

Sick Children's Nurses :—

D. H. Paterson, Esq., B.A., M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.P.,
Hospital for Sick Children, Gt. Ormond Street, London.

Miss A. M. Coulton (Re-appointment).

Miss Edith Cockeram (Re-appointment).

Fever Nurses :—

William Benton, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Borough Isolation Hospital, East Ham.

Miss Joyce M. Watson, D.N., Park Hospital, Hither
Green.

Disciplinary and Penal Cases.

The Disciplinary Cases Committee reported that they had considered the case of Miss Lillie Elliott, S.R.N. 55942, convicted on February 9th, 1931, at Willesden Petty Sessions and sentenced to three and three months' imprisonment with hard labour (concurrent) for theft.

Reported that the Registrar was instructed to write to Miss Elliott in accordance with Rule 17 (3), which provides that before reporting any case to the Council the Disciplinary and Penal Cases Committee shall invite the Respondent to furnish any written statement or explanation she may desire to offer.

Correspondence, Interviews and Permits.

The General Purposes Committee reported that the correspondence dealt with in the office between February 2nd and 28th, amounted to Letters received 3,571, Letters despatched 4,157, the interviews numbered 106, and 117 permits were issued for the State Uniform.

It was agreed to close the Offices for Easter from midday Thursday, April 2nd, until Tuesday morning, April 7th.

State Registered Uniform.

On the recommendation of the Uniform Committee it was agreed to issue duplicate permits to obtain the State Registered Uniform to six nurses who had reported the loss of their permits six months ago.

The Council agreed to the issue of a further edition of the Rules with respect to the Uniform and Badge which may be worn by Registered Nurses, and Schedule to the Rules. The Uniform Committee stated that the advertisements received for insertion in the Schedule to the Rules would defray the cost of its publication.

Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Friday, April 24th.

DISCIPLINARY CASES.

The following disciplinary cases were presented by the Council's solicitor :—

Miss Lillie Elliott, S.R.N. 55942.

The solicitor read a letter from the Assistant Commissioner of the Police for the Metropolis acquainting the General Nursing Council that one Lillie Elliott, a Registered Nurse, of 3, Broadhurst Gardens, Hampstead, who had been staying at Our Lady's Home, 6, St. Paul's Avenue, Willesden Green, N.W., appeared at Willesden Petty Sessions charged with stealing a gold brooch and clothing, the property of a student at the Home, and two gold rings and other property of a patient after he had died. She pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three and three months' imprisonment with hard labour (concurrent).

A further case of stealing jewellery, the property of a patient after she had died, and thefts from fellow nurses while at the Nursing Sisters' Institute, were taken into consideration when sentence was passed.

By direction of the Chairman of the General Nursing Council the Registrar enclosed to the Governor of Holloway Prison a letter addressed to Miss Lillie Elliott (known to him as Barbara Elliott) at present in his charge.

The Deputy Governor replied that the letter had been

read to Miss Lillie Elliott (known to the authorities at Holloway as Barbara Elliott) that she admitted the offence, and did not wish to make any further statement.

Decision of the Council.

The Council resolved "That Miss Lillie Elliott, S.R.N. 55942, having on 9th February, 1931, at Willesden Petty Sessions, been charged with stealing, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour (concurrent) 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 to the Council."

Miss Lily Murfitt, S.R.N. 55144.

The case of Miss Lily Murfitt, a nurse on the staff of the London Hospital, was next considered. She was charged on February 3rd, at the Marylebone Police Court, with larceny at 400, Oxford Street, W., and pleaded guilty.

The facts were explained to the magistrate, Mr. Bingley, that the accused was seen to take a number of articles from various counters in the Store, and put them into a paper bag and into her pockets without any attempt at concealment from the customers or the assistants. Lord Knutsford, Chairman at the London Hospital, said that she was highly regarded by the hospital staff, who were at a loss to account for her action. She was remanded for a medical report, and on February 10th she again appeared before Mr. Bingley, who stated that the Medical Officer of Holloway Prison had reported that she was suffering from mental fatigue through over-study.

In view of the report, and of the open way in which the goods had been taken, and taking into consideration that the prisoner had been in custody for a week, the magistrate discharged her under the Probation of Offenders Act, and ordered her to pay £2 2s. towards the cost of the prosecution.

Decision of the Council.

"That the name of Miss Lily Margaret Murfitt, S.R.N. 55144, be removed from the Register."

Miss Margaret Helen Williams, S.R.N., 45684.

The last case considered was that of Miss Margaret Helen Williams who appeared before the Council.

She was proved guilty of theft from her employer, and was bound over and placed on probation for twelve months in her own recognisances in the sum of £5.

Decision of the Council.

"That the name of Miss Margaret Helen Williams, S.R.N., 45684, be removed from the Register."

THE YEARLY RETENTION FEE.

The General Nursing Council for England and Wales has authorized the publication of a statement with reference to the yearly payment of 2s. 6d. by nurses whose names are entered on the State Register of Nurses.

It appears to be not generally understood that the payment of this fee is required by Law, as laid down in Section 5 (1) of the Nurses Registration Act, 1919, in the following words :—

"There shall be paid to the Council in respect of every application to be examined or to be registered under this Act, and in respect of the retention in any year of the name of any person on the register, such fees respectively as the Council may, with the approval of the Minister of Health, from time to time determine."

The reason for the payment of a yearly fee is that the Register may be a "live" Register. Many applications are made, both by letter and by telephone, enquiring if the names of certain nurses are on the Register, and it is essential that a prompt and accurate answer should be given.

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