

Reverting to the Syllabus of Examination for General Nurses, Miss LLOYD STILL said that the skeleton had not given satisfaction. Many examiners were asking to have it amplified. In regard to the Preface, it was agreed to delete the final paragraphs referring to the first Preliminary Examination, and the Final Examination in 1924.

In the discussion on the additions to the Syllabus, DR. GOODALL disagreed to requiring candidates for the Preliminary Examination to be conversant with the methods of disinfection in the notifiable diseases, of which he said there were 22, but considered this might properly be required of candidates for the Final Examination.

Miss ALSON thought that nurses might know the diseases.

Miss VILLIERS agreed with Dr. Goodall, and DR. SMEDLEY thought that it was overloading the programme in the preliminary examination, but would like to see it in the later stage.

DR. GOODALL moved, and DR. SMEDLEY seconded an amendment that the words "compulsory notification" should be omitted in the hygienic section, but the amendment was lost, four voting for it, and 13 against.

Miss DU SAUTOY moved, and Miss WIESE seconded a proposal that the Incubation of Diseases should be included.

SIR JENNER VERRALL expressed the opinion that it should not be inserted in the place suggested, and the motion was lost.

Discussing the section on the Theory and Practice of Nursing, Miss LLOYD STILL again said that the examiners were very dissatisfied with the whole Syllabus. It had had to be revised.

The wording to the paragraph *re* Massage and Electricity, their principles and therapeutic value was referred back for the further consideration of those words.

On the motion of Miss COWLIN, seconded by MR. STRATTON, it was agreed that the "Compulsory notification of diseases" should be moved from the preliminary part of the Syllabus to a later stage. Miss COWLIN also proposed and Miss DU SAUTOY seconded that instruction as to the Incubation period should be added under "Infectious Diseases." This also was agreed, and the amendments were accepted by the Chairman of the Committee.

Miss MUSSON objected to the use of the word "feeds" in the Syllabus as slang.

After other amendments had been made, THE CHAIRMAN moved that the Syllabus be referred back to the Education Committee, with power to incorporate the Amendments made by the Council and to forward the Syllabus so amended to the Minister of Health.

The Report as a whole was approved.

#### Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

In the absence of the Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee, MR. R. W. DONALDSON moved that the Report be received.

The Committee recommended that the County Mental Hospital, Burntwood, Lichfield, and the Northumberland County Mental Hospital, Norfolk, be recognised as Training Schools for Male and Female Mental Nurses.

It also reported a number of nominations for the Board of Examiners for the Final Examination for Mental Nurses had been received from the Medico-Psychological Association, and recommended that the following nominees be appointed the Board of Examiners for the Final Examination in July:—G. W. Smith, O.B.E., M.B. (Isleworth); E. S. Simpson, M.C., M.D. (Beverley); H. Devine, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.Lond. (Portsmouth); Miss Jessie Cumming, S.R.N., R.M.N. (London).

DR. GOODALL considered that the information as to the nominations by the Medico-Psychological Association was out of order, if correct. The Mental Nursing Committee should consult with the Medico-Psychological Association

Committee, and then bring out the recommendation as its own to the Council.

Miss MUSSON thought the recommendation should be made through the Education Committee.

In reply to questions, THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL said that the Medico-Psychological Association had been asked by the Council to make the nominations for the Board of Examiners in Mental Nursing. It could accept or reject them, but it could not substitute others. This had been arranged by the Council.

The Reports of Miss MUSSON and MR. DONALDSON, delegates to the Conference on the Nursing Service in Mental Hospitals, convened by the Board of Control, were received, and it was directed that they should be placed on the Minutes.

#### Report of the General Purposes Committee.

The one item on the Report of this Committee has already been dealt with in that of the Finance Committee.

The Public Business then concluded and the Press withdrew.

### POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

#### WHERE IS THE LEAKAGE?

On several occasions items of Council business, which should be confidential until officially presented, have been published previously in a lay-edited nursing journal, which is a very grave breach of official decorum. Who is it who passes on this private information? If an official in the office, we hope the Chairman will put a stop to it; if a member of the Council we hope he or she will discontinue the practice after reading this paragraph.

#### "ALL THE REGISTERS."

It will be remembered that the Nurses' Registration Act provides that "it shall be the duty of the Council to form and keep a Register of Nurses for the sick," referred to in the Act as "the Register," and the Section then proceeds to define the parts of which the Register shall consist. Why then does the Registration Committee report month after month that applications have been received for admission to the General Register, the Male Register, the Mental Register, and so forth? Why does the Chairman permit it to do so, and why was the Report of the Education Committee on April 24th, referring to "all the Registers," allowed to pass without comment, when it is defined by Law that there is only one? The right technical term to insert when referring to the different Sections of the Register is the word "part," all but the General Part being Supplementary Parts.

#### THE STATE REGISTER.

The visit of Princess Mary to open the new Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales should most certainly have been signalized by presenting to Her Royal Highness a copy of the Register of Nurses, the crowning point of the work in which the Council is engaged, empowered by Act of Parliament.

The omission to recognise the status of the Nursing Profession in this connection is only one more proof of the absolute lack of any sense of reverence for Nursing as a Profession on the part of persons who control its destinies. The substitution of golliwogs in a basket of flowers for the State Register of Nurses would be comic, were it not a proof of the absolute futility of the General Nursing Council.

#### THE PROTECTED UNIFORM.

Why does the Council permit its chief official, whose uniform should be a pattern to all nurses visiting Headquarters, to wear a uniform blouse, skirt, tie, and badge, with a sand-coloured sports' coat? If it overlooks this discrepancy, how can it take any nurses to task for wearing a uniform which diverges from that which has been sanctioned by Law for Registered Nurses?

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