

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A Meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on December 17th, 1926, at 20, Portland Place, London, W. In the absence of the CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL (MISS E. M. MUSSON), the VICE-CHAIRMAN (SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM) was in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

THE CHAIRMAN explained that Miss Musson's absence was owing to illness, and that she had gone abroad.

THE CHAIRMAN gave notice that the next Meeting of the Council would be held on January 21st, and the Committees in the week beginning January 11th (presumably the 10th).

Correspondence.

Several important letters were dealt with.

LETTER FROM THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

A letter from the Hon. Secretary (*pro tem*) of the British College of Nurses forwarding a Resolution adopted by the Council of the College at its Meeting on November 20th, enquiring what steps the General Nursing Council for England and Wales intends to take to remove from the Register of Nurses the name of a nurse proved guilty of theft, bound over in a sum of £5, and placed on probation for twelve months.

The reasons which actuated the decision of the Council of the British College of Nurses have already been published in this JOURNAL; an important one being that the General Part of the State Register is taken as the basis of its membership, and it is, therefore, of primary importance to it that the purity of the Register shall be maintained.

The letter was referred to the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee by the Chairman of the Council, the Report of which was presented later in the proceedings (by its Chairman, Sir Wilmot Herringham) and recommended—

That the conclusions at which the Council arrives in the exercise of its discretionary powers may be the subject of public criticism, but the Council must always form an entire y independent judgment and cannot discuss its decisions with any outside body.

That the foregoing resolution be conveyed to the British College of Nurses.

This was agreed *nem con.*

LETTER FROM THE LABOUR PARTY.

A letter from the Labour Party (33, Eccleston Square, S.W. 1) inviting the Council to appoint not more than four delegates to a Conference to discuss its Draft Report on the Nursing Profession, to be held in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on January 28th.

It was agreed to accept the invitation, and the Chairman (or in her absence the Vice-Chairman), Miss Bushby, Miss Villiers and Miss Cowlin were appointed as the Delegates of the Council.

In reply to a question from MISS COWLIN, the CHAIRMAN said that in speaking at the Conference the Delegates would do so personally only.

APPEAL AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE COUNCIL BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF HASTINGS.

LETTER FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The following letter from the Ministry of Health was read:—

MADAM,—I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to the appeal of the Town Council of Hastings under Section 7 (2) of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, against the refusal of the General Nursing Council to approve the Corporation's

Infectious Diseases Hospital as a complete Training School for Fever Nurses; and I am to state that the Minister has appointed Mr. L. G. Brock, C.B., Principal Assistant Secretary, Dr. H. A. Macewen, O.B.E., Senior Medical Officer, and Mr. G. R. Hill, Assistant Solicitor, of this Department to hear representations in regard to this appeal. The hearing will take place at this office on Tuesday, January 25th, 1927, at 3 p.m., and I am to ask that representatives of the General Nursing Council will attend at that time. I am to request that the Minister may be informed in due course of the names of the persons appointed to represent the General Nursing Council at the hearing.

I am to enclose for the information of the General Nursing Council a copy of the observations which the Town Council have made on your letter of October 6th,

I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) P. BARTER.
Ministry of Health,
Whitehall, S.W.1.
December 15th, 1926.

The Chairman, or in her absence the Vice-Chairman, Miss Villiers, and the Registrar were appointed to represent the Council.

Finance.

Bills and Claims submitted for payment by the Finance Committee were approved, and the sum of £100 for Stamps, £20 for Insurance Stamps, and £15 for Petty Cash allowed.

The Committee raised no objections to the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee: (1) That the following equipment be purchased for the Examinations Department—One four-foot Army Table at £1 2s. 6d., two Bentwood Chairs at 7s. 6d. each, three Foolscap Filing Cabinets at £7 7s. each.

(2) That the Offices of the Council be closed for Christmas Holidays from Friday, December 24th, to Tuesday, December 28th, both inclusive.

As a matter of urgency Mr. R. W. DONALDSON, Chairman of the Finance Committee, asked permission for the Vice-Chairman to sign cheques during the absence from England of the Chairman, and this was allowed.

Reciprocity of Registration with Dominions.

The Registration Committee reported a letter from the Secretary of the Nurses' Registration Board of Western Australia with reference to reciprocity.

It was resolved, on the recommendation of the Committee:—

"That the General Nursing Council agrees to accept for registration by reciprocity—

A. For the General Part of the Register:—

(1) Nurses trained in a General Hospital and registered by Examination on the General Part of the Register of the Nurses' Registration Board of Western Australia.

(2) Intermediate Nurses, *i.e.*, those in training in a General Hospital on the passing of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1921, and Existing Nurses, *i.e.*, those who were trained in a General Hospital before the Act, provided the standard of training and examination is equal to that required in this country, on the understanding that Nurses registered on the General Part of the Register of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales will be accepted on the same terms for registration by the Nurses' Registration Board of Western Australia.

B. For the Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Trained Nurses—

(1) Nurses trained in a Hospital for Sick Children and registered by Examination on the Register of the Nurses' Registration Board of Western Australia.

(2) Intermediate Nurses, *i.e.*, those in training in a Hospital for Sick Children on the passing of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1921, and Existing Nurses, *i.e.*, those who are trained in a Hospital for Sick Children before the Act, provided the standard of training and Examination is equal to that required in this country,

on the understanding that Nurses registered on the Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Trained Nurses of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales will be accepted on the same terms for registration by the Nurses' Registration Board of Western Australia."

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