

and not only its period but its various details are accurately defined, there can be no hope for any general improvement of the nursing profession, for the simple reason that education must form the foundation on which the whole structure of professional organization is built.

"But all nurses who have considered the question intelligently have grasped the fundamental principle that our profession, like every other, needs regulation and control, and we claim that this power of control should rest in our own hands. That in our corporate capacity we must have the right to live, and move, and have our being, and that it is from our own ranks that the women must step out, to whom the responsibility of guiding our destinies must be entrusted. Women, strong and faithful, able and willing to maintain intact the trust imposed upon them."

An outline of the proposed organization by which the graduate nurse can become professionally enfranchised followed, also the necessity for National and International relations between nurses. In reference to the necessity of State Registration for Nurses, it was suggested that each country should pass an Act forming a General Nursing Council.

This body should be empowered to deal with all educational matters affecting Nurses, that is to say, to define the precise curriculum through which every woman must pass before she can be certificated as a trained nurse. It must define the period of her training, and the subjects of her education; and no Nurse would then be permitted to offer herself for examination until she produced a schedule duly signed by the Matron of her training school testifying as to her general good conduct and practical proficiency, and by the lecturers upon the different subjects in the curriculum, testifying that she had attended the regulation number of lectures and demonstrations on each subject. It would be the duty of the General Nursing Council to appoint examiners, and hold examinations, and to grant to candidates who passed those examinations a State Diploma in Nursing. It would be the duty of the Nursing Council to register nursing qualifications. It is probable that it would call into existence Nursing Colleges to facilitate its educational work. The first result, therefore, of the appointment of such a Council would be that a uniform system of nursing education, and a uniform standard of qualification, would be established throughout the country in question. Because, it is almost needless to add, that the Nursing Act would make Registration essential as a qualification to practice; and that no one would be permitted under heavy penalties to term herself a trained Nurse, or to take any fee or reward as such, unless she were duly registered.

Miss Sylveen Nye, of Buffalo, president of the New York State Graduate Nurses' Association, followed with a paper on Organization in the United States.

Miss Snively, superintendent of the General Hospital of Toronto, Canada, spoke briefly of nurses' organizations in Canada. She said that all the representative schools of Canada are conducted on the same general lines as those which obtain in well-regulated schools in America. They employ the same methods, are animated by the same aspirations and endeavour to keep before them the same high ideals as have the nurses in the United States.

IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The following important resolution, which was approved by the Organizing Committee and Officers of the Congress was proposed by Miss Isabel McIsaac, the President, and seconded by Miss Isla Stewart:—

Whereas, The nursing of the sick is a matter closely affecting all classes of the community in every land;

Whereas, To be efficient workers, nurses should be carefully educated in the important duties which are now allotted to them;

Whereas, At the present time there is no generally accepted term or standard of training, nor system of education, nor examination for nurses in any country.

Whereas, There is no method, except in South Africa, of enabling the public to discriminate easily between trained nurses and ignorant persons who assume that title; and,

Whereas, This is a fruitful source of injury to the sick and of discredit to the nursing profession, it is the opinion of this International Congress of Nurses, in general meeting assembled, that it is the duty of the nursing profession of every country to work for suitable legislative enactment regulating the education of nurses and protecting the interests of the public, by securing State examination and public registration with the proper penalties for enforcing the same.

Mrs. Hampton Robb, United States; Miss McGahey, Australia, and Miss Snively, Canada, ably and forcibly supported the resolution, and it was passed unanimously, amid much enthusiasm by the Congress standing.

Resolution passed by the International Congress of Nurses, on motion of Miss Carr, Johns Hopkins Hospital. Resolved:

That the delegates and all visitors to this Congress having a deep appreciation of the benefits and pleasure they have derived from these meetings, desire to express their gratitude to all officers and committees for the excellent arrangements made for the meetings of this Congress. Also to all who have given of their time in the preparation of papers and addresses, which have been of such great interest and instruction. They also desire to express the pleasure this assemblage has had in welcoming the foreign delegates. They feel that the coming together of the most distinguished members of our profession in England and her Colonies and in Europe, with those of this Continent, has been productive of most unusual stimulation, which we trust will result in good and effectual work.

Resolution passed on motion of Miss Nevins, of the Garfield Hospital, Washington. Resolved:

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