

that this matter has already been considered by the General Nursing Council, arising out of a report on the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee laid before the Council by a Standing Committee. The proposal that such a Roll be established in the manner suggested was noted and approved by the Council, but only on conditions that the legislation envisaged in paragraph 165 of the Report and in paragraphs 41 and 42 of the Summary of Conclusions and Recommendations be implemented before the Roll is established.

The Council also agreed with the reservations of the nurse members of the Inter-Departmental Committee as to the official title of persons entered on the Roll.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
G. E. DAVIES, *Registrar*.

[EDITORIAL NOTE.—The General Nursing Council for England and Wales approves the establishment of a Roll of Assistant Nurses compiled by the governing body of the State Registered Nurses and presumably at the Headquarters for which the Registered Nurses have paid.]

Protest against Business conducted *in camera*.

On June 22nd, 1939, a strong letter of protest was addressed to the G.N.C. from the British College of Nurses, taking exception to its having considered the Assistant Nurse question *in camera* and not in open Council, and expressing the opinion that before the G.N.C. proceeds to compile a Roll of semi-trained Nurses the Council should consult its electorate. By evading this course, through conducting its business *in camera*, the Council lays itself open to well-merited censure now and in the future.

This protest ends:

"My Council claims that matters so momentous to the Registered Nurses and their profession should not be discussed and brought to a decision in secret and requests that the G.N.C. shall call a Conference of its electorate without delay, in order that the latter may express their views on a professional matter of such gravity and far-reaching importance."

Although nearly three years have elapsed since this request was made, the Conference has not yet materialised.

The fact remains that the Ministry of Health did communicate with the G.N.C. in 1939 on the compilation of a Roll of Assistant Nurses, and that the G.N.C., after discussion *in camera*, approved the suggestion that it should compile the Roll. We still demand that before further action is taken by the G.N.C. that the electorate of Registered Nurses shall be consulted on this matter of vital importance to the status and economic security of the Profession of Nursing.

It is in support of this demand that the General Nursing Council has been requested by the British College of Nurses to define its policy concerning the proposed legal Registration of semi-trained Assistant Nurses—as the present policy of the Ministry of Health is known to be thoroughly unsound on nursing standards.

SHORTAGE OF QUEEN'S NURSES.

At a meeting of the Council of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, recently held in London, a report on the work of the institute for 1941 was approved for submission to the patron, Queen Mary. It showed that there is an acute shortage of Queen's Nurses, and while it is realised that this is partly due to the many calls on the nursing profession for the fighting and civil defence services, the council considered that the need for nurses and midwives should be more strongly emphasised in connection with the registration of women. No work has more far-reaching value to standards of national health than the work of the Registered Nurse Midwife.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

NOTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND, HELD AT 5, DARNAWAY STREET, EDINBURGH, ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 30th, 1942.

Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D., was unanimously re-appointed Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year and Colonel D. J. Mackintosh, C.B., M.V.O., LL.D., was unanimously re-appointed Vice-Chairman.

Appointment of Committees.

Standing Committees were appointed, the Conveners being:—

Education, Examination and Registration ...	Miss Nora Milnes, B.Sc.
Finance Committee ...	Sir John Lorne MacLeod, G.B.E., LL.D.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases ...	Miss J. S. H. Niccol, A.R.R.C., R.G.N.
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Examination Papers ...	Miss E. D. Smail, O.B.E., A.R.R.C., R.G.N.
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Syllabus Committee ...	Miss M. O. Robinson, R.G.N.
Uniform Committee ...	Miss E. Brodie, R.G.N., R.M.N.

The late Dr. A. K. Chalmers, LL.D.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the Chairman made reference to the death of Dr. A. K. Chalmers, LL.D., which took place on January 24th, and it was unanimously resolved that the Council record their sense of the great loss the Council has sustained in the death of Dr. Chalmers.

Education, Examination and Registration.

The following hospitals were approved as training schools:—

East Fortune Sanatorium at Bangour in affiliation with:—	
Fever ...	County Hospital, Motherwell. City Hospital, Edinburgh. County Fever Hospital, Perth.
General ...	Deaconess Hospital, Edinburgh. The Infirmary, Arbroath.

Gartloch Mental Hospital, Gartcosh, re-approved as a training school for nurses for the mental part of the Register.

The Joint Hospital, Elgin, approved as a complete training school for nurses for the fever part of the Register.

The Morayshire Mental Hospital approved as a complete training school for nurses for the mental part of the Register.

Pre-Nursing Courses.

Approval was given to a pre-nursing course of two years' duration at the Aberdeen High School for Girls—continuation classes.

Teaching Staff.—Holders of the Nurse Teachers' Certificate of the Royal College of Nursing were approved as teachers of professional subjects in pre-nursing courses.

Registration.

Reported that 22 nurses who had passed the Council's Final Examination and had now attained the age of 21, had been registered.

Reported five applications for registration by reciprocity; 27 applications for re-inclusion in the Register after failure to pay the Retention Fee. All these applications were approved.

Deletions from Register.

Reported that 446 nurses had failed to pay the Retention Fee by December 31st, 1941; that 22 nurses had been deleted at their own request and that 24 deaths had been intimated during the year.

Date of Next Meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting of Council should be held on February 27th, 1942.

We regret delay in the publication of this interesting Report, but it was not received until February 14th, too late for publication in last month's issue.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)