

be submitted to the Minister of Health for his approval:—

"But in the case of an applicant who is still in the service of the institution in which she received her training, the testimonial of the Matron for the time being of that institution as to character and professional efficiency as set forth in Form III of the Second Schedule to the Rules, shall be accepted in lieu of the testimonials furnished by the three persons referred to in the preceding portion of this Rule."

II. *Letter from the Prison Commissioners*, dated April 8th, 1922, *re*: Registration of Nurses in their service (referred to the Committee from the meeting of the Council on April 21st, 1922).

The Commissioners suggested that the registration of these nurses should be effected through the medium of the Commissioners. But as there is no provision for this method of registration in the Rules the Committee has instructed the Registrar to inform the Commissioners that their nurses should apply for registration in the manner laid down in the Rules.

III. *Application of the College of Nursing, Limited*, for recognition as an organised body of nurses under Rule 9A (referred to the Committee from the meeting of the Council on April 21st, 1922).

The Committee recommends—

(b) That the College of Nursing, Limited, be recognised by the Council under Rule 9A as an organised body of nurses.

IV. REGISTERED NURSES' UNIFORM.

(1) The Committee has considered the letter dated April 25th, 1922, from the General Nursing Council for Scotland on the question of a common uniform for nurses registered in the three countries. The Committee recommends—

(c) That there should be one common uniform for a registered nurse in whatsoever country she has been registered, England and Wales, Scotland or Ireland, but

(d) that the Badge and Buttons should be distinctive for each country;

(e) that the two foregoing recommendations be forwarded to the General Nursing Councils for Scotland and for Ireland for their opinion.

2. The Council will remember that at its meeting on March 17th last, approval was given to certain recommendations of the Committee in respect of the uniform. There are still, however, certain details to be settled, concerning which several enquiries have been made by nurses. These have been considered by the Committee, which recommends—

(f) That the coat should be of a military shape with a strap at the back;

(g) That tenders, together with patterns of material for winter wear and for summer wear, and designs, should be invited; also (h) specimens of buttons with either the letters "E. and W." in the centre, surrounded by a small rose design, or the words "England and Wales" round the edge of the button and a small rose in the centre.

(i) that the hat should be of a shape similar to a sailor hat.

LETTERS FOR SHOULDER STRAPS.

The Committee considers that it is essential that there should be distinctive letters for Nurses on the General and Supplementary Parts of the Register. As the Admiralty has not given permission for the use of the letters "R.N."

The Committee recommends—

(k) That the letters "S.R.N." (State Registered Nurse) be used by the General Nurses; "R.M.N." (Registered Mental Nurse) by the Mental Nurses; "R.C.N." (Registered Children's Nurse) by the Sick Children's Nurses; and "R.F.N." (Registered Fever Nurse) by the Fever Nurses.

WEEKLY STATEMENTS.

5. The following weekly statements, showing the progress of registration have been forwarded to the Minister of Health:—

Applications received	General.	Supp.	Total.
Week ending April 29th..	146	9	155
Week ending May 6th ..	188	14	202
Week ending May 13th ..	148	20	168

6. Lists of 1,121 applicants for registration whose applications have been found to be in conformity with the rules are appended, as also are lists of 40 applicants whose applications are not in conformity with the rules.

The Committee recommends—

(l) That the 1,121 applicants whose applications have been found to be in order be approved for registration, and that the Registrar be instructed to enter their names in the appropriate part of the Register.

(m) That the appropriate certificate be granted to each of these applicants, and that authority be hereby given to affix the Seal of the Council to each certificate.

Discussion.

MATRON THE SOLE REFEREE.

In reference to Item 1, Dr. Goodall expressed the opinion that the Minister of Health did not understand the previous recommendation of the Registration Committee, and gave its reasons for submitting another Resolution with similar intent.

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK said there was no evidence that the Minister did not understand. He intimated that he was prepared to accept the testimony of the Matron as to professional efficiency but was of opinion that another name should be given as a referee as to character. The Minister evidently did not wish one official to have the sole responsibility of recommending a nurse for admission to the State Register.

Miss MACCALLUM thought the recommendation that a Matron's reference only should be required was unsatisfactory. Was a nurse to be turned down on the *ipse dixit* of one official? If the Matron's report was adverse, was the Nurse to be told what was against her? The Matron's signature would presumably be on the Nurse's certifi-

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