

Recommendation 17.

"That the Final Oral and Practical Examinations for Mental Nurses correspond with those for General Nurses—viz., that the Oral Examination shall consist of two parts, not less than ten minutes each, and the Practical Examination shall last at least half an hour."

Recommendation 18.

"That a circular letter be sent to Mental Hospitals, similar to that sent to the approved General Training Schools, with regard to the appointment of Examiners."

Recommendation 19.

"That the Oral and Practical Examinations be conducted by a Registered Mental Nurse having special qualifications in mental nursing, and that one of the Examiners for the written paper be a Nurse similarly qualified."

Recommendation 20.

"That the paper in the Final Examination for Mental Nurses be marked on similar lines to that for General Nurses—viz., 20 marks for each of 10 questions, and that 80 marks be given for each of the Oral and Practical Examinations; that the pass mark for the written paper be 40 per cent., and for the combined Practical and Oral Examination 50 per cent."

(N.B.—This was by leave withdrawn.)

III. REPORTED—That the Committee has had an opportunity of considering the Fees for Examiners proposed by the Education and Examination Committee, and has no observations to make.

IV. Recommendation 21.

"That a circular letter be sent to all the Medical Superintendents of Mental Hospitals enclosing a copy of the Syllabus of Training in Mental Nursing, and giving information with regard to the Preliminary and Final Examinations, and also forwarding a Questionnaire covering information which the Mental Nursing Committee wishes to obtain prior to the recognition of Mental Hospitals in future."

Discussion.

On Recommendation 19 DR. BEDFORD PIERCE said that he was afraid that it was by a mistake of his own that certain words had appeared in this recommendation. He proposed that the words "Oral and" before Practical Examinations, and "Mental" between Registered and Nurse should be withdrawn.

THE CHAIRMAN asked whether he did not wish to retain the word "Mental," and DR. BEDFORD PIERCE replied in the negative. He said a Registered Nurse whom it was desirable to secure as an examiner might have special qualifications in mental nursing and still not be a Registered Mental Nurse; therefore, he did not wish to bind himself, though she no doubt usually would be.

The amended Recommendation therefore ran:—

"That the Practical Examinations be conducted by a Registered Nurse, having special qualifications in mental nursing, and that one of the Examiners for the written paper be a Nurse similarly qualified."

The Report as amended was approved as a whole.

5.—Report of the General Purposes Committee.

MISS COX-DAVIES, Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, moved that "her" report be received.

I. REPORTED—That the Committee has met once—on October 9th, 1923.

II. *Recommendation 22.*

"That the letter of appreciation (as recommended at a meeting on July, 9th), of the able and accurate way in which Miss Davies has conducted the affairs of the Registration Department during her tenure of office, should be addressed to Miss Davies."

III. *Recommendation 23.*

"That authority be asked from the Ministry of Health for an extension of time for the present temporary staff up to the end of the year."

IV. *Recommendation 24.*

"That two extra clerks be engaged at a salary of £3 per week—one for the Registrar's Department and one for the Education and Examination Department."

V. *Recommendation 25.*

"That sanction be given for the purchase of an extra typewriter at a cost of £25."

MISS M. WIESE asked, on Recommendation 24, what was the number of clerks at present employed?

THE CHAIRMAN replied 41; at least that was the full staff.

MISS WIESE said she had had the honour of standing on the mat for an hour, and saw all the clerks trooping up from tea. She wondered why any more were wanted, and where room was found for them.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said that all were necessary.

MISS COX-DAVIES said the Committee had carefully considered the question, and would not have asked for the extra clerks if it had not been of opinion that they were required.

(There appears to be no reason for the Chairman of a Committee to resent legitimate questions from a member of the Council which is the Statutory Authority. The Standing Committees prepare the business for its consideration, and must be prepared to justify their recommendations if called upon.—ED.)

The Report as a whole was approved.

6.—Report of the Uniform Committee.

MISS S. A. VILLIERS, Chairman of the Uniform Committee, moved that the Report be received.

I. REPORTED—That the Committee has met once—on October 4th, 1923.

II. CONSIDERED—Letter from Mr. Sydney Pitt, submitting draft of Rules regulating the Uniform, and draft of pamphlet to be issued to Tailors, showing illustrations of and giving instructions regarding the Uniform, also Form of Agreement with Tailors and Form of Permit to Nurses.

Recommendation 26.

"That the following be approved by the Council:—

"Rules regulating Uniform and Badge."

"Pamphlet containing description of Uniform."

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