

letters of regret at inability to be present from Miss Dowbiggin, Miss Worsley, Dr. Bedford Pierce, and Miss Cattell, and stated that Miss Cattell had asked him to bring before the Council the question of the Registered Nurses' Uniform in her stead. In this connection he explained that he had received a former letter from Miss Cattell on the subject of uniform. He had not understood from it that she wished what she then wrote to be brought before the Council in the form of a Resolution. It was his mistake.

#### Correspondence.

##### NEW MEMBER OF COUNCIL.

THE CHAIRMAN then read a letter from the Minister of Health, who expressed his regret at the resignation from the Council of Dr. Bostock Hill, notifying that he had appointed in his place Dr. R. D. Smedley, Medical Officer of Health for West Sussex.

##### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO RULE XI (1).

Another letter from the Minister of Health notified that he had approved and signed the amendment to Rule 11 (1) submitted to him by the Council. (This related to the recognition of conjoint training in approved hospitals for men only, and for women only as qualifying for training in the case of Intermediate Nurses.)

##### THE SYLLABUS OF TRAINING.

In regard to the Syllabus of Training the Minister referred to his letter of November 8th, 1921, in which he intimated to the Council that he was not then prepared to sign it, but proposed to defer giving any definite decision until the whole body of Rules were before him. He stated that he understood that the Examination Syllabus was now ready to be forwarded for his consideration. He enquired whether the Council had consulted Scotland and Ireland in regard to it, and enclosed a copy of a letter from the Association of Poor-Law Unions, stating that they had unavailingly applied to the Council to modify the Syllabus in certain particulars, but saying that it was only fair to state that certain of their objections were met in the Syllabus of Examination. They submitted certain points to the Minister with regard to the Syllabus of Training with a view to its simplification before approval.

##### LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF POOR-LAW UNIONS.

A letter was received from Mr. Herbert Davey, Secretary of the Association of Poor-Law Unions, on its behalf regretting that the Education and Examination Committee of the General Nursing Council had not seen fit to consult with representatives from that Association with regard to their proposed regulations of Poor-Law hospitals as Nurse Training Schools. The letter referred especially to the proposed regulation that "the Hospital must have at least one resident medical officer," which, if approved, would, it stated, have the effect of debarring from recognition twenty-four or twenty-five Hospital Training Schools at present recognised by the Minister, and urged that the regulation be withdrawn for further consideration, and that the Association of Poor-

Law Unions be given an opportunity of discussing the position with the General Nursing Council.

##### LETTER FROM THE REGISTRAR.

THE CHAIRMAN read a letter from the Registrar asking that in view of certain criticisms in regard to the organisation of the work of the office an expert from the Ministry of Health might be invited to examine and report on the methods in force.

THE CHAIRMAN said he thought it would be a good plan to obtain such a report, but he was not enamoured with the suggestion that an expert from the Ministry of Health should be asked to make it, in view of the fact that the general opinion throughout the business world was that the business methods of Government Departments were open to criticism.

If the Council agreed to the proposal he thought that the best plan would be to get some business person to make the investigation. There was a class of persons calling themselves "business advisers" who undertook this kind of work, and from private enquiry he found that firms of Chartered Accountants were also prepared to act as advisers. He thought it would probably be best if the Council asked a good firm of Chartered Accountants to send an expert to make a report on the organisation of the office. There were other firms apart from technical advisers and Chartered Accountants who undertook such work, but he thought the most reliable course would be the one he had suggested.

##### ORGANISATION OF THE OFFICE TO BE INVESTIGATED.

MISS MACCALLUM said that she had intended to make the proposal, had not the Chairman done so. She then formally proposed that the services of an expert should be obtained to investigate and report upon the organisation of the work of the Office. This was seconded by the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills.

SIR JENNER VERRALL supported the proposition, which, he said, came at an opportune moment. He hoped that it would now be unnecessary for him to make some pointed remarks which, as chairman of the Finance Committee, he should otherwise have made.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK enquired whether the expert must be a man.

THE CHAIRMAN said that his confidence in the business capacity of a woman in this connection was *nil*.

THE CHAIRMAN enquired whether the Council would leave the selection of the expert to him and the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK proposed that a nurse member of the Council be associated with the Chairman and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Upon principle the nurses had a right to take part in the management of their own affairs. This was seconded by Miss Villiers. Eight voted for the motion and nine against it, it was therefore lost.

DR. GOODALL then moved that it be left to the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the

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