

Executive Committee, Scottish Branch Q.V.J.I.; Miss Wade, Superintendent of Queen's Nurses; Miss Sandford, late Matron City Hospital; Miss E. S. Haldane; Miss Guthrie Wright, Hon. Secretary Q.V.J.I.; and Miss Marr, Matron Longmore Hospital. At its meeting on May 7th the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting, after a long discussion, approves of the principle of State Registration of Nurses, and of the appointment of a Council with branch Councils."

REGISTRATION IN IRELAND.

On Friday, April 15th, by the courtesy of the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians, I addressed a large meeting of medical men and nurses, in a Hall kindly lent by them, convened by the Irish Nurses' Association, on the question of State Registration. Upwards of fifty medical men and 400 Matrons and nurses were present. The following resolution, proposed by Sir John W. Moore, and seconded by Dr. O'Carroll, was enthusiastically carried with two dissentients:—

"That this meeting considers that it is essential that nurses throughout the United Kingdom should be efficiently educated for the performance of the responsible duties entrusted to them. That a minimum standard of education and common rules of discipline can be secured only by an Act of Parliament; and that, as a preliminary to such legislation, it is desirable that a Select Committee of the House of Commons should be appointed at an early date to inquire into the whole nursing question."

MEETING AT CHELSEA INFIRMARY.

An interesting and successful meeting was held on April 22nd at the Chelsea Infirmary on the invitation of the Matron, Miss Barton, when the chair was taken by Miss Isla Stewart. The first speaker was Lady Helen Munro Ferguson. Dr. James Cantlie, F.R.C.S., then proposed a resolution warmly supporting the principle of State Registration; this was seconded by Mr. Richard Rigg, M.P., and carried unanimously.

The Second Annual General Meeting of our Society took place on Friday, May 13th, at 20, Hanover Square. Miss Louisa Stevenson presided. Eighty-six applications for membership were accepted. It was agreed to make provision in the Constitution "That ladies and gentlemen not connected with nursing be eligible for election as Associates of the Society," and "That the annual subscription for Associates shall be 5s."

The following resolution was also carried unanimously:—

"That this meeting cordially approves of the Bill for the Registration of Nurses introduced this Session into the House of Commons by Dr. Farquharson, M.P., and considers that it is desirable, in the public interest, that a Select Committee should be appointed to inquire into the whole nursing question."

MATRONS' COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Matrons' Council held on May 13th a resolution similar to that adopted in Dublin was passed.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN.

At the International Congress of Women, held in Berlin in June last, the morning of June 16th was given up in Section II. to the discussion of nursing. I had the honour of presenting the opening paper, and papers were also read by Sister Agnes Karll (Berlin), Miss L. L. Dock, Miss Goodrich, Miss Maud Banfield, and Miss M. E. Thornton (United States)

dealing more or less forcibly with the organisation of nursing by State Registration.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

At the First Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses, held in Berlin on Friday, June 17th, some 100 nurses from various countries were present. Reports on Registration were presented by myself (for Great Britain), Miss S. F. Palmer (United States), Mrs. Grace Neill (New Zealand), Miss McGahey (Australia), Dr. Moffat (South Africa).

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"Whereas, The disorder existing to-day in nursing conditions is due chiefly to inequalities of training and differing educational standards; and

"Whereas, The serious and responsible work of a nurse demands not only excellent moral qualities, but also the trained intelligence and cultured mind of the well-educated woman; and

"Whereas, The principle of Registration by the State is now generally conceded as safeguarding the public health, and as promoting a more thorough education of nurses; now therefore be it

"Resolved: That every person assuming the position of a Trained Nurse should give proof of the following minimum preparation for such work:—

"(a) A good general education.

"(b) A preliminary course in domestic science, elementary anatomy, physiology, bacteriology, materia medica, and technical preparation for ward work.

"(c) Three complete years of practical work in hospital wards under qualified instructors.

"And be it further

"Resolved: That this minimum preparation should be examined and registered by the State; and, lastly, be it

"Resolved: That it is the duty of the training-schools to certify to the qualities of character and moral fitness of candidates for registration."

MEETING AT FOLKESTONE.

On Monday, July 25th, three papers on Registration were presented at the Congress convened at Folkestone by the Royal Institute of Public Health, at a meeting at which the Countess of Radnor presided.

I had the pleasure of giving a general survey of the question in the opening paper. Miss Plum, Matron of the Victoria Hospital, Folkestone, presented the question as it affects hospital nurses, and Miss C. A. Barling, Matron of the Borough Sanatorium, as it affects private nurses.

THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting of the British Medical Association, held at Oxford on Wednesday, July 27th, a resolution approving of the principle of Registration was carried by a large majority, and directed to be sent to the Select Committee of the House of Commons which is now considering the two Bills.

MEETING AT GLASGOW.

On Thursday, July 28th, I addressed a meeting, in connection with the Congress convened by the Sanitary Institute, at Glasgow, on the subject of Registration. The Duchess of Montrose was in the chair, and, in the discussion which followed, Miss Guthrie Wright, Hon. Secretary of the Scottish Branch of the Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, spoke ably in favour of Registration, her remarks being received with cordial applause. No opposition was expressed.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Annual Report is now published, and can be

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