

imposed upon nurses who joined the Student Nurses' Association was "probably not."

Questions were raised on the point of whether it was right for young nurses in the second year of their training to be put in charge of wards containing thirty beds. The reply came from a nurse on the platform to the effect that she was very proud to have had such a charge, but the questioner contended that this was not the point at issue.

There were questions regarding the Membership fee to the College and what became of it, to which speakers from the platform pointed out the enormous expenses that must always arise in connection with organisation if it is to be effective. One speaker who dealt with the financial aspects of the College tried to convince her questioners that they "saved money" by joining the College as thereby the subscription to the Cowdray Club was reduced, not a very convincing argument to some who held that they could not afford to stay there at its present scale of charges.

The meeting cannot be said to have helped very much to a solution of the many problems which concern the nurses. Mere question and answer could not be expected to, and probably more might have been gained if the meeting had been thrown open to discussion. Still, such meetings are always good up to a certain extent as tending to discover where difficulties and grievances lie and the recognition of their existence which is, or should be, an important step towards improvement. The meeting was well organised and those who took the Chairs acted with all fairness to nurses who had questions to put.

#### QUESTIONS ASKED BY THE GUILD OF NURSES.

The Chair at the overflow meeting was taken by Miss B. M. Monk, C.B.E., R.R.C.

#### STUDENT NURSES' ASSOCIATION—CONTRIBUTIONS.

##### QUESTION 1.

Before the College instituted this tax upon the dependent probationer nurse, did the Governors of the hospitals concerned give their consent, or is it a true statement of fact that they know nothing about it?

##### ANSWER.

The nurses in training are absolutely free to decide whether or not they join the Student Nurses' Association, and, unfortunately for us, this can be seen by the comparatively small percentage of nurses who join the Association.

With regard to the second point, about the Governors giving their consent or knowing about this tax, the answer is "probably not."

##### QUESTION 2.

Will the College inform the meeting whether the constitution of the College is so drawn up that it would be possible for the laity to control the organisation absolutely?

##### ANSWER.

The answer to that must be YES, it is possible, but very improbable. Any member of the College can nominate a person for election to the Council; but only trained nurses and members of the College can vote for either lay or nurse nominees.

##### QUESTION 3.

(1) Will the College inform the meeting of whether *The Nursing Times*, the official organ of the College of Nursing, is owned by them or is it a fact that all revenue from advertisements, etc., goes into the hands of private enterprise?

(2) If the *Nursing Mirror*, a trade journal, can show a profit of approximately £30,000 per annum, is it not possible for the College of Nursing to make a similar profit and such a sum to be spent in propagating better conditions of service for their members?

##### ANSWER.

*The Nursing Times* is the official organ of the College; but it is true that the "paper" does not belong to the College of Nursing, and the profit from advertisement revenue goes to the owners of the journal.

##### QUESTION 4.

Can the College inform the meeting of the number of retired matrons who are on the examining panel of the G.N.C.?

##### REMARKS.

We ask this because it is a well-known fact that many retired matrons have been out of active hospital life for so long that they are not competent enough to examine candidates in up-to-date methods of nursing.

##### ANSWER.

We cannot answer that question. It is a matter for the G.N.C.

##### SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION, FROM THE FLOOR.

The College of Nursing is well represented on the G.N.C., and is it not the duty of those members to ascertain the true position so that the members they say they are out to protect, such as sister tutors and administrative teaching staff, can be safeguarded?

##### ANSWER.

The College of Nursing members are not elected as members of the College.

##### QUESTION 5.

Are the College in favour of examinations for examiners?

##### ANSWER.

That is a G.N.C. matter.

##### QUESTION 6.

Can the College inform the meeting as to who is responsible for the questions set by the G.N.C. for the educational test?

##### ANSWER.

That is not our business, but another G.N.C. matter.

##### QUESTION 7.

Are the College in favour of a proportion of elected members to the G.N.C. seeking re-election annually instead of once in every five years, as is the practice at the present time?

##### ANSWER.

I do not know the policy of the College on this matter, but if the members or non-members of the College desire this to become part of the policy they should become active members and see that resolutions on this subject be submitted to the proper quarter.

##### QUESTION 8.

Will the College inform the meeting of the number of voluntary hospital matrons elected to the Council of the College of Nursing?

##### ANSWER.

There are 10 voluntary hospital matrons elected to the Council of the College of Nursing.

#### LEGACIES FOR NURSES.

Mr. Clifford Musprall, of Lausanne, left to Mlle. Paula Matilda Grob, of La Rosiaz, Lausanne, "In appreciation of her attention to me as my nurse," £150, a portrait of himself by Badger, and £6,000 to her for life, "as a further acknowledgment for her care of me as sick nurse since I have lived in Switzerland."

Mr. Arthur Levy, of Hertford Street, Mayfair, left £250 each to Nurses Emily Harley, Anetta Goss, Florence Ruth Ashton and Lilian Yates, and £100 to Nurse P. M. Carden.

Mr. Hector Carlisle Pilkington, of Liverpool, left £100 each to Jane Jones, nurse, and to Sister Jacobs, of Rosslyn Nursing Home, West Kirby.

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