

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 January 25th, 1946.

Election of Chairman.

The Countess of Limerick took the Chair for the Election of Chairman for the ensuing year. She reported that there had only been one nomination; she therefore had much pleasure in announcing that Miss D. M. Smith would continue as Chairman of Council. Miss Smith then presided.

Election of Vice-Chairman.

The Chairman reported only one nomination for Vice-Chairman; Miss M. Jones was re-elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

Congratulations to Members of Council.

The congratulations of the Council were offered to the Countess of Limerick and Miss Helen Dey on the awards bestowed upon them in the New Year Honours.

Correspondence.

The Chairman read a letter from Miss G. E. Davies, Registrar, stating that she was making excellent progress and hoped to be able to leave hospital soon.

A letter was reported from the Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, inviting a representative of the General Nursing Council together with a representative of the Royal College of Nursing to undertake investigation of Nurses' Training and Conditions in the British West Indies by consent of West Indies Government.

The Colonial Office would guarantee salaries during absence from this country, cost of passage, travelling expenses, and subsistence allowance of 30s. per day.

It was agreed that names of representatives agreeing to take the journey be submitted, and the selection be made at the next meeting of the Council.

Legislation.

The Church of Christ Scientist were still endeavouring to keep the title "Christian Science Nurses," under the Nurses Act, 1943, for their attendants on the sick, who do not train or work under the authority of the Medical Profession.

The General Nursing Council were agreed to fight to have the word "Nurses" removed from the title given to these attendants.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, bills and claims submitted for payment were approved, and the sums of £1,350 for Weekly Salaries, £300 for Postage, £50 for Insurance Stamps, £20 for Petty Cash, and £2,000 for Examiners' Claims were allowed.

Sums totalling £849 12s. for stationery were approved.

Registration.

Applications for approval for Registration were: General Register, by examination 1, by reciprocity 14. Supplementary part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity, 3; for nurses for Mental Diseases, by reciprocity, 2; for Fever Nurses, by examination 12, by reciprocity, 6. Total 38.

It was agreed that the names of 71 nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fee, and now wished their names re-included in the Register, should be re-included.

Number of Nurses Registered during the year 1945.

General Part of the Register by examination 7,076, by reciprocity 81; Supplementary Part of the Register for Male Nurses by examination 229; for Nurses for Mental Diseases by examination 122, by reciprocity 30; for Nurses for Mental Defectives by examination 22; for Sick Children's Nurses by examination 346, by reciprocity 16; for Fever Nurses by examination 898, by reciprocity 37. Total 8,657.

Number of Nurses Registered from September, 1921 to December, 1945.

It was reported that 171,452 Nurses had been registered on all parts of the Register since 1921, including 116,328 by examination.

List of Nurses.

It was reported that two General Nurses, one Nurse for Mental Diseases and one Fever Nurse had been admitted to the List of Nurses.

Education and Examination.

Application for approval of Hospital as Affiliated Training School for General Nurses; for approval of Hospitals as Training Schools for Male Nurses; for additional schemes of affiliation; for continuation of approval of Hospitals; and for Pre-Nursing Courses, were agreed.

It was agreed that the time allowed for the Nursing Paper for the Examination of Sick Children's Nurses be increased from 1½ hours to 2½ hours, such alteration to take effect as from the examination to be held in June, 1946.

Mental Nursing.

It was reported that the Mental Nursing Committee are in agreement with the decisions reached at the meeting between members of Council and representatives of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association on January 1st, 1946.

It was reported that York Clinic, Guy's Hospital, be provisionally approved as a Training School for Registered Nurses for admission to the part of the Register for Mental Nurses, in affiliation with Bexley Hospital, Kent, for a period of two years.

General Purposes.

It was agreed that four leather brief cases at a cost of £5 17s. 0d. each be purchased for the use of Inspectors of Training Schools.

Assistant Nurses.

It was reported that the Minister of Health has approved the Rules and Schedules to the Rules framed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under Part 1, Section 2 of the Nurses Act, 1943.

It was agreed that the names of 482 applicants whose applications have been found to be in order be entered in the Roll of Assistant Nurses.

It was agreed that the Hastings Municipal Hospital be provisionally approved as a Complete Training School for Assistant Nurses.

It was reported that 11,568 Assistant Nurses were enrolled during the year 1945, and the total number of Assistant Nurses on the Roll up to December 31st, 1945, is 13,845.

The Council then went *in camera* to consider various items of business.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next Meeting of the Council was fixed for February 22nd.

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