

Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

In the absence of DR. BEDFORD PIERCE (Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee), MR. DONALDSON moved that the Report be received.

On the recommendation of the Committee the following Hospitals were approved as Training Schools:—

For Male and Female Mental Nurses:—

Dorset County Mental Hospital, Herrison, Dorchester.
Exeter City Mental Hospital, Digby's, Exeter.
Mid-Wales Counties Mental Hospital, Talgarth, Brecon.
St. Audry's Hospital, Melton, Suffolk.
The Warneford, Oxford.
West Riding Asylum, Menston, near Leeds.

For Nurses for Mental Defectives:—

(1) For Male and Female Nurses—

London, South Side Home, Streatham Common, S.W.

Provinces—

Calderstones Certified Institution, Whalley, Lancs.
Caterham Mental Hospital, Surrey.
The Manor, Epsom, Surrey.
Monyhull Colony, Birmingham.
Rampton State Institution, Retford, Notts.

(2) For Female Nurses Only—

London, Fountain Mental Hospital, Tooting, S.W.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.

In the absence of MISS COX DAVIES (Chairman), MISS A. M. BUSHBY moved that the Report of the General Purposes Committee be received.

It was reported that 38 applications for the post of Assistant Registrar were received, and that three applicants had been selected to be interviewed by the Council. (The interviews took place *in camera* at the close of the meeting, Miss Gwladys Evelyn Davies being appointed.)

The two first Clauses of Recommendation 20, adopted at the meeting of the Council on April 20th, 1923, appointing the Assistant Registrar to act as Secretary to certain Committees, and requiring the Examinations Officer to act under the supervision of the Assistant Registrar were rescinded on the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee. The Assistant Registrar is to act as Secretary of the Registration Committee and the Mental Nursing Committee.

Report of the Uniform Committee.

The Report of the Uniform Committee was presented by the Chairman, MISS S. A. VILLIERS.

It was agreed that the final draft Rules with respect to the uniform and badge, which may be worn by Registered Nurses, be forwarded to the Minister of Health for approval.

On the recommendation of the Uniform Committee a number of firms in London and the provinces were authorised to make the Registered Nurses' Uniform, including the well-known house of Messrs. E. & R. Garrould in the Edgware Road.

The public business then concluded, and the Press withdrew.

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.**CERTIFICATION OF FEVER NURSES.**

The deplorable decision of the General Nursing Council to permit candidates of twenty years of age to enter for the Final Examination in Fever Nursing before the age of 21, the present age for registration, is of far-reaching importance. A lesson which emerges is that any divergence from the bed-rock of justice entails further injustice, and when the period of training for the General Part of the Register, and all the other Supplementary Parts, has been fixed at three years, that for admission to the Supplementary Part for Fever Nurses should have been fixed for the same period.

We are now confronted by the fact that these specialists

in Fever Nursing—young girls who have not attained their majority—can enter on independent nursing practice, and nurse not only the most serious infectious cases, but also cases of general diseases, without let or hindrance, on the authority of examination and certification by the General Nursing Council. They will thus undermine the economic conditions, not only of Fever Nurses, but General Nurses, in the economic world. Only under an affiliated Scheme of Education under which they will pass straight on to a General Hospital for training, should specialists be permitted to acquire an examination certificate before they are eligible for Registration.

The General Nursing Council, in permitting them to do so, acted with scanty regard for the welfare and safety of the public. Moreover, they perpetrated this wrong deliberately, for Miss Lloyd-Still, Chairman of the Education Committee, felt so strongly on the subject that she not only refused to move its Recommendation to admit girls of 20 to examination, a responsibility assumed by Dr. Goodall, but spoke strongly against it in the Council, expressing the opinion that it had forgotten what it owed to the public. Twenty-one was considered by the Council the very minimum age at which nurses should be registered.

WHAT REGISTERED NURSES ARE STILL AWAITING.

Registered Nurses are still awaiting:

1. The Prescribed Syllabus of Training for Probationers provided for in the Nurses' Registration Act.
2. The protected uniform similarly guaranteed to them.
3. The Amended Schedule for the Constitution of the Council, due on March 14th.
4. The Register of Nurses for 1924, which is already five months late.
5. The registration of 3,341 applicants, waiting on May 3rd.
6. (One of the most important). An audited Balance Sheet, 1920—1923, no audited Balance Sheet having been published, as it should be.

SCHEME FOR CONDUCTING THE STATE EXAMINATIONS.

We have received from the General Nursing Council for England and Wales a copy of the Scheme for Conducting the State Examinations, which is now issued in pamphlet form, together with the instructions to candidates, and the forms required to be filled up for the Preliminary and Final State Examinations. The first Preliminary Examination will be held in July next, and as candidates wishing to enter for the Examination should apply not more than twelve weeks or less than nine weeks before the published date of the Examination, to the Registrar, General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1, for an official form of entry, which must be returned eight weeks before the date on which the Examination will begin, it is time that probationers in training who intend to present themselves for this Examination obtained the necessary papers.

An Optional Examination will also be held in July for nurses who began their training before July 13th, 1920, and completed it before July 1st, 1924. Similar examinations will be held for the Supplementary Parts of the Register should there be a sufficient demand.

RECIPROCAL REGISTRATION WITH BRITISH DOMINIONS AND THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The Council have been in communication with a number of British Dominions in regard to re-registration of Nurses registered there, but have not yet been able to come to an arrangement with any Dominion.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)