

## GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on July 16th, at 20, Portland Place, London, W., Miss E. M. Musson, R.R.C. (Chairman of the Council) presiding.

The Minutes having been confirmed, THE CHAIRMAN notified that the next meeting of the Council would be held on September 24th.

### Correspondence.

The Correspondence included :—

(1) A letter from Mr. John MacCallum thanking the Council for its letter of sympathy on the death of his sister, Miss Maude MacCallum.

(2) The following letter dated May 21st, 1926, from the Ministry of Health :—

MINISTRY OF HEALTH.  
Whitehall, London, S.W.1.  
May 21st, 1926.

MADAM,—

I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to your letter of the 30th April, forwarding a resolution of the Council regarding the Rules with respect to the uniform of registered nurses.

I am to refer to the interview which the Chairman and Registrar had with officers of this Department, and am to explain that as regards paragraph (b) of the resolution the Minister will be prepared to approve an amending rule if the Council will be good enough to forward a draft of the amendment which they would desire to have made.

With regard to paragraph (a) of the resolution, the Minister sympathises with the desire of the Council that greater elasticity should be possible in determining the uniform of registered nurses. But, as was pointed out at the interview, it is open to grave doubt whether any instruction given by the Council which was not a specific Rule approved by the Minister could be enforced. As a result of the discussion referred to, it was agreed that it would probably be advisable not to proceed with the suggestion contained in paragraph (a) of the resolution; but that the Council should from time to time apply to the Minister for approval to such amendments of the Rules as might be considered necessary, bearing in mind that the essential feature of a uniform is that it changes as little as possible.

I am, Madam,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed) P. BARTER.

THE REGISTRAR,  
The General Nursing Council.

### Finance.

Bills and Claims submitted for payment were approved and £150 for stamps, £30 for Insurance Stamps, and £30 for Petty Cash were allowed, also £4,500 for Examiners' Claims and Expenses, £300 for Stamps for Retention Fee Notices to be issued at the end of August, and £125 for monthly salaries in August.

The Committee reported that they raised no objection to Recommendations 16 and 17 of the General Purposes Committee. These were: (16) "That the permanent staff and salary sheet (appended) be submitted to the Minister of Health for approval." (17) "That in the event of the approval of suggested scale by the Minister of Health, the recommendation for adjustment of salaries now submitted be approved."

### Registration.

The Registration Committee reported that to July 2nd applications received otherwise than by Examination were 55,317. Approval to June 18th, 52,254. For approval on July 16th, 13. Ineligible to June 18th, 1,926. Duplicate applications 483. Applications withdrawn 1,169. Applications incomplete 22.

### Education and Examination.

Provisional approval granted to the Hartlepool Hospital, Hartlepool, was extended by the Registration Committee to December 31st.

The City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Lungs, Victoria Park, was recognised as a training school which, in combination with the Royal Hants County Hospital, Winchester, gives complete training under Section 1 (2) of the Scheme of Training. Also St. Peter's Hospital, Bedford Union, in affiliation with Hackney Hospital, London, under Section 1 (2) of the Scheme of Training, and the Central Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, in affiliation with the Royal United Hospital, Bath, under Section 1 (2). The Southgate Isolation Hospital, Palmer's Green, London, was recognised as giving complete training for Fever Nurses in affiliation with Plaistow Fever Hospital and Hornsey, Finchley and Wood Green Joint Hospital.

### Preliminary and Final State Examinations.

The Education and Examination Committee reported the results of the Preliminary and Final State Examinations held on May 31st, June 1st and subsequent dates as :—

#### RESULTS.

	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.
<i>Preliminary Examination—</i>					
Complete Examination .. ..	1,992	91	1,901	1,509	392
Re-entries, Part Examination ..	134	8	126	99	27
	2,126	99	2,027	1,608	419
<i>Final Examination—</i>					
<i>General Register—</i>					
Complete Examination .. ..	1,240	39	1,201	970	231
Re-entries, Part Examination ..	113	3	110	76	34
<i>Male Nurses' Register</i>	2	—	2	2	—
<i>Mental Nurses' Register—</i>					
Complete Examination .. ..	21	—	21	21	—
Re-entry, Part Examination ..	1	—	1	1	—
<i>Sick Children's Nurses' Register—</i>					
Complete Examination .. ..	51	1	50	36	14
Re-entries Part Examination ..	11	—	11	5	6
<i>Fever Nurses' Register—</i>					
Complete Examination .. ..	138	4	134	116	18
Re-entries, Part Examination ..	2	—	2	—	2
	1,579	47	1,532	1,227	305

The names of the 1,227 Candidates approved by the Examiners were referred to the Registration Committee for Registration.

Dr. Bedford Pierce (co-opted member) was elected to the vacancy on the Education and Examination Committee in place of Sir Wilmot Herringham, who is now Vice-Chairman of Council and, therefore, an *ex officio* member of the Committee.

### Mental Nursing.

Considerable discussion took place on the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee that the following be appointed as the Board of Examiners for the Final Examination for Nurses for Mental Defectives :—

E. B. Sherlock, Esq., M.B., M.D., D.P.H., R.S.C.P. (Dartford).  
F. D. Turner, Esq., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., M.B. (Colchester).  
Miss M. M. Hiney, S.R.N., R.N.M.D. (Dartford).

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE spoke of the difficulties in regard to the examination of nurses for mental defectives. There was a wide question of principle. There were not many hospitals for mental defectives now, but more were being built. One of the difficulties was what was the meaning of the word nurse. Less than 6 per cent. of mental defectives were sick and confined to bed, but the regulations of the Council for the training of nurses for mental defectives required six months' training in bedside nursing. This question of training had been frequently considered by the Mental Nursing Committee, but was not yet solved.

MISS WIESE moved that the Report be referred back. In one instance the Medical Superintendent had taken no

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