

removal from the Register of the names of 1,653 Nurses who have not paid their Retention Fees for 1928.

Education and Examination.

The Education and Examination Committee reported that they had considered the reply from the Minister of Health dated December 2nd, 1927, declining to discuss with the General Nursing Council a decision given by him in his judicial capacity under Section 7 of the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919. The Committee re-affirmed their opinion that the decision of the Minister establishes a very dangerous precedent.

The Kensington, Fulham and Chelsea General Hospital, in affiliation with the Royal Northern Hospital, was approved as a Training School giving complete training; and the provisional approval, as a complete Training School, granted to the Cornelia Hospital, Poole, was extended for a further period of one year, from December 17th, 1927. An application by the Guardians of Uxbridge Union for approval of a scheme of affiliation between the Union Hospital and Greenwich and Deptford Hospital, in substitution of the scheme of affiliation with Kingston and District Hospital now to be terminated, was approved. The Wandle Valley Joint Isolation Hospital, Mitcham, was approved as a complete Training School for Fever Nurses.

The Committee further reported that intimation had been received of the death of Sir Percy Bassett Smith, K.C.B., C.M.G., London, who had been Chairman of the Board of Examiners for the Final State Examination in General Nursing since April, 1925.

Mental Nursing.

The Mental Nursing Committee presented no report.

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between November 29th and December 31st amounted to letters received 5,910, and letters despatched 11,412, that the interviews numbered 128, and that 80 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.

Appointment of Registration Officer.

The Committee further reported that 77 applications were received for the post of Registration Officer, 45 of which were in order. Six candidates were selected for interview. Miss Ella M. Thompson, Matron, West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, was appointed to the vacancy.

The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee reported applications from three Registered Nurses for duplicate permits to obtain the State Uniform. The loss of the permits was reported six months ago. The issue of the permits was sanctioned.

The Chairman of the Committee, Miss S. A. VILLIERS, presented a report of its five years' work, which had been drawn up by the Uniform Committee for the information of the new Council.

From this we learn that three editions, consisting of 80,000 copies of the Uniform Booklet, have been issued, and that fees for advertisements have defrayed the cost of publication, that 18,800 Uniform Permits have been issued, and 21,615 Silver Badges.

In June, 1925, it was reported that the royal blue colour on the hat-band and on the braid and woven badges faded readily when exposed to sun and sea air, making the uniform look very shabby.

The Committee went into the matter and after careful

investigation and consultations with the manufacturers a more satisfactory dye was obtained.

All hat-bands, woven badges and Army caps are issued direct from the Council offices to the Hatters, Tailors and Nurses for renewal purposes on production of permits.

Hat-bands issued to Henry Heath's ..	7,929
Hat-bands issued to Nurses	634
Woven badges to Tailors	29,317

In February, 1927, complaints were received regarding the quality of material used by certain tailors in making up the uniform. Samples of material were obtained, 78 (41 gaberdine and 37 serge) of which were sent to recognised trade experts to be tested.

Where the result of the test showed that the material which had been supplied was below standard quality, the firms which had supplied the samples were asked for an explanation.

Replies were received from the firms concerned—in some cases admitting that they had had the material tested and they regretted it was not up to the standard, they promised to have the matter rectified. Others had not been aware that the material was not up to standard quality. Others had obtained the material from reputable firms and thought, therefore, it was of standard quality. Most of the firms concerned have agreed to use only standard quality, whilst others have submitted further samples. The Committee feel that with so many approved tailors (272) supplying their own material it is difficult to maintain the standard of quality laid down by the Council.

After considerable experience the Committee are of opinion that the material should be standardised and supplied by a limited number of manufacturers.

Election of Committees.

The next business was the election of Committees, the only one for which a ballot was required being the Education and Examination Committee, for which the offers of service were more than the number of seats. For some of the other committees the offers of service were less than the number of seats, and volunteers were asked for in the room.

The Committees were formed as follows:—

Finance.

Dr. Buchan, Miss Bushby, Rev. G. B. Cronshaw, Dr. Fawcett, Miss Haldane, Miss Hogg, Miss Villiers, Miss Wilson.

Registration.

Miss Alsop, Miss Bremner, Miss Brown, Miss Clark, Miss Hogg, Miss Meadows, Dr. Thomson, Miss Villiers.

Education and Examination.

Miss Alsop, Miss Bremner, Miss Bushby, Miss Cowlin, Miss Gullan, Miss Hogg, Miss Lloyd Still, Miss Sparshott, Mr. Stratton, Miss Villiers, Dr. Worth, Dr. Fawcett.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

Miss Bremner, Miss Brown, Miss Bushby, Miss Cowlin, Dr. Fawcett, Lady Galway, Miss Hogg, Miss Villiers.

Mental Nursing.

Mr. Blackman, Miss Brown, Miss Bushby, Miss Cowlin, Dr. Fawcett, Lady Galway, Miss Hogg, Dr. Worth.

General Purposes.

Mr. Blackman, Miss Bushby, Miss Clark, Lady Galway, Miss Haldane, Miss Hogg.

Uniform.

Miss Alsop, Miss Bremner, Miss Brown, Miss Clark, Miss Meadows, Miss Villiers.

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