

## GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The hundred-and-first meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held on Friday, April 26th, at 20, Portland Place, London, W. Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., was in the chair.

### Correspondence.

In reference to the interview sought by the Royal Medico-Psychological Association with the Council, a letter was received from the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Buchanan, stating that none of the dates proposed by the General Nursing Council for the interview suited that Association.

May 23rd or May 24th, when members of the Council would be in London for their General Meeting, were agreed to as alternative dates.

The Chairman stated that letters and Resolutions had been received from Associations of Nurses and individual nurses in regard to the matters with which the Council would be called upon to deal in this connection.

It had not been the practice of the Council to put on the Agenda resolutions from Voluntary Associations on matters under discussion, and she did not think the Council would wish to depart from this principle. The Council had agreed to receive the deputation from the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and, until this Conference had been held, it would not be in order to discuss the proceedings of Voluntary Associations. To bring these before the Council at this stage would rather prejudice the Conference when it takes place.

A letter was received from the Registrar of the Nurses' Registration Board, New South Wales, noting that the Council agreed to extend the terms of the existing reciprocal agreement.

### Finance.

Bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sum of £100 for stamps, £25 for Insurance Stamps, and £10 for petty cash were allowed.

The Finance Committee raised no objection to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee for the purchase of a new Underwood typewriter in place of one of the existing machines which is worn out, at a cost of £18 9s.

The estimate of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons for supplying 10,000 Registration Certificates, amounting to £58 10s., was accepted.

### Registration.

On the recommendation of the Registration Committee, it was agreed to grant the application of seven Registered Nurses for duplicate Silver Badges, the loss of which was reported a year ago.

It was agreed that four applicants whose applications have been found to be in order (by reciprocity), plus five by examination, be approved for registration, and that the Registrar be instructed to enter their names in the appropriate parts of the Register.

It was also agreed to include in the Register the names of 40 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their Retention Fee, and now wished their names re-included.

### Education and Examination.

St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow, London, was approved as a training school, which, in affiliation with Poplar Hospital for Accidents, London, gives complete training for a period of one year.

The Redhill Hospital, Edgware (Hendon Union) was approved as a complete training school for nurses, the provisional approval granted the hospital having expired on March 16th.

The Haslemere and District Hospital, in affiliation with the West Sussex Hospital, Chichester, was approved as a training school for nurses; and the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital, Manchester, as a complete training school.

It was announced that the next Examinations would be held on the following dates:—

*Written Examination.*—Preliminary, May 14th; Finals, May 15th.

*Oral and Practical Examinations.*—Preliminary, May 21st-24th (Manchester, May 28th-31st); Finals, May 28th-31st.

### Mental Nursing.

The Mental Nursing Committee reported that it had considered and approved the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to discuss the points in the letter from the Medico-Psychological Association.

### Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that (a) the correspondence dealt with in the office between March 1st and the 31st amounted to letters received 5,362, letters dispatched 9,299; (b) that the interviews numbered 132, and that 122 permits were issued for the State Uniform.

### Uniform.

On the recommendation of the Uniform Committee, it was agreed to issue duplicate Permits to five Registered Nurses to obtain the State Registered Uniform, the loss of the permits having been reported six months ago.

### Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for May 24th, and the meeting then terminated.

## POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

The argument that Resolutions and letters sent by Associations of Nurses and individual Registered Nurses to their Governing Body, the General Nursing Council for England and Wales—in regard to the claim of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association that its examinations in mental nursing should be recognised as a qualification for the State Register—shall not be placed on the Agendas, or discussed in open Council until the Conference between the General Nursing Council and the representatives of the R.M.P.A. has been held, is one which cannot for a moment be conceded.

The time for the consideration of the points put forward in these Resolutions and letters is before and not after such a Conference has taken place. It is useless to discuss the views of the Registered Nurses on the question of the recognition of the certificate of a self-constituted body as a qualification for our Statutory Register after the Conference. The Council should be acquainted with the views of the Registered Nurses on this vital question before the Conference takes place. In our view it should not be held at all, as the claim of the R.M.P.A. is one on which the General Nursing Council has no power or right to negotiate.

Another point to which we should like to direct the attention of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, is that it should be a condition of approval of a Nurse Training School that the Matron of the Hospital should be a Registered Nurse. The Nurses' Registration Act has now been in force for nearly ten years, and it is high time that this condition was enforced.

It is also time that in advertising for Nurses to fill posts of responsibility hospital committees should impose this condition.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)