

to sign the Examination Syllabus, but pointed out that on page 9 the "feeding of infants and children" should be substituted for "infant feeding," and on the Nurses' Chart, after "Feeding and Care of Infants," the words "and Children" should be added. If the Council agreed to these amendments the Minister would sign the Syllabus of Examination.

THE CHAIRMAN said he supposed it was not worth while objecting to such small amendments, but if there had been much alteration he should have advised the Council to fight it. He was very much dissatisfied with the position the Ministry was taking up with regard to the Council, neither did he mean to submit to it. He said so now.

On the question of the approval of Nursing Homes, MISS SPARSHOTT said it was not desirable. East Lancashire nurses were against it.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP expressed herself in sympathy with the nurses who desired such recognition. She did not think it was in accordance with the spirit of the Act to say that women trained in Nursing Homes should not be registered.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE asked whether there were not large and important Nursing Homes? Could they be of uniform size?

MISS MUSSON said she had no knowledge of any nursing home which should be recognised as a training school. The knowledge gained in them was picked up; there was no adequate training.

MISS VILLIERS said that from experience of nurses from nursing homes gained in epidemics she considered it dangerous to take the majority. There might be a few good ones.

MISS DU SAUTOY said that the public who were admitted to nursing homes paid large fees in order that they might have skilled nursing.

SIR JENNER VERRALL said that was the most extraordinary argument to advance. To say that people should have skilled nurses only if they could afford to pay for them was absurd. Whether people paid or did not pay in hospitals made no difference. They were properly nursed.

THE CHAIRMAN said the case had been presented to them before from a somewhat different aspect by MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, who contended that when people paid the fees of trained nurses they should not be nursed by untrained probationers.

MISS DU SAUTOY said that was precisely what she intended to convey.

DR. GOODALL said the Council had no means of knowing what went on in Nursing Homes.

The Report was then approved.

(To be continued.)

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Items of interest in the Report are the decisions to appoint two more officials: (1) an *Interviewing Officer* at the rate of £250 per annum up to July 31st of this year, the appointment to be made by the General Purposes Committee; (2) a *Special Examination Officer* at a salary of not more than £400 a year, with travelling expenses, the appointment to be advertised. This will

certainly cost the Council not less than £700 a year, and it is to be hoped this large sum will be expended on employing an expert Registered Nurse with a knowledge of organising examination work, who has held a responsible position. Nothing has been more clearly demonstrated in the life of the Council than the ignorance of general Educationists in regard to Nursing Education.

The policy in regard to the appointment of medical men as chairmen of the two most important committees, Finance and Registration, involving the control of expenditure of the nurses' money, and the signature of the certificates of registration, virtually the nurses' licence to practise, cannot be too strongly deprecated.

The tactics of the College nominees in claiming that they speak for the electorate on the subject of the admission of nurses with no hospital experience to the General Part of the Register are unworthy, considering that not one of them mentioned this burning subject in her election address, but immediately the election was over the Council of the College published a letter advocating this course.

THE EUROPEAN NURSING COUNCIL. SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Second Annual Conference of the European Council for the Training of Nurses, held in Paris last week, has aroused a great deal of interest. The President, Miss Marion Parsons, presided at the first Session, held on March 12th, at the Musée Social, and in the afternoon of that day the delegates visited the dispensary of the Rockefeller Foundation and other interesting points in the queen of cities. In the evening General Pau presided at a public meeting held under the auspices of the French Red Cross, when the principal speakers were Sir Claude Hill, Director of the League of Red Cross Societies, Miss Parsons, Baroness Mannerheim, President of the International Council of Nurses, and Dr. Leon Bernard, Professor of the Faculty of Medicine.

On Tuesday, 13th, Dr. Victor Péchère, Professor at the School of Medicine of the University of Brussels, gave a survey of the origin and development of nursing, saying that America and England share the honour of establishing the modern system of nursing, paying a tribute to Anglo-Saxon women, and then discussed in detail the system as it exists in Belgium.

Miss Helen Bridge, of Dayton, Ohio, who for the past two years has been the Directrice of the School of Nurses in Warsaw, dealt, in an interesting way, with the special problems facing the American nurse in foreign countries. "Our problem," she said, "lies in first determining the needs of the community, and then in making the necessary adjustment in our educational plan. We are slowly becoming aware that the demands of the community are somewhat different to those which we have experienced before. However, as the needs are essentially the same, it is, after all, only a question of time before the consciousness of the people awakens to an understanding of what is needed in the way of a nurse."

Miss Marion Parsons, of Boston, coming from Prague, was able to report that conditions in Central Europe are steadily improving.

The consideration on Wednesday, 14th, of the adoption of a new constitution and bye-laws aroused much discussion. It was not unnaturally felt that as

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