

the Register was taken *in camera* as was also the Report of the House Committee.

General Purposes.

The General Purposes Committee reported that during October 15,212 letters were received and 32,678 were despatched, that the interviews numbered 231, that 78 permits were issued for the State Uniform during September.

The Committee recommended that the Offices of the Council be closed from mid-day on Tuesday, December 24th, until the morning of Monday, December 30th.

Motion.

Lady Erleigh then moved the following Motion of which she had given notice:—

"That the Council consider the desirability and practicability of furnishing all State Registered Nurses with legal aid when charged before a Court of Justice."

Lady Erleigh said that it appeared that nurses summoned to appear before a Court of Justice did not always obtain good legal advice, and she wondered if it would be desirable and practicable for the Council to furnish all State Registered Nurses with legal aid when accused of offences.

Lady Limerick seconded the Motion for the purpose of having it discussed. Recently the Council had had before it a nurse who was advised to plead guilty before a Court of Justice and did so. Later she appeared before the Council, and said she was not guilty. She thought that nurses when charged with offences became bewildered, and took the first advice offered, which was not always good advice.

The Chairman said she regretted she had not been consulted as to this Motion before it had been placed on the Agenda, as it was now her duty to rule it out of order. There was nothing in the Nurses' Act or the Rules giving the Council power to undertake such defence.

She pointed out also that legal aid was procurable for destitute persons from the Courts; it was not the function of the General Nursing Council to supply it. Further that nurses who had been sentenced in a Court of Law sometimes asked to be heard by the General Nursing Council before it considered the removal of their names from the Register. It could not act for the defence of a nurse in a Court of Justice, and subsequently judicially if she came before the General Nursing Council for the consideration of her case.

Dr. Eason said that the Medical Defence Union undertook the defence of its members. It appeared that nurses needed a similar Union.

It was pointed out that there were several bodies which would give legal aid to their nurse members.

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Friday, December 13th.

Further business was considered *in camera*.

COURTESY DEMANDED IT.

It is much to be regretted that the proposer of this motion did not consult the Chairman of the General Nursing Council before placing the Motion, which was out of order, on the Agenda. Courtesy demanded it.

Surely before accepting nomination on the Registered Nurses' statutory body, lay persons should study the Acts which govern its conduct of business, and be very careful how they attempt to govern professional women without consulting them.

THE FINAL EXAMINATIONS.

The number of nurses qualifying for registration on the General and Supplementary Registers at the October Examinations was: General Nurses, 1,861; Male Nurses 11; Mental Nurses 44; Nurses for Mental Defectives 4; Sick Children's Nurses 113; Fever Nurses 299. Total 2,332.

THE STATE EXAMINATIONS.

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The results of the recent State Examinations are as under:—

Preliminary State Examination, October, 1935.

	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.	Percentage of failures.
First entries	2,757	96	2,661	2,188	473	17.8%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	327	16	311	198	113	36.8%
" Part Exam.	226	8	218	127	91	41.7%
Total	3,310	120	3,190	2,513	677	

Final State Examination, October, 1935.

Register.	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.	Percentage of failure.
General—						
First entries	2,029	51	1,978	1,521	457	23.1%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	192	11	181	95	86	47.5%
" Part Exam.	436	8	428	245	183	42.7%
Total	2,657	70	2,587	1,861	726	
Male—						
First entries	14	—	14	10	4	28.6%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	1	—	1	—	1	100%
" Part Exam.	3	—	3	1	2	66.7%
Total	18	—	18	11	7	
Mental—						
First entries	53	4	49	42	7	14.3%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	2	—	2	1	1	50%
" Part Exam.	11	3	8	1	7	87.5%
Total	66	7	59	44	15	
Mental Defect—						
First entries	4	—	4	4	—	Nil
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	—	—	—	—	—	—
" Part Exam.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	—	4	4	—	
Sick Children—						
First entries	104	1	103	92	11	10.7%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	6	—	6	5	1	16.7%
" Part Exam.	17	1	16	16	—	Nil
Total	127	2	125	113	12	
Fever—						
First Entries	345	7	338	227	111	32.8%
Re-entries—Whole Exam.	51	3	48	22	26	54.2%
" Part Exam.	70	3	67	50	17	25.4%
Total	466	13	453	299	154	

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

At a meeting of the General Nursing Council for Scotland held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on November 29th, Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., Chairman of the Council, occupied the Chair, and thirteen Members of the Council were present.

The Registrar reported that 2,186 Nurses had failed to pay their retention fee by October 30th and that circulars had been sent to them on November 4th reminding them of the unpaid fee and stating that unless this was paid by November 30th their names would be excluded from the Register. It was further reported that of these 1,482 Nurses had paid their fee by November 28th. The Council resolved that in terms of the Rules the Register should be closed at November 30th.

The Report of the Education and Examination Committee was submitted by Col. Mackintosh, the Convenor of the Committee, and was approved. In accordance with the recommendations of the Committee the Examiners and Supervisors were appointed for the Examinations in February, 1936, and the names of Nurses who had passed the Council's Examinations and had attained the age of 21 were ordered to be placed on the Register.

The name of Mr. W. H. Maggs, The Bournemouth Tailors, 45, Commercial Road, Bournemouth, was placed on the Council's list of approved Makers of Uniform.

THE FINAL EXAMINATIONS.

The number of nurses qualifying for registration on the General and Supplementary Registers at the October Examinations held by the General Nursing Council for Scotland was: General Nurses 275; Fever Nurses 60; Sick Children's Nurses 20; Mental Nurses 41; Nurses for Mental Defectives 7. Total 413.

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