

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 February 27th. Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

The Chairman reported that an acknowledgment had been received on behalf of His Majesty The King, from Buckingham Palace, of the message of condolence sent from the Council on the death of King George.

Correspondence.

The Chairman reported that the Ministry of Health had sanctioned the following additions to the staff:—

Registrar's Office : 1 First Division Clerk.

Registration Department : 1 First Division Clerk; 1 Second Division Clerk.

Examination Department : 1 Assistant Examination Officer; 1 First Division Clerk; 2 Second Division Clerks.

Accountants' Department : 1 First Division Clerk.

The Minister also agreed to an increase in the maximum number of temporary staff employed from nine to twelve, as and when they are required, and it was further added that the Minister will be prepared to give further consideration to the proposals for the staff required in connection with the Test Educational Examination when he has approved the Rule providing for such Examination, and to the proposals for the addition of another First Division Clerk and another Second Division Clerk in the Registration Department when the increase in the work of that Department justifies these additions.

As the Council had asked for the two First Division Clerks in the Examination Department, and only one had been sanctioned, it was proposed by Miss Dey, and seconded by Dr. Collins, that it be pointed out to the Minister that the temporary staff, however long they be employed, are not eligible to participate in the Superannuation Scheme.

Letters were reported from the London County Council to the Ministry of Health, which had been forwarded to the General Nursing Council, by direction of the Minister, for its information, concerning the new Rule framed by the Council, and now under the consideration of the Minister, in reference to a Test Educational Examination for entrants to the Nursing Profession in which the London County Council requested that the date of the application of the Rule from June 1st, 1936 (as defined in the Rule), "be deferred for the present," as it may have some effect upon recruitment to the Council's Nursing Service. A draft reply to the Minister of Health was before the Council for consideration, and Mr. Eason intimated his desire to discuss the matter of the Test Educational Examination during the Report of the Education and Examination Committee.

The reply incorporated the following points:—

1. The General Nursing Council does not anticipate any adverse effect upon the recruitment of suitable candidates.

2. The Resolution passed by the Council with regard to the setting up of an educational standard was given marked publicity in the Nursing Press in July, 1932. Since that date members of the Council in visiting hospitals all over England and Wales have been told that requirements as to an educational standard have been enforced in many training schools and that the effect on recruitment of probationer nurses has been advantageous and not the contrary.

3. The test examination will be of a simple type, comprising questions on General Knowledge, English and Elementary Arithmetic, the object of instituting such an examination being to test the general intelligence of the candidate and to eliminate those who by lack of intelligence or of education are unable to benefit by the simplest teaching in

elementary scientific subjects, and who therefore waste the time of their teachers.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £100 for Postage Stamps, £30 for Insurance Stamps, £15 for Petty Cash, £7,500 for Examiners' Claims and Expenses, and £600 for accommodation in connection with the February State Examinations were allowed.

It was agreed that the Retention Fee be reduced to 2s., which would cost the Council approximately £1,958 4s. 6d. for the year 1937. It was also agreed that the Minister of Health be asked to sanction the amendment of Rule 5 (1) in accordance with this recommendation.

Registration.

In consideration of a letter dated January 2nd, 1936, from the Registrar of the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses it was agreed:—

"That the General Nursing Council for England and Wales agrees to accept for Registration by Reciprocity:—

(1) Nurses trained in a General Hospital in Alberta, and registered by Examination on the General Part of the Register of Nurses of the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses.

(2) Nurses trained in England and Wales in a General Hospital approved by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and registered by the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses

on the understanding that nurses registered by Examination or as 'Intermediate' Nurses on the General Part of the Register of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales will be accepted for registration by the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses, and, further, that applications from 'Existing' Nurses will be considered on their respective merits; provided that—

(a) applicants who have not had a course in obstetrics equivalent to the undergraduate course given in Alberta will be required to take a post-graduate course in obstetrics acceptable to the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses before registration.

(b) applicants who have not had a course in communicable diseases equivalent to that given to undergraduate nurses in Alberta will be required to take a post-graduate course in communicable diseases acceptable to the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses before registration."

NOTE.—A General Hospital is defined as one which admits Men, Women and Children, and gives instruction in the four main Services—Medical, Surgical, Gynæcological and Children's Diseases.

Such General training may be given in one General Hospital recognised as a Complete Training School, or in recognised Affiliated or Associated Hospitals which together give instruction in the above-named Services.

Applications for approval for Registration on February 28th, 1936, were: General Register, by reciprocity, 15; Supplementary Part of the Register for Fever Nurses, by Examination, 7. Total 22.

It was agreed that 176 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:—

The Southampton Children's Hospital and Dispensary for Women, Southampton, be provisionally approved for a period of one year as a Complete Training School for Children's Nurses;

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)