

sent to the Minister of Health and to the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services. The Committee are aware that the former has not yet given any intimation that he intends to put into operation the Recommendation of the Inter-Departmental Committee that a Roll of Assistant Nurses be established under the General Nursing Council, but the Committee desire that their views, as embodied in our Resolution, be conveyed to the Council.

I am,  
Yours faithfully,  
ISABEL MACDONALD, *Secretary.*

*From the British College of Nurses.*

The Registrar then read the following Resolution received from the President and Council of the British College of Nurses :—

British College of Nurses,  
19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7.  
*February 23rd, 1939.*

#### RESOLUTION.

The Council of the British College of Nurses desires at the earliest possible moment to communicate to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales its strong sense of indignation at the proposal incorporated in the Interim Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Nursing Services, that a Roll be compiled of women acting as nurses who have not conformed to any prescribed term of training or examination. The Council takes the strongest objection to the Governing Body of the Nursing Profession, under the Nurses' Registration Act, compiling and controlling any such Roll. The Act provides for the establishment of a Register of Nurses who have conformed to a definite curriculum of training, and who have given evidence under examination that they have attained the minimum standard of education and training (as prescribed by the Rules under the Act) entitling them to recognition as safe attendants upon the sick and to the entry of their names upon the Register for which prescribed fees have been paid.

The Council of the British College of Nurses therefore desires to make an emphatic protest against the proposed breach of contract that would arise if the proposal of the Inter-Departmental Committee were put into operation by the General Nursing Council.

Further, the suggestion of the Inter-Departmental Committee that local authorities should be empowered "to license, register and inspect" Registered Nurses Co-operations, thus placing them under lay control and degrading their professional status, is an indignity which will not be submitted to without the strongest opposition.

The Council of the British College of Nurses contends that the determined exclusion by the Minister of Health and the President of the Board of Education of free nursing opinion in the personnel of the Inter-Departmental Committee established to deal with matters of vital importance to the profession of Nursing could not fail to lead to recommendations antagonistic to professional opinion, by the lay and medical members of which the Select Committee is almost entirely composed.

The British College of Nurses is resolved to give all the publicity possible and to use every available means of opposing recommendations that must, if made effective, lead to the degradation, professional and economic, of Registered Nurses, who, by their keen sense of public duty, have attained to honourable status in the body politic.

It was agreed that this Resolution should be acknowledged.

#### Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £8,500 for Examiners' Claims and Expenses, £1,000 for accommodation for Examinations, £200 for Postage Stamps, £35 for Insurance Stamps, and £15 for Petty Cash were allowed.

#### Registration

It was reported that reciprocity had now been established between the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and the Department of Public Health and Welfare, Newfoundland.

Applications for approval for Registration on February 24th were: General Register, by reciprocity, 15; Supplementary part of the Register for Mental Nurses, by reciprocity, 2; for Fever Nurses, by examination, 10; by reciprocity, 3. Total, 30.

On the recommendation of the Registration Committee, it was agreed that 249 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 Pembury County Hospital be now fully approved as a Complete Training School; and the provisional approval of Grantham Hospital as a Complete Training School be extended for a further year.

It was reported that the following have been appointed a Sub-Committee to consider matters arising out of the State Examinations: Dame Ellen Musson and Miss D. M. Smith, *ex officio*, Miss Helen Dey, Miss E. R. Gwatkin, Miss D. A. Lane and Miss E. C. Pearce.

It was agreed:

"That the Regulations for the Test Examination, as approved on February 28th, 1936, be amended as follows:—

"That in the last sentence of paragraph 6, which reads—The second paper, for which three-quarters of an hour will be allowed, will consist of simple questions in elementary arithmetic—the words 'one hour and a quarter' be substituted for the words 'three-quarters of an hour.'"

#### Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

It was reported that the Council's Solicitor had been instructed to take the necessary action under Section 8 (1) of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, against three women who have falsely represented themselves to be registered nurses. This action was agreed. It was reported that in one case the summons was dismissed, as the case was not proved; and in another one a fine of 20s. and costs of £1 1s. were imposed. The magistrate trying this case would not *order* the return of the badge, but advised the woman to return it to the General Nursing Council.

It was agreed that this matter be taken up with the Home Office.

#### Mental Nursing.

It was reported that Miss M. A. Burgess had been appointed a member of the Committee, in place of Miss E. R. Gwatkin, resigned.

On the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee, it was agreed that the provisional approval of Little Plumstead Hall Colony, near Norwich, be continued as a complete training school for male and female nurses for Mental Defectives for a further year.

#### General Purposes.

It was agreed that the estimate of Messrs. G. W. Franklin and Son, amounting to £26 3s. 6d., be accepted for re-arranging existing lights and fixing new lights in the Typists' Rooms and Test Education Room.

#### Disciplinary Cases.

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

Miss Ethel Josephine Fulcher, S.R.N., 35673, was charged at Marlborough Street Police Court on December 13th, 1938, and found guilty of stealing articles valued

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