

The Committee reported that in the afternoon of March 4th the fifth Joint Meeting with the Advisory Committee appointed by the Medico-Psychological Association was held, and the following matters were discussed:— (a) The number of lectures to be given and the number of attendances desirable for nurses entering for the Final Examination for Mental Nurses. (b) The effect of the non-recognition of certain Mental Hospitals as Training Schools, and the possible hardship to nurses in training at these Hospitals. (c) The position of Mental Nurses who enter for the Medico-Psychological Association's Final Examination next May, the results of which examination may not be known before the beginning of July, when the period of grace for Intermediate Nurses terminates. (d) A suggestion in respect to an alteration in the Syllabus for the Preliminary Examination.

No recommendations were made.

The Report as a whole was adopted.

Report of the General Purposes Committee.

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

The recommendations of this Committee have already been dealt with in connection with the Report of the Finance Committee.

The Committee reported that the March meeting of the Council would be the last to be held at the Ministry of Health. It recommended that "a letter of thanks be addressed to the Ministry for their generosity in granting the free use of the Council Room for almost five years." The recommendation was carried without comment.

The Report as a whole was approved.

Report of the Uniform Committee.

MISS S. A. VILLIERS, Chairman of the Uniform Committee, moved that the Report be received.

The Committee reported the names of 18 more firms which had been authorised to make the Registered Nurses Uniforms.

The Report was approved.

Election to Fill Vacancy on the Council.

The public business then terminated, and the Council then went into Special Committee to fill the vacancy on the Council occasioned by the resignation of Miss Seymour Yapp.

New Member of Council.

The vacancy on the General Nursing Council caused by the resignation of Miss Seymour Yapp has been filled by the Council by the appointment of Miss Mabel Esther Price, S.R.N., trained at the Birmingham Infirmary (Cert. 1904-1907), and at present Matron of the Southmead Infirmary, Bristol.

The Register of Nurses.

The only information available, upon enquiry, as to when the Register of Nurses for 1925 will be published is that it is "still in the hands of the printers."

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

THE PROCEDURE OF BUSINESS.

So much of the business of the General Nursing Council is now transacted in Committee that the Council itself, which is appointed by Parliament to administer the Nurses' Registration Act, is in danger of becoming a body for registering the decisions of Committees. The public business transacted by the Council at its last meeting took under half an hour. The procedure of the first Council was to have fresh business brought up at the Council Meeting and then to refer it to the appropriate Committees. The present procedure appears to be to refer most things to a

Committee (presumably on the authority of the Chairman) before it has come before the Council, and the Committee adjudicates upon it, or deals with it, and then asks for the approval of the Council at its next meeting, which it invariably receives.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

We desire again to draw attention to the irregular position of the House Committee of the General Nursing Council. The Standing Committees are strictly defined under the Rules, and in the Rules as published in the last Register available (1924) it is not amongst those approved by the Minister of Health. Yet apparently this little Committee composed of the Chairman of the Council and three other members, has very considerable powers.

The reason for defining the number of members on these Standing Committees under Statutory Authority was, undoubtedly, to ensure that large powers should not be exercised by a few persons, and the position of the House Committee appears to us to be very equivocal.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

NOTE OF PROCEEDINGS AT THE MEETING HELD AT 18, MELVILLE STREET, EDINBURGH, ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

At the Meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland held on February 27th, in the absence of the Chairman, Sir John Lorne MacLeod, the Chair was taken by Col. Mackintosh, Vice-Chairman.

It was intimated that the Scottish Board of Health had given their approval to the Council's amendments to Rules 20, 22(b) and 22(c), and the Council agreed to amendments suggested to Rules 22 C(a) and 22 C(b) to the effect of providing that in the case of Future Nurses a married Candidate should forward her Marriage Certificate, and that in certain cases the Applicant should produce further Certificates as to Character.

The Report of the Education and Examination Committee was submitted by Col. Mackintosh, the Chairman, which dealt with the Meeting which the Committee had with the Advisory Committee of the Medico-Psychological Association, at which the arrangements for the Final Examination in Mental Nursing were discussed. It was resolved that the Written Part of the Examination should be held at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen, and at other places where not less than 15 Candidates intimated their desire to be examined, or where, owing to the long distance from a Centre, special arrangements are desirable for the convenience of Candidates, provided arrangements are made by the Hospitals concerned for the conducting of the Examination to the satisfaction of the Council. It was resolved that the Written Part of the Examination would consist of one paper, the questions in which would cover all Sections of the Syllabus with the exception of the Sections taken in the Preliminary Examination and Section XIII; that the paper would consist of 8 questions, of which 6 must be answered, including 2 essential questions which will be specially marked as such; that the pass mark for the Examination be 50 per cent., but that a Candidate should not be allowed to enter for the Oral and Practical Part of the Examination unless she has obtained at least 45 per cent. in the Written Part of the Examination.

In order to obtain a uniformity of standard in regard to the Preliminary Examination, the Committee recommended that Examiners should meet before the Oral Examination for the purpose of arranging the standard of marking.

A Report was submitted by Miss White and Miss Milnes who had been present at the Oral and Practical Part of the February Preliminary Examination in Edinburgh on behalf of the Council.

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