

the meeting up. Several of her nurses were so indignant at this unfairness, that they informed the Union of the matter.

She asked the Minister, in the interest of the sick among the community, as well as the Nursing Profession, to use his influence with the Prime Minister to sanction the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons to enquire into nursing affairs in general, and the College of Nursing, Ltd., and the Nation's Fund for Nurses, in particular. She stated that the College had captured the Nation's Fund, and that according to the latter's reports, £80,000 of the money which was asked for and obtained for the benefit of nurses, was handed over to this limited liability company, which was using it to fight the nurses' self-governing organisations, and that although these large sums of money were stated in the Nation's Fund Reports to have been handed over to the College of Nursing, the latter body had issued no balance-sheet dealing with this fund, nor can any mention of it be found in the General Fund of the College Reports.

She pointed out that whereas the nurses' own societies were supported by the pennies of the nurses, this limited liability company had practically unlimited money from this fund at its command to destroy the working nurses' societies.

Speech by Councillor Beatrice Kent, S.R.N.

Councillor Beatrice Kent, as a public servant, appealed to the Minister in support of the Inquiry asked for. The Nurses' Registration Act had, she said, been violated more than once by the body charged with its administration. The situation was serious if an Act could be so ignored. No body of persons should be permitted to violate the Act for their own pleasure and convenience to the detriment of the nurses, and there was the further principle involved, that if one Act were thus treated with impunity, another could be, and the security given by any Act of Parliament was thus assailed.

The Minister's Reply.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JOHN WHEATLEY, M.P., P.C. Minister of Health, who listened with marked attention to the views of the Deputation, said, in reply, that he was very much interested in the case they had put before him. He was interested in the status of nurses.

The question put before him was intricate in character, and it would be unfair to express the steps he proposed to take, nor would those whom he now addressed expect him to do so, on the present occasion.

He referred to the rapid changes in those holding the Office of Minister of Health, and promised that within the next two or three days he would confer with his advisers on the points brought to his notice, after which he would communicate his decision to the Deputation.

Major Barnett having thanked the Minister for receiving the Deputation, it then withdrew.

MEETING OF THE REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL.

There will be a meeting of the Council at which it is hoped there will be a large attendance on Thursday, April 3rd, to receive a Report of the Deputation to the Minister of Health on March 11th, Councillor Beatrice Kent (President) in the chair, at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., 5 p.m.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

The Preliminary Examinations of the General Nursing Council for Scotland will commence on April 18th, on which date the written paper will be held, simultaneously, at the different centres. All communications should be addressed to the Registrar, 13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The Forty-fifth Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W., on Friday, March 21st, Sir Wilmot P. Herringham, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Chairman of the Council) presiding.

A Matter of Urgency.

The Minutes of the last meeting having been read, and with one correction confirmed, THE CHAIRMAN reported, as a matter of urgency that in a recent case in which a woman was convicted of theft it was reported in the Press that she had claimed to be a Registered Nurse. The official evidence forwarded did not bear that out, but if, on enquiry, this was established, THE CHAIRMAN proposed that the Council should give power to the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee to act, as it was inadvisable to wait for the next meeting of the Council. This was done.

Correspondence.

A letter, addressed to the Registrar, was received from Dr. R. Worth, Hon. General Secretary of the Medico-Psychological Association, stating that "the Medico-Psychological Association appreciates the offer made by the General Nursing Council as set out in their letter of December 14th, and accepts the same."

N.B.—This offer was presumably that which was brought before the General Nursing Council on December 18th in the form of a recommendation appended to a Report by the Chairman of the Council, and proposed by him, viz. :—

1. That the General Nursing Council invite the Medico-Psychological Association to form an Advisory Committee to assist the General Nursing Council, such Advisory Committee to meet the Mental Nursing Committee of the General Nursing Council for the purposes of matters appertaining to the Final Examinations; the resolutions of such meetings to be recommendations to the Council.

2. That the General Nursing Council invite the Medico-Psychological Association to nominate the Examiners for the Final Examinations for appointment by the General Nursing Council.

It would be interesting to know by what authority the Registrar conveyed the "offer" to the Medico-Psychological Association four days before the meeting of the General Nursing Council which sanctioned it.

DR. WORTH in his letter further stated that the following members were selected to act in an Advisory capacity for the Final Examination:—Dr. M. A. Collins, Kent County Mental Hospital; Dr. A. Daniel, Hanwell Mental Hospital; Lieut.-Col. Lord, Horton Mental Hospital; Dr. A. N. Boycott, Herts. County Mental Hospital; Dr. A. A. W. Petrie, Maudsley Hospital; Dr. J. Chambers, The Priory, Roehampton; Dr. R. L. Langdon-Down, Normansfield, Hampton Wick; Dr. R. Worth, Springfield Mental Hospital, Tooting.

MISS DU SAUTOY enquired why no Registered Nurse had been appointed on the Selection Committee. If there were no Nurses upon it how was it going to supply the Nurse Examiners?

THE CHAIRMAN said that the Medico-Psychological Association were invited to form an Advisory Committee. If they could not supply the Nurse Examiners the Council must.

MISS BUSHBY here rose and said:—"I wish to draw attention to the danger of having an Advisory Committee Medical Superintendents selected by the Medico-Psychological Association, as it will take away the power of the Council, and the right of the nurses to elect their own representatives."

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