

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, 23, Portland Place, London, W., on April 22nd. The Chairman, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

The Chairman reported that one woman had been fined £5, and another one fined £5 and ordered to pay £5 5s. costs, for falsely representing themselves to be Registered Nurses.

Correspondence.

The Chairman reported the receipt of a reply from the Queen's Institute of District Nursing to a letter sent, arising out of a case recently before them, at the request of the Council making inquiries concerning arrangements made for nurses to collect their own fees. The General Superintendent explained that every possible precaution was taken, counterfoils in receipt books used by the nurses being checked by their Superintendent or Hon. Secretary. The Queen's Institute for District Nursing considered their arrangements were the best possible in the circumstances.

The Council agreed that this letter was unsatisfactory, but decided nothing further could be done in the matter until a similar case arose.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £300 for postage stamps, £30 for insurance stamps, and £15 for petty cash, were allowed.

Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration on April 22nd were: General Register, by reciprocity, 21; Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 3; for Fever Nurses, by Examination, 17. Total, 41.

It was agreed that 62 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:—

City General Hospital, Leicester, be provisionally approved for a period of one year as a Complete Training School for Male Nurses;

Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Royal Hospital be provisionally approved for a period of one year as a complete Training School for Male Nurses, entrants being limited to Registered Mental Nurses;

The additional scheme of affiliation between St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow, and Charing Cross Hospital, London, be provisionally approved for a period of one year;

The provisional approval of Penrhiewtyn Infirmary, Neath, and Sutton and Cheam Hospital be extended for a further period of one year;

The provisional approval of the association of the County Hospital, Chatham, with the County Hospital, Dartford, and the County Hospital, Farnborough, be extended for a further period of one year.

It was agreed:

"That Recommendation 17 passed by Council on November 26th, 1937, be amended as follows:—

"That the last sentence of Paragraph 7 of the Regulations as follows:—

'A candidate whose papers have been marked "Fail" may re-enter after the expiration of one year,'

be amended by the substitution of the words 'six months' in place of the words 'one year.'"

Mental Nursing.

On the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee, it was agreed that the provisional approval of Little Plumstead Colony, Norwich, be continued for a further period of one year.

The Register of Nurses.

The Chairman reported that the Register of Nurses was now published for 1938. It contained 87,009 names: 72,177 on the General Part; 313 on the Supplementary Part for Male Nurses; 4,904 for Mental Nurses; 242 for Nurses for Mental Defectives; 2,634 for Sick Children's Nurses; and 6,739 for Fever Nurses.

The Chairman reported that the Register had to be divided into two parts, the General Part of the Register concluded in the second volume with the Supplementary Parts.

Disciplinary Cases.

Mr. Hewitt Pitt, Solicitor to the Council, placed the following cases before the Council:—

On January 31st of this year, Mrs. Dorothy Evelyn Bulgin, S.R.N., 44413, Matron at the Horton General Hospital, Banbury, was suspended from duty on the ground of unprofessional conduct.

An appeal for £60,000 had been launched for the rebuilding of this hospital and the nurses' home, out of which the Nursing Staff had agreed to raise the sum of £100. They had organised sales of work, whist drives and dances, which money was collected by the Matron.

Having got into financial difficulties, Mrs. Bulgin had used this money, hoping to be able to refund it.

Her family had now refunded the sum of £111 7s. 8d., but the matter had been brought to the notice of the Council by the Secretary and House Governor.

Mrs. Bulgin appeared before the Council, accompanied by her Solicitor, who spoke eloquently on her behalf.

The Council deliberated *in camera*, and decided to remove the name of Mrs. Dorothy Evelyn Bulgin from the Register of Nurses.

It had been reported to the Council that early in 1936, Mrs. Eva Phyllis Evling, R.M.N. 7324, had appeared before the Central Criminal Court, being concerned in a case where instruments were used upon a woman to cause miscarriage; the death of the woman followed. Mrs. Evling was sentenced to four months' imprisonment in the second division.

Mr. Evling appeared on behalf of his wife, admitting that she had served this term of imprisonment, and stating that his wife had been instrumental in introducing the dead woman to another woman who performed the operation, but that Mrs. Evling was not in the room at the time of the operation.

The Council deliberated *in camera*, and agreed not to remove the name of Mrs. Eva Phyllis Evling, R.M.N. 7324, from the Register.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting was fixed for Friday, May 27th.

FACED WITH AN ULTIMATUM.

Princess Beatrice Hospital, Earl's Court, is faced with an ultimatum from the General Nursing Council to the effect that they had definitely decided to withdraw their sanction for the hospital to remain a training school in October, unless a nurses' home was actually in course of construction.

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