

ing had had to encounter strenuous opposition. Nurses contended that they should have a definite curriculum of education, a standard examination, and that they should be permitted to give the public a guarantee of their efficiency. It seemed simple, but was not so simple as it appeared.

The registration question was really an economic one. It touched the absolute control of a large body of women workers by unrestricted employers. The organised Nurses' Societies claimed, and must have, representation on the Governing Body so that the views of the expert workers might find expression. This great principle had been conceded by the House of Lords, and nurses must accept no Bill which deprived them of this right. Personal responsibility was necessary for the development of the best type of nurse.

Mrs. Walter Spencer, who seconded the resolution, said that essentials must be safeguarded in the Bill, and one of these was the representation of the organised nurses on the Council.

The Resolution was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Miss Pearse, the meeting then accorded Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Isla Stewart a very hearty vote of thanks for all their work for the Registration Cause, and of implicit confidence in their leadership as officers of the State Registration Society. With this vote she associated Miss Breay, Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council. This vote having been acknowledged, the meeting terminated.

The Bill in House of Commons.

The Nurses' Registration Bill was placed upon the paper in the House of Commons on Monday last. This procedure is adopted when a Bill has passed the House of Lords, and is sent down to the Commons, instead of its being introduced by a Member and read for a first time, as in the case of a new Bill.

International Influence.

One of the minor—though none the less interesting—results of the International Congress of Nurses, which convened in Paris in June, 1907, is the coinage of the word "neurse" in the French language, which heretofore has applied the terms "infirmière" and "garde-malade" to those who minister to the sick.

We agree with the *Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast*, that right here is a most practical result to that great gathering of nurses.

Progress of State Registration.

First and foremost, thanks to all the dear ladies for telegrams and letters in which they are good enough to convey to the Editor of this Journal their delight that the Nurses' Registration Bill passed its third reading in the House of Lords on November the 10th, and the acknowledgment owed by the profession at large to the consistent policy of this Journal—the only Journal which during the twenty years' struggle for the organisation of Nursing by Act of Parliament, has supported the claims of trained nurses for legal status and the protection of the sick from the dangers of incompetent persons posing as such.

To the united efforts of the Matrons' Council, the Society for the State Registration of Nurses, and the Irish Nurses' Association, this victory is primarily due. The attacks made upon the members of the two former societies by those who for years have attempted by every means in their power to intimidate and injure the personal reputation of their officers, have failed, as all such discreditable tactics are sure to fail when they are opposed by courage and honesty.

As Miss Hurlston writes, "Lord Amptill, by his outspoken statement that nurses in the opposing hospitals dare not support the demand for registration for fear of losing their situations has not only done the nursing world an immense service, but women workers in other dependent positions will also benefit by his courage. It is just this one statement Parliament required to hear, and I hope the Commons as well as the Lords will take it as seriously as it deserves."

THE BILL AT "BART'S."

The news that the Nurses' Registration Bill had passed its third reading in the House of Lords on the 10th was received by thousands of nurses with the greatest pleasure, and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, of which the Matron has been so indefatigable a worker for this reform, she took occasion to speak to the nursing staff on the immense amount of work which had been carried on with persistent determination for a great number of years before success was approached.

On Friday, the 13th, Miss Stewart entertained at dinner those who have devoted many years of their lives to gain professional organisation for trained nurses, and a delightful reunion of the Sisters and Staff Nurses was afterwards held in the beautiful recreation room,

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