

Nurses and Nursing Homes, promoted by the Royal British Nurses' Association, introduced into the House of Commons.

The Central Hospital Council for London passed a resolution in opposition to any State Registration of Nurses, and circulated the Boards of Hospitals, Infirmarys, Nursing Institutions, and Members of Parliament, inviting their opposition to the movement.

The Society for the State Registration of Nurses issued two Memoranda, one addressed to Hospital and Nursing Authorities, and one to Members of Parliament, in reply to the Anti Registration Manifesto, inviting their consideration of the nurses' point of view, and their support to a demand for the appointment of a Select Committee of the House of Commons to inquire into the whole Nursing Question.

A Bill providing for the Registration of Nurses in the State of Maryland, U.S.A., passed both Houses without amendment.

A Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed "to consider the expediency of providing for the Registration of Nurses."

At the meeting of the International Council of Nurses, held in Berlin in June, the following Resolution in favour of State Registration was moved by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the Council, seconded by Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary, and 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.

The following Resolution, moved by Dr. Langley Browne, was carried *nem. con.* at the Representative

Meeting of the British Medical Association held at Oxford in July:—

"That this meeting approves the Principle of the Registration of Nurses."

1905. Bill "To regulate the qualifications of Trained Nurses and to provide for their Registration," introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Munro Ferguson, February 23rd.

Bills providing for the Registration of Trained Nurses passed in the States of Indiana, California, and Colorado.

#### THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Financial Statement, which was then read, showed a balance from last year of £29 3s. 11d. Annual Subscriptions, £35 17s. Donations, £60 14s. 6d. The expenses amounted to £106 11s. 3d, and there was a balance in hand of £20 4s. 2d.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses appeals to all those interested in the efficient care of the sick to give earnest consideration to the best method of legislation to effect this end.

#### The Reply from the Board of Trade.

As we go to press we have received the following letter:—

Board of Trade, June 7th, 1905.

MADAM,—Since the hearing of objections on May 5th, a request has been received by the Board of Trade from the promoters of the proposed Incorporated Society for Promoting the Higher Education and Training of Nurses, that the consideration of their application by the Board of Trade should be deferred until the Bills now before Parliament for the Registration of Nurses have been disposed of.

The consideration of the application will accordingly stand over.—I am, Madam, Your obedient servant,

G. S. BARNES.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Secretary, the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses,  
20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.

#### The Passing Bell.

The death has recently occurred at Lincoln, at eighty-eight years of age, of Mrs. Hemsworth, who for thirty-six years had held the position of Matron at the Red House in that city. She was buried at St. Peter-in-Eastgate Church, and the body, which was placed on a bier, was followed to its last resting-place by thirty-five nurses on foot. Miss Henrietta Bromhead, Lady Superintendent of the Lincolnshire Institution for Nurses, and the oldest friend of the deceased, was also present. Many beautiful wreaths testified to the affection in which she was held.

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