

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The eighty-fourth meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on Friday, October 21st, at 20, Portland Place, W.1. The Chairman of the Council, Miss E. M. Musson, R.R.C., presided.

THE CHAIRMAN announced that the names of Nurses admitted to the Register up to October 31st, 1927, together with the names of Nurses re-included in the Register during the year, had been published, and that copies of this list could be obtained from the Registrar at the Council's Offices, 20, Portland Place, London, W.1, for 2s., post free. It contained 2,804 additional names.

Finance.

The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. R. W. DONALDSON, in presenting its report, prefaced it by saying that the Committee had raised no objection to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee—"That a Neopost (meter mailing machine) be purchased at a cost of £52 10s." As the matter was urgent, the machine, by permission of the Chairman, had been already purchased.

Bills and Claims submitted for payment by the Finance Committee were approved, and the sum of £150 for stamps, £25 for Insurance Stamps, and £15 for Petty Cash was allowed.

The Finance Committee raised no objection to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee—That an estimate amounting to £4 4s. per visit for a quarterly inspection and thorough overhauling and cleaning of the inter-communication telephones, adjusting contacts, and recharging batteries, be accepted. A renewal of linen equipment amounting in total to £7 6s. 6d. was authorised.

The Chairman of the Council, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, were authorised to invest the sum of £3,000 in consultation with the Council's bankers.

Registration.

The issue of 14 duplicate silver badges, the loss of which was reported a year or more ago, and of a duplicate Certificate of Registration in the place of one notified in August, 1926, as stolen.

Election of Council.

The Registration Committee reported the following arrangements for the forthcoming Election of Council.

Nomination Papers (Form B) and Declaration Forms (Form C) must be applied for by Registered Nurses, and must be returned to the Returning Officer by noon on NOVEMBER 3RD.

Every Nomination Paper (Form B) must state the name, registered address, and registered qualification or qualifications of the candidate nominated; it must be signed by not fewer than six persons having the requisite qualifications for nominating the candidate; and the address and registered qualification or qualifications of each one so signing must be appended to her signature.

The Nomination Paper must be accompanied by a Declaration Form (Form C) signed by the person nominated acknowledging that she consents to be nominated, and must be delivered by post or otherwise before the hour of noon on NOVEMBER 3RD.

The names of the candidates nominated will be prepared for the printer, and the Ballot Papers will be issued on or about NOVEMBER 16TH.

From the date of posting the ballot papers, twenty-one days are allowed for the return of these papers, which will be about DECEMBER 7TH.

It is, therefore, anticipated that the result of the Election will be declared at the Council Meeting on DECEMBER 16TH.

The Registration Committee were empowered to deal with all matters concerning the Election of the Council.

Registration to October 21st, 1927.

The Registration Committee reported: Applications approved for Registration without Examination to September 23rd, 52,323. For approval by reciprocity on October 21st, 2. Approved for Registration by Examination to September 23rd, 6,477. For approval for Registration by Examination on October 21st, 1,927. Total, 58,818.

The Committee also recommended that the names of 37 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their Retention Fee, and who now wished their names re-included in the Register be re-included.

Education and Examination.

The Education and Examination Committee recommended "that the following hospitals be recognised as training schools which, in combination with other public hospitals, give complete training under the Scheme of Training:—*Section I. (2)*—Exmouth Cottage Hospital, in affiliation with Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter. *Section I. (4) (ii)*—Royal National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, in affiliation with Portsmouth Infirmary." The recommendation was approved.

The Committee also reported that the Brownlow Hill Infirmary of the West Derby Union has ceased to be a training school for nurses, and that the name of this hospital has been removed from the list of approved schools.

Mental Nursing.

DR. BEDFORD PIERCE, Chairman of the Mental Nursing Committee, reported that it had met once.

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported (a) that the correspondence dealt with in the office between September 1st and 30th amounted to:—Letters received, 42,051; letters despatched, 36,386. (b) That the Interviews numbered 510. (c) That 334 Permits were issued for the State Uniform.

The State Uniform.

On the recommendation of the Uniform Committee it was decided to issue duplicate Permits to obtain the State Registered Uniform to give Registered Nurses who had reported the loss of their permits six months ago.

The Committee also reported that owing to numerous complaints concerning the quality of material used by firms in making the State Registered Uniform tests have been made as to quality and dye of 78 samples. A large percentage of these samples did not conform to the standard laid down by the Council.

MISS S. A. VILLIERS, Chairman of the Uniform Committee, explained that there had been so many complaints from Registered Nurses as to the quality of the materials used for the uniforms supplied to them that the Committee thought it well to obtain a number of samples. Those that they thought on inspection were not up to sample were then tested as to quality and dye with the above result.

DR. GOODALL hoped that if the materials used continued to be unsatisfactory the offending firms would be taken off the Council's list.

SIR JENNER VERRALL asked whether the samples obtained were for a general test, or limited to samples of materials of which there had been complaints.

MISS VILLIERS said the test was a general one.

It was agreed that a communication should be sent to the firms submitting the samples which do not conform to standard, asking them why they have departed from the standard laid down by the Council.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for November 18th. The public business then concluded and the press withdrew.

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