

protection of sick persons from the monstrous army of ignorant and incompetent persons who pass themselves off as trained nurses, we conclude that she is still of the same mind. How, then, is it possible to support the present apostate government of the R.B.N.A. as presumably a Lady Consul must do? This question of legal status for nurses is a live question, and it seems to us trifling with the very existence of trained nursing, to associate oneself with a body of officials who have betrayed the principle for which we founded the Association, and on which it must stand or fall!

No! The time has come when there can be no hedging on this vital question, and we hope Mrs. Hughes and the other Lady Consuls who believe in the *principle* of Registration, will stand for their convictions *inside* the Association as firmly as those who refuse to have any fellowship with men they distrust, are doing outside its sphere of influence. We are bound, however, to add that the position of those who have accepted office since the "great betrayal" appears to us a very difficult one, and as yet we have heard of no effort on their part to uphold the nurses' interests.

## Legal Matters.

### A NURSE'S LIBEL ACTION.

At Highgate Police Court, Maud Schultz, 26, married, alias Maud de Lara, of Colherne Road, Kensington, was recently charged with publishing a libel concerning Alice Clara Scott, a trained nurse, of Broadway Parade, Crouch End.

Mr. Broughall Woods, who prosecuted, stated that the parties met at some nursing lectures at the Polytechnic, Regent Street, and subsequently prosecutrix accompanied prisoner to Hastings. Later prisoner was charged with keeping a disorderly house at Pimlico. The charge was dismissed, but another charge was brought against her of having a child of 11 years of age in the alleged disorderly house. By an arrangement made in court the child was handed to prosecutrix, who had been called to prove that prisoner had been away at Hastings, and that she did not know how her house had been conducted.

On 18th October prisoner wrote to prosecutrix stating that unless she at once gave up the child, she (prisoner) would be compelled to prosecute her for an alleged operation which she had performed on her. It was quite untrue that such an operation had been performed.

Prisoner was remanded, being admitted to bail, herself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each.

## The American Nursing World.

### THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

[By our Special Correspondent.]

THE following letter has been sent to the Officers and Councillors of the Superintendents' Society, and of the National Associated Alumnae.

"International Council of Nurses,

"October 4th, 1900.

"My Dear —, You will remember at the Convention meetings in May last the formation of an International Council of Nurses was laid before you for your approval and support, and that, in the proceedings of the Provisional Committee the following resolution was found:—

"Resolution passed by British Delegates:—

"That, in the opinion of the British members of the Provisional Committee the organization of nurses being more fully developed in the United States of America than in any other country, it would be of great professional benefit if a meeting of the International Council of Nurses could be held in the United States in 1901 to celebrate the new century."

"Proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, seconded by Miss Isla Stewart.

"It would be an opportunity to hold an International Congress of Nurses at the same time."

"The suggestion to hold a Congress of Nurses fitted in well with the proposed Pan-American celebrations, to be held in Buffalo next summer, and was cordially endorsed by the Buffalo Nurses' Association, at whose invitation the two national organizations of nurses will meet in that city. As, however, the Buffalo Nurses' Association desired it to be made known that they would assume nothing beyond local management, the International Council of Nurses at the meeting in July of this year designated two American members, Miss Snively and Miss Dock, who had been elected respectively treasurer and secretary, to form a committee which would undertake the work of convening a Congress of Nurses. These two members believe that no better or more representative committee could be found than one composed of the officers and executives of our two societies, viz.: the Superintendents and the Alumnae.

"Do you consent to serve on such a committee?"

"The undersigned urge an early and affirmative reply.

"With cordial greetings,

"M. AGNES SNIVELY,

"Toronto General Hospital.

"LAVINIA L. DOCK,

"265, Henry Street, New York."

The following ladies have consented to act, so the important work of convening the Congress of Nurses to meet in Buffalo next year to celebrate the new century, will be undertaken by a Committee composed as follows:—

Miss Damer, representing the Buffalo Nurses' Association, the Hostess Organization, and the Presidents of the National Associated Alumnae, and of the Superintendents' Society, viz., Miss Keating, Erie County Hospital, Buffalo; and Mrs.

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