

and Midwives' Council for Northern Ireland, to discuss the relationship between the General Nursing Councils and the Royal Medico-Psychological Association.

This was agreed.

Correspondence, Permits, and Storage of Documents.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between March 26th and April 30th amounted to: Letters received, 3,272; letters despatched, 15,049; that the interviews numbered 191; and that 174 permits were issued for the State uniform.

It reported further that, in consequence of the necessity of avoiding, in every possible way, unnecessary storage of documents, authority has been given to destroy the papers of deceased Registered Nurses in one year after intimation of death instead of in five years as previously authorised.

The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee recommended that duplicate Permits should be issued to four nurses who recorded the loss of these Permits six months ago, and this was agreed.

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for June 22nd, and the public business then terminated.

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

It is of special interest at the present time to know the views of the direct representatives of the Mental Nurses on the General Nursing Council, both because they presumably reflect those of the mental nurses who have placed them there, and because they should weigh with the Council.

In his Address from the Chair at the last Annual Meeting of the National Asylum Workers' Union, of which he was at that time President, Mr. E. R. Blackman, now a Direct Representative on the General Nursing Council of the Mental Nurses, said:—

There is just one other point, in regard to the nursing certificates and registration. It was expected when the General Nursing Council was brought into being that the Royal Medico-Psychological Association certificate would be either fully recognised or that the R.M.P.A. would cease its examinations for mental nurses. Unfortunately, neither of these things have taken place; the two bodies do not agree, consequently it places mental nurses to-day in a dilemma as to what they ought to do, and which certificates they should go in for. If they enter for the R.M.P.A. certificate at a low fee, and, speaking generally, it is a low fee, on being successful in the examinations they are debarred from becoming registered nurses, and cannot have their names placed on the National Register; but on the other hand, if they enter for the General Nursing Council examination, the State examination as we call it, with the almost prohibitive fee, they become, if successful, recognised as registered mental nurses—the hallmark, I consider it, of our profession. I, personally, have no hesitation in recommending men and women nurses in our institutions to go in for the State examinations, to make the necessary sacrifice in regard to the fee, and thus gain the hallmark which we are all desirous of obtaining. We do not quite realise to-day the power of these certificates will be to us in years to come. After all, registration is the great thing, and whether you go in for private nursing or promotion in some other institution, the first question asked will be: "Are you registered?" It does not matter if you have the R.M.P.A. certificate, it is registration only that is going to count, and for the good of mental nurses the R.M.P.A. themselves should seriously consider the desirability of ceasing their examinations, thus leaving the way clear to mental nurses to sit for one certificate only.

THE STATE REGISTER OF NURSES, 1928.

We acknowledge with thanks, from the Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, a copy of the Register of Nurses for 1928.

Those who remember with what delight they handled the slim volume published for the first time in 1922, realising that each year would see its progressive increase, will welcome this volume of over 2,000 pages, containing the names and qualifications of 53,062 nurses.

The handsome volume is bound in scarlet cloth and lettered in gold, and is well printed. It contains the Nurses' Registration Act, the Rules framed by the General Nursing Council, and the Explanations in regard to details of the Register of Nurses.

We add the current copy of the Register of Nurses to our file with a deep sense of gratification. Thirty years' strenuous endeavour went to its making, and it was worth it, when we realise that upwards of 53,000 nurses enjoy legal status by having passed through its one portal.

The price of the Register is £1 rs., and it should be filed by every Nurse Training School.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

A Meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland was held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on Friday, May 18th. Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., occupied the Chair, and thirteen Members of Council were present. Col. D. J. Mackintosh (the Convener of the Education and Examination Committee), submitted the Report of that Committee, which was approved. This showed that the Committee had considered correspondence with the Transvaal Medical Council in regard to reciprocal Registration and recommended that the Council accept for Registration by reciprocity:—

(1) Nurses trained in a General Hospital and Registered by Examination on the General Part of the Register of Nurses of the Transvaal Medical Council.

(2) Nurses trained in Scotland in a General Hospital approved by this Council and registered on the General Part of the Register of Nurses of the Transvaal Medical Council.

On the understanding that Nurses Registered by Examination or as Intermediate Nurses on the General Part of the Register of this Council would be accepted for Registration by the Transvaal Medical Council, and further that Applications from Existing Nurses on the Register of this Council would be considered by the Transvaal Medical Council on their respective merits.

The name of Dr. John Henderson, 6, Newton Place, Glasgow, was added to the Panel of Examiners in Medical Nursing for the Final Examination.

The names of two Nurses who had already passed the Council's Final Examination and had now attained the age of twenty-one were ordered to be placed on the Register.

It was reported that in reply to the letter to the Royal Medico-Psychological Association a telegram had been received from the General Secretary of the Association stating that the Council of the Association had authorised a conference of the Advisory Committee and the Council.

A letter was also submitted from the General Nursing Council for England and Wales suggesting that a conference of the three Nursing Councils for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively should be held. After a full discussion it was unanimously resolved to accept the invitation of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. As the probable date of the conference was not known, it was remitted to the Chairman of the Council and the Convener of the Education and Examination Committee to arrange the Council's representatives.

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