

It was agreed that invitations should be sent to these ladies.

A PAMPHLET ON REGISTRATION.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the President had suggested that the work of the Society and the question of Registration of Nurses should be set forth more fully than in the Memorandum in use. She therefore begged to submit the rough draft of the pamphlet on the question, touching on the History of State Registration of Nurses at home and abroad, the Imperative Need of Registration, the Tests of a Profession, the Need for the Endowment of Nursing Education, Organisation and Legislation. It was agreed that consideration be given to the statement at an early date; that it be submitted to the Annual Meeting; and, when approved, issued in pamphlet form. It was unanimously agreed that such a pamphlet would meet a great need.

The meeting then terminated.

ETHEL G. FENWICK, Hon. Sec.

Application forms and all information in reference to the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses can be obtained from the Hon. Sec., 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W. Please enclose stamped envelope for reply.

THE NURSES' CO-OPERATION, LONDON.

The annual general meeting of the nurses of the Staff of the Nurses' Co-operation was held on Tuesday at 8, New Cavendish Street, W., and was exceedingly well attended, the tone of the meeting throughout being most pleasant and cordial. The report adopted announced that, with the sanction of the Board of Trade (by whom the Society is registered), certain alterations in the Articles of Association have been carried out, including an increase in the nurses' representatives on the Committee of Management from eight to ten. Arrangements have been made by which nurses elected by the votes of their fellow-nurses to be members of Committee are released from the necessity of undertaking cases either in the country or abroad. Out of the seventeen members of the Committee the following have been elected by the nurses, viz.: The Misses Austin, Hallett-Baker, Christie, Goodin, Leigh, Rodgers, Thorp, Tonks, Turner, and J. P. Bickersteth, Esq. The remaining members are the Chairman, H. N. Nicholson, Esq., Deputy-Chairman, H. G. Turney, Esq., M.D., Mrs. Makins, Mrs. Shirley Murphy, Miss Clutton, Bernard Pitts, Esq., F.R.C.S., and Cuthbert Wallace, Esq., F.R.C.S.

From the Finance Report presented we are of opinion that the nurses have every reason to be satisfied with the way in which their affairs have been conducted by their Committee. No better answer could be given to the suggestion of mismanagement recently made in a contemporary than the Report just published.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Nurses' Co-operation.

In accordance with our announcement last week, we draw attention to the points to which we take exception in the draft Constitution and Rules of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Nurses' Co-operation.

We note that the Co-operation proposes to extend its work, and to take power to establish and maintain in Glasgow and elsewhere in Scotland a Registry for thoroughly-trained nurses, as well as a Home or Homes for the nurses while off duty. The importance, therefore, of organisation on a sound basis is increased with the extension of the work of the Society.

OBJECT 2.

Clause (d) of the Constitution is, at present, "to provide a fund for the benefit of nurses of the Co-operation." To this it is proposed to add, "and to elect Honorary Members of the Co-operation."

The appointment of Hon. Members is unnecessary and undesirable. The clause "and to elect Honorary Members of the Co-operation" should therefore be deleted. A self-supporting institution has no need of so-called Hon. Members, to whom it is proposed to give a vote, and who might therefore govern the Co-operation, while the nurses are the only persons pecuniarily interested.

Clause (i) of the draft Constitution is:—

"To solicit, collect, accept, and hold gifts, subscriptions, and bequests, whether subject to any special trusts or not, for any of the purposes of the Co-operation."

The words "solicit and collect" should be deleted. A Nurses' Co-operation which can be made thoroughly self-supporting on a 10 per cent. commission should not be converted into a charitable society by soliciting subscriptions. The sturdy self-respect of Scotch women will, we are confident, convince the nurses of the justice of this criticism.

Clause (k) of the draft Constitution runs:—

"To transfer all or any part of the property of the Co-operation to any Institution, Society, or Association having objects altogether, or in part, similar to the objects of the Co-operation."

We are of opinion that this Clause is quite unwarrantable and should be altogether deleted. The property of the Co-operation in the event of its dissolution should be employed for the benefit of the members, not of other Associations.

Clause (o) of the draft Constitution is as follows:—

"To formulate and circulate among the nurses of the Co-operation such By-laws and Regulations as may be deemed expedient for defining the duties, professional qualifications, or otherwise, of any nurse being a member or servant of the Co-operation."

The nurses should take legal advice on this point. In our opinion it is bad law, as a nurse cannot be both a member and a servant of the Home. If she accepts the latter position, then, according to Scots law, she can be dismissed at any moment, without any reason being assigned, without any reference, and without any right to a share of the funds. The words "or servant" should certainly be deleted.

Having carefully examined the new Constitution, we see no reference to Clause 12 in the present Constitution, which is as follows:—

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