

In forwarding the Resolution, I am to place before you the following arguments in support of it:—

1. If adopted, the proposal of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association would create a precedent calculated effectively to destroy the whole system of the one portal entrance to the State Register, a principle which, from the inception of the Registration Movement, has been held to be vital to the efficient working of any Act for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. Any infringement of such system is bound to lead to a lack of uniformity in education, training and examination thus mitigating against the value of the Acts to the community.

2. The General Nursing Council, which is responsible for the administration of the Act, should remain unhampered in the exercise of its functions, a condition impossible to maintain if it is subordinated to the necessity of admitting to its Register Nurses examined by a voluntary body over which it has no jurisdiction.

3. The Registration Acts have now been established for nearly ten years, and to interfere with their operation in such a way as to induce co-operation with bodies which have no legal recognition is a retrograde step, which should not be tolerated either by Nurses on the General Part of the Register or by those on the Register of Nurses trained in the Nursing of Mental Diseases. To maintain the status of the State Register it must be protected from suspicion of interference or coercion from any other organisation, not analogous to it from a professional point of view, such as would inevitably arise if the demands of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association were acceded to.

I am,
Yours faithfully,
ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary.

The Registrar,
General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF HOSPITAL MATRONS.

Association of Hospital Matrons,
2, Grenville Street,
Brunswick Square,
London, W.C.1.
May 22nd, 1929.

DEAR MADAM,

The Members of this Association in General Meeting assembled on April 27th, had before them letters from the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association, in which they asked for our support in securing the continuity of the General Nursing Council Examinations as the qualification for admission to the State Register for Mental Nurses.

The matter was carefully considered, with the result that the following principle was laid down and unanimously agreed to, namely:—

That the one-Portal Examination must be maintained, and that to substitute the Examination of a voluntary Society for that of the Statutory body would be to deprive the Mental Nurses of the privileges enjoyed by all other branches of the profession.

I am instructed to send you this information, and to ask you to be so good as to lay this letter before the Chairman of your Council.

The matter is now referred to our Executive Committee with power to act, and I am to say that we shall desire to give all possible support to the Mental Hospital Matrons, if and when the occasion arises that further action may become necessary.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
R. COX-DAVIES,
Hon. Secretary.

To
The Registrar,
The General Nursing Council
for England and Wales.

FROM THE MENTAL HOSPITAL MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

Mental Hospital Matrons' Association,
Mental Hospital, Severalls, Colchester,
16th April, 1929.

DEAR MADAM,

The Mental Hospital Matrons' Association wish me to draw your attention that at the Meeting held on 10th December,

1927, it was resolved that this Association should support the Examinations of the General Nursing Council, and this resolution was unanimously carried.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) ELIZABETH MURRAY CUTHBERT,
Chairman.
M. SEWART,
Honorary Secretary.

The Chairman,
The General Nursing Council.

FROM THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

The British College of Nurses,
39, Portland Place,
London, W.1.
May 22nd, 1929.

To the Chairman and Members of the General Nursing Council
for England and Wales.

MADAM,—I am directed to forward to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales a copy of the Resolution unanimously agreed at a Special Meeting of the Council of the British College of Nurses, held at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on Tuesday, May 21st, and to request that it shall be presented to the General Nursing Council at the first available opportunity.

I am, Madam,
Yours faithfully,
GRACE REYNOLDS HALE,
Secretary.

"That the Council of the British College of Nurses do forthwith communicate to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales its considered opinion that the demand of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association to have its examination for Mental Nurses recognised as a portal of admission to the State Register of Nurses, is one which, if conceded, will inevitably destroy the whole principle of the one portal system of admission to the State Register, a system which is held to be fundamental to the efficient functioning of the Registration Act.

"The establishment of any precedent, whereby a voluntary body shall be empowered to obtain for itself such a privilege, would tend to dissipate the powers of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to maintain full control of the Register of which Parliament has appointed it the custodian. Furthermore, if the demand of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association be conceded, other bodies might, on such precedent, make claims that their examinations should qualify for admission to the State Register and in time all uniformity of nursing educational standards would cease to exist.

"On these grounds Registered Nurses would regard any delegation of power by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales in connection with its examinations, as a grave betrayal of the rights of the Nursing Profession secured by Act of Parliament."

Finance.

Bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and £10 for Insurance Stamps, £10 for petty cash, and £5,500 for examiners' claims and expenses in connection with the May examinations allowed.

The Finance Committee raised no objections to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee providing for the purchase of steel filing cabinets and card index cabinets at a cost of £114 1s. 6d.

The expenditure of £101 os. od. on copies of complete Rules and Schedules to the Rules, of the Syllabus of Subjects for Examination (Sick Children's Nurses), Syllabus of Training (Sick Children's Nurses and Fever Nurses) was also sanctioned.

The Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Finance Committee were authorised to invest the sum of £2,000 after consultation with the Council's Bankers.

Registration.

The applications of three Registered Nurses for duplicate silver badges were granted.

The applications of one applicant for admission to the General Register by Examination, and three applicants by reciprocity were approved, and of one mental nurse

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