

We have always contended that the supervision of Nursing Homes should fall on these authorities, and are glad that this procedure is recommended in the Report. It is suggested also that the duty of presenting a Report to the Privy Council not later than four years after the passing of any Registration Act on the advisability of issuing a separate Register of Nurses whose training is of a lower standard than that laid down for "Registered Nurses" should be laid upon the Central Body appointed under the Act.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE.

The Committee also recommend that a separate Register of "Registered Asylum Nurses" should be kept by the Central Body, to which those nurses should be admitted who have served for not less than three years (in not more than two asylums), and have received the certificate of the Medico-Psychological Association, and can produce satisfactory certificates of good character. The points to be noted in connection with this recommendation are (1) the examining body for Asylum Nurses would, under these circumstances, be exclusively composed of medical men. In our issue of last week we noted the statement of Dr. Rothwell Adam, of Melhourne, that there is "a danger of training nurses too much on the medical man's lines. The medical man by the course of his training learns the nature of the disease, its recognition and treatment, and no man can teach more than is in him; (neither, we presume, can he examine on more than that knowledge). Nurses' work runs on parallel lines with a medical man's work, but they do not converge, and any profession that desires to progress must establish or verify its own teaching." (2) Mental nurses would have to pay double the fee of general nurses to get on to the Register, for they would have to pay first the fee of the Medico-Psychological Society for their examination, and then the Registration fee. (3) Already *Asylum News* (the journal of the Asylum Workers' Association), referring to the recommendation, says "in the drafting of a Registration Bill those asylums which have hitherto granted their own certificates (such as the Northampton, Dorset, Worcester, Prestwich, and others) will, no doubt, put in a claim for recognition. It would seem but equitable that the Central Body should have discretionary power to recognise certificates in their judgment equivalent to those of the Medico-Psychological Association." Thus, again, we should have the multiplication of portals. To us it appears very undesirable to place upon the Central Nursing Council the invidious task of discriminating between the relative value of certificates, and that from all points of view it is desirable that both general and mental nurses should be required to pass uniform examinations in their respective knowledge laid down by the Central Council.

All these are points which will have to be threshed out, and it is important that every nurse should thoughtfully consider them, in order to offer, if occasion requires, a well-considered opinion upon them.

To the members of the Select Committee, and more especially to the Chairman, who filled this position with great ability, the thanks of trained nurses are due for the careful consideration they have given to the evidence placed before them by the various witnesses as embodied in their Report to the House of Commons.

(To be concluded.)

Progress of State Registration.

IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

The September number of the *Canadian Nurse* prints in full the Report of the Select Committee on State Registration of Nurses, and in an editorial note says "We congratulate the nursing profession in Great Britain, especially our contemporary, the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and earnestly advise our readers to study this report."

The same journal reports that Dr. P. H. Bryce, Chief Medical Officer for the Dominion, happened to be at the meeting of the National Council of Women held in June in Charlotte Town, when the paper on State Registration of Nurses was read by Miss Carty, of Toronto, and he gave it as his view that Registration was a much required measure, and advised the nurses to secure the sympathy and aid of the Medical Councils.

The Medical Association of St. John's, New Brunswick, has in consequence appointed a small committee to see how Registration of Nurses can be brought about, a most satisfactory result to the initiative of the National Council of Women of Canada, which is composed of thinking women, whose sympathies are strongly in favour of any movement that advances the interests of their sex. As these women are scattered all over the broad Dominion, they can, when returning home after a conference, report to their local councils the news of what trained nurses eagerly desire, and, inasmuch as public opinion is a great power, the more the just aims of any class of workers are known and favourably commented upon, the better for their realisation.

The trained nurses in the Province of Manitoba, following the excellent example of Ontario, have begun to organise, through a society called "The Manitoba Association of Graduate Nurses," which aims at enrolling all graduate nurses throughout the Province into one body, so that by October next the Association may be in form to draft a Bill for the Registration of Nurses upon the lines already incorporated in the Ontario Nurses' Bill. It is reported that the nurses in Manitoba are most enthusiastic about co-operation, and realise that it is none too soon to agitate for registration owing to the growth of irregularities and quackery in the nursing world.

Before long we opine that there will be a splendid Federation of Canadian Nurses, fully equipped and eager to affiliate with the International Council of Nurses. How irrepressible is the mighty wave of women's progress; how futile the attempts of tyranny to arrest it! On it sweeps, and away go the rotten stakes of obstruction like so many two-penny nine-pins.

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