

Committee of the Hospitals' Association, of which Committee Mr. Burdett was not a member, but of which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was the chairwoman and Miss C. J. Wood the hon. secretary. The rules for the proposed Register of Trained Nurses were also prepared by that Committee, and they were discussed and settled and unanimously approved at a meeting of the Council of the Hospitals' Association to which the members of the Nursing Committee were invited and at which Miss C. J. Wood and five other members were present.

(2) Neither the Circular nor the Rules announced that "Nurses who had worked for a year in a Hospital or Infirmary might apply to be Registered." The Rules provided that "a Nurse seeking to be placed on the Register must furnish satisfactory proof that she has worked for at least one year on the staff of a Hospital or Infirmary and that she has been trained in the duties of a Nurse." The Rules thus contemplated one year's service on the Staff after the expiration of the Nurse's period of training, and, in effect, a minimum of two years' work in a Hospital or Infirmary as a qualification for Registration.

(3) Nor did the Circular or Rules announce that Nurses "might apply to be registered by a Committee under the superintendence of Mr. Henry C. Burdett." Mr. Burdett was not a member of the Committee to whom the matter was entrusted.

(4) Neither the Circular nor the Rules were issued to trained Nurses and Institutions in general, a few copies only with form of application having been sent to Nurses who applied for the forms.

(5) It is not true that "trained Nurses in 1887 ignored Mr. Burdett's previous invitation," as Mr. Burdett never issued such an invitation.

We have to request that you will give as full publicity to these corrections as you gave to the statement contained in your number of February 16, 1895.

We are, Madam,
Your obedient servants,
BAKER AND NAIRNE.

We have much pleasure in publishing the above letter, and would first draw the attention of our readers to the very significant fact that Mr. Burdett does not attempt to dispute the arguments and statements we made concerning his present attempt to interfere with the Nursing profession by the publication of a so-called Official Directory of Nurses. He now attempts, through Messrs. Baker and Nairne, to disclaim all connection with the action of the Hospitals' Association in 1887, on the question of Registration of Nurses, which we have sufficiently explained above.

(1) The circular was not issued in the form in which it was prepared by the Sectional Committee, but in the altered terms decided upon by the Council of the Association, of which Mr. Henry C. Burdett was the deputy-chairman.

(2) This is entirely inaccurate, as shown by the Annual Report of the Hospitals' Association for 1888, in which the President announced the resignation of the members of the Sectional Committee on the ground of their opposition to "the ONE year's training."

(3) Nurses were to apply, as we have shown from the printed circular, to the Council of the Association, which *was* under the superin-

tendence of Mr. Burdett. The Committee to which the matter had been entrusted dissolved itself when its opinions were ignored.

(4) We never stated that the Circular and Rules were issued to trained Nurses and Institutions in general. They were printed and ready for distribution, but the action which we and other leaders of the Nursing profession took to protect Nurses and the public, successfully averted the realisation of the scheme.

(5) We have sufficiently proved Mr. Burdett's connection with the Hospitals' Association's which issued the invitation we have printed above; and it is certainly indisputable that that invitation was absolutely ignored by trained Nurses in 1887.

Royal British Nurses' Association.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)



A MEETING of the Executive Committee took place on Friday, the 1st inst., at the offices, Sir James Crichton-Browne in the chair.

A meeting of the Entertainments Committee was held on the 5th inst. to consider the arrangements for the Annual Meeting, which it is proposed should this year be held in London in July.

A meeting of the Educational and Disciplinary Subcommittee was held on Tuesday, the 5th inst., to consider the question of Local Centres for the Association.

We are glad to hear that Miss Isla Stewart's Lectures on "Practical Nursing," which are delivered every Monday at the offices of the Royal British Nurses' Association, at 4 p.m., are well attended, as are also those given by Mr. Arnold Lawson, F.R.C.S., on Tuesdays at the same hour. We feel sure that with more enterprising organisation at the office, the whole course may in future prove equally successful.

On March 15, Sir Dyce Duckworth will discourse on the "Modern Trained Nurse," at the fourth Sessional Lecture of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and we do not doubt that he will provoke an animated discussion upon a somewhat burning question. It is well known that the "modern woman" does not altogether find favour in the eyes of Sir Dyce Duckworth.

It has been arranged that Miss Annesley Kenealy will deliver the last lecture of the season at 17, Old Cavendish Street, on the evening of April 19, the Council Meeting day. She has chosen as her subject, "Women as Lecturers," and will, we hear, be a trifle severe upon those of our sex who, after six months' training in a hospital or infirmary, masquerade in Nurses' uniform as expert teachers of Nursing and its

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