

tendent Nurse in relation to other Workhouse Officials, as defined in the Orders of the Local Government Board, is primarily responsible for this tragedy."

In support of the resolution Mrs. Fenwick read an important letter she had received, speaking in the warmest terms of the devotion to duty of the deceased nurse, and from intimate knowledge of all the circumstances which led up to her sad death, considered that it was their duty to send an expression of opinion to the President of the Local Government Board, which was responsible for the present intolerable regulations governing the relations between a Superintendent Nurse and other workhouse officials. Miss Marquardt, Miss Kingsford, and several others present spoke feelingly on the subject. They agreed that harmony was almost impossible where the Master of the Workhouse had the right to ignore the authority of the Superintendent Nurse, and interfere with her skilled work, of which he knew nothing, as permitted under existing Orders. The resolution was passed unanimously. It was further agreed to send a copy of the resolution to the President of the Local Government Board, the Chairman of the Barnet Board of Guardians, and to the foreman of the jury at the inquest of the deceased nurse, who recognised in their verdict that she committed suicide while suffering from mental depression consequent upon worry, the result of her treatment by the House Committee of the Barnet Board of Guardians.

The meeting then terminated.

Of course, the War formed the chief topic of conversation during tea, and it was a curious coincidence that of the three married members present each had but one son, and they, of course, had all volunteered for military service.

ANNIE E. HULME, *Hon. Sec.*

### STATE REGISTRATION.

Miss Breay, the Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, has received a most generous subscription of £2 2s. from the Scottish Matrons' Association. The two Scottish nurses' organizations subscribe to the Central Committee for State Registration, and the support given by the Scottish Matrons' Association to the Nurses' Society, will be very encouraging to those who are working unceasingly for the cause.

It is a coincidence that the three successive Presidents of the S.S.R. have all been Scottish women, the late Miss Louisa Stevenson and Miss Isla Stewart, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Also, the three members of Parliament who have been successively in charge of the Nurses Registration Bill in the House of Commons have been of that tenacious nationality—Dr. Farquharson, His Excellency Sir Ronald C. Munro Ferguson, and Dr. Chapple.

### THE WINTER'S WORK.

It is announced that the new Session of Parliament will open on the 27th inst.

On the 22nd inst. the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses meets to plan the winter's work, and never in its history has the demand for Registration been more apparent.

All the Nurses' Leagues should hold meetings in support of the Bill, in season and out of season. Members with the gift of tongues, or of pens, should make themselves heard. The public needs instruction—our legislators most of all. Speakers can be supplied from the Offices of the Central Committee for State Registration of Trained Nurses, at 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has accepted an invitation to speak to the Catholic Nurses' League at an early date, so many of the members of which are taking an active part in caring for the wounded both in Belgium and France, and their experience on active service has aroused in many a keen interest in the Registration question, and made them realise its vital importance, especially in times of War.

### REGISTRATION IN AUSTRALIA.

Trained nurses in Australia are naturally feeling a little sore, that the National Council of Women in the Commonwealth, promoted a Midwives Bill in Parliament, without consulting their organizations, and thus created difficulties for the Nurses' Registration Bill, which includes obstetrics, as the Medical Acts do. We learn by a recent mail however that it is not improbable that the Minister of Health intends to bring in a Nurses' Registration Bill himself, which would then supersede both private measures. Let us hope this news is true.

We sympathise with the Australasian nurses in their opinion that the National Council of Women in Australia have plenty of work in hand, without defining professional standards, of which they have not practical experience, and that it is far from politic to run counter to the very expert knowledge which has been available in drafting the Nurses' Bill, as it has the support of every leading medical practitioner, matron, and trained nurse in the Commonwealth.

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