

an examiner, of which Mr. Cronshaw had had more experience than he had, no doubt one question was preferable; but, from the point of view of an examinee, he considered alternative questions were not enough. He moved that three questions be set in each subject instead of two, and the candidates given a choice.

MISS LLOYD-STILL said the questions would not be fair unless they were on the same level.

MISS COX-DAVIES thought it would be very difficult to get three questions of the same level.

SIR JENNER VERRALL moved that the Recommendation "That alternative questions be set in each subject" should be amended to read:

"That in the third sentence the word 'three' should be substituted for 'alternative.'"

MISS MUSSON seconded the recommendation, and in doing so said that she had seen in an Examination in General Knowledge how hardly one question worked. Also in a hospital it was not possible for all nurses to begin work in surgical wards, or to have equal experience in medical and surgical work in their first year.

DR. GOODALL said he understood that it was hard to let the nurses off to do two papers. So long as it was distinctly understood that there was only one paper he would support the amendment.

THE CHAIRMAN said that the practical difficulty of getting all the nurses sitting for the Examination away on the same day was emphasised in Committee.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said that from the point of view of an examiner she would like one question, from the point of view of an examinee more would be preferable.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE thought one question in each subject best, he was not in favour of three.

SIR JENNER VERRALL'S amendment was carried.

MISS DU SAUTOY desired to emphasise the importance of Nursing in the examination. She thought it should be put before the other subjects, but it was put last every time.

She moved an amendment to the eighth line of Recommendation 8, which as standing read, "That the oral and practical include all the subjects." The amendment she proposed was:—

"That the Oral and Practical shall be on Nursing, and on the other subjects so far as they bear on Nursing."

DR. GOODALL said he would second this (presumably for the purpose of getting it discussed), but should speak against it. THE CHAIRMAN therefore disqualified him as a seconder and the amendment fell to the ground.

MISS LLOYD STILL, replying, said that Nursing was built up on the other subjects, that was why it was put last.

On *Paragraph IV (1) re* appointment of Examiners, DR. BEDFORD PIERCE questioned whether it was wise that Examiners should be appointed twice a year. He thought it desirable to have continuity. He moved an Amendment that the Examiners should be appointed each year.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that the paragraph did not mean that the Examiners should only

serve for six months. But it was thought that hospitals could not possibly spare members of their nursing staffs for more than one year.

This explanation apparently satisfied DR. BEDFORD PIERCE.

On *Paragraph V (II. Final State Examination)*, MISS WIESE said she had always been an advocate for equal pay for equal work. Why was it suggested that the fee for the *viva voce* Examination should be 7s. 6d. per candidate examined, and for the Practical Examination 5s. per candidate?

THE CHAIRMAN said he was waiting for some one to ask that. As a matter of fact higher fees would go to the nurses, because in a *viva-voce* examination, of twenty minutes, each candidate would be examined separately, whereas in the practical examination (which is to last half an hour) the nurse examiner could take three at the same time.

MISS WIESE also wished to know why first-class fare was to be paid to Examiners when the members of the Council travelled third class.

THE CHAIRMAN said because they would not get the Examiners if they did not pay first-class fare. It was the difference between honorary and paid work.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said the Council used to travel first-class and ought to do so now.

On *Paragraph VI (Regulations for Examinations)*, THE CHAIRMAN asked the Chairman of the Education and Examination Committee to withdraw Recommendation 13, in order that a further scheme might be brought up at the next meeting. This was accordingly done. At the same time THE CHAIRMAN asked the Press not to print the Regulations referred to in the Recommendation.

MISS WIESE enquired whether anything was being done in regard to a shortened training for Mental Nurses. Hospitals under the London County Council were losing some of their best nurses because they could not get such training. The question had been referred to the Education Committee at the last meeting of the Council to see what could be done.

MISS LLOYD STILL said that was the case. She was afraid the Education Committee had overlooked the question, but it would attend to it.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said that the Ashton-under-Lyne Guardians had already agreed to a shortened training for mental nurses.

#### 4.—Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE, Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee, moved that the Report be received.

I. REPORTED—That the Committee has met once—on October 3rd, 1923.

II. CONSIDERED—Details in regard to the Examinations supplied by the Education and Examination Committee.

*Recommendation 16.*

"That the three Examinations for Mental Nurses be held in the following months—viz., July, October and April."

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