

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 June 24th. The Chairman, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

Correspondence.

Women's Voluntary Services.

It was reported that a letter had been received from the Dowager Marchioness of Reading inviting the Council to appoint a representative to serve on the Advisory Council of the Women's Voluntary Services. It was proposed by Miss Cox-Davies and unanimously agreed that Miss Musson be appointed to serve on this Committee.

Miss Musson agreed to do this, but if the work became too heavy she would have to appoint a deputy.

Sub-Committee not Approved.

Dr. Geoffrey Evans had addressed a letter to the members of the Council concerning criticisms made on the questions asked at the Final State Examination for the Certificate of General Nursing, and proposed that a Sub-Committee of four persons consisting of a Matron actively engaged in a Nurse Training School, a Sister Tutor and two medical members of the Council be appointed to consider the matter.

Sir Frederick Menzies seconded the proposition that a Sub-Committee be formed, as he considered that questions set for nurses in the Examinations were often more suitable for medical students.

The Chairman said she would strongly deprecate a Sub-Committee being appointed in opposition to the Education and Examination Standing Committee. This view was also expressed by Miss Cox-Davies, who suggested that this matter go forward to the Education and Examination Committee for immediate attention.

It was finally agreed that two medical members of the Council be co-opted on to the Education and Examination Standing Committee when matters arising out of this business were down for discussion.

Request from Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association.

A letter was reported from the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association asking that probationers entering hospital for training at the age of 17 might be permitted to sit for the Final Fever Examination at the age of 19 instead of at 20, as is now in force, and not have their names entered in the State Register until they reach the age of 20 years.

It was agreed that this letter be placed before the Education and Examination Committee for their consideration.

Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration on June 24th were: General Register by reciprocity, 30; Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; for Fever Nurses by examination 8, by reciprocity, 1. Total, 40.

It was agreed that 25 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 provisional approval of the schemes of affiliation between the Bretby Hall Orthopaedic Hospital and the Withington Hospital, Manchester, and the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, and between the Ransom Sanatorium, Rainworth, and the Leicester City General Hospital, and

the Withington Hospital, Manchester, be extended for a further year;

The provisional approval of the Lancaster and District Isolation Hospital be extended for a further year;

As from December 1st, 1938, the scheme of affiliation between the Hove General Hospital and the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, be cancelled, but without prejudice to the position and rights of nurses already admitted thereto under the scheme;

The Hove General Hospital be provisionally approved as a complete Training School for Nurses for a period of two years from December 1st, 1938.

Mental Nursing.

On the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee, it was agreed "That a Memorandum dealing with matters relating to the registration of nurses for Mental Diseases be drawn up for submission to the Sub-Committee on Mental Nursing of the Inter-departmental Committee."

General Purposes. Increase of Staff.

The Council deliberated *in camera* and recommended that the Minister of Health be asked to sanction the appointment of additional staff necessary for the work in connection with the Test Educational Examination in accordance with the list appended."

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Friday, July 22nd.

REMARKS.

It is to be regretted that the General Nursing Council has departed from its decision, agreed by Resolution, not to associate itself with non-statutory bodies, such as the Advisory Committee of the Women's Voluntary Services.

THE STATE EXAMINATIONS.

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

Preliminary State Examination, May, 1938.

	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.	Percentage of failures.
First entries	2,616	143	2,473	1,803	670	27.1%
Re-entries—Whole exam.	551	25	526	268	258	49%
" Part exam., . . .	311	17	294	178	116	39.5%
" Total	3,478	185	3,293	2,249	1,044	

Final State Examination, May, 1938.

	Registered.	Entered.	Absent.	Present.	Passed.	Failed.	Percentage of failures.
General—							
First entries	1,860	40	1,811	1,465	346	19.1%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	230	0	224	136	88	39.3%	
" Part	366	15	351	230	121	34.5%	
" Total	2,456	70	2,386	1,831	555		
Male—							
First entries	8	1	7	6	1	14.3%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	—	—	—	—	3	75%	
" Part	4	—	4	1	3		
" Total	12	1	11	7	4		
Mental—							
First entries	100	1	108	84	24	22.2%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	5	—	5	3	2	40%	
" Part	12	2	10	4	6	60%	
" Total	126	3	123	91	32		
Mental Defect—							
First entries	3	—	3	—	3	100%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	—	—	—	—	—	—	
" Part	1	—	1	—	1	100%	
" Total	4	—	4	—	4		
Sick Children—							
First entries	83	1	82	66	16	19.5%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	6	1	5	3	2	40%	
" Part	11	—	11	10	1	9.1%	
" Total	100	2	98	79	19		
Fever—							
First entries	295	12	283	227	56	19.8%	
Re-entries—Whole exam.	16	2	14	11	3	21.4%	
" Part	43	1	42	33	9	21.4%	
" Total	354	15	339	271	68		

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