

LETTER FROM THE REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAM-
ENTARY COUNCIL.

THE CHAIRMAN said he had received a letter from the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, enclosing Resolutions with a request that they should be presented to the Council. He then read the Resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS.

(Carried unanimously at a meeting of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council held in London on February 3rd, 1923.)

I.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council desires to place on record its strong disapproval of the mismanagement of the recent Election of Direct Representatives to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, by the Chairman of the Council as Returning Officer, and of the unnecessary expenses consequently incurred which are a charge on the money contributed by the Registered Nurses for the upkeep of their Governing Body.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council is of opinion that the Chairman should refund to the General Nursing Council the cost of the Second Election incurred in consequence of his mismanagement.

II.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council calls upon the Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to make the following returns to the candidates, in connection with the recent Election:— (1) The number of the Electorate; (2) the number in each Section; (3) the number of ballot papers rejected in each Section; and (4) the reason for such rejection.

III.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council supports the protest made by Miss MacCallum against the disqualification of ballot papers by the Chairman of the General Nursing Council, as the Returning Officer in the recent Election of Direct Representatives, without their submission to the Assessors and Candidates subsequently present.

IV.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council protests against the packing of the Electorate of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales through Rule 9 (A), designed to give preferential treatment to members of the College of Nursing, Ltd., and also to the provisions of the "prescribed scheme" for the Election. It further protests against the irregularity, and the waste of money, which have occurred in connection with the Election of Direct Representatives.

The Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council also takes strong exception to the action of the Registration Committee, and the General Nursing Council, in neglecting to place on the Register 800 Nurses who had applied for Registration within the prescribed time, and whose papers were in order.

431, Oxford Street,
London, W.1.

MISS COX DAVIES asked whether any provision was made for the appointment of Assessors.

THE CHAIRMAN said he was very glad to have that question asked. One candidate had written to him in regard to the presence of Assessors. As a matter of fact, the word Assessors had never been used in the Rules in connection with the Election.

MISS COWLIN inquired whether it was inconsistent to ask how many nurses had been registered under Rule 9 (A).

An Instruction.

MISS COX-DAVIES moved that it be an Instruction to the Registration Committee to ascertain the number of applicants registered between the passing of the Rule and the closing of the Register for the Election.

This was seconded by Miss E. Smith, and carried by 15 votes to 1 (Miss Seymour Yapp).

LETTER FROM TWO NURSES *re* WIDENING LIMITS
FOR REGISTRATION.

THE CHAIRMAN reported that a letter had been received from two nurses which had reference to widening the limits for Registration. The members of the Council had received a copy. The letter would come up again when the question came to be discussed. It was highly important that the feeling of the nurses should be ascertained, and it was a great pity that the question was not raised during the election, as would have been done in an ordinary General Election.

It was resolved that the letter be referred to the Registration Committee

Statement of Returning Officer.

THE CHAIRMAN, as Returning Officer, then presented the following Statement on the recent Election.

STATEMENT.

TOTAL ELECTORATE on January 10th, 1923:—	
General Register (Ballot No. I)	10,887
Male Nurses (Unopposed return)	24
Mental Nurses (Ballot No. III)	639
Sick Children's Nurses (Ballot No. IV) ..	191
Fever Nurses (Unopposed return)	356
 Total Electorate	 12,097
Voters resident out of Europe	222
Uncontested Electorates	380
 	 602
Voting papers issued	11,495
 	 12,097
Total Envelopes received as counted on reception	8,715
Total Voting papers—	
Ballot No. I	7,676
Ballot No. III	477
Ballot No. IV.	143
 	 8,296
Spoilt Votes—	
No Signature on Identifica- tion Envelope	142
(11 of these were Mental Votes, the remainder General Votes.)	
Not enclosed in Identifica- tion Envelopes	183
(7 of these were Mental Votes, 1 Children's Vote, the rest General Votes.)	

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