

*Recommendation 16.*

"That a qualified Book-keeper be engaged to assist the Accountant during the present stress of work."

V. CONSIDERED—A suggestion from the Finance Committee that a general regulation should be drawn up for office holidays.

*Recommendation 17.*

"That the ordinary Bank Holidays should be observed in the office without special sanction being given, viz., Christmas, Easter, Whit Monday, and August Bank Holiday."

The CHAIRMAN explained in connection with Recommendation 16 that the Recommendation of the Finance Committee was in the nature of an Amendment, i.e., that the salary should not exceed £3 ros. per week. This was agreed.

The Report was approved.

## QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

### Nurses' Registration.

JUNE 18TH.

DR. CHAPPLE asked the Minister of Health what steps an existing Nurse must take in order to secure the opportunity of having her name placed upon the State Register of Nurses; what is the limit of time; and what must be the nature and terms of their application?

LORD E. PERCY: Nurses desirous of being placed on the Register should write to the Office of the General Nursing Council for a form of application. This should be filled so far as it is applicable, and returned to the Council not later than July 14th. Provided a formal application is lodged by this date, any necessary certificates can be furnished subsequently.

DR. CHAPPLE: Is it necessary for them to enclose a fee?

LORD E. PERCY: I will let the hon. member know.

DR. CHAPPLE: Is the noble lord not aware that the existing Nurses are anxious to know because they have only been given until July 14th to register.

LORD E. PERCY: I will let the hon. member know in the course of the day.

#### REMARKS.

Dr. Chapple is going the whole hog in his advocacy of thrusting untrained persons on the General Part of the Nurses' Register.

Lord Eustace Percy's reply is of the utmost importance in his pronouncement that July 14th next is the last day on which Forms of Application for Registration from Existing Nurses can be received at 12, York Gate.

### Nurses in Scotland.

DR. CHAPPLE asked the Under-Secretary to the Scottish Board of Health whether existing Nurses practising in Scotland will be eligible to take advantage of the decision of the House with regard to Nurses' Registration on June 13th?

CAPTAIN ELLIOT: The decision referred to does not apply to the rules of the General Nursing Council for Scotland. So far as the Scottish Register is concerned, therefore, the answer is in the negative. As regards the position of Nurses practising in Scotland, in relation to the English Register, the matter is one for the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

#### REMARKS.

Captain Elliot's reply opens up the disastrous results of Dr. Chapple's action. There is nothing in his Prayer to restrict the registration of untrained women

by the G.N.C. of England and Wales. We have dealt much more generously with Scottish Nurses than the Scottish G.N.C. has dealt with English Nurses, as we register Nurses trained and working in Scotland, whilst the Scottish Council has refused to register highly qualified women trained and working in England, and they propose to discriminate against English Nurses on the same grounds in their reciprocity clause—"Reciprocity all on one side," as the Irishman said. We have no doubt our hopeless Council will add to the confusion worse confounded by placing Nurses on our Register who are ineligible in their own country.

### The Shortage of Probationer Nurses.

JUNE 20TH.

MR. FOOT MITCHELL asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware of the serious position in which the smaller hospitals have been placed in consequence of the regulations of the General Nursing Council regarding the training of Nurses, which have increased the difficulty of obtaining Probationers in such hospitals and are adding seriously to the financial difficulties with which they have to contend; and whether he will approach the General Nursing Council with a view to some modifications being made in their regulations in order to overcome these difficulties and enabling Nurses trained in such hospitals to be qualified for registration after passing the central examination or otherwise.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I have not received representations in this sense. It is open to any hospital which is refused approval by the General Nursing Council to appeal to me, and no such appeal has been made. I see no reason for adopting the suggestion contained in the last part of the question.

#### REMARKS.

The smaller hospitals can qualify to part-train by affiliation with other hospitals. It is only just that women who desire to train should not be exploited by institutions and associations, and after years of work find themselves without the professional pale. The day has gone by when philanthropy can rob Peter to pay Paul. Affiliated training is the remedy.

### The Bona Fide Nurse.

JUNE 20TH.

DR. CHAPPLE asked the Minister of Health whether he is aware that the General Nursing Council has been rejecting for registration on the State Register of Nurses during the past two years Nurses who had been for three years before the passing of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, in *bona fide* practice as existing Nurses, on the ground that they had not had one year's training in a General Hospital; that section 3 (2) (c) of the Act expressly contemplated that such Nurses should be admitted to the Register on terms not involving training in a General Hospital; that in consequence of the acts of the Council and the lapse of time, only four weeks now remain during which applications can be received under the Act, and that many Nurses to whom the decision of this House of June 13th applies are not aware of the fact that they are now eligible for Registration; and will he say what steps he intends to take to make the facts known to them?

MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I understand that 947 applications have been rejected by the General Nursing Council as ineligible for registration under the rules hitherto in force. As regards the second part of the question, I am advised that these rules were not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act to which the hon. member refers. As regards the last part of the question, it rests with the Council to determine what steps should be taken to

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