

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 January 22nd.

Election of Chairman.

The Minutes having been taken as read and confirmed, the next business on the Agenda was the election of Chairman. Miss Musson vacated the Chair, which was taken by the Countess of Limerick, who stated that the only nomination for this post was that of Miss Musson. She had, therefore, great pleasure in announcing that Miss Musson had been re-elected for a further term of office.

Miss Musson then took the Chair and expressed her thanks to the Council.

Election of Vice-Chairman.

There was only one nomination for the office of Vice-Chairman, Miss R. E. Darbyshire, R.R.C., and she was re-elected for a further term of office.

Miss Darbyshire thanked the Council, expressing the hope that she would be able to attend the meetings regularly.

The Chairman read a letter from the Secretary of Mrs. Courtauld, asking that Mrs. Courtauld's name be not put down for any Committee, as she would not be able to attend any meetings for a considerable time owing to ill-health.

Acknowledgment of Address of Loyalty to the King.

The Chairman read a letter from Sir John Simon, acknowledging the Address of Loyalty sent to His Majesty King George VI from the Council.

Business Arising out of Minutes.

Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting in October, 1936, the Chairman reported that Valerie Roach had been convicted at the Truro Police Court, found guilty, and fined £5, for falsely representing herself to be a State Registered Nurse.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved; and the sum of £100 for postage stamps, £20 for insurance stamps and £15 for petty cash, were allowed.

Mr. Harper (Chairman of the Finance Committee), then informed the Council that the builders hoped to be out of the new premises of the General Nursing Council by the end of the month, and as they had agreed to vacate their present premises as soon as possible, the furnishing of the new building must be taken in hand without delay. Mr. Harper assured the Council that, where possible, present furniture and furnishing would be used, but with larger premises much more furniture would be required. He also expressed his wish that the staff should be adequately furnished. He asked the Council to place a round sum of £10,000 at the disposal of the Finance Committee for this purpose, with the assurance that the money would be wisely spent. This was agreed.

Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration on January 22nd, were: General Register, by reciprocity, 17; Supplementary Part of the Register for Mental Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; for Fever Nurses, by examination, 14, by reciprocity, 1. Total, 34.

It was agreed that 19 nurses, who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee, and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

It was agreed that the names of 2,014 nurses who had not paid their retention fee for 1937 be removed from the Register, in accordance with the Rules, Part II, Paragraph 5 (3).

The Registration Committee reported (1) that the number of nurses registered during 1936 was as follows:—

	By Examination.	By Reciprocity.	Total.
General Part of the Register ...	4,755	189	4,944
Supplementary Part of the Register for—			
Male Nurses	25	—	25
Mental Nurses	167	5	172
Nurses for Mental Defectives ...	6	—	6
Sick Children's Nurses	259	8	267
Fever Nurses	840	21	861
	6,052	223	6,275

(2) That the total number of nurses registered from September, 1921, to December, 1936, was:—

General Part of the Register ...	85,895 including 43,670 by Examination		
Supplementary Part of the Register for—			
Male Nurses	381	147	528
Mental Nurses	8,142	1,149	9,291
Nurses for Mental Defectives ...	414	37	451
Sick Children's Nurses	3,279	2,195	5,474
Fever Nurses	8,541	6,187	14,728
	106,652	53,385	160,037

It was reported that a Questionnaire had been issued with Retention Fee forms, and an analysis was presented to the Council, giving details of the different branches of work, if any, in which the nurses on the State Register are engaged.

Education and Examination.

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

Samaritan Hospital, London, in affiliation with St. Mary's Hospital, London, be provisionally approved for a period of one year, under Section I (i) (a) of the Council's Scheme of Training;

The provisional approval of Southampton Children's Hospital and Dispensary for Women, Dewsbury Joint Hospital, Earlsheaton, and Portsmouth Infectious Diseases Hospital, be continued for a further period of one year;

The scheme of affiliation of the Stratford-on-Avon General Hospital with the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, in place of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, cancelled May 1936, be provisionally approved for a period of one year.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

The Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee reported that the Council's Solicitor has been instructed to take the necessary action under Section 8 (i) of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, against two nurses who had falsely represented themselves to be State Registered Nurses. This action was agreed.

It was reported that following this action, Violet May Barnden had been fined £2 2s. 0d. costs under the Probation of Offenders Act.

General Purposes.

The following figures relating to the work in the office were reported:—

Correspondence:—			
Letters received ... ..	...	...	133,513
Letters despatched ... ..	...	...	271,792
Interviews ... ..	...	...	2,520
Uniform Permits issued (including 55 duplicate Permits) ... ..	...	...	1,613
Silver Badges issued (including 43 duplicate Badges)	2,986
Duplicate Certificates of Registration issued			7

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