

Council. I think we can trust the Nurses on the register to elect the right people."

The experience of the College had been that if it was left in the hands of the nurses they would rise to the occasion and elect the right people, and representative people.

Miss M. C. HERBERT, S.R.N., called in and examined.

Miss M. C. Herbert, Sister Tutor at St. George's in the East Hospital, Wapping, expressed the view that the General Nursing Council Syllabus of Training did not agree with the Syllabus of Examination on a certain number of points, and therefore was not suitable as a guide, nor an accurate interpretation of that Syllabus, and that it was to this disagreement between the two Syllabuses that the dissatisfaction must be traced, which was apparently felt, that questions were asked in Examination which were outside the Syllabus.

Miss Herbert explained that she was speaking quite independently, just as a Sister Tutor who had discussed this question with fellow Sister Tutors and others. The difficulty she had found was that there had been questions repeatedly, both written and verbally, which were not in the portion of the Examination Syllabus for the preliminary training. Nurses asked, as you were teaching them "Shall we be asked questions on this, or that, or the other." They could only say "It is not in the Examination Syllabus," but they could not say "No," because they knew these questions were asked.

Tuesday, July 28th.

Miss KATE HAYWOOD called in and examined.

Miss Kate Haywood, Matron of Walthamstow, Wanstead and Leyton Children's and General Hospital, said when questioned by the Chairman that she found a difficulty in recruiting a certain class of nurse. She did not think this had to do with the prolonged training, or was because they were in association with another hospital. She thought there were fewer people who wished to enter the profession now. She got a good many applicants but not from the class they could take.

In regard to the Syllabus of Training being made compulsory, she did not think she would like to see this. She was afraid she had not thought about that really. She would not object to its being compulsory if it were not so detailed as the present one.

Miss Haywood also said she had not given very much attention to the second question before the Committee—the reservation of seats on the General Nursing Council for Matrons. She thought there should be reservation most certainly, because she considered that Matrons who had had experience of hospital management would be far more able to advise the Council.

Replying to Sir Richard Barnett, the witness said that in view of the fact that all the Societies representing the nurses were in favour of a free election she would not put her opinion as a Matron against the wish of the nurses. She agreed it was a matter for the nurses as to who should represent them.

Miss D. C. PHILPOTT, A.R.R.C., called in and examined.

Miss D. C. Philpott, Matron of the High Wycombe and District War Memorial Hospital, attributed her difficulty in getting probationers to the fact that the large hospitals like probationers at a so much younger age than formerly. Formerly the age was 23, now they would take them at 19, that made a lot of difference. The witness said she would like to see the Syllabus of Training made compulsory. Asked by Sir Charles Forestier Walker, whether she meant that, the witness adhered to her opinion, and neither Mr. Hurst, Col. Fremantle, or the Chairman succeeded in shaking it.

She approved of reservation of seats on the Council for Matrons, but thought that the little hospitals might be better represented.

Miss LUCY DUFF GRANT called in and examined.

Miss Duff Grant, Sister Tutor at the General Infirmary, Leeds, gave evidence as to the Syllabus of Training and the Examination Syllabus. She thought both the Examination Syllabus and the Syllabus of Training satisfactory. She thought the smaller hospitals could quite well work up to the Syllabus of Training.

MR. HERBERT J. PATERSON, C.B.E., M.C., F.R.C.S., called in and examined.

Mr Herbert Paterson, Medical Hon. Secretary of the Royal British Nurses Association, gave details of its organisation. He expressed the view that the General Nursing Council had not carried out the instructions of Parliament with respect to the compulsory Syllabus of Training.

The Chairman informed the witness that the contention of the Ministry was that notwithstanding the fact that the Syllabus was permissive, there was, in effect, a prescribed training because there was a prescribed examination with a prescribed Syllabus of that examination, including a prescribed nurses' chart dealing with the practical part of the instruction; secondly, because there are certain rules which are prescribed dealing with the recognition of schools of training, requiring a certificate of attendance at certain courses of training, *i.e.*, lectures, and lastly, requiring 3 years' experience in a recognised school of training. The contention of the Ministry was that those measures, taken together, do constitute a prescribed form of training.

Mr. Paterson submitted they do not for two reasons: because it says in the Act it has to be prescribed, and they distinctly say it is permissive.

In reply to a further question by the Chairman, Mr. Paterson said his considered view was that there is no form of prescribed training. He added "The second point is that I should say the syllabus of examination is far too vague. A question was put to nurses of the first year which I venture to think not many members of a Select Committee could answer, and that was, 'How would you construct a reservoir'?"

In regard to the reservation of seats for Matrons on the Council, Mr. Paterson expressed himself unreservedly in favour of the abolition of all reservations.

Miss MAUDE MACCALLUM, S.R.N., called in and examined.

Miss Maude MacCallum, S.R.N., Hon. Secretary of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, stated as the view of its members that there should be a compulsory system of training. She said, "If I may put before this committee a point of view that has not yet been touched on, it is this. Nurses, we say, should be trained for the service of the sick, and not for the convenience of any institution. This is a thing that nurses feel very strongly upon, and for this reason: the hospitals have really no interest at all in the trained certificated nurse. There are just a few trained people in hospital, the matron, the sister tutor and a few sisters, but the large bulk of the nurses in hospital are women in training. Now as soon as those women have passed their examinations they are turned out. Every year something between 5,000 and 6,000 nurses are turned out. What becomes of those nurses? They are the nurses that are turned loose on the general public to nurse the general public as private nurses. Nobody has ever mentioned the private nurses, but they are by far the largest number of nurses on the general nurses' register. . . . That is the time when the nurse's training comes in. The patient's life is at stake and there is nobody the nurse can depend on but herself. If she had not had the full training that patient might lose her life. And very often the nurse has not had full training. I have known of a nurse being sent out to

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