

It will thus be seen that the only change of Chairman is the appointment of Miss Sparshott as Chairman of the General Purposes Committee in succession to Miss Cox-Davies, and on the motion of the Chairman, a vote of thanks for her services in this connection since the formation of the Standing Committees was unanimously accorded to Miss Cox-Davies.

DISCIPLINARY CASES.

The Council then proceeded to consider the disciplinary cases which were placed before them by Mr. Hewitt Pitt of the firm of Pontifex, Pitt & Co., Solicitors to the Council.

The first case was that of Miss Florence Annie Salmon, No. 46,666, above referred to, trained at Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End and certified by examination. When arrested on a charge of theft at an Oxford Street Store, on January 17th she gave the name of Annie Williams.

She was convicted on January 18th at Marlborough Street Police Court and sentenced to six weeks imprisonment in the second division for theft.

Before reporting the case to the Council the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee, in accordance with Rule 17 (3) instructed the Registrar to write to Miss Salmon, and invite her to furnish any written statement or explanation she might desire to offer.

Miss Salmon wrote in reply that she had received the letter and the charge was not true, so that she was in happy mind. She was carrying certain goods when she was stopped by someone who said "You have not paid for those things," and asked her to step into a room. She replied that she intended to pay, but was told it was too late, and a detective was rung up. When arrested she gave the name of Williams because she did not wish to bring discredit on herself and on the Nursing Profession. She asked the Committee to do nothing until she was able to explain. She was in no need of money, as she had £5 and nearly 10s. in her pocket at the time of her arrest.

The Decision of the Council.

"That Miss Florence Annie Salmon, S.R.N. 46,666, having on January 18th, 1930, at the Marlborough Street Police Court been convicted of theft and sentenced to six weeks imprisonment, her name be removed from the Register in accordance with Rule 17(4), and that notification of such removal be sent to the Press, and that she be required to surrender her Certificate of Registration and Badge to the Council."

Three Charges of Theft.

Mr. Pitt then related the charges against Miss Edith Alice Hunt, R.F.N. 3,838, Miss Roma Pauline Roberts, R.F.N. 3,839, and Miss Lilian Vera Ward, R.F.N. 3,244, details of which have already appeared in this Journal. Miss Hunt and Miss Roma Roberts appeared before the Council to answer to the charges.

Mr. Pitt said that these nurses were arrested on December 30th, on a charge of theft of 13 pairs of stockings and other goods value together £8 5s. 7d., from Messrs. D. H. Evans, and Messrs. Selfridges, Oxford Street, W. On the next day Miss Lilian Vera Ward was taken into custody. All the respondents appeared that day at Marlborough Street Police Court and were remanded in custody. On remand further charges were preferred against them by Messrs. Bourne & Hollingsworth, and Messrs. Pemberthy, Oxford Street, W., of stealing two ladies dresses and other articles.

On appearing before the magistrate on January 8th, all the respondents pleaded guilty and (having spent a week in prison on remand) were discharged under the Probation of Offenders Act.

Letters had been received from the Respondents in reply to communications from the Registrar. Miss Edith Hunt wrote that they left the Hospital in which they were working and lunched with a friend at Lyons Corner House,

Strand, when they had a bottle of wine, to which they were not used, between them. At Messrs. Selfridge's Store they handed things to one another. "It was easy to catch them." She now realised how unwise it had been. Her "whole heart and soul was in nursing."

Miss Roma P. Roberts wrote to the same effect, and earnestly requested the Council to give her another chance, as she had learnt a very severe lesson.

Miss Lilian Vera Ward wrote that the circumstances were as related in the daily Press, and did not warrant the charge against her by the Council.

The Chairman then asked the respondents whether there was anything they wished to say.

Miss Hunt asked for a chance of rehabilitating her character and Miss Roberts also pleaded for the clemency of the Council, saying that she felt she had lost all in a moment of temporary foolishness.

The Respondents and the Press then withdrew while the Council deliberated in private.

The Decision of the Council

Upon their recall, the Chairman, addressing Miss Hunt and Miss Roberts, who stood while receiving the decision of the Council, informed them that the Council felt it could do no other than remove their names from the Register, as their offence was a very grave one. If in the future they could produce evidence of rehabilitation of character they could apply for re-instatement, but she could not say that this would be granted.

The name of Miss Lilian Vera Ward would also be removed.

Resolutions passed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.—28th February, 1930.

We are officially informed that the following Resolutions were passed by the Council.

(1) "That the charge brought against *Miss Edith Alice Hunt*, R.F.N. 3,838, is proved, and that her name be removed from the Register."

(2) "That the charge brought against *Miss Roma Pauline Roberts* R.F.N. 3,839, is proved, and that her name be removed from the Register."

(3) "That the charge brought against *Miss Lilian Vera Ward*, R.F.N. 3,244 is proved, and that her name be removed from the Register."

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting of the Council was fixed for March 28th, and the meeting then terminated.

THE STATE REGISTRATION OF MENTAL NURSES.

The National Asylum Workers' Union Magazine announces that, following upon a conference on January 21st, between representatives of the Mental Hospitals Association and of the General Nursing Council regarding the difficulties that have arisen on the question of State registration of mental nurses who have passed the final examination of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and in view of the adamant attitude of the General Nursing Council towards the R.M.P.A. examination, steps are being taken to convene a joint meeting of representatives of the Mental Hospitals Association, the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, and the National Asylum-Workers' Union to consider the whole position and to determine what policy shall be pursued in the future.

The position is simple: the General Nursing Council for England and Wales is the authority in those countries authorized to regulate the examinations prescribed as a condition of admission to the State Register. In justice to probationers entering Mental Hospitals for training, therefore, this should be explained to them, and they should be told that, as a condition of admission, they would be expected to sit for the G.N.C. examinations.

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