

A Conjoint Conference, convened by the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland and the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, at 20, Hanover Square, London, W., at 3 p.m., on

STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES AS IT AFFECTS THE COMMUNITY.

Address by Miss Louisa Stevenson, President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

*Educational Aspect.*

Registration as it affects General Hospitals.

Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Registration as it affects Poor Law Infirmaries.

Miss Eleanor C. Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmiry.

Registration as it affects Special Hospitals.

Mrs. Matthews, late Matron of the Grove Fever Hospital, Tooting.

*Professional Aspect.*

Registration as it affects the Graduate Nurse.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President International Council of Nurses.

Registration from the point of view of a State Registered Nurse.

Miss Janet Speed, Registered Nurse, under the provisions of the Act of Parliament of New Zealand, 1 Edward VII., No. 12.

Discussion.

*Resolutions.*

- 1.—"That in the opinion of this meeting the Legal Registration of Trained Nurses by Act of Parliament is a matter of urgent national importance, and that it is desirable to introduce a Bill with this object into the House of Commons."

Proposed by Miss Rogers, Matron of the Leicester Infirmiry.

Seconded by Miss Poole, Matron of the East Lancashire Infirmiry, Blackburn.

- 2.—"That the Executive Committee be authorised to instruct Counsel to draft a Bill providing for the State Registration of Trained Nurses for discussion, and that it be submitted to Hospital Committees, Medical and Nursing Bodies, and Political Societies, inviting their consideration of its clauses."

Proposed by Miss Mollett, Matron of the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

Seconded by Miss Margaret Brea, Hon. Secretary, Matrons' Council.

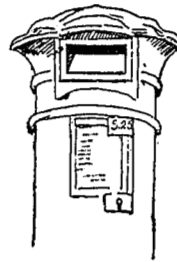
- 3.—"That a Parliamentary Bills Committee be appointed upon the nomination of the Executive Committee to deal with the matter."

Proposed by Miss Macintyre, Matron of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmiry, Wigan.

Seconded by Miss Polden, Matron of the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

May 11th to 16th.—A Chance for Collectors. Sale of Genuine Old Bric-à-brac, 16, Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, W. (*The Rooms of the Photographic Association*), 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Princess Henry of Battenberg attends an entertainment in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, Queen's Hall, 3.



## Letters to the Editor.

### NOTES, QUERIES, &c.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### THE COST OF RURAL NURSES.

To the Editor of the "*British Journal of Nursing.*"

DEAR MADAM,—I was pleased with your remarks on the Norfolk Nursing Federation in last week's issue, and beg to draw your attention to the items in the balance-sheet, as follows:—Receipts—Balance in bank, January 1st, 1902, £143 15s.; subscriptions, £89 9s. 6d.; donations, £27 0s. 6d.; collection at annual meeting, £5 1s. 6d.; affiliation fees, £13 2s.; payments for supply nurses, £13 1s. 1d.; total, £291 9s. 7d. Expenditure—Training nurses, £200 16s. 9d.; Supply Nurse Matthews' wages, £25; lodging, uniform, and board allowance, £7 9s. 1d.; Claxton (allowance), £1 15s.; hire of rooms for meeting, £2 1s.; printing, £9 4s. 6d.; advertisements, £1 19s. 6d.; petty cash, £6; cheque book, 2s. 6d.; balance in hand, £37 1s. 3d.

You will see that the lodging, uniform, and board allowance of the unfortunate nurse comes to £7 9s. 1d.—less than the cost of printing (£9 4s. 6d.), and very little more than the sum used as petty cash. Surely it is time these cut-throat prices for nursing the sick rural poor should be abandoned by the titled persons who express themselves "warm supporters" of the movement. It appears to me "sweating" of the most outrageous kind.

Yours,  
Norwich. \_\_\_\_\_ TRADE UNIONIST.

### AN OUTDOOR UNIFORM.

To the Editor of the "*British Journal of Nursing.*"

DEAR MADAM,—I heartily endorse the opinion of your correspondent on the subject of outdoor nursing uniforms. Surely the time when for any reason they are of practical value has gone past. Even for private nurses their desirability is very debatable, for it is not every patient who, if accompanied out of doors by a nurse, cares to proclaim this fact to all the world. In the case of other nurses I fail to find any valid plea for its use, for even for district nurses it must be remembered that as a rule they now use bicycles, and what can possibly be more unsuitable for cycling than a loose cloak and a close-fitting bonnet? That uniform had its use and was very convenient in days gone by I am prepared to admit. But the "old order changeth," and without doubt it has changed in this connection. Let us admit it, and let us boldly discard our outdoor uniforms.

One statement your correspondent made, namely, that uniform is no longer respected. It is sad, but it is true. Is it an indication that nurses are no longer respected, or that uniform is no longer the badge of a

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