

Registration.

The Registration Committee reported:—Applications approved for Registration without examination to June 17th, 52,311. For approval for Registration without examination on July 15th, 1. For approval for Registration by reciprocity on July 15th, 3. Approval for Registration by examination to June 17th, 5,089. Approval for Registration by examination on July 15th, 3. Total, 57,407.

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between May 31st and June 30th amounted to 1,758 letters received, 2,949 letters despatched; that the interviews numbered 159, and that 74 Permits were issued for the State uniform.

The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee reported that it has been brought to the notice of the Committee that the State Uniform is being worn incorrectly by many Registered Nurses, and it was agreed that the following statement be sent to the Press:—

The Council wish to draw the attention of Registered Nurses to the following Rules with respect to the State Uniform:—

3. The Uniform in all its details must be strictly adhered to, and no alteration or embellishment of any kind is permitted. No letters or devices, trimmings, lace or jewellery may be worn on any part of the Uniform, but this prohibition shall not apply to the wearing of the Badge, or of the ribbon, or other insignia, of any order or decoration conferred by the Sovereign, or of any foreign order or decoration accepted by permission of the Sovereign.

4. The wearing of the Uniform by Registered Nurses is not compulsory. A Registered Nurse wearing the Uniform must wear the complete Uniform and shall not wear any part of the Uniform by itself.

With the regulation State Uniform *must* be worn: black or grey stockings with black shoes; brown stockings with brown shoes; white stockings with white shoes (with tussore or linen uniform only).

Disciplinary Case.

The next business before the Council was the case of Mrs. Daisy Stewart S.R.N. 14513 against whom a *prima facie* case had been made out of having obtained Registration by personation, supported by falsified documents.

The respondent had been informed of the intention of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, in conformity with Rule 17 (6) of the charge against her, and of the time and place of the meeting at which the case would be heard, but did not appear before the Council.

The charge having been stated therefore, the Council deliberated in private, and having arrived at their decision the members of the press were given an opportunity of hearing that decision. Subsequently the following Resolutions and decision of the Council were circulated to the Press:—

RESULT.

(1) That the Respondent has been proved guilty of misconduct justifying the removal of her name from the Register.

(2) That the name of Mrs. Daisy Stewart, S.R.N. 14513, be removed from the Register.

It was decided, further, that the Solicitor to the Council should forward to the Public Prosecutor the papers in connection with the case of Mrs. Daisy Stewart.

It will be noted in the proceedings of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, on page 198 that the Council agreed to recognise the Berrington Hospital,

Atcham, as a Training School for Nurses. This is, we believe, the first affiliation of a Provincial Poor Law, Training School with a London School.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

St. Peter's Hospital for Stone and other Urinary Diseases, Covent Garden, W.C.2, has received from an anonymous friend the offer of a gift of £5,000 on the sole condition that the hospital in the course of the next month can find other subscribers to double that amount. Subscriptions and donations should be sent to the Rt. Hon. C. A. McCurdy, K.C., Lamb-building, Temple, E.C.4.

The Committee of Management of the General Infirmary, Salisbury, have adopted a Pension Scheme for the fully-certificated Members of the Nursing Staff.

The Scheme came into operation on the August 1st, and the Pensions will commence at the age of 55.

The premiums are based on 15 per cent. of salary and emoluments, and are payable monthly in the proportion of 7½ per cent. by the Nurse and 7½ per cent. by the Hospital.

At the age of 55 the option will be allowed of receiving in lieu of the annuity a guaranteed cash sum, and in the event of the death of the annuitant or of her leaving the service of the Hospital before the annuity commences, the premiums paid by both parties, with compound interest capitalised yearly at 3½ per cent. per annum, will be returnable to the annuitant.

THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION ACT.

The Registrar-General desires to invite attention to the provisions of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1926, which came into force on July 1st, and it is important that nurses and midwives should be familiar with its provisions.

Under that Act a body may not be buried before a certificate of the registrar of births and deaths given under the Act or (if an inquest is held) a coroner's order for burial has been delivered to the "person effecting the disposal"—i.e., the parish incumbent or burial board or burial or cemetery authority or company having control of the churchyard or burial ground or cemetery.

The registrar's certificate will be issued by him on his registering the death, or, in certain special circumstances, on his receiving written notice of the death.

To meet the case, however, where a registrar's certificate or coroner's order has been issued, but by some accident or inadvertence cannot be produced at the burial, the Act provides that the incumbent or burial authority, etc., may, if willing to do so, proceed with the burial notwithstanding the non-production of the certificate or order on being satisfied by a written declaration made in the prescribed form that a certificate or order has been issued. The incumbent or burial authority is not, however, obliged to proceed without the registrar's certificate, which by the Act is required to be delivered to the incumbent or burial authority, etc., under a penalty of forty shillings. It is important, therefore, that the registrar's certificate when issued should be carefully preserved and delivered without fail to the person effecting the disposal, since, apart from the penalty for the failure to deliver it, the burial might in its absence be stopped.

On the disposal of the body having been effected, it is the duty of the person effecting the disposal to notify the registrar of births and deaths within ninety-six hours as to the date, place and means of disposal.

These provisions are applied to the case of cremation by regulations made by the Home Secretary under the Cremation Act.

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