

Nurses, can obtain the most responsible work in that capacity, and so bring danger to the sick. And the Nursing Profession would be protected against those members of the calling who bring discredit on its fair name and on all their fellow workers. It would be the duty of the Nursing Council to publish each year a complete list of its Registered Nurses, showing the names and addresses, the date of Registration, and the nursing qualifications possessed by each Nurse, in parallel columns against her name; so that in future any person desiring information on the subject, could by reference to the Register of trained Nurses, ascertain at once with certainty whether any given person were or were not a trained Nurse; and, in the latter event, precisely what nursing qualifications she possessed.

Then we come to the Constitution of the Nursing Council. Without going into arguments which would be out of place on this occasion, I would briefly say that the Council should be constituted so as to represent the different interests involved. First, the Government of the country by established custom demands its own representatives on such a Council. The Training Schools of the country should possess representatives who would be of the greatest possible practical assistance in the determination of the great educational questions with which the Council would be called upon to deal, and the Registered Nurses themselves, whose interests would be those most involved, should, I consider be given an ample representation, and should be entitled to elect by ballot a certain number to represent them on the General Nursing Council of their country.

With regard to its finances, I consider that every Nurse should pay a substantial fee for Registration, and a small annual payment each year. The object of this latter payment deserves perhaps to be explained. It would not only provide the Council with a large permanent income for its working expenses, but it would compel the Nurse each year to give her present address, a matter, the importance of which, in the case of such a profession as Nursing, and for the correct keeping of the Register, need scarcely be insisted upon. Indeed, I fear, that if this measure were not adopted, so many Nurses would neglect to give their changes of address, and so many would die, or marry, or disappear, without the knowledge of the Registrar, that the Register would speedily become hopelessly incorrect, and therefore utterly unreliable. But a further object and advantage of the annual fee would, to my mind, be that the Nursing Council would thereby be provided with funds to enable it efficiently to protect the public against Nursing quacks, and to protect the Registered Nurses against oppression

and injustice; by means of a legal prosecution, in the first place, and of legal defence in the second.

I must trespass no longer on your attention. I thank you for the courteous hearing you have given me. I have endeavoured to deal with general principles on which a common ground of agreement may be found, rather than with details on which differences of opinion are certain to exist. I only hope, and that most earnestly, that the deliberations of this Congress, on this vitally important question to our profession, may result in the determination of some common ground of action, on which we shall all be agreed, for which we can all cordially work together, and which shall in the future, bring about the best possible system, whatever that may prove to be, of organization for the Nursing Profession and of State Registration of Trained Nurses.

### Appointments.

#### LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Mary Lavinia Hayes has been appointed to act as Lady Superintendent in the Indian Army Nursing Service, in place of Miss Loch, who from the foundation of the service has acted as Chief Superintendent, and who, we greatly regret to learn, has been invalided home. Miss Hayes was trained for three years and certificated by St. John's Hospital in connection with Charing Cross and the Metropolitan Hospitals, and entered the Indian Army Nursing Service, in which she has for some time been one of the Senior Sisters, in 1891.

#### MATRON.

Miss M. Flory has been appointed Matron of the Passmore Edwards Hospital, East Ham. She received her training at the Children's Hospital, Pendlebury, near Manchester, and has held the position of Matron at the East Ham Hospital for Diphtheritic Cases.

#### MATRON'S ASSISTANT.

Miss Mary Bratt has been appointed Matron's Assistant at the Infirmary, Cardiff. She was trained at the Hospital for Women, Wolverhampton, and has held the position of Sister at the Infirmary, Nottingham, Staff Nurse at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, and Night Sister and Sister-in-Charge of the Women's Wards at the Bolton Infirmary.

#### SUPERINTENDENT NURSE.

Miss Florence Baker has been appointed Superintendent Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Bromsgrove. She was trained for three years at the Union Infirmary, Stockport, and subsequently held the position of Charge Nurse at the Union Infirmary, Bury, and the Union Infirmary, Wall.

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