

GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The one hundred and seventeenth meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at 20, Portland Place, London, W.1, on October 24th, the Chairman, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., presiding.

New Member of the Council.

The Chairman extended a welcome to Lieut.-Col. J. R. Lord, C.B.E., M.D., C.M., F.R.C.P.E., who took his seat on the Council as the nominee of the Ministry of Health, in place of Dr. R. Worth.

Correspondence.

The Chairman reported that there was no correspondence to bring before the Council but that two letters had been received without signature or address.

It should be clearly understood that the Council took no notice whatever of anonymous letters.

Finance.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee Bills and Claims submitted for payment, were approved, and the sum of £150 for postage stamps, £25 for Insurance stamps, £10 for petty cash and £6,300 for Examiners' Claims for the October Examinations, were allowed. The Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Finance Committee were authorised to invest the sum of £7,500 after consultation with the Council's Bankers.

Dr. Fawcett mentioned in this connection that the Committee had gone most carefully into the question of the possibility of reducing the Examination Fees and were unanimous that it was impossible to recommend a reduction to the Council.

The Finance Committee made no objection to the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee that six Examination Boxes be purchased at a cost of £2 7s. each, and that a new Underwood Typewriter be purchased at a cost of £17 6s.

Registration.

The applications of twenty Registered Nurses for duplicate Silver Badges, in place of those of which the loss was reported a year or over ago, were granted upon their fulfilling the necessary conditions.

The Registration Committee presented for approval seven applications for admission to the Supplementary Part of the Register for Fever Nurses by Examination, and eight for admission to the General Part of the Register, two to the Supplementary Part of the Register for Mental Nurses, and one to the Supplementary Part of the Register for Sick Children's Nurses, by reciprocity. These were approved.

It was agreed to re-insert in the Register the names of forty nurses who had hitherto failed to pay their retention fees and now wished to be re-included.

Education and Examination.

The Education and Examination Committee made the following recommendations:—

"That the following Hospital, the provisional approval of which expired on September 27th, 1930, be now approved as a Training School under Section I (1) (d) of the Council's Scheme of Training:—

Central London Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, combined with the Royal Free Hospital, London."

"That the City of London Hospital for Diseases of the Heart and Lungs be approved as a Training School with the London Temperance Hospital, instead of with the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester."

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between September 1st and 30th amounted to 45,235 letters received, 41,753 letters despatched. The interviews numbered 505, and 205 permits were issued for the State Uniform.

The Committee also reported that in view of the large increase in the number of candidates for the October Examinations, it was necessary to procure six extra boxes, for use at the London Centres, at a cost of 18s 6d. each.

The State Uniform.

The Uniform Committee reported that applications had been received from four Registered Nurses for duplicate permits to obtain the State Registered Uniform, the loss of the permits having been reported six months ago.

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting fixed for November 28th.

DISCIPLINARY CASES.

Margaret Ellen Owen.

The first disciplinary case considered was that of Miss Margaret Ellen Owen, S.R.N., 48899, who according to the Police report supplied to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, was "convicted at Marlborough Street Police Court on the 9th August, 1929, for felony."

The report dated "D" Division, Tottenham Court Road Police Station, 10th August, 1929, was as follows:—

"I beg to report that at 2.50 p.m., 8th August, 1929, Margaret Owen, age 29, a State registered nurse, employed at St. Mary's Infirmary, Highgate Hill, N., was charged at this station with stealing a lady's hat, value 10s. 11d., the property of Messrs. Bourne and Hollingsworth, Drapers, 116, Oxford Street, W.1, she having been seen by an assistant to take the hat from a counter, place it under her coat and leave the premises without paying for same.

"She appeared at Marlborough Street Police Court on the 9th August, 1929, before F. Mead, Esq., Magistrate, pleaded 'guilty.' and was fined £2 and £2 costs.

(Sgd.) E. FERRETT, P.C., C.I.D.

"Forwarded by direction of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.

(Sgd.) D. R. HAWKINS.

For Assistant Commissioner."

New Scotland Yard, S.W.1.

13th August, 1929.

DECISION OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council at its meeting on October 25th, 1929, made the following decision:—

"That judgment in the case of Miss Margaret Ellen Owen, S.R.N., 48899, be deferred to the meeting of this Council a year hence."

The year having expired the case came up for judgment on October 24th last.

Letters from referees, whose names had been submitted by Miss Owen, as to her conduct during the past year were read by the Registrar:—

(1) From Miss G. M. Cordell, S.R.N., late Matron St. Mary Islington Hospital, Highgate, and now a Principal Matron in the Nursing Service of the London County Council.

Miss Cordell wrote: "In reply to your enquiry I have pleasure in stating that the conduct of Miss Margaret Ellen Owen has been most satisfactory during the past year.

"I find she has taken her training for the C.M.B. at Birkenhead, and has been asked by her Matron to remain on the Staff."

In a further letter Miss Cordell admitted: "I have not seen Miss Owen since she left my hospital, but a clergyman

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