

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

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Report of Mental Nursing Committee.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE (Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee) presented the Report, and moved that it be received.

The Report stated (I) that Dr. Bedford Pierce was elected Chairman; (II) that a letter had been received from Mr. Keene (Chief Officer, Mental Hospitals Department of the London County Council), dated February 20th, in reference to the suggested shortening of the period of training in general hospitals of mental hospital nurses who hold the certificate of nursing proficiency granted by the Medico-Psychological Association of Great Britain and Ireland, referred to in a former letter, dated November 1st, 1921, and stating that the Mental Hospitals Committee of the L.C.C. are considering as to improved methods of training of the nursing staff at mental hospitals, and the possibility of the interchange of staff between these hospitals and the general hospitals, and asking the favourable consideration of the General Nursing Council for their Chief Officer's communication.

The Committee recommended:—

"That the General Nursing Council gives effect to the resolution of May 19th, 1922, by drafting a rule in that sense, and taking the usual steps to obtain the Minister's sanction."

The Resolution is as follows:—

"That for a period of three years after the first examination held by the General Nursing Council for registration on the Supplementary Register for Mental Nurses, holders of the Medico-Psychological Association certificate of proficiency in Mental Nursing obtained prior to the first State Examination, be eligible for the General Nursing Council Examination, for admission to the General Register, if they have had two years' additional training in a General Hospital or Poor Law Infirmary approved by the Council."

Rule 12A (7): "Every nurse who, having been registered on the Supplementary Part of the Register for Mental Nurses under the provisions of Rule 9, 3 (b) for Existing Nurses, or Rule 10 (b) for Intermediate Nurses, desires to obtain admission to the General Part of the Register shall

"(1) furnish evidence on the forms prescribed that she has subsequently to registration completed a course of two years' training in a Complete Training School approved by the Council, and has undergone systematic instruction in the subjects prescribed; (2) furnish a certificate of good moral conduct from the Matron or Superintendent Nurse or person occupying a similar position in the said Training School; (3) pass the prescribed examination of the General Nursing Council."

(III) The Committee reported that Miss Wiese was appointed to represent the Committee on the Special Committee on "Report on System."

(IV) It was decided to revise the Syllabus of Mental Training so that the subjects required for the Preliminary Examination should be separately set forth in identical language with that used in

the Syllabus for General Training, and that the subject of the law in relation to the control of patients be inserted. This in due course will be submitted to the Council.

(V) Other subjects affecting Mental Nurses were discussed.

The Report was then approved.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.

The Report of the General Purposes Committee was presented by the Chairman, Miss Cox-Davies, who moved that it be received.

Item I.—Miss Cox-Davies' appointment as Chairman was reported. Item II reported the resignation of four temporary members of the staff who have been replaced. Item III was a recommendation for increases of salary to Miss Harriet Smith, Accountant, permanent official, from £208 to £260; Miss F. M. Harvey, Shorthand-Typist, from £104 to £130; and Miss D. Sullings, Accountant's Clerk, from £104 to £117. Item IV reported the resignation in December of the two housekeepers, who had been replaced on the same terms by Mr. and Mrs. Haines. Item V recommended the employment of an extra charwoman four hours weekly at a cost of 5s.

Under Item VI the Committee reported that extra equipment, table, chairs, files, &c., had been purchased for the offices in January, and under Item VII it was recommended that the following be sanctioned:—Two tables, one for the Accountant's Room, at £1 19s. 6d., one for the Registration Room, at £1 7s. 6d., 6 Steel Filing Cabinets at £9 12s. 9d. each, 1 Oak Filing Cabinet at £12 17s. 6d., 1 Typewriter, £25 10s., 3 Card Index Cabinets for the Accountant's Room at £4 10s. each, 1 dozen towels at 12s. 9d. per dozen.

Under Item VIII it was recommended that 10,000 Registration Certificates for the General Part of the Register should be ordered at a cost of £57 10s.

Under Item IX it was recommended that a Gestetner Duplicator be purchased for the Registration Room at a cost of £25.

It was recommended that the offices should be closed from Friday, March 30th, to Monday, April 2nd, inclusive.

The Report was approved.

Report of Special Committee to Consider Messrs. Peat & Co.'s Report on System.

This was presented on behalf of the Chairman of the Council by Sir Jenner Verrall, the chief item being the recommendation that an Interviewing Officer be again appointed, at the rate of £250 per annum, who should hold office until July 31st of this year, and that in order to avoid delay the General Purposes Committee be empowered to interview candidates and appoint a suitable person.

Discussion.

THE CHAIRMAN reported that since Miss Darbyshire had left they had been trying to do without an Interviewing Officer, but it was found that interviews took up all the time of the Assistant-

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