

By request, the Hon. Secretary also attended a meeting convened by the Women's National Liberal Federation and gave an address on State Registration of Trained Nurses, after which the audience expressed themselves much interested in the question, and promised to use their influence to further the movement.

Upon the suggestion of Mrs. Charles Greenwood, Vice-President, the Executive Committee invited the Society of Women Journalists to a meeting at our office, at which Lady Helen Munro Ferguson and the Hon. Secretary explained the necessity for legislation, and invited their co-operation in making the reasons known to the public.

A largely-attended meeting was also organised by Miss Barton, Matron of Chelsea Infirmary, to discuss State Registration, at which the subject was ably dealt with by the Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, Miss Isla Stewart, Dr. James Cantlie, and Mr. Rigg, M.P.

Upon the invitation of Miss Ross, Matron of the Western Fever Hospital, Fulham, a meeting was held of Matrons working under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, when a letter giving their reasons for supporting Registration, and petitioning the Board to use its influence with the Government in support of the movement to obtain the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the present condition of nursing, was adopted. This letter was ultimately signed by the twelve Matrons of hospitals under the Metropolitan Asylums Board, and forwarded to the Board.

It is a matter for congratulation that the Hon. Secretary has been invited to read the opening paper on the Organisation of the Nursing Profession at the forthcoming International Congress of Women at Berlin, to read an introductory paper on State Registration at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health at Folkestone, and also to prepare a paper on the State Registration of Nurses, to be read at the Annual Congress of the Sanitary Institute in Glasgow. Each invitation has been accepted, as it is desirable that the Society should avail itself of every opportunity to instruct the public on this important question.

SCOTLAND.

A Committee has been formed in Edinburgh for promoting State Registration of Nurses in Scotland, of which Miss E. S. Haldane is chairman, and Miss Sandford, late Matron City Fever Hospital, Secretary; the Committee includes the following ladies and gentlemen, with power to add to their number:—

Lady Helen Munro Ferguson; Dr. Joseph Bell, Chairman Executive Committee, Scottish Branch, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute; Colonel Warburton, M.D., C.S.I., Medical Superintendent Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Dr. Ker, Medical Superintendent, City Fever Hospital; Dr. Gibson, Dr. James, Dr. P. H. Maclaren; Miss Guthrie

Wright and Miss Butter, members of Executive Committee Q.V.J.I.; Miss Wade, Lady Superintendent Scottish Branch Q.V.J.I.; and Miss Marr, Matron Longmore Hospital.

At a recent meeting this Committee passed the following resolution:—

"That this meeting, after a long discussion, approves of the principle of State Registration of Nurses and of the appointment of a Council with branch Councils."

IRELAND.

The Matrons of the leading hospitals and nursing institutions in Ireland have during the past year initiated the Irish Nurses' Association, of which several hundreds of certificated Sisters and Nurses have already become members.

Through the President of this Association, Miss M. Huxley, a courteous invitation was received by the Hon. Secretary to visit Dublin and address meetings of nurses on the important questions of nursing organisation and State Registration. This invitation was accepted, and on April 15th the Hon. Secretary had the honour of speaking to a crowded assembly of medical men and nurses, held by the kind permission of the Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland in a Hall of their College, when by an overwhelming majority the following Resolution was passed:—

"That this meeting considers that it is essential that nurses throughout the United Kingdom should be efficiently educated for the performance of the responsible duties entrusted to them. That a minimum standard of education and common rules of discipline can be secured only by an Act of Parliament; and that, as a preliminary to such legislation, it is desirable that a Select Committee of the House of Commons should be appointed at an early date to inquire into the whole nursing question."

A Special Committee to deal with State Registration of Trained Nurses has been appointed in connection with the Irish Nurses' Association.

REGISTRATION IN THE COLONIES AND ABROAD.

NEW ZEALAND.—The admirable report presented by Dr. MacGregor, Inspector-General of Hospitals and Charitable Institutions, New Zealand, to the Hon. the Minister for Public Works, and presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by command of His Excellency the Governor, is of great interest to nurses, as it contains an official report on the working of the Nurses' Registration Act. In this connection Dr. MacGregor says:—

"The Nurses' Registration Act has now been in force for a year and a-half, and is working smoothly. . . . Such an Act is necessary owing to the advance of scientific surgery and progress of medical knowledge. It protects medical men and also the public from the increasing number of unqualified women who pose as nurses, and who too often prove a real danger in critical illness and in operations.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)