

named, who gives her age as 39, and her home address as 42, Daulston Road, Fratton, Portsmouth, was arrested here on the 2nd inst., on a charge of stealing and receiving a lady's silk dress from a bedroom in the Eye Hospital, Barwick Street in this City, (where she was employed) the property of Dr. Gertrude Bridget Leigh, Resident Surgical Officer at that hospital.

On the same date White, who is a certificated nursing sister, appeared before the Magistrates at the Victoria Courts here, and was found guilty of this charge. She was bound over in the sum of £5 for a period of six months.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) H. G. HARTWELL, Chief Inspector,
for Chief Constable.

The phraseology of this "finding" does not appear to us couched in legal terms. We suggest that the Council should on any similar occasion place on the Agenda the citation sent to the accused nurse, and, in the event of their deciding to remove her name from the Register, should state "That the Council find the charges proved, and that the Registrar be instructed to remove the name of _____ from the Register of Nurses and to cancel her certificate."

POINTS TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

INCOMPLETE RECORDS.

It will be noted that the result—and no doubt the intention—of the insulting policy of letting the Resolutions of the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council lie on the table is that there is no record on the Minutes of the fact that the Registered Nurses had to appeal to Parliament and obtain the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons with regard to (1) Prescribed Training for Nurses, and (2) the Reservation of Seats for Matrons on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, before they could secure an open election for the 11 direct Representatives of the Nurses registered on the General Part of the Register of Nurses issued under its authority.

Thus no future Council can acquaint itself officially by reference to the records of business of this matter, and the conduct of certain medical members of the Council in refusing to consider the opinions of Registered Nurses deprives their successors of knowing the truth. Much as we blame these medical autocrats, we are of opinion that the ignorance and apathy of the Nurse members of the Council cannot be too severely condemned.

We do not, however, believe that the majority of the Nurse members of the Council knew the result of resolving that a communication should "lie on the table," and Miss du Santoy is to be congratulated on eliciting this fact.

PERCENTAGE ON ACCOUNTS.

We note with astonishment that the Council has paid the Architect no less a sum than £47 3s. 6d., "being percentage on accounts for fittings supplied by the Builders," which appears to us a most unusual proceeding. What does it mean?

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION AT CONGRESSES.

The invitation from the Royal Sanitary Institute to the Council to send representatives to the Congress convened by the Institute, to be held in London in July next, demonstrates once again the confusion in the minds of its members as to such appointments. On a previous occasion the question was raised as to whether they were not prohibited by a Resolution of Council; and Miss Cox Davies, on December 18th, was quite sure that they were. As no information was forthcoming on the subject, either from the Registrar or any other member of the Council, consideration of the invitation was, as we have reported, deferred until the next Meeting of the Council.

The question arose, on an invitation, in the early days of the Council, from the Central Council of District Nursing in London to appoint members of the G.N.C. to

take permanent seats on that Council, and it was felt inexpedient that members of the General Nursing Council should, as such, take part in the work of an outside body, and thus commit this Statutory Council to decisions and policies which might not necessarily be approved by the Council; but that is totally different from appointing temporary Delegates to a Public Conference.

ABOLITION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

It will be observed that the House Committee appointed by the Council on February 15th, 1924, has been dissolved, and that "any matter pertaining to the house will be considered in future by the General Purposes Committee for recommendation to the Finance Committee."

In our view the House Committee has been entirely out of order. Certain Committees, and the number of their members, have been approved by the Minister of Health and authorised by Parliament, and are incorporated in the Rules, but the House Committee does not appear in the Rules as one of them. Nor has it reported to the Council directly, or through the General Purposes Committee. Whatever business this Committee has transacted has been totally irregular, and from what we hear its transactions have been carried on *in camera* so far as the Council is concerned. If expenditure has been permitted by this irregular Committee it is the duty of the Finance Committee to consider it and report to the Council.

LETTER FROM THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

The practice adopted by the present Chairman of referring letters to Standing Committees before they have been brought before the Council is one which, in our view, is not only bad business, but derogatory to the dignity of the Council.

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND.

Note of Proceedings at Meeting held at 18, Melville Street, Edinburgh, on Friday, 27th November, 1925.

In the absence of Sir John Lorne MacLeod, Chairman of the Council, the Chair was taken by Col. D. J. Mackintosh, Vice-Chairman, and eleven Members of the Council were present.

Col. Mackintosh submitted the Report of the Education and Examination Committee, and this was approved.

Amongst correspondence dealt with was a letter from the Joint Nursing and Midwives' Council (Northern Ireland) stating that subject to an arrangement with this Council and with the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, they had agreed to allow a nurse undergoing four years' general training who had trained for two years and passed the Preliminary Examination to spend six months of her last two years in taking a course of Maternity Training. After discussion it was agreed to reply that the Council did not consider it satisfactory to interpolate a period of Maternity Training during the first three years of General Training, and that they thought this training should be taken during the fourth year of the course.

The Registrar submitted his Report on the Preliminary and Final examinations held in October, and this was approved, and the names of the Nurses who had passed the Final Examination were ordered to be added to the Register.

Arrangements were made for the Examinations to be held in February, 1926. It was arranged that the Written Part of the Preliminary Examination should be held on February 2nd, and the Written Part of the Final Examination on February 5th, the Oral Parts of the Examinations following a fortnight later.

Arrangements were made for the appointment of the Examiners for the February Examinations.

The Report of the Registration Committee was submitted by Miss Merchant, and in terms thereof the names of 431 Nurses were added to the Register.

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