

7.—Report of the Uniform Committee.

In the absence of Miss VILLIERS, Chairman of the Uniform Committee, the Report was presented by Miss G. COWLIN, who moved that it be received.

I. REPORTED—That the Committee has met four times—on March 16th, April 20th and 26th, and on May 7th, 1923.

II. Recommendation 15.

UNIFORM.

That the Uniform for State Registered Nurses consist of—

(1) Uniform—Long coat, or coat and skirt (skirt to be 8 ins. from the ground); or coat frock, with small detachable cape for outdoor wear.

The material to be of two weights, and navy blue in colour.

Material—For summer wear—Showerproof gabardine.

For winter wear—Serge.

Buttons—Bone, with Tudor rose in centre and the lettering "England and Wales" round.

Braid—Artificial silk braid $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide in all, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. either edge in navy, and the centre $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in royal blue.

(2) Hat—For winter wear—Velour (blue).

For summer wear—Straw (blue).

Trimming—Navy blue ribbon with woven badge, similar to badge chosen.

Storm cap—Of same material as coat with braiding on flap and woven badge in front.

(3) Shoes—Black or tan.

Stockings—Black or tan or grey.

(4) Gloves—Tan, grey or white.

(5) Shirt—(To wear with coat and skirt). White silk or cotton, with polo collar fitting up to the neck.

Tie—Blue Irish poplin. (Same colour as centre of braiding.)

III. Recommendation 16.

BADGE.

(a) That the badge submitted by Messrs. Fattorini, Birmingham, be adopted.

(b) That the name, registration number, and date of registration be engraved on the back of each badge issued.

(c) That the badge be worn on any authorised outdoor uniform and on indoor uniform.

(d) That Male Nurses be permitted to wear the badge in mufti.

IV. Recommendation 17.

That no letters be worn on the uniform but that the following letters be permitted after name:—

S.R.N. .. (State Registered Nurse.) For both Male and Female General Nurses.

R.M.N. .. Registered Mental Nurse.

R.N.M.D. .. Registered Nurse for Mental Defectives.

R.S.C.N. .. Registered Sick Children's Nurse.

R.F.D. .. Registered Fever Nurse.

V. Recommendation 18.

"That the designs for coat, &c., of Boyd Cooper, 14, George Street, Hanover Square, W.1, be accepted, and that a contract be entered into with this firm for one year to supply the material, buttons, &c., to any other firm or to individuals authorised to buy the uniform."

VI. Recommendation 19.

"That the reference to the Committee be extended to give the Committee power to select a suitable material for Registered Nurses in tropical countries."

Discussion.

THE CHAIRMAN remarked, in connection with the recommendation as to the buttons, it had been stated in a Nursing paper that Welsh Nurses would be disinclined to wear the rose, but the Tudor Rose belonged to the Royal House possessing the only indigenous blood that ever sat on the Throne in this country. It was a peculiarly happy thing that the General Nursing Council for England and Wales should have selected the Tudor Rose as the emblem of Registered Nurses, and a standing compliment to Wales.

SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM then proceeded to explain that the name of Tudor became connected with the Royal line by the marriage of Lady Margaret Beaufort—who was a descendant of John of Gaunt—with Edmund, Earl of Richmond, son of Owen Tudor, and Catherine, the widow of Henry V of France. A French writer stated that she had fallen in love with Owen Tudor before she married Henry V, on what ground he did not know. But this writer said there was very good reason for it, and that Owen Tudor had a very gracious manner.

Recommendation 15 was adopted.

In connection with Recommendation 16 (a) Miss COX DAVIES pointed out that the Badge submitted was inscribed with the words "General Nursing Council for England and Wales." That might be taken to mean that the wearer was a member of the Council. She thought the words "State Registered Nurse, England and Wales," would be preferable.

Recommendation 16 (a) was then amended by the addition of the words "provided that the lettering be subsequently considered."

In connection with Recommendation 16 (c), Miss DU SAUTOY enquired why it was proposed that the Badge should only be worn with uniform. Many nurses were giving up outdoor uniform.

MISS SEYMOUR YAPP said that she never wore uniform. She thought that Registered Nurses should be permitted to wear the Badge without uniform.

SIR JENNER VERRALL thought that (c) and (d) should be considered together.

THE CHAIRMAN (to MISS YAPP): "Tell me what you want, and I will put it into proper form for you."

On the suggestion of THE CHAIRMAN, MISS YAPP then moved:—

"That the badge be worn on any authorised outdoor uniform, or indoor uniform, or mufti."

This was seconded by MISS BUSHBY.

MISS SPARSHOTT said that the intention of the Recommendation was that the Badge should not be worn on all the odd uniforms; but such well-known uniforms as that of Guy's Hospital, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and other authorised uniforms.

MISS COX DAVIES enquired who were to be the tribunal to decide what was an authorised uniform?

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