding Rule, the Council may accept in place of a Certificate of Training a copy of same certified to be a true copy thereof by a Minister of Religion, Registered Medical Practitioner, or other responsible person, provided that the Registrar is able to verify the accuracy of the said certified copy by reference to the Hospital Authorities.

Discussing the clauses in the report Dr. Goodall said :—

In regard to certified copies of certificates and the Scottish Council, the points upon which the General Nursing Councils were required to confer were defined in Section 6 (3) of the Act for England and Wales, and Section 3 (3) of the Scottish Act. What the Councils had to confer about was a uniform standard of qualification, not to agree as to the manner prescribed for giving evidence of holding this qualification. This was the view of the Minister of Health, as stated in the House of Commons after consultation with his legal advisers.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)