

Plaistow Fever Hospital; Miss E. M. Bann, Matron, Brook Fever Hospital, Shooters Hill; Miss L. A. Morgan, Northern Convalescent Hospital, Winchmore Hill.

The Irish Nurses' Association.—Miss L. V. Haughton, Matron, Guy's Hospital; Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin; Miss Sutton, Lady Superintendent, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin; Miss Keogh, Lady Superintendent, Richmond Hospital, Dublin; Mrs. Kildare-Treacy, Lady Superintendent, City of Dublin Nursing Institution.

The Scottish Nurses' Association.—Sir William Macewen, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., Dr. McGregor Robertson, F.R.S., F.F.P.S.; Miss Wright, Matron, Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow; Miss F. Tisdall, Nursing Home, Glasgow; Miss K. Burleigh, Lady Superintendent, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh.

The Royal British Nurses' Association.—The delegates are not yet nominated.

ACTION OF THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

In our last issue we drew the attention of nurses to the necessity for bringing the question of their Registration by the State before Parliamentary candidates in every constituency during the coming elections. This week it is with great pleasure we record that the Medico-Political Committee of the British Medical Association has taken the same view. This Committee has drawn up memoranda and questions, on Parliamentary subjects affecting the public health and the medical profession, for the purpose of submitting them to Parliamentary candidates, which are published in the Supplement to the *British Medical Journal* of January 1st. Copies of these questions have been sent to the Hon. Secretaries of every Division in the United Kingdom, and with them a request that each Division should at once seek to interview each candidate for Parliamentary constituencies within its area, and offer him, if elected, the cordial co-operation of the Division in considering Parliamentary questions affecting the public health or the medical profession. The five questions selected by the British Medical Association as of primary importance include Nurses' Registration, which it presents as follows:—

NURSES' REGISTRATION. Memorandum.

The evidence given before the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of Nurses' Registration, and the report of that Committee, sufficiently indicated the strength of the opinion among nurses, and others who have given special attention to the subject, that there should be a system of State Registration of Nurses which would afford a guarantee of training, and, if proper disciplinary powers were entrusted to the Board, a guarantee of good conduct. The careful consideration of the subject by the British Medical Association for three years indicated the strong

preponderant opinion in the medical profession in favour of the State Registration of Nurses. In the opinion of the Association any central board appointed for the purpose should consist of direct representatives of nurses and of the medical profession, respectively in equal proportions.

Question.

Would you support in Parliament a Bill for the State Registration of Nurses on the general lines of the recommendations of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject, but the Central Nursing Board being constituted as above described?

Nurses who owe much to the British Medical Association for its powerful support will be grateful that through its great organisation it has brought the question of their Registration by the State prominently before Parliamentary candidates, at a time when, to quote the leading article in the *British Medical Journal* on the subject, "the opportunity should not be lost of bringing to the notice of candidates, in their present impressionable state, those problems awaiting legislative solution, in which the profession is specially interested. The mind of the candidate is wax to receive, and may, perchance, prove marble to retain. At any rate, there will be no such opportunity, until another general election comes round, of directing public attention to medical needs." The article proceeds to state that the memorandum of the Medico-Political Committee deals with the "most important matters which are considered to be ripe for action. . . . The list might, no doubt, easily have been lengthened, but it was probably felt that the subjects enumerated would suffice, and that it would be impolitic to overburden candidates with a more extended list of questions."

We feel sure that nurses will be stimulated also to do their utmost to bring the question of their Registration by the State before Parliamentary candidates in all the constituencies. Although they have not the strong lever, which the members of the British Medical Association possess in the Parliamentary vote, yet they also can help to give prominence to the question, and the Central Office relies upon all members of the State Registration Society to do everything they can to forward the movement at this time.

One way in which they can help, in addition to communicating with Parliamentary candidates, is to take collecting cards, and help to raise the necessary funds. Cards for collecting 10s., £1, or £5, can still be had from the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. All that is needed is cash to finance the campaign, which, founded in righteousness, must ultimately end in victory.

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