

Hall, Torquay, from 10th to 12th October, passed the following resolution which I was instructed to forward to you:—

*Training of Nurses.*

"That this Council is of opinion that in order to increase the number of suitable candidates for the Nursing Profession it should be made possible for pupils to take part of the preliminary examination before leaving a secondary school, thus stimulating their interest and relieving the pressure of the first year in hospital."

In the hope that this important matter may receive your very favourable consideration.

I am, dear Madam,  
Yours faithfully,  
NORAH G. GREEN, *General Secretary.*

These letters were printed on the Agenda of the Meeting.

LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF HEAD MISTRESSES.

(3) In addition, Miss Musson read the following letter, dated November 22nd, 1933, addressed to the Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, by Dr. M. Dorothy Brock, President of the Association of Head Mistresses, which arrived too late for insertion on the Agenda.

DEAR SIR,—The Executive Committee of the Association of Head Mistresses passed the following resolution at its meeting on Saturday, November 18th, and forwards it for the consideration of the General Nursing Council.

"The Executive Committee of the Association of Head Mistresses would welcome the division of the Preliminary State Examination for Nurses into two parts, of which the first part could be taken before entrance to hospital or preliminary training school. They believe that this option would stimulate interest in the profession and so increase the number of suitable candidates. Also that, by relieving the pressure of the first year in hospital it would remove what is now a real deterrent in the eyes of parents who are considering the nursing profession for their daughters."

This resolution has a wider scope than the suggestion made when two of our members gave evidence before the last Council. At that time we proposed that candidates availing themselves of this option should be drawn only from schools approved for the purpose by the Council. This might have been the first step, but we put forward as a better plan the opening of the examination to all who desire to take it, assuming that the standard of the papers set would eliminate those whose preparation had been inadequate.

Local Education Authorities and other bodies might arrange suitable courses in the theoretical subjects in the Preliminary State Examination for girls whose education had for various reasons been curtailed, and these would form a valuable means of raising their educational standard to that desired of entrants to hospital.

Many schools, also, would arrange courses for girls of seventeen to eighteen years of age in the last year of school life. Interest in the profession would undoubtedly be stimulated; the girls would have the encouragement of taking a first step in their career before entering upon the entirely new hospital life; and parents, who perhaps take more account of such things than the girls themselves, would be relieved of anxiety about the effect of the admittedly heavy strain of the first year in hospital.

Yours faithfully,  
Association of Head Mistresses.  
M. DOROTHY BROCK, *President.*

Apparently the Association of Head Mistresses is so little informed as to the composition of the Governing Body of the Nursing Profession that it is unaware that its Chairman is a distinguished Registered Nurse, or it would not address her as "Sir."

Miss Musson also presented an important Memorandum addressed to the General Nursing Council by influential persons connected with the University of Leeds, the Leeds General Infirmary, and its Training School for Nurses, copies of which were already in the hands of the members of the Council, and which we print below.

MEMORANDUM TO THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL ON THE PRELIMINARY EDUCATION OF NURSES.

(Part 1 of the State Examinations.)

THIS MEMORANDUM IS PRESENTED BY THE FOLLOWING SIGNATORIES:—

- \* A. P. NICHOLSON, Chairman and Treasurer of the Leeds General Infirmary; Chairman of the Nursing Committee.
- † \* LORD MOYNIHAN, K.C.M.G., C.B., LL.D., M.S., F.R.C.S., late President of the Royal College of Surgeons.
- † § \* J. KAY JAMIESON, M.B., C.M., Dean of the Faculty of Medicine; Professor of Anatomy (Leeds).  
COL. HAROLD TETLEY, D.S.O., M.A., Pro-Chancellor of the University of Leeds; Chairman and Treasurer of the Hospital for Women, Leeds.
- † \* HAROLD COLLINSON, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., M.S., F.R.C.S., Professor of Surgery and Head of the Department of Surgery, Leeds; Chairman of the Faculty of the Leeds General Infirmary.
- \* CHARLES LUPTON, O.B.E., M.A., LL.D., D.L., J.P., late Chairman of the Leeds General Infirmary.
- † § B. A. McSWINEY, B.A., D.SC., M.B., B.CH., Professor of Physiology and Head of the Department of Physiology (Leeds).
- † § J. JOHNSTONE JERVIS, M.D., D.P.H., Professor of Public Health; Medical Officer of Health Leeds; Lecturer on Hygiene to the School of Nursing, Leeds.
- † \* G. W. WATSON, M.D., F.R.C.P., Professor of Medicine and Head of the Department of Medicine (Leeds).
- † § \* A. RICHARDSON, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S., Professor of Clinical Surgery, Leeds.
- † T. WARDROP GRIFFITH, C.M.G., M.D., LL.D., D.SC., F.R.C.P., late Professor of Anatomy, (Leeds).
- † § \* W. H. MAXWELL TELLING, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.P., late Professor of Medicine (Leeds). Examiner to the Preliminary Training School of Nurses.
- † § C. W. VINING, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.P., D.P.H., Professor of Diseases of Children (Leeds).
- † § J. P. BIBBY, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., Lecturer in Venereal Diseases, Leeds University and School of Nursing.  
R. BROOMHEAD, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Asst. Surgeon to the Orthopaedic Dept., Leeds General Infirmary.  
E. R. FLINT, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Leeds General Infirmary.  
F. J. KITSON, J.P.
- \* ELINOR G. LUPTON, M.A. (Nurses' Selection Committee).
- † § \* CARLTON OLDFIELD, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O. & G., late Professor of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (Leeds).  
COL. ERIC TETLEY, M.C.
- † § \* R. A. VEALE, B.A., M.D., B.S., F.R.C.P., late Professor of Clinical Medicine (Leeds); Examiner in Medicine to the Leeds School of Nursing.
- \* Member of the Nursing Committee of the Leeds General Infirmary and the Leeds Hospital for Women.
- † Past or Present Lecturers and Examiners to the Leeds School of Nursing.
- § Past or Present Examiners for the Diploma of Nursing, University of Leeds.

November 1st, 1933.

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