

*Trained Nurse:* 'Any New York State nurse who attends the Albany Convention may be sure of an opportunity to speak and a courteous hearing.'

"Let every woman present speak as her conscience and judgment dictate. Let us discuss things openly, slowly, carefully, and argue all things in a dignified, kindly spirit."

Miss Nye then announced that it was in order to nominate a chairman for the meetings. By a unanimous vote she was made chairman, and Miss Hall, of Jamestown, was appointed secretary and treasurer, *pro. tem.*

The Chair then stated that the afternoon would be given up entirely to informal discussion; no votes or action would be taken until the following day; that the chief points to be discussed were the form of organization to be adopted and membership qualifications, and that at the termination of the discussion she would ask the convention to nominate a committee, who should present an outline of a constitution on the following day.

The discussion which followed was confined largely to the first point, viz., form of organization. Many advocated individual membership, believing that this would give a larger and more widespread association. Others argued for local organizations with representation in the State society on the grounds that this method gave a stronger and more orderly body. Miss Damer and Miss Palmer advanced the method adopted by a State medical society as showing a way to combine the two. This is to admit individuals as members until a certain number in the same locality have joined, and then to require them to organize locally and admit future members through this local circle.

The committee appointed from the floor to present a draft of constitution was as follows:—Miss Spencer, delegate, Presbyterian Hospital Alumnae, New York City; Miss Cadmus, superintendent, Faxton Hospital, Utica; Miss McDonnell, superintendent, Albany Hospital; Miss Damer, president, Buffalo Nurses' Association; Miss Allerton, superintendent, Rochester Homœopathic Hospital; Miss Alline, in charge Teachers' College Course for Nurses, Columbia University; Miss Waterman, delegate, M. E. Hospital, Brooklyn; Miss Soule, private duty; Miss Sanford, delegate, Monroe County Association.

It was voted that the committee should draw up a constitution only, leaving by-laws for a later meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

The next day the meeting was called to order at nine o'clock, and began by voting on the motion, "*Resolved:* That we do form a State Society," offered by Miss Bower, delegate, Metro-

politan Nurses' Club, New York. The vote was in the affirmative.

The committee then brought in their report, containing four clauses. The first stated the name, "New York State Nurses' Association." This was carried.

The second dealt with the objects of the association, which shall be furtherance of educational and professional standards, and cultivation of cordial relations with nurses of other states and other countries.

The third clause, being a general proposition to the effect that graduate nurses residing in New York State would be members, was voted struck out, to be covered entirely by the by-laws, for two reasons, viz.—that a membership clause is not required by incorporation papers, and that the complexity of the question made it advisable to deal with it generally.

The third clause was passed, providing for officers: a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

A Nominating Committee was then appointed from the floor, as follows: Miss Palmer, Miss Cadmus, Miss Thornton, Miss Detwiller, Miss Dock. The election of officers followed. These were elected:—

Miss Nye, president.

Miss Merritt, 1st vice-president.

Miss Young, 2nd " "

Miss Sanford, secretary.

Miss Thornton, treasurer.

Miss Nye graduated from the City Hospital, Indianapolis, founded the Buffalo Nurses' Club, and was its first president.

Miss Merritt is a graduate of Bellevue Hospital, is Superintendent of Nurses in the Brooklyn Hospital, and is a member of the Superintendents' Society and of the International Council of Nurses.

Miss Young is a graduate of the New York Hospital, and represents that Alumnae Association.

Miss Sanford is a graduate of the Rochester City Hospital, and a member of the Monroe County Association.

Miss Thornton is a graduate of the Post-Graduate Hospital, New York City, and is the Secretary of the Associated Alumnae.

Miss Palmer moved that the nurses present be enrolled as charter members of the new society, and that they each pay one dollar as initiation fee, to defray the present expenses. This was done.

Miss Damer moved that the next meeting be held in Buffalo at a date to be fixed by the officers. Carried.

A committee of five was named from the floor to confer with the officers in drawing up by-laws. The meeting then adjourned.

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