

as an institution for the purposes of the establishment of Sister Tutor Courses.

It was agreed that the whole-time Course of Instruction and Training of one year's duration for the Sister Tutor's Diploma provisionally approved by the University of London at the Battersea Polytechnic, London, for the session 1945-46 be similarly approved by the Council and that registered nurses who obtain the Sister Tutor's Diploma of the University of London on completion of such Course be entitled to receive from the Council a Certificate of Registration as a Sister Tutor.

It was agreed that the whole-time Course of instruction and training of one year's duration for the Sister Tutor's Diploma, provisionally approved by the University of London at the Royal College of Nursing, London, for the session 1945-46 be similarly approved by the Council and that registered nurses who obtain the Sister Tutor's Diploma of the University of London on completion of such Course be entitled to receive from the Council a Certificate of Registration as a Sister Tutor.

It was agreed that two Inspectors of Training Schools for Student Nurses be appointed immediately at the commencing salary of £425 per annum plus travelling and subsistence allowance, and that the matter be reviewed in six months' time to decide whether any increase in the number of Inspectors is necessary. The appointments to be on a temporary basis in the first instance.

Applications for approval, for continuation of approval, and for Pre-Nursing Courses were agreed.

General Purposes.

It was reported that the General Purposes Committee has received with regret a letter from Miss MacKirdy, Examinations Officer, notifying her intention to resign her appointment on reaching retiring age in October, 1945. Miss MacKirdy was appointed Examinations Officer in August, 1923, and has been responsible for the organisation of the Council's Examinations.

It was agreed that the post of Examinations Officer be advertised in the usual manner.

Assistant Nurses.

It was agreed that in hospitals approved as Training Schools for Assistant Nurses it be a requirement that Pupil Assistant Nurses be medically examined with X-ray examination of chest either shortly before or on admission to training and that the X-ray examination be repeated after an interval of not more than 12 months. Further, that it be a recommendation to Training Schools for Assistant Nurses that the Memorandum on Supervision of Nurses' Health issued by King Edward's Hospital Fund for London be adopted as a whole.

It was agreed that 884 applicants whose applications have been found to be in order be approved for enrolment and that the Registrar be instructed to enter their names in the Roll of Assistant Nurses.

It was agreed that Bosworth Park Infirmary, Market Bosworth, and the Infirmary, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, be provisionally approved as Complete Training Schools for Assistant Nurses.

Disciplinary Cases.

The case before the Council was that of Winnie Cunnane, S.R.N. 108,761, R.F.N. 9,340, charged at Bury Police Court on March 1st, 1945, with fraternising with German prisoners admitted to the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury.

Sister Cunnane was found guilty on three charges:—

- (1) Dispatching cigarettes to a German prisoner of war after his release from hospital.
- (2) Dispatching letters otherwise than by post to German prisoners of war.
- (3) Conveying a scarf to a German prisoner of war.

She was fined £5 on each of these three charges.

For her defence it was stated that when the German prisoners of war were admitted to the Florence Nightingale Hospital at Bury from a neighbouring Prisoner of War Camp, no special instructions were issued to the hospital by the Military Authorities, and the prisoners were placed under no special guard. The hospital was instructed that these prisoners were to be treated as ordinary patients.

No special circular from the Ministry of Health in regard to the treatment of prisoners of war was received at the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Bury, but the Sisters were asked to maintain strict discipline, and the staff were warned against any familiarity between staff and prisoners of war by the Matron.

Upon a prisoner asking for newspaper and cigarettes, Sister Cunnane applied to the Matron for instructions, and was told that as no special instructions for their treatment had been issued, he could have them.

After the prisoners left hospital, Sister Cunnane, Miss Ivy May Nott, and others, communicated with the prisoners by letter other than through the post.

The War Office took the view that, although their action was to be deprecated, they did not consider there was any ulterior motive in the matter.

The Council considered the case *in camera*, and decided to postpone judgment for one year.

The next case before the Council was that concerning Ivy May Nott, R.F.N. 14,921, who had also been charged at the Bury Police Court and fined £2 on each of two charges of fraternising with German prisoners of war. The Council considered the case *in camera*, and as in the case of Winnie Cunnane, postponed judgment for one year.

The case of Alice Jane Watts (now Mrs. Lythgoe), S.R.N. 88,082, who had stolen goods from members of the staff of Winford Isolation Hospital, where she was Sister, was considered *in camera*. The Registrar was directed to remove her name from the Register.

The case of Jean Budd, R.S.C.N. 4,585, was next before the Council. Mrs. Budd had taken two small evacuee boys into her home in Wallasey, from a dangerous district in Surrey, where these children had been cruelly treated by her and her husband, with the result that the younger boy, aged two years, had died.

Mr. and Mrs. Budd had each been fined £20 and £8 8s. costs imposed at the Wallasey Police Court.

The Council considered the case *in camera* and directed the Registrar to remove her name from the Register.

Next Meeting of the Council.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for May 25th.

Draft Statutory Rules and Orders.

The Minister of Health, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by proviso (b) to subsection (1) of section 6 of the Nurses Act, 1943, (a) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, has made a long list of regulations, which may be cited as the Nurses' Regulations, 1945, and shall come into operation on October 1st, 1945. These Regulations are before both House of Parliament.

As they affect the Nursing Profession in many particulars, we strongly advise Registered Nurses (who have not been consulted concerning their own affairs) to obtain a copy if possible of these draft Statutory Rules and Orders.

We shall deal with these 7½ pages in due course in the hope that Registered Nurses will communicate with their Members of Parliament concerning them.

A WORD FOR ALL TIME.

There is a solemn and awful courage in the human heart, placed there by God himself, to guard man against the tyranny of his fellows, and while this lives, the world is safe.—SYDNEY SMITH (*ob.* February 22nd, 1845) in a sermon at Edinburgh.

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