

THE BRADFORD ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Bradford Royal Infirmary Nurses' League held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, June 4th, at the Field House Nurses' Home, belonging to the Infirmary.

The meeting—after a short preliminary business meeting—was thrown open to visitors, and a representative gathering met in the large hall of Field House to discuss the proposed Registered Uniform and Badge for trained nurses.

The nursing staffs of the local hospitals and institutions and the Public Health Services of Bradford had been invited, and many speakers took part in the discussion.

Designs for uniform and badge had been sent in by members of the Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, and were freely criticised.

Miss Davies, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, and President of the Nurses' League, opened the proceedings by warmly welcoming the visitors. She then explained that the discussion would be arranged under three heads:—

1. Was a registered uniform necessary?
2. Should a registered out-door uniform consist of cloak and bonnet, or coat and hat?
3. What should be the indoor uniform?

Each of these three questions was thoroughly ventilated, and the definite opinion of the meeting ascertained, before passing on to the next.

Amongst the many who spoke were Mrs. Davison, and Misses Davies, Archibald, Harrison, Brinnend, Rose, and Rodgers.

Mrs. Davison reminded the meeting that a nurse's uniform was an almost sacred tradition. Since the Middle Ages those engaged in nursing the sick had worn a special dress, and it was equally necessary, in the present day, that some sort of uniform should be worn. And if it was necessary, surely it was better that a uniform should be registered that could not be imitated by undesirable persons.

At the same time, though we were annoyed by their imitation, they were paying us the highest compliment in their power.

They felt that in their own minds, and those of other people, they were raised to a higher level when wearing the uniform of a trained nurse.

One visitor suggested that for out-door uniform a coat should be worn, and expressed her preference for a bonnet and veil for winter wear, and a hat and veil for summer.

Every part of a nurse's uniform was discussed, and it was also suggested that professional nurses ought to be more careful about the colour of their footwear. No well-trained nurse would ever wear anything but dark or black shoes and stockings when in uniform (at which remark a nurse in navy blue uniform, and wearing light tan shoes and stockings, was observed trying to hide her feet under her chair). The meeting decided that, whilst a registered out-door uniform was quite essential, it was unnecessary to register indoor

uniform, as, in the case of the hospitals, so few members of the nursing staff would be eligible to wear it.

The suggestion was made that a nurse in hospital should wear a neat coat-frock of washing material, covered by a white overall or coat which could be left behind in the ward when going off duty. A nurse wearing this dress, and her cap, would look quite neat and professional when passing through the hospital corridors on her way to the dining-room or Nurses' Home, and considerable laundry expense would be saved if cuffs, collars, belts, and aprons were discarded.

With regard to a badge, the meeting decided that a woven badge, which could be sewn to coat, hat-band, or dress, was preferable to a metal movable badge.

The suggestion was made that the seal of the General Nursing Council would be a good registered badge.

At the close of the meeting, all the decisions arrived at were embodied in the following resolution (to be sent to the General Nursing Council) and unanimously passed.

THE RESOLUTION.

"That this meeting is of the opinion that there should be a registered out-door uniform for fully trained nurses.

That it should consist of a full length coat, buttoned up to the neck, with a felt hat, with registered ribbon and badge, for winter wear, and a coat of lighter material, or a coat-frock with a straw hat, for summer wear.

That the out-door uniform, coat, or coat-frock and hat, should be navy blue in colour.

Also that no registered indoor uniform should be enforced.

It is further recommended that dark shoes and stockings should always be worn with uniform, and that nurses working in hospital wards should wear an overall or coat that could be left behind in the wards when going off duty, or to meals.

The meeting is of the opinion that woven registered badges, which could be sewn on to a coat, hat-band, or dress, are preferable to a movable metal badge."

It was also decided to forward, at the same time, the various designs for uniform, and badges, which had been on view.

The visitors were then entertained by the Nurses' League to afternoon tea and ices, and the proceedings ended by the photographing of several groups of League members and their guests on the lawn and terrace of the Nurses' Home.

ATTRACTIVE BARGAINS.

Our readers should note that, at the Sale of Messrs. G. Cozens & Co., Ltd., Edgware Road and Seymour Street, Marble Arch, W. 2, which commences on June 20th, there will be a number of attractive bargains. Also a large selection of Nurses' Uniform dresses in all shades.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)