

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

(Concluded from page 267).

Report of the Education and Examination Committee.

Miss LLOYD-STILL, Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee, moved that the Report be received.

I. REPORTED—That the Committee has met four times—on March 13th, 20th, 27th, April 10th.

II. REPORTED—That the following members were appointed a Committee of Selection to decide upon the Examinations Officer:—Sir Wilmot Herringham, Miss Lloyd-Still, Miss Cox-Davies, Miss du Sautoy, Miss Bushby.

III. Recommendation (8).

"That the Scheme for the Training of Nurses be amended as follows to meet the requirements of Special Hospitals:—

To add after Rule 3 (ii).

"Provided that in exceptional cases, on the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee, and after detailed consideration of each case, the Council may permit nurses to proceed from a Special to a General Hospital forthwith after passing the Preliminary Examination, or under special conditions after completing one year's training and after remaining for the two ensuing years at the said General Hospital, to return to the said Special Hospital for the completion of the fourth year of training, but that no such permission be granted unless the authorities of the Special Hospital satisfy the Council;

"(a) that the training of such nurses will be adequately continued; and

"(b) that the nursing of their patients presents difficulties which form a claim for special consideration."

IV. CONSIDERED—A letter from the Ministry of Health with enclosures (circulated).

As will be seen from the correspondence, there is a British Hospital in Buenos Aires at which training is given to probationers. The Matron wrote to the Registrar on July 19th, 1922, asking if admission to our Register was open to her nurses, and the Registrar in reply (Letter 6) quoted the only Rule that we have upon the subject, which does not, however, as she pointed out, apply to the case in question.

It appears that it had been supposed that the terms of the Act which only mentions H.M.'s Dominions, precluded the Council from admitting to the Register nurses trained in foreign countries. A few such applications had in previous years been brought to the notice of the then Chairman of the Registration Committee, but under this interpretation of the Act they do not seem to have been considered by the Registration Committee or by the Council. In October, 1922, however, such an application was brought before the Registration Committee, and as a result the Ministry of Health was asked to interpret the Act. The Ministry stated that under Clause 3 (2) (b) the Council had power to approve hospitals in foreign countries, and in the above case, after evidence had been

obtained of the size and character of the hospital, and of the training given therein, the applicant was admitted as an "existing nurse."

The case of nurses to be admitted in future under the system of State Examination is somewhat different.

The Council may approve a hospital as above mentioned, but it will probably not wish to approve hospitals which do not fulfil the conditions which it considers requisite in England and Wales for the training of nurses in future. It will also have to approve the training given therein.

Thirdly, it will be obliged to examine the nurses trained at such hospitals. A person registered in those parts of the Dominions in which State Registration exists under legal enactment can claim to be registered on the English Register provided that—

1. There are reciprocal arrangements admitting nurses on our Register to the Register of the country in question on equal terms.

2. The standard of training and examination is as good as our own.

Under such circumstances the Council accepts the official examination of the country in question.

But in the case of hospitals in foreign countries the Council would itself have to examine the nurses therein trained as it examines nurses trained at home. In future all nurses applying for State Registration will appear before the Council's examiners. Even supposing that the Council approved a foreign hospital as a Training School, it does not appear to the Committee that the Council could recognise an examination held at such a hospital, which it could neither supervise nor control.

Recommendation (9).

"That a reply in the sense of the above Report be sent to the Ministry of Health."

V. CONSIDERED.—Rule for Reciprocity with Scotland and Ireland.

Recommendation (10).

Identical with recommendation of the Registration Committee.

VI. CONSIDERED.—Question of Fees for Optional Examination in 1924 and for Preliminary and Final Examinations.

Recommendation (11) (subject to the Finance Committee's approval)—

(1) "That the Fee for the Preliminary Examination shall be £2 2s. and that for the Final Examination £3 3s."

(2) "That the Fee for the Optional Examination in July, 1924, shall be £3 3s."

VII. CONSIDERED.—Further list of General Hospitals and Poor Law Hospitals whose authorities have replied to enquiries instituted by the Council:—

Recommendation (12).

That the following Hospital be recognised as a complete Training School:—

"General—Providence Free Hospital, St. Helens."

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