

NATIONAL UNIFORM FOR MIDWIVES.

The Central Midwives Board, in consultation with the College of Midwives and the Association of Supervisors of Midwives, has made provisional arrangements for the establishment of a national uniform for midwives.

The general features of the uniform will be prescribed by the Board by way of regulations, and as soon as the necessary legislation is forthcoming the Board will ask the Minister of Health to approve these regulations and so give them the force of rules.

The following are some details of the uniform :—

The Overcoat

The overcoat will be double-breasted and of a grey cheviot material, with a two-way collar edged with blue. The style is to have a lancer front and centre seam back, with a vent or inverted pleat optional. It is not proposed to have epaulettes.

The Costume

The costume will consist of a single-breasted jacket of mid-grey serge with a collar edged with blue, and over-shoulder seam back and front. It is optional if the skirt is gored, or with two knife pleats back and front, or inverted pleats.

Three styles of Hat

There are three styles of hat. First, a fur felt in grey with a blue and grey band and the authorised badge. Secondly, a peaked cap of service style in grey, with whole top and a blue strap with the authorised badge. Lastly, a grey beret with a blue band and the authorised badge.

The Blouse

The blouse will be of light grey poplin with a two-way collar, which may be worn with or without a tie.

The Working Dress

The working dress is to be of blue gingham, with a bodice and skirt and a centre front fastening and box pleat. There will be two pockets in the skirt, and watch and pen-pockets. The authorised badge may be worn above the pen-pocket. The collar will be of white Repcot and it may be worn either sewn or detachable with press studs.

It has been arranged for the uniform to be on view at the showrooms of Boyd Cooper, Ltd., at 12, Bruton Street and 4 St. George Street, London, W.1, who have for 25 years been responsible for well-cut, well-fitting uniform wear for the Nursing Profession.

When these garments are approved, legislation will be put into force to ensure that only State Certified Midwives can avail themselves of the privilege of wearing this uniform.

NEW STATUS FOR HOME NURSES PROPOSED.

Alderman Charles Key, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, speaking recently at the Annual Meeting of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, said that the Ministry was considering the provision of a single national qualification for home nurses and for the constitution of a central body to conduct examinations and grant a certificate. He said that the view was sometimes expressed that the State Registered Nurse required no further training for district work, but it was realised that skill and knowledge acquired in hospital must be adapted to meet the needs of the patient in his or her own home.

There was an impression that the present shortage of nurses was due to a falling-off in recruitment owing to bad conditions. That was entirely unfounded. The principal reason was that the supply of nurses had for some time fallen short of the steadily increasing demand, owing to the continued expansion of the health services.

On the question of how the nursing profession would be affected when the National Health Service Bill becomes law, Alderman Key said :

" There will be a standing advisory committee on nursing directly responsible to the Minister, and on the Central Health Services Council the nursing profession will be represented by at least two nurses; there will also be a mid-wife. Thus, nursing interests will be able to take their part in the deliberations on policy which will affect them under the new Service. Among other advantages which nurses will enjoy arising out of the Health Service provisions will be interchangeable superannuation, a pressing concern of the profession, which can only be achieved in an integrated service."

He could safely say that there would be a place in

the new scheme for an experienced organisation like the Queen's Institute, and he appealed to those who made voluntary contributions to its work to continue their support during the transitional period.

NURSES' LEAGUE WINTER REUNION.

We are asked to announce that the Winter Reunion of the Nurses' League, Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, will be held on Saturday, November 30th, at 3 p.m.

All members of the League are welcome, and if they wish to attend will they notify the Secretary of the League by November 25th.

We trust this Meeting will be well attended by members of the League.



Photo]

[Keystone

NATIONAL UNIFORM FOR MIDWIVES.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)