

Male Nurses no Failures; Mental Nurses, Whole Examination 18.4 per cent. Part Examination 33 per cent.; Sick Children's Nurses, Whole Examination 29.3 per cent., Part Examination 40 per cent.; Fever Nurses, Whole Examination 17.4 per cent., Part Examination 13 per cent.

It reported further that the names of the above 1,261 candidates, approved by the Examiners, were presented to a Special Meeting of Council on December 2nd, were approved by the Council, and referred to the Registration Committee for registration.

Mental Nursing.

The Mental Nursing Committee reported that it had met once.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

The Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee reported that it had considered the case of Miss Edith Lucy Manning, S.R.N., 39,101, as follows:—

At the Marylebone Police Court on November 8th, 1927, Edith Lucy Manning, aged 36 years, of 115, Walm Lane, Cricklewood, a nurse employed at a Nursing Home at Porchester Terrace, Paddington, was charged with stealing and receiving two £5 Bank of England Notes from the effects of a patient who died at the Home. The prisoner pleaded guilty and admitted having stolen a third £5 note and fifteen £1 notes which were among the deceased lady's effects at the time of her death. The learned Magistrate fined Manning £20 and costs, allowing her fourteen days in which to pay the amount, and ordered the restitution of the money stolen.

The Committee further reported that the Registrar was instructed to write to the respondent in accordance with Rule 17 (3), and that a letter had been received from Miss Manning in reply.

SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM, who as Chairman of the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee presented the Report, said that it was not usual for the Committee to recommend a course to the Council, but in this case there was not much reason to doubt the course of action to be taken, and he moved that a *prima facie* case had been established.

THE CHAIRMAN then asked whether the Council would discuss this in the presence of the Press, or whether it wished to deliberate in private. It decided on the latter course, and the Press withdrew. On their return, THE CHAIRMAN announced the decision of the Council.

(1) "That a *prima facie* case for the removal of the name of Edith Lucy Manning from the Register has been made out."

(2) "That the case of Edith Lucy Manning, S.R.N. 39101, be heard at the next meeting of the Council, and that the Registrar be instructed to inform her of the Council's intention in the manner prescribed by Rule 17(6)."

The Committee also reported that it had considered several advertisements in the public Press, signed by Registered Nurses, recommending trade products, of which complaints had been received by the Registrar from Registered Nurses. It appeared to the Committee that while the practice was very objectionable, there was no clause at present in the Rules under which it could be dealt with as a penal offence. The Committee therefore thought it desirable that the Council should unhesitatingly express its opinion on the practice and recommended the following resolution:—

"That the Council hereby declares that it is derogatory to the profession of Nursing and disadvantageous to the public that a Registered Nurse should recommend trade products by advertisements in the public Press signed by her name."

SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM said that in considering this matter the Committee came to the conclusion that though they might very much dislike such a practice upon the part of a Registered Nurse, it was not possible for the Council to take disciplinary action at the present time. Such action was confined within the limits of the Rules. If they considered it "misconduct," and took action accordingly, it was absurd to expect a High Court Judge to regard the practice as misconduct, and to uphold their decision, if the Council had made no pronouncement on the matter.

After mentioning a typical instance, SIR WILMOT said there was another case which was even worse, of drugs to be used for dysmenorrhœa, signed with a name followed by the letters S.R.N. The name of Nurse could not be found in the Register. The possibility then arose that the proprietors of the article in question had themselves drafted the letter, and the Council's solicitor communicated with them. It was elicited that the product (Irving's Yeast-Vite, Ltd.) had recently changed hands, and the firm promised any assistance in its power, and that the advertisement should not appear again—a satisfactory result in the present instance. If the Council adopted the recommendation of the Penal and Disciplinary Committee, it was possible that this might afford ground for disciplinary action in the future.

The recommendation was unanimously approved.

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported (a) that the correspondence dealt with in the office between November 1st and 28th amounted to—Letters received, 5,469; Letters despatched, 9,903.

In connection with the Election, the Ballot Papers issued were 50,502; Notification to Male Nurses of unopposed return, 212; Notification to Fever Nurses of unopposed return, 2,573. Total, 53,287.

(b) That the Interviews numbered 127.

(c) That 75 Permits were issued for the State Uniform.

The recommendations of this Committee have been dealt with already, in connection with the Report of the Finance Committee.

The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee reported applications from five Registered Nurses for duplicate Permits to obtain the State Uniform, notice of the loss of the original Permits having been notified for six months. It was agreed that duplicate Permits should be issued to these Nurses.

MISS S. A. VILLIERS (Chairman of the Uniform Committee), in reply to a question from SIR WILMOT HERRINGHAM as to whether the Committee was ready to make a report on the replies received from firms which had supplied Uniforms to Registered Nurses of material not up to sample, said that replies had been received from some firms, but not from all. Some admitted that the materials were not up to sample; others that the samples examined had been taken some time ago and the matter had now been put right. The Committee were inclined to feel that all material should be supplied through one firm.

The Election Result.

Mr. James Wilson, Returning Officer in the recent Election, then presented the list of successful and unsuccessful candidates in the recent Election of Direct Representatives, and the number of votes each received, as per the list given below:—

QUINQUENNIAL ELECTION OF DIRECT REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER, 1927.

Statement of Returning Officer.

Total Electorate, November 16th, 1927:—		
General Register .. .. .	..	42,568
Supplementary Register of Male Nurses ..	..	212
Do. do. Mental Nurses ..	..	6,440
Do. do. Nurses for Mental Defectives ..	..	338
Do. do. Sick Children's Nurses ..	..	1,156
Do. do. Fever Nurses ..	..	2,573
	Total ..	53,287
Less Male Nurses ..	..	212
Fever Nurses; ..	..	2,573
		<u>2,785</u>
		<u>50,502</u>

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)