

the question afresh in the New Year. After the election of the Committees it might not be necessary to co-opt a Mental Nurse on the Education Committee. Power had been given to that Committee to co-opt or not as it pleased, and just because the Education Committee had not done what the Mental Nursing Committee wished, there was this motion to refer back this paragraph of the Report.

MR. DONALDSON said that if the speaker and the rest were only decent—

DR. GOODALL said MR. DONALDSON was talking about his decency. Hereally must request the Chairman to take notice.

MISS MUSSON said that the Education and Examination Committee was large as it was. They invariably did refer to the Mental Committee anything affecting Mental Nurses, and she thought it would be the wish of its Chairman that they should definitely undertake to do so in the future.

MISS WIESE said that the whole of the Preliminary Examination had to do with the Mental Nurses. She wished to warn the Council—

THE CHAIRMAN said it was no good threatening the Council, and it was not a polite thing to do.

On the Motion being put to the vote, nine votes were recorded against it, four in favour, and five members did not vote.

MR. DONALDSON called for the names which were as follows:—

*Ayes.*—Miss Cowlin, Mr. Donaldson, Miss Villiers, Miss Wiese.

*Noes.*—Miss Alsop, Miss Armstrong, Miss Bushby, Miss Cox Davies, Mr. Cronshaw, Dr. Goodall, Lady Hobhouse, Miss Musson, Sir Jenner Verrall.

*Not Voting.*—Miss du Sautoy, The Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills, Miss Price, Mr. Stratton, Miss Wilson.

#### Report of the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee.

MISS BUSHBY, Chairman of the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee moved that the Report be received.

The Committee reported that they had considered the case of a Registered Nurse convicted of theft. They recommended:—

"That a *prima facie* case is made out for the removal of the name of the above Nurse from the Register."

The case was considered *in camera*.

#### Report of the Mental Nursing Committee.

In the absence of DR. BEDFORD PIERCE (Chairman) MR. R. W. DONALDSON presented the Report and moved that it be received.

On its recommendation the Wells Mental Hospital, Wells, Somerset, was recognised as a Complete Training School for Male and Female Mental Nurses.

The Committee reported that in the afternoon of Monday, November 9th, 1925, a Joint Meeting with the Advisory Committee appointed by the Medico-Psychological Association was held, and that a revised Scheme and Regulations for conducting the Final Examinations for Mental Nurses were considered. The Committee recommended:—

"That Recommendation 8 of the Education and Examination Committee (Council Minutes, November 16th, 1923) be rescinded and the Scheme for Conducting the State Examinations, and Regulations for Conducting the State Examinations as now submitted be substituted for those approved on November 16th, 1923."

This was agreed and the Report was adopted.

#### Report of the General Purposes Committee.

MISS COX-DAVIES, Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, presented the Report which stated that the correspondence dealt with in the office between October 1st and October 31st amounted to 11,021 letters received, and 25,008 despatched.

The Committee recommended, and it was agreed, that the office be closed from December 24th to December 28th, inclusive, for Christmas Holidays.

## POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

### THE SCHEME OF ELECTION.

At the Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, on September 18th, the Registration Committee reported that it had considered the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons. The Select Committee recommended that the eleven places allotted to nurses on the General Part of the Register should be thrown open to any nurse registered on the General Part of the Register. The Committee recommended:—

"That the Registration Committee be empowered to amend the Scheme accordingly, and submit the amended Scheme to the Council."

We note with surprise that only a recommendation from the Registration Committee concerning this most important matter appeared on the Agenda for the Council Meeting on the 20th ult. and no Resolution defining what the Scheme is (which was appended to the Recommendation of the Registration Committee). It is a matter of the utmost importance that the Scheme should have been printed on the Agenda and been brought up as a definite Resolution for discussion by the Council, which would then have had an opportunity of expressing an opinion about it.

### THE R.N.P.C. RESOLUTIONS.

It is not altogether surprising that medical men should treat the resolutions of a responsible body of nurses, such as the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, with rudeness, and propose that they lie on the table. They do not like criticism from members of their own profession, much less from nurses.

What is surprising is that not one of the 16 Direct Representatives of the Nurses rose to protest against this contemptuous treatment. Nothing could have proved more clearly than this incident the wisdom of the nurses in going direct to Parliament, over the head of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, to safeguard their interests.

### THE GENERAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY REGISTERS.

We are glad to note that in the returns made to the Minister concerning Applications to Register, the Council have reverted to the classification of General Register and Supplementary Registers. This is in accordance with the Nurses' Registration Act, which the classification recently adopted of Male and Female Registers, and so on, was not.

### THE LIST OF FAILURES.

We note the reason given by the Chairman for not giving the list of failures (presumably the numbers of candidates who fail at each hospital) to the press is that it is "very unpleasant for the hospitals." It may be, but it is still more unpleasant for a probationer to spend three years in learning her profession and then to fail because she has been poorly taught. Intending probationers should be able, before applying to a Nurse Training School, to study the class lists, and see which hospitals are successful in training their probationers to pass the State Examination, and which have a large percentage of failures. At present they are left in ignorance.

### REPRESENTATION OF MENTAL NURSES ON EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The contention of the Mental Nurses on the Council that they ought to be represented on the Education Committee, is, we think, quite a reasonable one. No one else has the knowledge to speak from their point of view. But they would strengthen their position if they suggested the abolition of the Mental Nursing Committee, which, whatever may have been the case in the early days of the Council, is now no longer necessary.

One thing is certain, that until the General Nursing Council for England and Wales has a Registered Nurse in the Chair it will never have an ounce of prestige.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)