

women, who considered themselves competent to nurse critical operation cases was very far from what it should be. Only that morning she had seen in the papers the conviction of a woman for stealing, who was described as a fully qualified nurse.

The Resolution was cordially supported by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. Miss Pearse (Matron, G. Northern Hospital), Miss E. Waind (Lady Superintendent, Galen House, Guildford), and Miss E. Richardson (late Matron of Stockport Infirmary), also supported the Resolution. Instances of Bart's probationers, who were not allowed to finish their training, and yet who were working side by side with fully certificated nurses, for the same fees, were given by both the last speakers. Of discussion in the ordinary sense, there was none, as it is impossible to get up a discussion where everyone is of the same mind, and the Resolution was carried unanimously.

The President then invited Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to speak of the arrangements for the International Nursing Conference in Paris.

Mrs. Fenwick gave a brief account of the foundation of the International Council of Nurses in London in 1899, and of previous meetings in Berlin and Buffalo, U.S.A., and said it was now proposed to hold an interim Conference in Paris in June of the present year. Within the last few years there had been a great awakening on the nursing question in France. Formerly the only way in which a French woman who had a vocation for nursing could exercise it was by becoming a religious Sister, as the nursing in France was in the hands of the nuns. With improved methods in hospitals it would be possible for well educated women in France to train as lay nurses. After alluding to the efforts being made on these lines in Paris and Bordeaux, Mrs. Fenwick sketched the scope of the coming Conference, and the social programme, and expressed a hope that many members of the League would attend. After the splendid advantages which English nurses had enjoyed for the past quarter of a century, the least they could do was to show the result to those who were striving to improve nursing conditions in other countries.

Many of those present expressed their intention of going to Paris, so that there is every prospect that Bart's will be well represented at the Conference.

At the conclusion of the meeting the members adjourned for tea and coffee, on the hospitable invitation of the President.

Miss Alice Ward was at the last meeting of the Executive Committee elected a member of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

THE ROYAL SOUTH HANTS NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Nurses' Registration Petition to the Prime Minister has been signed on behalf of the Royal South Hants Nurses' League, by the members of the Executive Committee.

Progress of State Registration.

Miss Henrietta Poole, Matron of the East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn, spoke at the tenth annual meeting of the Manchester, Salford, and District Branch of the National Union of Women Workers, at which the Lady Mayoress, Mrs. J. Hartop, presided, on the State Registration of Trained Nurses. Miss Poole advocated a minimum standard of knowledge being required of trained nurses, and the legal registration of those who conformed to that standard, and were able to produce the necessary evidence of so doing. Modern nursing was the growth of the last 50 years, and, though she was proud of the progress made during that time, much still remained to be done to improve the professional status of the nurse. At present the nursing profession had no power to turn out of its accredited ranks any person who disgraced it. Then there were many persons posing as nurses who were not such at all. A legal register would prevent existing abuses, and improve the position of the bona-fide nurses in every way.

Lord Crewe on Nursing.

Speaking at the Annual Meeting of the East London Nursing Society, which was held at the Mansion House on Tuesday, the Earl of Crewe said that the two nurses satirised by Dickens were as remote from the nurses of the present day as Don Quixote himself. He pleaded for support for the East London Nursing Society on the ground that certain classes of cases were really not touched by either the in or out-patient departments of the great hospitals. Hospitals could never keep incurables, and many persons were too distant from them to attend as out-patients. To these such an institution as the East London Nursing Society, represented a degree of alleviation hardly to be described. He believed there were many people at the West End who, though they might not have a very definite idea how to set about it, were keenly anxious to do something to help their poorer fellow-Londoners. To such the East London Nursing Society offered a good field, he would not say for charity, but for co-operation, of no common kind.

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