GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at 20, Portland Place, London, W., on Friday, February 19th, Miss E. M. Musson, S.R.N., R.R.C. (Chairman of the Council) presiding.

Letter from the Board of Control.

The following letter was received from the Board of Control, 66 Victoria St., S.W.r:—

MADAM,—Adverting to the Board's letter to you of the 20th ultimo, I now enclose the "Syllabus of Subjects for Examination of those nursing Mental Defectives" which has been drawn up by the Board of Control with the aid of some Superintendents of mental deficiency institutions. The Board would be much obliged if this Syllabus could be placed before the Council as they think it might form the basis of a useful discussion at the forthcoming Conference.

I am to say that with regard to the nursing of sick patients the Board would strongly recommend Local Authorities to appoint at each mental deficiency colony at least one general hospital trained nurse who would be in charge of the hospital building in the colony or the infirmary ward as the case may be.

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I am, Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) O. E. DICKINSON,

Secretary.

Finance.

The Finance Committee reported that Mr. R. W. Donaldson had been re-elected as its Chairman. It approved the payment of Bills and Claims submitted, and that the sum of £50 for stamps, £10 for Insurance Stamps, and £20 for Petty Cash be allowed, and raised no objection to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee that 20 quarto Steel Filing Cabinets at £7 2s. each should be purchased.

Registration.

The Registration Committee reported that MISS H. A. ALSOP, S.R.N., had been elected as its Chairman.

It further reported that applications for Registration to date were 56,476, of these 52,021 were approved by the Council to January 15th, 1926, 1,346 were ineligible to January 15th, 18 ineligible were to be brought before the Council that day, there were 483 duplicate applications, 1,113 were withdrawn, and 198 were incomplete. Applications for registration by examination were 1,187, of these 997 passed and 190 were referred in Examination.

Education and Examination.

The Education and Examination Committee reported that MISS A. LLOYD-STILL, C.B.E., R.R.C., had been re-elected as its Chairman.

On its recommendation the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Lungs was approved as a training school in affiliation with the General Infirmary, Salisbury, the Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, as a training school for Fever Nurses in conjunction with other Infectious Diseases Hospitals in London under the control of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, the Derby Borough Isolation Hospital was also recognised as a training school for Fever Nurses

The South Charitable Infirmary and County Hospital, Cork, was temporarily approved as a Complete Training School for the purpose of permitting an Existing Nurse trained in that hospital and now resident in England, to sit for the examinations held by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

Rules for Future Nurses.

On the recommendation of the Education Committee the Council decided to adopt the following note to the Rules for future Nurses, in order to deal with an ambiguity:—

Note.—In these Rules the words "a Complete Training School" mean one complete Training School, and not more than one; the words "an Associated Training School" mean one Associated Training School and not more than one; the words "an Affiliated Training School" mean one Affiliated Training School, and not more than one; always provided that the Council reserve power to deal with special cases as it may see fit."

The Committee reported that Dr. Bedford Pierce had been co-opted a member of the Education and Examination Committee.

Miss M. Wiese enquired why the Education Committee had co-opted a member of the Mental Committee when last year they had refused to do so.

THE CHAIRMAN said that it was a new Committee.

SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM said it was not usual to ask for details of a private discussion when it was not reported. If a member of the Council objected to the Report she could move that it be referred back.

MISS WIESE expressed the opinion that members of the Council had a right to know what was going on in the Standing Committees.

She also asked why the Examination papers were not in the hands of the members, and said that she had had to obtain them from the Nursing Press.

THE CHAIRMAN suggested that MISS WIESE should communicate with the Education Committee in writing.

Mental Nursing.

The Mental Nursing Committee reported that it had re-elected Dr. Bedford Pierce as its Chairman.

The Committee reported that it had considered the Syllabus of subjects for Examination for Mental Nurses, revised to bring it into line with the Syllabus of Subjects for Examination in General Nursing. It approved of the alterations, but recommended:—

That for the May Examinations no apparatus which has not been prescribed in previous Examinations be required for candidates, but that otherwise the amended form of Syllabus be used for the May Examinations.

This was agreed.

The Committee reported that it had prepared the Agenda for the Conference on February 23rd, 1926, in regard to the training and examination of Nurses for Mental Defectives.

Correspondence and Interviews.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between January 1st, and January 31st amounted to 3,139 letters received, 9.175 letters despatched, that the interviews numbered 127, and that 202 permits were issued for the State Uniform.

Motion.

The following motion was on the Agenda standing in the name of Miss Cox Davies, who however had not arrived when it was reached. It was therefore moved by Dr. Goodall and seconded by Mr. Donaldson—

That Rule 31 (4) be amended as follows:—

"That the Council appoint a Vice-Chairman who shall in the absence of the Chairman preside at the Meetings of the Council, and that in the event of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman not being present at any meeting of the Council the Council shall appoint a Chairman to preside at that meeting."

SIR JENNER VERRALL considered that amendments to sections (1) (2) and (3) of Rule 31 were also necessary, and that the Deputy Chairman should be elected at the same time as the Chairman.

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