

That provisional recognition be granted to the Huntingdon County Hospital for one year from September 30th, 1924.

The Report as a whole was approved.

Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

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

The Committee recommended that the following hospitals be recognised as Training Schools for Male and Female Mental Nurses :—

Fulford, York City Mental Hospital.
Goodmayes, Essex, West Ham Mental Hospital.
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire Mental Hospital.
Barnsley Hall.

The Committee also reported that it had considered the question of the Equipment required for the Final Examination of Mental Nurses, and the time to be occupied by the Oral and Practical Final Examination, and was making recommendations to the Education and Examination Committee in the matter.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE proceeded to say that there had been a meeting between members of the Medico-Psychological Association and the Mental Nursing Committee, a report of which had not, but should have been, included in that of the Mental Nursing Committee, when the Chairman interposed, saying that he was not in order in mentioning things which were not dealt with in the Report, it was much better to say as little as possible about the matter until its consideration was concluded. The Council could wait until next meeting for the information.

The Report as a whole was approved.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.

MISS COX DAVIES, Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, moved that the Report be received.

The Committee reported that a letter had been received from the Ministry of Health sanctioning increase of salary recommended at Council Meeting on June 20th for the Registration Clerk from £250 to £300 per annum, and for the Accountant from £260 to £350 per annum, and requesting that a list be forwarded of the temporary staff required, with the salaries for each.

The Recommendations of the General Purposes Committee have already been dealt with in that of the Finance Committee.

The Report as a whole was approved.

Report of the Uniform Sub-Committee.

MISS VILLIERS, Chairman of the Uniform Committee, reported that it had not met, but that the Sub-Committee had met once, and recommended that 20,000 Uniform Booklets be ordered instead of 10,000. It also recommended that 54 more firms be authorised to make the Registered Nurses' Uniform.

The Report as a whole was approved.

Motion.

DR. GOODALL then moved, in accordance with notice, and MR. DONALDSON seconded :—

"That it be an instruction to the Registrar to circulate to every member of the Council with the Agenda paper of the meeting of the Council at which the Standing Committees are to be elected, a statement showing the names of the members of the outgoing Standing Committees (and their Sub-Committees, if any), the number of meetings of each Committee (and Sub-Committee), and the number of attendances of each member at such meetings."

In moving the Resolution, DR. GOODALL said he thought that, if carried, it would be an advantage to the

Council, and such an instruction was quite a common and usual procedure with public bodies.

The public business was then concluded, and the Press withdrew.

TO STATE REGISTERED NURSES.

We are officially asked to state that :—

State Registered Nurses who have not yet paid the retention fee for 1925 are reminded that this fee was due on September 30th, and that their names will be removed from next year's Register unless it is paid by October 31st.

It is payable in advance.

Reminders were sent to all Registered Nurses, together with copy of Instructions with regard to Uniform and Badge on August 29th. Although these were sent to the addresses given as "permanent," no less than 706 have been returned to the Office marked "gone away," "left," or "address not known."

Will any nurse registered before January 1st, 1924, who has not received the yearly retention fee reminder please communicate with—

The Registrar,
General Nursing Council for England and Wales,
12, York Gate,
Regent's Park,
London, N.W.1.

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

CHAIRMAN'S REFUSAL TO PLACE PROTEST ON THE MINUTES.

It will be recollected that Miss du Sautoy's pertinent statement at the meeting of the General Nursing Council on October 17th that there was no mention in the minutes of the protest made by Miss Bushby at the last meeting of the Council, referred to the vigorous protest made by her as to the reversal of the Council's policy in regard to the recognition of Nursing Homes as Training Schools for Nurses, on the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee, so as to recognise St. Chad's Hospital, Birmingham, and we are of opinion that notice of a Resolution to this effect should have been given at a previous meeting.

Miss Bushby pointed out that the correct title of this hospital is Edgbaston Private Nursing Home, Ltd., and that it receives two classes of patients: (1) those who pay £12 12s. weekly for nursing accommodation and professional attendance, and (2) ordinary private patients, who pay the medical attendant independently of the nursing charges. She said further that if this recommendation were allowed to go through, many other Nursing Homes would want to be recognised as Training Schools. The employment of unskilled labour in such Homes was also an economic question. At the present time trained nurses were finding it difficult to get work.

We are not surprised that the Chairman of the Council did not wish this protest placed upon the minutes, as it proves that the General Nursing Council for England and Wales support the iniquitous practice of charging the sick public fees for skilled nursing, and the employment in part of unskilled women to care for them. It only remains for the Council to complete its *volte face* by giving its approval to the payment by probationers for the training they receive in Nursing Homes, by no means an unknown practice, when the proprietors stand to gain both ways.

AN INOPPORTUNE TIME.

We wonder when the Ministry of Health will consider the time opportune for reducing the huge temporary clerical staff at the G.N.C. Offices, and restricting it to a permanent basis.

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