

This Recommendation was not moved by the Chairman of the Education Committee, but by Dr. GOODALL, who submitted that as the Council had passed the scheme which permitted nurses to have two years' training in fever nursing, it ought, as a corollary to allow them to go up for examination at the end of that period. It was permitted to probationers in General, Mental, Male, and Children's Nursing to enter for professional training at the age of 18. If the Council insisted on deferring the examination till the candidate was 21 girls would find out that they need not start their career in fever hospitals until they were 19. He believed that about 36 per cent. of the present applicants for fever training entered the fever hospitals when they were between 18 and 19 years of age. It had been recognised by those who had taken the trouble to investigate the question that it was well that girls should begin their training in a fever hospital as soon as possible and then pass on to general training. He then dealt with various objections which had been placed before him.

Miss MUSSON supported Dr. Goodall's motion on the ground that it was only consistent to allow probationers in fever hospitals to go in for the examination at the end of their training, and (2) that it was very desirable that they should go straight on to a general hospital at the end of two years' training.

Miss BUSHBY said she considered the Resolution most unfair, as it gave preferential treatment to one section of the Nursing Profession and would allow them economic advantages over other nurses. It might be said that nurses would do private nursing and demand large fees if they had not passed the State Examination, but then the General Nursing Council would not have given them their "Blessing."

The Council did a great wrong in granting a two years' training to fever nurses. She knew it was no use crying over spilt milk, but to add another injustice would be a calamity, and the Council would deserve the condemnation of the Nursing Profession if they allowed this recommendation to go through.

Miss DU SAUTOY said she supposed the two years' training was decided upon on the advice of the fever experts on the Council.

Miss VILLIERS thought three years' training in fever nursing unnecessarily long. The most promising candidates for training were those of the professional classes whose parents wished them to enter an occupation through which they could support themselves when they left school. She feared they would lose a great many of these candidates if they deferred accepting them until they were 19 years of age. Moreover, they might be lost to nursing altogether since the great majority of Training Schools in General Nursing would not accept them at 18 years of age.

Dr. SMEDLEY supported Dr. Goodall's motion.

Miss SPARSHOTT, Miss SEYMOUR YAPP, and Miss COWLIN also took part in the discussion.

Miss LLOYD STILL expressed the opinion that the Council had forgotten what it owed to the public. If after two short years of fever work girls who entered hospitals for training at 18 were certificated by the Council, and did private nursing it was giving much too much responsibility to minors. Twenty-one was considered by the Council the very minimum age at which nurses should be registered. She strongly deprecated putting young children in charge of serious cases. It was moreover unnecessary. She put forward this claim on behalf of the public.

Miss DU SAUTOY asked whether most of the fever work was not in hospitals. She thought there were not any large number of private cases.

THE HONBLE. MRS. EUSTACE HILLS said another class of girls with whom she was acquainted were those attending the Council Schools who left at 14. They were worth more at 14 than at 16. A great many girls were more satisfactory at 18 than at 19. They were probably worth more at 18.

Miss COWLIN suggested that if the age of 20 applied to fever nurses it should apply to all nurses.

SIR JENNER VERRALL said that the proposal was based on the special arrangement of two years' training for fever nurses. If it was desired to make it apply to other classes of nurses it should be the subject of a special motion.

Miss WIESE moved that nurses should be registered on passing the State Examination.

Mr. DONALDSON seconded the motion.

Miss BUSHBY pointed out that this was contrary to the Nurses' Registration Act, as defined in the Rules.

Miss LLOYD STILL enquired how the proposal would affect Scottish nurses. What was to prevent any nurse registered in England working in Scotland where the age for Registration was 21?

SIR JENNER VERRALL said that Miss WIESE's amendment raised a very important point. He could not accept it as an amendment. If brought up it should be discussed after due notice had been given by placing a motion on the Agenda.

Miss LLOYD STILL said that neither the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics, or the Central Midwives' Board examined candidates until they were 21 years of age.

SIR JENNER VERRALL remarked that the examination of the College of Surgeons could be taken at any time.

The vote on Recommendation 13 (Dr. Goodall's motion to admit fever nurses to the Final Examination in Fever Nursing at 20 years of age) was then taken by show of hands.

Miss BUSHBY demanded that the names be recorded, when there voted

For the Recommendation—Miss Bremner, Miss Villiers, Miss du Sautoy, Miss Musson, Miss Sparshott, Miss Seymour Yapp, Miss Smith, Mr. Stratton, Miss Wiese, Miss Barrett, Dr. Smedley, Dr. Goodall, the Honble. Mrs. Eustace Hills, and Lady Hobhouse.

Against the Recommendation—Miss Lloyd-Still (Chairman of the Education Committee), Miss Bushby, Miss Cooche, and Miss Cowlin.

Not Voting—Sir Jenner Verrall (in the chair) and Mr. Donaldson.

On the recommendation of the Education Committee the following hospitals were approved as Training Schools:—
Acton Hospital, Acton, London.
West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone.

The following hospitals were approved as Training Schools for Fever Nurses:—

Brighton Borough Sanatorium, Brighton.

Iford Isolation Hospital, Essex.

Sunderland Borough Sanatorium for Infectious Diseases.

Willesden Municipal Hospital, London, N.W.

Miss LLOYD STILL further moved that the following Assistant Examiners should help in marking the Written Examination Papers:—

A. D. BIGLAND, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Liverpool Royal Infirmary).

R. C. CLARKE, M.R.C.P. (Bristol Royal Infirmary and Cosham Memorial Hospital).

Miss J. W. DAVIES, S.R.N. (Royal Infirmary, Bradford).

Miss M. HAWES, S.R.N. (St. Marylebone Hospital).

Miss D. L. HOLLAND, S.R.N. (Guy's Hospital).

W. JOHNSON, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Royal Southern Hospital and Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital).

Miss K. T. RYDER, S.R.N. (General Infirmary, Leeds).

H. J. D. SMYTHE, M.S., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Bristol General Hospital).

This was agreed.

The Report as a whole was adopted.

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