

ciation, in connection with the standard of technical fitness for future Matrons. It was thought by present Matrons that the new regulations might act to their detriment in future applications for Matronships. The question had previously been discussed at a meeting of the Council, as well as the conditions under which those at present holding Matrons' positions ought to be given a certificate of competency.

Miss Glover said it was distinctly unfair to nurses to have to train under Matrons possessing no teaching ability. She thought it was not asking too much that those applying for the certificate of efficiency as a Matron given by the Association should write a thesis on hospital management. No one wished to deal hardly with present Matrons, but they must be able to organise and manage training schools.

The President said that the essentials were two: the first, efficiency in hospital management; and, second, efficiency in the management of the training school; and that the Association should insist upon both in the interests of all concerned. It was ultimately agreed to grant certificates of competency for Matronships to any registered nurse holding the position of Matron in a registered training school or private hospital who satisfied the Council on these two points. This view was endorsed at the subsequent meeting of the Association.

Miss Glover has consented to act as temporary Hon. Secretary of the R.V.T.N.A. during the absence of Miss Brayshay, on a visit to Europe.

### Irish Nurses' Association.

Mr. John Farquharson last week gave a lecture to the members of the above Association at the Association Rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin. The subject was "Garden Cities as a Factor in Social Reform." The lecture, which was both interesting and instructive, was illustrated by many beautiful lantern slides of the Garden City of Leitchfield, Hertfordshire, and of "Port Sunlight" and "Bourneville" model villages. Mr. Farquharson also showed some interesting views of the splendid institution recently opened near Birkenhead for the education and employment of epileptics, and gave a graphic description of his visit to the home. At the close of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was passed by acclamation and conveyed to Mr. Farquharson by Miss Kelly, President, who presided. The last lecture of the season will be given on April 21st by Dr. Katherine Maguire. Subject, "The Works of the Philanthropic Association."

### Progress of State Registration

The Branches and Divisions of the British Medical Association are now considering the question of the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and the resolutions which are being passed are certainly encouraging to the supporters of legal status for nurses.

The Canterbury and Faversham Division of the South-Eastern Branch "approves in general of the method of Registration for Nurses, proposed by the Select Committee of the House of Commons, but disapproves of a separate register of nurses, whose training is of a lower standard than that laid down for registered nurses." This Division also considers "that Registration of Nurses should include midwifery nurses, who should have three years' training, of which one at least should be in a lying-in hospital."

The Bradford Division of the Yorkshire Branch have passed the following Resolution:—"That this Division while approving in general of the proposed method of Registration of Nurses as contained in the abstract of the House of Commons Report, cannot approve of the suggested method of examination, or of the indefinite periods of training, or of the principle of the proposal in Paragraph XI. relating to the possibility of instituting a separate register of nurses whose training would be of a lower standard than that laid down for registered nurses." They also agreed "That the names of all nurses should be registered in one register, but that a distinction should be made as to the class to which the nurse belonged, such as surgical, mental, midwifery, &c."

The Eastbourne Division, while still feeling that the Registration of Nurses is unnecessary, considers that the method of registration proposed by the Select Committee of the House of Commons is the best under the circumstances. This Division also approved of the separate registration of midwifery nurses.

The Southern Division of the Edinburgh Branch has also passed a resolution unanimously approving of the State Registration of Nurses.

It is very noticeable as the decisions of the Divisions are reported what stress is laid upon the training of midwifery nurses, no doubt because many medical men know from personal experience how inadequate is the knowledge of the maternity nurse with a few months special training.

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