

names for the appointment. From those sent in the Committee had selected and recommended for consideration the four submitted.

The Council approved MRS. FENWICK'S proposal and arranged to ask the solicitors mentioned to attend at a future meeting of the Council.

The Report was then approved.

Resolution.

MISS MACCALLUM then moved the Resolution of which she had given notice.

To instruct the Registrar to deal first with the applications from nurses desiring to be registered which are already in the office, and with those subsequently sent in in the order in which they are received.

MISS MACDONALD seconded.

She moved the resolution because there was, she said, an idea prevalent that the Register was being packed with members of the College of Nursing, Ltd., and that a letter had been sent out from the office of the Council telling members of the College that they need only send their number on the College Register in order to be registered. Several old Registration members had had to wait nine, five, and four months while other nurses, members of the College of Nursing, were registered within a month of their applications. That was an unfair thing, and must cause dissatisfaction and trouble.

THE CHAIRMAN asked the Registrar to speak on the point of the letter to College members.

THE REGISTRAR stated that a letter, which had been stencilled, was sent in reply to enquiries from College members, informing them that all that was necessary was to send their College number. It was not a letter which required sanction but merely one sent out in the ordinary routine of the office in reply to inquiries.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE asked whether there was any ground for the accusation of preferential treatment for College members.

THE CHAIRMAN said "No," but some applications which had been up before the Registration Committee were kept back because for various reasons they were not completed.

DR. GOODALL repudiated the idea that there was any unfairness in dealing with applications from College members. As for the suggestion in the Resolution that all applications in the office should be disposed of before the new ones were touched, it was the most absurd proposition which had ever been put before the Council, and if carried into effect would hang up registration for ever. He had never heard such nonsense in his life. It was not a fact that old applicants were being kept back for new ones to be put on. Each application was dealt with as it came in, but sometimes nurses gave as references doctors and patients with whom they had not communicated. Sometimes the referees had forgotten all about the nurses, or declined to speak about them.

The applications came in every day and were dealt with at once, that was what was the procedure in the office. No preferential treatment was shown either by the Committee or its members, or the Registrar.

He moved an Amendment, seconded by MRS. EUSTACE HILLS.

That the Council approves of the regular custom of the office whereby all applications for Registration are dealt with as speedily as possible in order of reception.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK said it was not true there was no preferential treatment. Rule 9A, proposed by Dr. Goodall, specially provided for it. It was designed to give preferential treatment to College members by exempting them from producing direct personal evidence of training or certification. These nurses were accepted as second-hand entrants with very little trouble to themselves, and could, and had been, run on to the Register in less time than others.

No organised bodies of nurses had applied for recognition under Rule 9A, except the College of Nursing Ltd. and the Royal Free Hospital Nurses League, and nobody had supposed that they would do so.

MISS MACDONALD enquired what about nurses trained at St. Thomas' Hospital and the Royal Free Hospital, did they await their turn?

MISS MACCALLUM understood that some of these nurses had been put on the Register within a short time of applying, before other nurses whose papers were just as much in order.

MISS COX DAVIES challenged the statement and called for the names.

MISS MACCALLUM said she had verified a list of such cases which was available.

DR. GOODALL'S amendment was then put to the meeting and carried.

On the proposition of DR. GOODALL, seconded by MRS. EUSTACE HILLS, it was agreed that the September meeting of the Council should be held on the 22nd instead of the 15th of that month, which is the third Friday and therefore the regular day.

The Press then withdrew, and the Council considered *in camera* the 1,325 applications, which the Registration Committee recommended should be approved, and placed on the Register.

WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar :—

ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRELAND—33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

No nurse who has not been registered by September 22nd will be eligible to vote for the Direct Nurse Representatives on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales at the forthcoming election, so that there is no time to lose if a nurse wishes to exercise her professional franchise.

Forms should be carefully filled in and the names given for references from persons who have agreed to supply them.

Do not delay to send in your application forms at an early date.

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