

The Nurses' Directory Bill.

On Friday, the 24th April, a meeting of the Executive Council of the Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League was held at the Nursing Institute and Home Hospital, Cambridge Road, Bournemouth, at which Miss Christina Forrest, the President, took the chair.

The following Protest was considered and adopted, and has been forwarded to Lord Balfour of Burleigh:—

My Lord,—

We, the undersigned members of the Executive Council of the Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League, desire to protest in the name of our League against the Bill intituled "an Act to provide for the establishment of an Official Directory of Nurses." We protest against it, first, as arbitrary in the extreme. We, trained nurses, have never been consulted from beginning to end as to our wishes or our needs. A body of women, thousands strong, suddenly find this Bill affecting their interests drawn up and read in the House of Lords without their knowledge or consent. It is a Bill which, if it became law, would be the sole instance in this kingdom of a law being passed concerning a profession without the slightest reference to those who would be governed by it. It would place this large body of women at the mercy of an irresponsible State official, who would be able to put names on and take names off the Directory without any possibility of appeal from those nurses who would be affected by it.

Secondly, we protest against it, as exceedingly dangerous for the Public, for in it there is no provision made for any examination to ensure the fitness of candidates, for size or qualification of training school, there is no specification of length of training, and it is even expressly provided that women may go to any institution for cure of the sick, and then may claim to take their place in the Directory side by side with fully qualified nurses who have spent time, energy, and money, in order to be thoroughly well equipped for their responsible work.

We are, Your Lordship's obedient servants, etc.

A cordial vote of thanks was then passed to the Right Hon. the Lord Ampthill, who has given notice to move the rejection of the Bill upon its second reading in the House of Lords on May 6th, which it was decided to send to him, together with a copy of the Protest.

THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, held on Friday, April 24th, it was decided to send a Protest to Lord Balfour of Burleigh, against the Bill to Provide for the Establishment of an Official Directory of Nurses.

LEICESTER INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

At a meeting of the Council of the Leicester Infirmary Nurses' League, held on Monday last, it was unanimously resolved that resolutions be sent to Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Lord Ampthill, and other Peers, protesting against the Official Directory of Nurses' Bill, on the grounds that the Directory, according to the terms stated in the Bill, would be misleading to the public, and would be no protection to the fully trained nurse.

THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Irish Nurses' Association will hold a meeting in Dublin on Saturday, May 2nd, to consider a Letter to be sent to the Right Hon. the Lord Ampthill, to convey to him from the meeting what the Irish Nurses desire in the form of legislation, so that the public may be provided with efficient care when sick, and trained nurses organised and protected by the State.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Members are reminded that at the Annual Meeting of the above Society, to be held in London on Saturday, May 2nd, an important Resolution in opposition to the Nurses' Directory Bill will be considered. As not one jot or one tittle of the rights or privileges, so hardly won in the past by nursing pioneers, must go by default, it is the bounden duty of every Matron and nurse who holds these professional rights in trust, to attend this meeting and add her personal support to the opposition.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

The following ladies have received appointments as Staff Nurses:—Miss M. A. Lovett, A.N.S.R., Miss E. Cooke, Miss M. Branson.

Postings and Transfers.—Matrons: Miss L. M. Stewart, to Military Hospital, Dover. Sisters: Miss L. M. Moor, to Military Hospital, Devonport; Miss K. A. Allsop, to Military Hospital, Chatham; Miss E. C. Cheetham, to Military Hospital, Pretoria, S.A.; Miss A. Guthrie, to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley; Miss A. F. Byers, to Royal Military Infirmary, Dublin; Miss W. Potter, to Military Hospital, Canterbury. Staff Nurses: Miss A. Steer, to Military Hosp., Cairo; Miss I. Harley, to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley.

Appointments confirmed.—Staff Nurses: Miss F. C. Craig, Miss E. M. Croisdale, Miss M. A. G. Martin, Miss R. L. Nevile, Miss J. McP. B. Smith, Miss E. A. R. Yockney, Miss M. H. Graham.

Arrivals.—Miss I. J. Jerrard, R.R.C., Matron, from Egypt.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)