

representatives of the Privy Council. I strongly feel that you ought to have representatives of the medical profession, because, they will be of the utmost assistance and support to you, and you would do very badly without them. But I would most earnestly urge you to insist on the majority of the members of the Nursing Council being elected by yourselves. The cardinal mistake which was made forty-five years ago in the Medical Acts should be a warning which I hope will be observed in nursing legislation, and avoided. It was not until seventeen years ago that medical practitioners in this country obtained direct representatives of their own on the governing body of their profession, and that was not only unjust, but was the fruitful cause of constant dissatisfaction. I trust, therefore, that the nurses, when they get their Act, will be able to start fair in this matter, and that they will be able to secure that a majority of the members of the Council shall be direct representatives of the nurses and elected by themselves.

The resolution having been carried unanimously, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick proposed—

“That a Parliamentary Bills Committee be appointed, upon the nomination of the Executive Committee to deal with the matter”; and said that while nurses must themselves have seats on this Committee, it was important to obtain the co-operation of Members of Parliament and of women who understood political business. Lady MacLaren had already intimated her willingness to accept office on such a Committee, and the sooner it was formed the better.

Miss Isla Stewart, in seconding the resolution, said: “Do we realise what we have done to-day? Looking back over the last sixteen years’ work in the cause of Registration, it seems to me that it has all been in preparation for our act of this afternoon.”

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Miss Stewart then said she rose once more, at the request of the President, to propose a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary—who was the right person to thank in connection with the Registration movement—for her work during the past year. For sixteen years she and Mrs. Fenwick had been working together at this question, and she thought she would have given up long ago if it had not been for Mrs. Fenwick. Her steady work had told, and when Registration was an accomplished fact it would be Mrs. Fenwick to whom the thanks of the nurses of Great Britain would be chiefly due. No one, concluded Miss Stewart, knew so well as herself, and perhaps Miss Breay, what this work had meant, and how much it had taken out of her.

In acknowledging the vote of thanks, which was carried by acclamation, Mrs. Fenwick said she felt it was rather premature. She reminded the meeting that they must not go away satisfied. While

the Registration movement had emanated from this country, others had got to the goal before us. She wished we had kept the lead, but, at any rate, let those present determine never to cease their efforts until they were self-respecting women with legal status.

A vote of thanks to Miss Louisa Stevenson, President of the State Registration Society, for presiding at the Conference, brought the proceedings to a close, when tea was served in an adjoining room, and many of the members availed themselves of the opportunity of meeting old and new acquaintances in friendly converse.

Appointments.

LADY SUPERINTENDENT.

Mrs. Florence Magill, Lady Superintendent at the Bradford Royal Infirmary, has been appointed as Lady Superintendent of the Johannesburg Hospital, South Africa. There were a great many applicants for the post. Trained at the Infirmary at Crumpsall, Manchester, Mrs. Magill became in 1887 Assistant Superintendent at the Royal Infirmary Training-School for Nurses, Liverpool, and was appointed to her present position in 1889. During her fourteen years’ connection with the Bradford Royal Infirmary she has rendered much valuable service to the institution, and has enjoyed the uninterrupted confidence of the Board of Management, together with their cordial esteem, and her departure is viewed with deep regret. The hospital at Johannesburg is an important institution, containing about 300 beds.

MATRON.

Miss Agnes McElney has been appointed Matron at the Tiverton Infirmary. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and has held the position of Assistant Superintendent at the Arbroath Infirmary.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

Miss Nellie Alexander has been appointed Superintending Night Nurse at the Poplar and Stepney Sick Asylum, Bromley. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, where she has also held the position of Sister. She has gained experience in the nursing of fever cases as Charge Nurse at the South-Eastern Hospital, New Cross.

A New Nurses’ Home.

The Princess of Wales has consented to open the Nurses’ Home of the British Lying-in Hospital, Endell Street, on Monday, June 8th, at 3.30, when purses containing not less than £5. each, and donations for the Nurses’ Home Building Fund, will be presented to Her Royal Highness by children and others. Ladies desirous of presenting purses should make early application to the Secretary.

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