

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 November 24th. Miss D. M. Smith, O.B.E., presided.

Death of Miss R. A. Cox-Davies, C.B.E., R.R.C.

The Chairman announced the death of Miss R. A. Cox-Davies on October 30th. She was on the first Council, and had been elected by Registered Nurses at each election; for many years she had been Chairman of the General Purposes Committee.

Dame Ellen Musson spoke of the help she had always received from Miss Cox-Davies during her Chairmanship of the Council.

The Council stood and paid silent tribute to her memory.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £1,400 for weekly salaries, £300 for salaries (election), £700 for postage, £100 for receipt stamps, £20 for petty cash, £70 for insurance stamps, and £15,000 for examiners' claims were allowed.

Estimates for stationery value £9 19s. 10d., and stationery for Assistant Nurses at £31 13s. 9d., and envelopes at £10 5s. were approved.

Registration.

It was reported that the Registration Committee has further considered the question of the removal of a nurse from the Register by reason of infirmity of mind or body (referred back to the Committee by Council on October 27th, 1944), and have decided to take no further action in regard to the matter.

Applications for approval of Registration were: General Part of the Register, by reciprocity, 6; Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 1; for Fever Nurses by examination, 11, by reciprocity, 2. Total, 20.

It was agreed that 54 nurses who have hitherto failed to pay their retention fee and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

List of Nurses.

Applications for admission to the List of Nurses were: General Nurses 24, Male Nurses 1, Nurses for Mental Diseases 3, Sick Children's Nurses 1, Fever Nurses 5. Total 34.

Education and Examination.

The Committee, having considered the letter from the Registrar, General Nursing Council for Scotland, in reference to the draft rules prescribing the qualifications of Sister Tutors (referred by Council, October 27th, 1944), could not agree to the reply, so it was referred back to the Committee.

It was reported that a Conference was held on October 20th with representatives of universities interested in the establishment of Courses for Sister Tutors.

It was reported that the Committee has re-considered the draft revised Syllabuses of Subjects of Examination, and the draft Comprehensive Scheme of Training, referred back to the Committee by Council on September 29th, 1944, and that they are now agreed.

It was agreed that the Test Examination be re-instituted as from January 1st, 1946, and that all candidates entering for training for admission to the Register after December 31st, 1945, who do not comply with the requirements of Rule 4 (i), (a), (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) be required to pass the Test Examination prior to entry to the Training School.

Schemes of affiliation, and continuation of approval of hospitals as training schools for nurses were approved. Pre-nursing courses were also approved.

Results of Preliminary and Final State Examinations were announced: 3,229 candidates passed the Preliminary Examination; 1,412 passed Part I, and 1,629 passed Part II.

Candidates who passed the Final Examination were: 3,136 General Nurses, 13 Male Nurses, 52 Mental Nurses, 10 Nurses for Mental Defectives, 148 Sick Children's Nurses, and 410 Fever Nurses. Total 3,769.

General Purposes.

The Chairman of Council referred to the Committee a letter from the Registrar stating that under the terms of her agreement she would be due to retire as from May 17th, 1945, and that six months' notice of termination of appointment was required. The Chairman informed the Committee that under a Minute of Council of June 25th, 1920, the Council had the power to extend the term of office of the Registrar by a further period of two years.

The matter was considered, and it was agreed that in the interest of the work of the Council, and appreciating the excellence of the contribution she makes to that work, Miss Davies' term of office be extended for a further period of two years.

Amid acclamation, Miss Davies signified her willingness to continue as Registrar for a further period of two years.

Assistant Nurses.

It was agreed that 526 applicants to the Roll of Assistant Nurses, whose applications have been found to be in order, be approved for enrolment, and the Registrar was instructed to enter their names in the Roll of Assistant Nurses.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for December 22nd.

REMARKS.

It is to be hoped that Registered Nurses will study the foregoing report, it deals with important professional points.

1. *Finance*.—It should be noted that £15,000 is claimed for examiners fees—a considerable rise on previous demands.

2. *Registration*.—It will be noted that the Registration Committee upon reconsideration of its suggestion "of the removal of a nurse from the Register by reason of infirmity of mind or body," have decided to take no further action in regard to the matter. In this decision they may take it that "discretion is the better part of valour," as any such autocratic action upon the part of the G.N.C. would arouse the most determined opposition. That these seven members of the Council should have ventured to make so disastrous a proposal, proves the necessity for the utmost vigilance upon the part of Registered Nurses in protection of their professional rights and privileges.

The Assistant Nurses' Roll.

It will be noted that up to date 1,138 Assistant Nurses' names have been placed on the Roll since it was opened in June, 1944, so that presumably they have paid £1,707, as the fee is one guinea, a sum which does not nearly meet the cost of administration at the Headquarters of the Registered Nurses, provided by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under Regulation 19 of the Nurses Act, 1943, without our knowledge and consent.

ENROLMENT AND CONTROL OF ASSISTANT NURSES.

Some Items of Annual Expenditure.

Rent.	Telephone.
Rates and Taxes.	Telegrams.
Equipment.	Postage.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)