

South Eastern Hospital for Children), for permission to alter their scheme of association by the substitution of the St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, Plaistow, for the South Eastern Hospital for Children, Sydenham, and recommended that the application be granted. This was approved.

The Committee reported the dates on which the Preliminary and Final Examinations were held in May, and recommended that the names of those who had satisfied the Examiners be referred to the Registration Committee for Registration. This was agreed.

The Chairman notified that 1,552 names would be added to the Register.

#### Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

The Council approved the action of the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee, who reported that they had received a communication from the Police Authorities with reference to a nurse who is stated to be falsely using the title of State Registered Nurse and wearing the State Registered Badge. The Committee had forwarded particulars of the case to the Council's Solicitor, with instructions to take the necessary action.

#### Mental Nursing.

The Council approved the recommendation of the Mental Nursing Committee that the Royal Morningside Hospital, Edinburgh, should be temporarily approved as a complete training school for Mental Nurses in order that two nurses might enter for the Final Examination for the Supplementary Part of the Register for Mental Nurses held by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

#### Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the Office between May 1st and May 31st amounted to 3,209 letters received and 5,517 letters despatched, that the interviews numbered 144, and that 140 permits were issued for the State Uniform.

#### The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee reported that they had considered the Rules in respect to the Uniform and Badge which may be worn by Registered Nurses.

Miss S. A. Villiers (Chairman of the Committee) said that the Committee had been considering the question of the Uniform and Badge which may be worn by Registered Nurses for seven years, in the light of various criticisms, from Registered Nurses and others, and the varying quality of the materials supplied. They had come to the conclusion that the supply of material should be limited to certain firms, and recommended the following Amendment to the Rules:—

#### Amendment to the Rules.

##### Rule 8.

(1) "That Rule 8 of the Rules framed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, with respect to the Uniform and Badge which may be worn by Registered Nurses, be rescinded, and the following Rule substituted:—

8. The material for the Uniform must be obtained only from the firms appointed by the Council, must be of the kind, weight and colour laid down by the Council, and must be made in accordance with the designs approved by the Council with the regulation Registered Braid, Buttons and Badges.

(2) "That the following modifications and additions be made to the Schedule to the Rules framed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales under the Nurses'

Registration Act, 1919, with respect to the Uniform and Badge which may be worn by Registered Nurses:—

#### Part I.

*Material.*—Discontinue use of gabardine. Fine Navy Blue Serge for summer wear, heavy weight navy blue serge for winter wear, and Navy Blue Sicilian to be used.

*Long Coat.*—Dispense with badges on shoulder straps; length not less than 8 in. and not more than 12 in. from the ground.

*Coat and Shirt.*—*Coat*—Dispense with half belt at back of coat; *Shirt*—Length not less than 8 in. and not more than 12 in. from the ground.

*Coat Frock.*—Collar may be made to close if desired; White muslin or white cambric collar and cuffs for indoor wear.

*Hat.*—*Alteration* in shape of Hat; *Addition*—Navy Blue Felt Hat; for Hot Climates—White Felt Hat.

*Overalls.*—Round-neck Overall; sleeves may be cut at elbow and finished with row of Registered Braid."

The Chairman of the Council said that it was understood that the Uniform Committee should report upon it at the end of each Quinquennial Period.

Dr. Buchan opposed the proposal that the material for the Uniform must be obtained only from firms appointed by the Council, and said that he held, quite definitely, that the Council had no right to enforce this restriction. He came from a worsted town and he assured the Council that the big manufacturers of Bradford, Dewsbury, and others, would not come to the Council for approval. They would have applications from agents who might be British, French or Italian firms. It was the duty of the Council to specify the material and the dye, but not to attempt to restrict the trade.

Miss Cox-Davies said that in the past they had specified the web and the dye and the material.

Miss Cowlin said that the Post Office, the Navy and the Army had material of a uniform standard; the Registered Nurses did not.

Dr. Buchan reiterated that the big manufacturers only dealt in very large quantities. They would have applications from France and Milan.

The Chairman of the Council said that they could rule out foreign manufacturers. So far no difficulty in this direction had been foreshadowed, but they saw nurses in uniforms made of shoddy material. The nurses paid a good price for it and were not getting proper value for their money.

Dr. Buchan said that there were well known standard materials in the trade. He proposed that the suggested Amendment to the Rules be referred back to the Uniform Committee for further consideration. This was seconded by Miss Haldane.

Miss Villiers (Chairman of the Uniform Committee), strongly expressed the hope that, if the Council referred the Amendment back it would give the Committee some instructions as to what it wished them to discuss. They had considered the question from every possible angle.

Miss Cox Davies said it would be going back into a blind alley.

Miss M. Hogg supported the Chairman of the Uniform Committee.

Mr. Stratton proposed and Miss Cowlin seconded the insertion in the first line of Clause 8 of the word "manufacturing" before "firm."

The Chairman said she would put Mr. Stratton's amendment first. Did the Council wish to exclude agents?

The amendment was lost.

Dr. Buchan then said he was willing to withdraw his motion, and the Amendment to the Rules recommended

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