

THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 20, Portland Place, London, W., on July 24th. The Chairman, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

The Chairman reported that Miss M. Bartlett Clapson, who had falsely represented herself to be a State Registered Nurse, had, at the Marylebone Police Court, pleaded guilty, and had been fined £10, and had to pay 50 guineas costs.

Correspondence.

The following letter was reported from the Ministry of Health :

Ministry of Health,
Whitehall, S.W.1.
July 13th, 1936.

Madam,—I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to previous correspondence on the amendments to Rule 5 (1), Rules 6 (2) (a), 6 (3) (a), 6 (4) (a) and 6 (5) (a) in the Conditions of Admission to the Register by Examination, Rule 45 (2), Rule 52 and the Third Schedule, and to say that the provisions of Sub-Section 4 of Section 3 of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919 have been complied with and that no address about the amended Rules has been presented to His Majesty.

I am, Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

The Registrar,
General Nursing Council for England and Wales,
20, Portland Place, W.1.
E. S. HILL.

A letter was also reported from the Sister Tutor Section of the College of Nursing, seeking an interview with the General Nursing Council in connection with the setting up of the Preliminary Examination in Anatomy and Physiology. This letter was referred to the Education and Examination Committee.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sum of £500 for stamps for Retention Fee notices, £200 for stamps for Retention Fee receipts, £320 for general postage, £80 for Insurance stamps and £25 for petty cash allowed. The Finance Committee raised no objection to the purchase of:—

(a) Pitney-Bowes electrically operated Sealing and Franking Machine, at a cost of £125, plus £36 per annum for Rent and Upkeep of Meter.

(b) Electrically operated Gestetner Machine, at a cost of £90, net cost £71 10s.

(c) Domestic equipment—Towels, etc. at an approximate cost of £13 2s. 3d.

Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration on July 24th were:—General Register, by reciprocity, 18; Supplementary Part of the Register for Fever Nurses, by Examination, 17, by reciprocity, 2. Total 37.

It was agreed that 23 nurses, who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee, and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

Education and Examination.

On the recommendation of the Education and Examination Committee, it was agreed that:—

Bexhill Hospital, in affiliation with the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, be provisionally approved, for a period of one year, as an affiliated Training School under Section I (1) (c) of the Council's Scheme of Training;

The Schemes of affiliation between the Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, Market Drayton, and the Birkenhead General Hospital and the London Road Hospital, Newcastle, Staffs., be now fully approved;

The provisional approval of the Newcastle General Hospital as a complete training school for Male Nurses, and the provisional approval of the West Cornwall Miners' and Women's Hospital, Redruth, in affiliation with Bridgewater Hospital, be extended for a further year;

The additional Scheme of Affiliation between the Surrey County Sanatorium, Milford, and St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, be provisionally approved for a period of one year;

The Johnstone Infectious Diseases Hospital, Scotland, be temporarily approved as a Complete Training School, to enable a nurse trained at that hospital, which is approved by the General Nursing Council for Scotland, to sit for the Final Examination for the Supplementary Part of the Register for Fever Nurses, held by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

It was reported that a meeting with representatives of the Joint Committee appointed by the County Councils Association and the Association of Municipal Corporations, took place on June 17th. The Chairman sought the permission of the Council for the use of rooms at the General Nursing Council for these meetings. This was agreed.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Friday, September 25th.

Disciplinary Case.

The Solicitor to the Council placed the following case before the Council:

Miss Catharine Wilson Coxon, S.R.N., 79913, by examination in October 1935, pleaded guilty to stealing underwear and china from members of the staff, at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary; the underwear being found in her room at the Hospital, and the china in her home at Ashbourne. The loss of a dressing gown belonging to a patient had also been reported, but so far that had not been recovered. The matter had been reported to the Derby Borough Police, but the members of the staff did not wish to take any action.

Miss Coxon was dismissed from the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, and was now taking Midwifery Training at St. Mary's Hospital, Withington Street, Manchester.

Miss Coxon did not appear, or send any representative. The Council, after consideration *in camera*, passed the following Resolutions:—

RESOLUTIONS.

1. "That the Council do now judge Catharine Wilson Coxon, S.R.N. 79913, to have been guilty of misconduct and do direct the Registrar to remove from the Register of Nurses the name of Catharine Wilson Coxon."

2. "That Nancy Hermitage Melina Bickell, S.R.N. 48354, having been proved to have been convicted of a felony, the Registrar be directed to remove from the Register of Nurses the name of Nancy Hermitage Melina Bickell."

Miss N. H. M. Bickell's name was not inserted in the State Register of Nurses for the years 1935 or 1936, as she had failed to pay her retention fee. Her name had recently been reinserted by consent of the General Nursing Council.

DISGRACEFUL MORTUARY CONDITIONS.

At a recent inquest on the bodies of three victims of the farmhouse at West Charleton, near Kingsbridge, Devon, the coroner, Mr. G. A. Windcatt, remarked on the "disgraceful" mortuary accommodation at Kingsbridge.

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