

others; that numerous valuable suggestions for the amendment of the Bill had been received, some of which had been incorporated in the Bill before them, after having been unanimously approved by the Executive Committee, and carefully revised by a Parliamentary draftsman.

The Chairman then called on the Hon. Secretary to read the Draft Bill, clause by clause, as amended.

Mrs. Fenwick said that many of the alterations were merely verbal, but that the constitution of the General Nursing Council had been somewhat altered in accordance with the request of certain sections of the nursing profession, and others whose interests were affected by the Bill.

In the amended constitution it was recommended that the medical representation should be more clearly defined. This had been done by inserting clauses providing that five registered medical practitioners, "who shall be Lecturers or Teachers of Nursing in Nurse-Training Schools attached to General Hospitals," should be appointed by the General Medical Council, and that one registered medical practitioner should be appointed by the British Medical Association.

It was thought right that a certain number of Matrons should take their seats on the Council as the directly-elected representatives of their colleagues. Provision had also been made for naval and military nurses to be represented, as we must look to the latter Service in future for training male nurses. The new regulations for training orderlies provide for the first time for an efficient curriculum of practical and theoretical training under skilled Matrons and Sisters for men. Hitherto the only training available for men had been in institutions for the treatment of special diseases. Mrs. Fenwick read a letter from Miss Honnor Morten (acting for the Asylum Workers' Association) *re* Registration, asking for direct representation of mental nurses, and suggesting that this Association should be included in the societies empowered to nominate a member on to the Council. The number of direct representatives of the whole body of registered nurses remained the same—six for England and Wales, and two each for Scotland and Ireland, as the Committee felt strongly that it was essential for the future progress of the nursing profession that the nurses themselves should have a liberal share in the management of their own affairs. Mrs. Fenwick directed the attention of the meeting to several minor alterations in the provisions of the Bill, all of which received due consideration from those present.

Finally, the Bill as amended was adopted *en bloc*, the meeting terminating after Miss Huxley, of Dublin, had proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Executive Committee for all their hard work, which she said, had aroused a widespread interest in the important question of State Registration of Nurses in the United Kingdom, and which had resulted in the presentation to the members of the Society of so satisfactory a Bill.

The vote of thanks was passed by acclamation.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BILL INTO PARLIAMENT.

Dr. R. Farquharson, LL.D., J.P., D.L., M.P., for West Aberdeenshire (L.), will introduce the Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses into Parliament in the forthcoming Session, and it will also be backed by the following gentlemen:—

Sir Thomas Wrightson, Bart. (C.), Member for East St. Pancras; Sir John Batty Tuke, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., F.R.C.S.E., LL.D. Edin. Univ., D.Sc. Trin. Coll., Dublin (C.), Member for Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities; Mr. Hugh Crawford Smith, J.P. (L. U.), Member for Tyneside Division of Northumberland; Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, J.P., D.L. (L.), Member for Leith Burghs; Mr. H. J. Tennant (L.), Member for Berwickshire; Mr. Alexander W. Black, W.S. (L.), Member for Banffshire; The Right Hon. R. B. Haldane, K.C., P.C., LL.D. (L.), Member for Haddingtonshire; Sir

James Joicey, Bart, J.P., D.L. (L.), Member for Chester-le-Street (Durham); Mr. C. E. Hungerford Athole Colston, J.P., D.L. (C.), Member for Thornbury Division of Gloucestershire; Mr. Harry Trelawney Eve, M.A., K.C. (L.), Member for Mid-Devon; Dr. Edward Charles Thompson, A.B. Dublin, F.R.C.S.I. (N.), Member for North Monaghan.

#### PARLIAMENTARY BILLS COMMITTEE.

The Parliamentary Bills Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses is formed as follows, with power to add to its number:—

The Lady Helen Munro-Ferguson; Lady MacLaren; Mrs. H. J. Tennant; Mrs. Charles Douglas; Miss E. S. Haldane; Mrs. Scharlieb, M.D.; Dr. Bedford Fenwick; Miss Huxley, President Irish Nurses' Association; Miss Heather-Bigg, Matron Charing Cross Hospital; Miss Margaret Breay, Matrons' Council; Miss Cartwright, Registered Nurses' Society; and the Hon. Officers—Miss Louisa Stevenson, Board of Management, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Miss Isla Stewart, Matron and Superintendent of Nursing, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, International Council of Nurses.

#### A Draft Bill for the Registration of Trained Nurses.\*

##### TITLE.

A Bill to regulate the qualifications of Trained Nurses and to provide for their Registration.

WHEREAS it is expedient that persons requiring nursing assistance should be enabled to distinguish qualified from unqualified nurses: Be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. This Act may for all purposes be cited as "The Nursing Act," 1904.
2. This Act shall commence and take effect from the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and four.
3. In this Act, "the Council" means the General Council of Nursing Education and Registration of the United Kingdom. The term "Direct Representatives" means the nurses elected as provided by Section 5 of this Act. The term "Trained Nurse" or "Registered Nurse" means a nurse whose name appears in "The Nursing Register."

##### CONSTITUTION OF GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

4. For the purposes of this Act, a Council shall be and is hereby incorporated by the name of "The General Council of Nursing Education and Registration of the United Kingdom," and by that name shall be a Body Corporate having a perpetual succession and a Common Seal, with power to purchase and hold, sell, or dispose of property and land for the purpose of this Act.

5. The Council shall consist of 31 persons to be appointed or elected as follows:—

- (a) Two persons to be appointed by His Majesty's Privy Council, of whom one shall be a registered medical practitioner, and one shall be a nurse.
- (b) Five Registered Medical Practitioners, who shall be Lecturers or Teachers of Nursing in Nurse-Training Schools attached to General Hospitals, to be appointed by the General Council of Medical Education and Registration of the United Kingdom, of whom three shall be appointed to represent Schools in England, one to represent Schools in Scotland and one to represent Schools in Ireland.
- (c) One Registered Medical Practitioner, who shall be engaged in general practice, to be appointed by the British Medical Association.

\* As approved at the Special General Meeting of Members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses held in London, January 23rd, 1904.

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