

the State Uniform—consisting of coat, coat and skirt, coat frock, cape and buttons.

IX. *Recommendation 32.*

(1) That a booklet be issued by the Council, containing: (a) particulars of the State uniform, with illustrations; (b) general instructions as to the wearing of the uniform; (c) where it can be obtained; (d) information respecting the registered badge. (2) That the booklet be issued free of cost. (3) That firms be invited to advertise in the booklet and so defray the cost of printing. (4) That the booklet in draft form be submitted to the solicitor for advice.

After some discussion, in which it was pointed out that the publication of the booklet, which was necessary, would be contingent on obtaining sufficient advertisements to cover expenses, it was resolved on the proposition of Miss Musson, seconded by REV. G. B. CRONSHAW, that the booklet should be sold at a sufficient cost to cover printing and postage. Items (2) and (3) of Recommendation 32 were accordingly deleted. MR. DONALDSON thought it exceedingly wrong to make a charge, and Miss SEYMOUR YAPP said nurses were not absolute beggars.

The Report, as amended, was adopted.

We hope to print the Reports of the Education and Examination, General Purposes, and Mental Nursing Committees next week.

(To be concluded.)

WHO DICTATED THE DOCUMENT ?

No one who studies the statement made by Sir Wilmot Herringham, Chairman of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, at the recent Council Meeting on how the correspondence of the G.N.C. is conducted, can fail to realise the terrible lack of discipline and organisation with which our affairs are conducted at Headquarters.

Have we, or have we not, a highly-paid head official, the Registrar in charge, who the Rules provide "shall also act as Secretary" to the Council? Apparently not, to judge from the Chairman's report. By him the Council is informed, in reply to a leading question from Miss Cox-Davies, on a communication from Miss MacCallum, published in this journal, that a letter from the College of Nursing, Ltd., as to the last date for the registration of Existing Nurses—and to which there could be but one reply, as provided in the Act, was not replied to by the Registrar at all, but was sent down to the Registration Clerk, and the typed reply laid on the Chairman's desk. Presumably he approved it (but did not say if he dictated it), but "when it went back" it was copied, and the Registration Clerk, having returned from lunch, being dissatisfied with the draft—did not send it! What extraordinary relations appear to pertain between the Chairman and the official staff of the G.N.C. The Council was not informed if the College of Nursing, Ltd., received any reply to its letter of enquiry, and, if so, what that reply was!

The truth is that the Chairman did not the whole tale unfold. We learn that the Registration Com-

mittee decided in its omnipotence to extend the two years' term of grace for the acceptance of applications from certain Existing Nurses. This decision was, of course, quite illegal; and the now mysterious document drafted, typed, and approved, was certainly made ready for the benefit of College members. We are now informed this document has vanished. We are not surprised. In this connection many enquiries were addressed to the Registrar, and, as published in this journal on July 7th, the replies were of a varied character. One alone was in order—that addressed to the Professional Union of Trained Nurses that no applications could be considered which were not received at the office by July 14th, 1923. As that is the law, the Registration Committee is greatly to blame for attempting to go behind the Act. The truth is the now notorious letter was found to be illegal and was stopped.

We have received for publication from Miss Rundle, Secretary to the College of Nursing, Ltd., a copy of a letter sent by her to Miss Riddell, Registrar, G.N.C., but, as she has not complied with our request for a copy of the letter to which the one sent purports to be an answer, we see no reason to publish half the correspondence.

Miss Riddell also writes to say that the letter quoted by Miss Maude MacCallum in this journal was not sent from the G.N.C. Office. Who stopped it?

No one denies that "preferential terms" were contemplated after July 14th for College members, and our publication of the original document has, let us hope, prevented the Chairman of the G.N.C. and the Registration Committee perpetrating another "hoax" upon our unfortunate profession, which has the misfortune to be governed by them,

We have further details on this mysterious affair. We shall publish them next week.

INTERNATIONAL AMENITIES.

The President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland has received the following charming letter of thanks for greetings recently sent by our Council to the National Federation of Belgian Nurses.

MADAME LA PRESIDENTE,—Les membres de la Fédération Nationale des Infirmières Belges sont très sensibles à l'aimable accueil que leurs aînées leur ont fait dans leur Conseil International.

Elles remercient le National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland des félicitations qu'il a bien voulu leur adresser à la suite de son Assemblée Générale.

Nombreuses sont celles qui parmi nous ont vu leurs sœurs anglaises au chevet de leurs blessés et de leurs malades. Elles sont heureuses de pouvoir leur exprimer toute leur reconnaissance en même temps que leur joie de travailler à leurs côtés pour le plus grand bien de leur profession.

C'est avec grand intérêt qu'elles lisent le BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING que vous voulez bien leur

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