

posed that the Matrons' Council should undertake it, and that a letter should be drafted and sent to the Press on the subject. This was put to the meeting and carried.

The matter was referred to the President and Hon. Officers.

The meeting then terminated.

MARGARET BREAY, Hon. Secretary.

### Examinations at the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

The nurses' examinations took place at the above hospital on the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th inst.

Ten third-year nurses presented themselves, all of whom were successful in gaining the certificate of proficiency given by the hospital.

Nurse Helen Johnson gained the gold medal, and Nurse Hilda Drage the silver medal (both the gift of the President, the Rev. E. Handley, M.A.).

Three second- and six first-year nurses were also examined with most satisfactory results, Nurses Green and Shepherd (second year) winning the medical books presented by Mrs. Handley, and Nurse Bartlett (first year) gaining Matron's prize.

The examiners were E. J. Cave, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.P., and F. Lacey, Esq., F.R.C.S.(Eng.).

### British Gynæcological Society.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the fact that the next examination of the British Gynæcological Society, both for its Maternity Nursing Certificate and its Gynæcological Nursing Certificate, will be held in the first week of December. It is important that it should be widely known that this will be the last examination under the year of grace offered by the Society for those nurses who have not had more than one year's general training. During the year 1904 each candidate will be required to have had two years' general training in addition to special work in Monthly or Gynæcological Nursing, and in 1905 the standard will be raised to the minimum of three years' general training. Nurses who are desirous of obtaining work in the future in these important branches should endeavour to obtain these valuable Certificates as soon as possible, because, as we fully anticipated when the scheme was started, several well-known gynæcologists and obstetric physicians are already demanding that the nurses who seek employment from them should possess this excellent guarantee of their special knowledge in these departments of work. All particulars and forms of application can be obtained by sending an addressed and stamped envelope to the Secretary of the Society, Dr. Aarons, 14, Stratford Place, Oxford Street, W.

### The Society for the State Registration of Nurses.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for State Registration of Nurses was held on Friday, October 23rd, at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.

In the absence of the President, Miss Louisa Stevenson, the chair was taken by the Senior Vice-President, Miss Isla Stewart. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, a general and financial report was read by the Hon. Secretary, of a very satisfactory nature, in which the following statement was made in reference to the Press:—

#### STATE REGISTRATION AND THE PRESS.

"The question of State Registration of Trained Nurses has been well to the fore in the medical and nursing Press.

"In England, an interesting correspondence has for some weeks been carried on in the *British Medical Journal*, in which many signed letters from medical men, Matrons, and nurses have supported the principle of Registration, and advocated the formation of a Central Nursing Council or Board by Act of Parliament. Only one signed letter has, so far, been included in this correspondence objecting to the principle of Registration. In the *Medical Times* an admirable editorial has appeared pointing out the necessity of organisation and State control of nursing. The progress of the movement all over the world has been continuously kept before the nursing profession and the public in the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING*, and it has received attention in the official organs of several of the Nurses' Leagues.

"In Australasia: The official organs of the nursing organisations in New South Wales and Victoria are alive to the importance of the question, and I have been honoured by a request from the Editorial Committee of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association for a signed contribution to the *Australasian Nurses' Journal*, explaining the position of the movement in England, and the lines upon which we propose to work.

"In the *United States of America*: The official organ of the graduate nurses of the Republic, the *American Journal of Nursing*, gives whole-hearted support to State Registration of Nurses, and articles favourable to the principle have appeared in the *Medical Record*, the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, and in *Charities*. In England, owing to the kind support of Mrs. Charles Greenwood, paragraphs and articles have appeared in several important London and provincial papers. The importance of interesting the lay Press in the State Registration of Trained Nurses, a question of such vital importance to every member of the public, cannot be over-estimated, and I would

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