

The President of the Board of Trade (Mr. Gerald Balfour) replied it was proposed in due course to hold an inquiry, at which those who had made objections to the application would be given an opportunity of stating the grounds of their opposition in the presence of representatives of the applicants, and that, in these circumstances, it would be unnecessary for him to trouble the proposed deputation to attend.

The inquiry was held on Friday, May 5th, at the Board of Trade Office, by Mr. Barnes, Comptroller of the Companies Department, for Lord Salisbury, the present President of the Board of Trade, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss M. Mollett attended as the Representatives of this Society.

Other Societies opposing the scheme which were influentially represented were the British Medical Association, the British Gynæcological Society, the Birmingham and District General Medical Practitioners' Union, the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, the Royal British Nurses' Association, the Matrons' Council, the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, the Scottish Committee for Promoting the State Registration of Trained Nurses, the Irish Nurses' Association, the Registered Nurses' Society, and the Central Hospital Council for London.

The only signatory to the Memorandum of the proposed Society present was Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, Treasurer of Guy's Hospital, who was supported by Miss Swift, Matron of Guy's Hospital, and Miss C. J. Wood.

After hearing the objectors, and Mr. Cosmo Bonsor in reply, the Chairman said that a short-hand note of the proceedings would be laid before the President of the Board of Trade, and would receive his most careful consideration.

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The following members have consented to represent the Society on the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses:—

Miss Sandford, Vice-President for Scotland, International Council of Nurses.

Miss E. M. Roberts, late Lady Superintendent Nurses' Co-operation, London.

Miss Richmond, Matron, Women's Hospital, Birmingham.

Miss Wade, Lady Superintendent, Scottish Branch Q.V.J.I.

Miss Huxley, late President Irish Nurses' Association.

Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Lady Superintendent, Richmond Hospital, Dublin.

On November 25th, 1904, Miss Rogers, Matron of the Leicester Infirmary, was elected President of the Provisional Committee, and Miss Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, Hon. Secretary. At the

same meeting it was decided to affiliate with the International Council of Nurses.

A NEW REGISTRATION SOCIETY.

A Lay Association for Promoting the State Registration of Nurses has recently been formed, and an influential Committee appointed to carry out its objects.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

At the meeting of the International Council of Nurses, held in Berlin in June, 1904, the following members of this Society were present:—Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President I.C.N.; Miss Isla Stewart, Hon. Vice-President for England; Miss Huxley, Vice-President for Ireland; Miss Knight, Miss Ross, Miss M. Breay, Miss Richmond, Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Miss Jenkins, Miss E. M. Waind, Miss Barton, The Lady Hermione Blackwood, Miss M. Burr, Miss Pell Smith, Miss McGill, and Miss G. Dorran.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

The Hon. Secretary, Miss Plum, Matron of the Victoria Hospital, Folkestone, and Miss C. A. Barling, Matron of the Borough Sanatorium, presented papers on Registration at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health at Folkestone last July.

The Hon. Secretary also addressed the Congress convened by the Royal Sanitary Institute at Glasgow, in the same month, on the subject of Registration. She also visited Nottingham in November and spoke to large gatherings of Matrons and nurses at the General Hospital, Nottingham, and the Bagthorpe Infirmary.

Miss Isla Stewart, on August 30th, addressed a meeting of nurses in Edinburgh, and in November addressed a meeting of the Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League on the subject of State Registration. On January 12th, 1905, a large public meeting was held in Bournemouth, when Dr. Hyla Greves presided, and which was addressed by Miss Amy Hughes, Miss Mollett, Miss A. J. Hobbs, Miss Broad, Miss C. Forrest, Miss G. Scott, and others.

REGISTRATION IN THE COLONIES AND ABROAD.

Progress is being made in Australia on voluntary lines, the ultimate goal of both the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association and the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association being Registration under State authority.

In the United States of America Registration Acts have been passed during the last year in Indiana, California, and Colorado, and the nurses of other States are organising with the same object.

PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN THE REGISTRATION MOVEMENT.

1904. A Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses introduced into the House of Commons on behalf of the Society for State Registration, by Dr. Farquharson, Member for West Aberdeenshire.

A Bill providing for the Registration of

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