

Progress of State Registration.

Referring to the Report of the Select Committee on Nursing the *Queen* says:—

"Those who have sought in the public interest to have trained nurses registered will have reason to feel greatly encouraged by the report which the Select Committee on this subject has recently issued. The committee, it is evident, have perceived the strength of the case on the side of registration."

Mrs. Charles Greenwood, writing in the *Wallasey News* on the subject of the Select Committee's Report, says:—

"The Committee agreed that it is desirable that a register of nurses should be kept by a Central Body appointed by the State, and that, while it is not desirable to prohibit unregistered persons from nursing for gain, no person should be entitled to assume the designation of "Registered Nurse" whose name is not upon the register. I am glad to see Nursing Homes are to come under this treatment. At present any person who chooses can take a house and set up a nursing home, and in many of these homes in London the food is vilely cooked and badly served, and I have known of a place where high fees were charged when there was no attempt made to provide the patients with even such an ordinary appliance as a carrying chair, and when my friend was ordered change of air from one floor to another, after an operation on her feet, she had to walk downstairs, causing intense discomfort and pain."

After reference to the editorial remarks in this journal in reference to the provision for existing nurses under a registration scheme, Mrs. Greenwood continues:—

"I think anyone who has had serious sickness to deal with, will realise with great thankfulness the great advance which has been made by the watchful care and untiring work of some of the women who have so long conducted this agitation in favour of sound common-sense and justice to employers of nurses and to the nurses themselves. Those who are worth keeping in this most noble profession will be, as it were, decorated by their registration and demonstrate their fitness, whereas as to those who enter the profession because they think it is perhaps as little arduous a way of earning a livelihood as any other, will turn their attention to some other calling, one which does not demand the very highest moral qualities added to the careful and systematic training which are absolutely necessary attributes of a sick nurse, whether she takes up hospital or private nursing, parish or infirmary nursing, or perhaps, above all, mental nursing."

The American Nursing World.

The Presidential Address of Miss M. A. Nutting, at the Second Annual Meeting of the Maryland State Association of Nurses, contains much that is of general interest. Miss Nutting commends to the special interest of the Society two noteworthy developments of recent years—the Course of Instruction in Hospital Economics at Teachers' College, Columbia University, and the *American Journal of Nursing*. Of the latter she says:—

"It is no small achievement that a group of women, all occupied in positions which give them scant leisure, should have formed their stock company, found a publisher, provided an editor, and established a Journal, which has grown steadily in importance, in usefulness, and in monetary value. The Journal is a power in the nursing world, and no nurse who cares for her profession can afford to be without it. Our professional literature yet is so slight in extent that we should welcome all that we can get. Where medical men take half-a-dozen journals, and need them all to keep up with the advances made in their work, we do not even all of us take one. We show a pitiful and niggardly spirit in these matters. We have not yet learned the first principles in the way of proper support of our societies' journals. A whole house full of nurses will take one journal between them, and grudge for what is practically a whole year's education, of a certain kind, the price of one theatre ticket. We have a good subscription list, it is true, for a professional journal, but not one-tenth as large as it would be if we were more public-spirited, more imbued with real loyalty to our profession. It is with the hope of awakening a keener interest in the Journal, of which we have every right to be proud, that I have suggested following the plan of the American Medical Association, and having the Journal included next year in our fees and dues. You know we do not care as we should for things until we make some sacrifice of time, money, or effort for them. Your interest will be in direct proportion to what you give, and would that I had the power to make you see that the most blessed thing in life is this willingness and ability to give all that we have in us for some good work."

Miss S. H. Cabaniss, President of the Virginia State Society of Nurses, in a paper presented at the same meeting on the "Duties and Responsibilities of a State Society of Nurses," had something to say on the subject. "A prominent lexicographer defines the word 'responsible' as 'accountable for,' also readiness or ability to respond or answer. . . . If Registries are run for the profit of hospitals, individuals, or anything other than an accommodation to the public and the doctors, and their surplus funds

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