

the Lord Mayor—where there is one—or some principal citizen, whereat influential speakers, acquainted with the subject, can explain what has been proposed, to the permanent injury of the large body of Irish nurses, and to impress the need for a close watch being kept that Irish nurses shall be included in this Registration Bill, at the same time, on the same conditions, and under the same Statutory Authority, as the English and Scotch nurses.

We are, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

Here follow the signatures appended to the previous letter with that of Miss Hester Egan, Matron of the Coombe Hospital, in addition.

The Guardians of the North Dublin Union, at their meeting last week, adopted a resolution strongly approving of the resolutions forwarded for endorsement by the Irish Nurses' Association.

The current issue of the *Medical News* says: "We understand that Ireland was excluded from the Bill at the initiative of the Irish Local Government Board, but we also understand that that august body has since then acquired information on the question, with the result that they now propose to support the retention of Ireland in the Bill."

The thanks of all nurses who are anxious to see the Bill become law are due to the Earl of Crewe for his recognition of the fact that a mistake had been made, and for the steps which he has taken to rectify it.

A UNIVERSAL EXPERIENCE,

Nurses in New South Wales are undergoing a similar experience to that of their colleagues in other countries, and are finding that if they are to have a share in the government of their profession, they must take concerted action to secure it, it will not be won without a struggle; and, they are learning further the importance of possessing an organisation through which their views can be expressed, as the following article demonstrates.

Through their voluntary Association Australian nurses have already proved their ability and their right to participate in the organisation and control of their own profession, and in justice to the public as well as to themselves we believe they will recognise the duty of standing firm at this crisis, and of allowing no Bill for their registration by the State to become law until direct and adequate representation on their Governing Body is assured to them. Nursing is a woman's profession, and the nurses of New South Wales should not be content to hand over the responsibility which rightfully devolves upon them in the public interest to any one else.

The Registration Question in New South Wales.

THE AUSTRALASIAN TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION UNANIMOUS FOR STATE REGISTRATION.

At a Special General Meeting of the Association held on June 25th, at the Royal Exchange, Sydney, Dr. Fiaschi, President, who was in the chair, opened the meeting by calling on Dr. Blackburn to read the clauses of Dr. Mackellar's "Nurses and Private Hospitals Bill," referring to the registration of trained nurses.

At this meeting, which is fully reported in *The Australasian Nurses' Journal*, Dr. Sinclair Gillies explained that he had met Dr. Mackellar, and discussed the Bill with him. His object, in the first instance, was to obtain penal jurisdiction over so-called hospitals, of which there were about 100 in that city where untrained women, who called themselves nurses for the purposes of gain, took in lying-in cases, treating them in a way little short of murder. He was then confronted with the difficulty of defining the qualifications of such persons as might be permitted to keep private hospitals, and for that reason he felt himself obliged to arrange for a Government Register of Trained Nurses, and for this purpose inserted the clauses which they were to discuss. Dr. Sinclair Gillies reminded those present that the meeting had been originally fixed for May 27th, but on that day Dr. Mackellar informed him by telephone that he was so anxious to get his Bill through that if the nurses were going to imperil its passing he would cut out all the clauses referring to the Registration of Nurses except in so far as they referred to nurses engaged in private hospitals and lying-in homes. He might help them later on provided they agreed to leave the work in the hands of the Board of Health. If they wanted a Board such as that outlined in the statement to be presented to the meeting that night, he would do nothing for them. Dr. Sinclair Gillies also said that Dr. Mackellar had stated to him that if the nurses did not take action themselves they would get a Bill passed over their heads.

He then moved three resolutions—(1) approving of the statement prepared by the Hon. Secretary for the Select Committee which took evidence upon Dr. Mackellar's Bill, (2) authorising the Council to arrange a meeting with Dr. Mackellar with the object of inducing him to amend his Bill upon the lines indicated in the statement, (3) empowering the Council,

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