

Referring to the project of the City Financiers, Mr. Munro Ferguson said it was not, he thought, likely to receive much support.

In regard to registration by the State, he could not conceive any real opposition. One might have sympathy with quacks, but that was no reason for wishing to subject the public to their ministrations. There was not the slightest doubt that the movement for the registration of nurses was in the public interest, and the question was one which would be seriously dealt with by the House. It would be seriously supported and opposed, and would be treated with far more consideration than even women's suffrage. There would be a good hard fight over it, and it would be his best endeavour to aid the progress of the Bill.

The following Resolutions were then put to the meeting, and carried:—

#### VOTE OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT.

1. That the members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, at their Annual Meeting, send a most cordial vote of thanks to their President, Miss Louisa Stevenson, for her continued interest in the Society and for her generous financial support, which has so much facilitated its work.

Proposed by Miss Rogers.

Seconded by Miss Barton.

#### VOTE OF THANKS TO MR. MUNRO FERGUSON.

2. That the thanks of this Society be offered to Mr. Munro Ferguson for kindly introducing its Bill into the House of Commons, and for his presence and address to the meeting to-day.

With his name it desires to couple that of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, who has done so much to bring the Registration question before influential people with whom nurses might not have come in contact.

Proposed by Miss Todd.

Seconded by Mrs. Walter Spencer.

#### VOTE OF THANKS TO THE BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE MIDLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.

3. That the hearty thanks of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses be accorded to the British Medical Association, and the Midland Medical Society for their support of the principle of the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

Proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

Seconded by Miss Laura Baker.

#### VOTE OF THANKS TO MISS BURR.

4. That the thanks of the Society be conveyed to Miss Mary Burr for her work in connection with the organisation of signatures to a Statement in favour of the principle of State Registration of Trained Nurses.

Proposed by Miss Waind,

Seconded by Miss Marquardt.

#### VOTE OF CONGRATULATION TO AMERICAN STATES.

5. That the congratulations of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses be conveyed to the Presidents of the State Associations in Indiana, California and Colorado, on the enactment of laws for the Registration of Trained Nurses by the State.

Proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,

Seconded by Miss M. Breay.

The proceedings concluded with cordial votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Hon. Secretary, and the members then adjourned to 431, Oxford Street, where a dainty tea had been hospitably provided by Miss Louisa Stevenson, the President.

### Progress of State Registration.

The Duchess of Montrose, who recently joined Lady Londonderry's Committee of the Lay Association for Promoting the State Registration of Nurses, has now read the evidence given before the Select Committee, and having come to the conclusion that "different grades of nurses are necessary to meet the requirements of different forms of illness, and that State Registration would act detrimentally on those nurses who are not fully trained that are doing useful work," has resigned.

The Bill for the State Registration of nurses makes provision that these untrained women, who appear to absorb most of the sympathy of aristocratic lay persons, shall in no way be interfered with; they will then, as now, be free to work for hire, so long as they do not assume to be "registered nurses." But we fear this is just the point which agitates their patrons; now, after a few weeks' or months' training they are termed nurses, wear nurses' uniform, and are introduced into rural districts as caretakers of the sick poor. No doubt, the ignorant poor imagine they are fully qualified, and it would cause lack of confidence in County Nursing Associations if they once realised that their attendants were not thoroughly trained. Useful work these women may do; but it should not be the work of the "trained" nurse, and it would be far more honest if lay managers of nursing associations made this quite clear to the poor. The Registration Act *would* do so.

For some months there has been a movement in Natal—in which colony the nurses are registered—for the formation of a Nurses' Association, one of the objects of which is to obtain the Registration of all nurses in South Africa. The Natal Medical Council is taking an active interest in the scheme.

The trained nurses in the State of Wisconsin are organising to obtain Registration, and those of Minnesota are also following suit; indeed, in a short time nurses in every State in the Union will be registered or working for this reform.

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