

## Progress of State Registration.

Members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will learn with regret that Dr. Farquharson, M.P., who introduced their Bill into the House of Commons last Session, and did so much to help their cause, this year does not find himself in sufficiently good health to undertake the necessary work incident to piloting a Bill through Parliament, especially as he is a very busy man. Dr. Farquharson advised that a younger man should champion the nurses' cause.

We have pleasure in announcing that Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, Member of Parliament for Leith Burghs, N.B., has kindly consented to introduce our Bill. Eminently qualified as he is by his past political career, in which he has proved that he is in sympathy with liberal legislation for all concerned in the body politic, we must own that, as the husband of the brilliant lady who has done so much to help forward the Registration Cause by her lucid writings and eloquence, Mr. Munro Ferguson's support will be the more welcome to the nursing profession.

The Bill is supported this session by Dr. Farquharson, Mr. Haldane, K.C., Sir Thomas Wrightson, Sir James Joicey, Mr. H. C. Smith, Mr. Black, Mr. Eve, K.C., and Dr. Thompson.

Sir John Batty Tuke, M.D., and Mr. H. J. Tennant, who were good enough to back the Bill last session, as members of the Select Committee on Nursing do not consider themselves at liberty to do so this year. Practically, as the question of State Registration of Nurses is being judicially considered by the Select Committee, the gentlemen who compose it cannot range themselves either for or against the principle. Their duty is to keep an open mind.

### IN THE UNITED STATES.

During the past month, says the *American Journal of Nursing*, we have seen copies of the Bills for Registration prepared by the California, Colorado, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and District of Columbia Nurses' Associations. A number are already in the hands of the legislators, and all that become laws will be published in full in these pages at the end of the season.

The standards of some of these Bills are exceptionally fine. All ask for a Nurse Board of Examiners to be appointed from nominations from the State Associations. In California and Colorado a High-School diploma or its equivalent with three years' general hospital training is required. West Virginia has organised a State Association, and in

drafting a Bill will follow the lines of the Maryland statute.

California and Pennsylvania have the support of the State Medical Associations and leading medical journals. Connecticut will undoubtedly have such endorsement, as the leading medical men are in sympathy with the movement. Conditions seem to be in a measure doubtful in Massachusetts, Indiana, and the District of Columbia, owing to the conservative medical attitude in nursing affairs in these places.

The next three months will be most exciting in all States where legislation is in progress, and in just the proportion that nurses are active and united good results must follow.

### IN AUSTRALASIA.

Dr. Moore, a member of the Board of Examiners of the Victorian Nurses' Association, in a short address, recently said:—"Personally, I would be in favour, if it could be accomplished, of State Registration. That would accord to the nursing profession a legitimate status that it could not otherwise secure. The profession will always be subject to the inroads of the unregistered nurse unless the members of this Association get a legal status by State Registration."

## Irish Nurses' Association.

At a meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, held recently at the Association rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, Mrs. Haslam, Hon. Secretary of the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association; Mrs. C. Skeffington, M.A.; and Miss Weply, U.D.C., L.G.B., addressed the members, of whom there was a large and representative attendance, on the question of "Women's Suffrage." The subject was dealt with in a most interesting and instructive way, and was thoroughly appreciated by all present. A vote of thanks, proposed by Miss Huxley, President of the Irish Nurses' Association, and seconded by Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent Steeven's Hospital, was passed by acclamation, and conveyed to the lecturers by Mrs. Manning, Lady Superintendent of the Dental Hospital, who presided.

A most instructive and interesting lecture on Dietetics was delivered to a large attendance of the members of the Irish Nurses' Association in the Association Rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, on Saturday evening, 11th inst., by Dr. Travers Smith, Visiting Physician to Richmond, Whitworth, and Hardwicke Hospitals. At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. Manning, carried unanimously, and conveyed to Dr. Travers Smith by Sister Maconackie, who presided.

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