

## 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 May 24th. Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

### Business Arising Out of the Minutes.

#### Work of the Council to be Investigated by the Ministry of Health.

A letter was reported from the Ministry of Health agreeing to the new examination fees proposed by the Council; and also intimating that an officer would be sent from the Ministry to investigate the work of the Council and to see if any further economy could be effected.

The Chairman pointed out that all staff was engaged, and salary paid to them, only by the consent of the Minister of Health.

It was proposed by Dr. M. A. Collins, seconded by Miss R. A. Cox-Davies, and agreed, that the Council's Solicitor be asked what power the Minister has to make such an investigation, although any suggestions as to further economy would be welcome.

#### The Register of Nurses.

A copy of the State Register of Nurses for 1940 was upon the table. The Chairman informed those present that there were 93,530 names inscribed in it, made up as follows:—

General Part of the Register, 77,780; Supplementary Part of the Register for Male Nurses, 363; for Mental Nurses, 4,771; for Nurses for Mental Defectives, 248; for Sick Children's Nurses, 2,865; and for Fever Nurses, 7,503.

#### Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £725 for weekly salaries, £35 for Insurance stamps, £100 for postage, and £15 for petty cash were allowed.

#### Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration were: General Register, by reciprocity, 10; Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 4; for Fever Nurses, by examination, 9, by reciprocity, 1. Total 24.

It was agreed that 78 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 reported that copies of the Registers of Nurses have been received from the General Nursing Council for Scotland; the General Nursing Council for Eire; the Nurses and Masseurs Registration Board, Queensland; and the Madras Nurses and Midwives Council.

#### Education and Examination.

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

The scheme of affiliation between the Melksham Hospital, Wilts, and Salisbury General Infirmary and Bristol Royal Infirmary be provisionally approved for a period of one year;

The schemes of affiliation between Warren Road Hospital, Guildford, and Kingston and District Hospital, Mayday Road Hospital, Croydon, Epsom County Hospital and Leicester City General Hospital be cancelled, but without prejudice to the position and rights of nurses already admitted thereto under the schemes; and the Warren Road Hospital, Guildford, be provisionally approved as a Complete Training School for Nurses;

The schemes of affiliation between Surrey County Sanatorium, Milford, and Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester,

Withington Hospital, Manchester, Birkenhead Municipal Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, be now fully approved;

The schemes of affiliation between Yeatman Hospital, Sherborne, and Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and between Sully Hospital, Cardiff, and Llandough Hospital, Penarth, be now fully approved;

The provisional approval of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, as a complete Training School be extended for a further period of one year;

The provisional approval of the scheme of affiliation between Hastings Municipal Hospital and Brighton Municipal Hospital, and between Bridgend Hospital and West Glamorgan County Hospital, Neath, be extended for a further period of one year;

The scheme of affiliation between Hawksmoor Sanatorium, Bovey Tracey, and the City Hospital, Plymouth, be provisionally approved for a period of one year;

The scheme of affiliation between Farnham County Hospital and the City General Hospital, Leicester, be cancelled, but without prejudice to the position and rights of nurses already admitted thereto under the scheme;

The one-year whole-time course of instruction at Roedean School, Brighton, and at Eltham Hill School, Woolwich, be approved for the purposes of Part I. of the Preliminary Examination.

#### Disciplinary Case.

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

Miss Amy Phipps, S.R.N. 179, appeared before the Marlborough Street police court on March 14th, on the charge of stealing one brooch and two rings, to the value of 11s. 11d., from the premises of Messrs. Bourne and Hollingsworth. She was bound over in a sum of £5 for 12 months, and fined £3 3s. costs.

Miss Phipps appeared before the Council in the company of a member of the Middlesex County Council, under which Miss Phipps has been a valuable servant for a number of years, and now holds the position of Senior Health Visitor.

Miss Phipps has had two very bad attacks of influenza, and returned to work, because of great stress of work, before she was fully recovered.

Miss Phipps cannot account for taking the goods from the shop because she never wears cheap jewellery; but she has suffered much from insomnia.

The Middlesex County Council are continuing Miss Phipps' service, and the Central Midwives Board have decided not to remove her name from their Roll.

The Council considered the case *in camera* and decided to postpone judgment for a period of one year, and ordered Miss Phipps to place herself under medical care and to send a medical certificate to the Council at the end of that time.

#### Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Friday, June 28th.

#### NOTICE OF PROSECUTION UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE NURSES REGISTRATION ACT.

We have received the following information from the Registrar, G.N.C.

*Elsie Darbyshire.*—The case came before the Birmingham magistrates on May 15th, when a fine of £3 was imposed and £2 costs—payment to be made within 28 days and 31 days' imprisonment in default. Miss Darbyshire had posed as a State Registered nurse.

#### INVESTIGATION BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The intimation that an officer would be sent to investigate the work of the General Nursing Council and to see if any further economy could be effected, is a matter of great importance to the profession at large.

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