

## Progress of State Registration.

The Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses takes place on Friday, May 24th, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, at 4 p.m.

In announcing the date of the annual meeting on May 29th, of the Asylum Workers' Association, *Asylum News* says:—

"We are especially anxious that there should be a large and representative gathering of the rank and file of Asylum service on this occasion. The question of the State Registration of Nurses is coming to the front, and it is very desirable that we should show that Mental Nurses (both male and female) have quite as much zeal for their professional interests as have nurses trained in Hospitals.

"The Parliamentary Sub-Committee of the Executive have carefully considered the text of the two Bills now before Parliament relating to the above subject, and have reported their opinion 'that the Nurses' Registration Bill,' [Bill 106] presented by Mr. Munro-Ferguson, is more favourable to the interests of the Asylum Workers' Association than the Nurses' and Private Nursing Homes (Registration) Bill [Bill 157] presented by Mr. Claude Hay and Sir Arthur Bignold. Understanding, however, that there is some prospect of a third Bill, specially dealing with Mental Nurses, being prepared, they recommend that the question referred to them—that of guarding the interests of all qualified Mental Nurses—be allowed to stand over for further consideration until these new proposals are before the Committee.

"Apropos of this recommendation, which was adopted by the Executive Committee, it is interesting to recall the fact that in November, 1904, the Hon. Secretary of the A.W.A., officially approached the Parliamentary Committee of the Medico-Psychological Association, suggesting the desirability of a separate Bill for the Registration of Mental Nurses, but at that time the M.P.A. Parliamentary Committee thought it inexpedient to proceed in this direction. We may, perhaps, gather from the petition that has recently been circulated for signature in the Asylums that a different view now prevails; and, however this may be, Asylum Workers may rest assured that their own Association will not fail to carry out one of its professed objects, viz., the improvement of their professional status in the nursing world."

We doubt the wisdom of Mental Nurses being registered entirely as a class apart, and believe their status would be materially improved if they were associated with and registered under the same Act as hospital nurses. It would be well that they should come into touch with general nurses, and not remain too much isolated as specialists. Under such conditions there would be a greater chance of an improved and extended curriculum of training in asylums, and altogether their professional environment would be more healthy.

## The Paris Conference.

As the 18th of June draws near we hear of many friends who have been able to decide to attend the Paris Conference.

As so large a number (not less than 100) Matrons and Nurses are going from England and Ireland, we are glad to hear that at a recent meeting of the Scottish Registration Committee Scottish nurses were urged to attend. We hope they will come in force.

Fraulein Karll writes from Berlin, "We shall not be less than 24," added to which will be the party of Danish nurses. From Finland Baroness Mannesheim writes for further particulars of travel rates, etc., as several members of the Nursing Association of Finland are anxious to take part in the meeting. This is good news. The Finns are a most charming and liberty loving people, and with women just elected as members of their Parliament, are sure in the future to play a leading part in the higher evolution of civilisation. Miss Genevieve Cooke, the clever editor of the *Nurses' Journal of the Pacific Coast*; Miss Fulmer, the Superintendent of the Visiting Nurses' Association at Chicago; and Miss Tillinghart, of Chicago, plan to be in Paris by the 15th June. They travel together by the Hamburg-American Line. Miss Sophia Rutley, of the Californian Nurses' Association, now in London, will also be in Paris.

Mme. Alphen Salvador, who will be in England next week has accepted invitations to meet some of the Matrons and Nurses who are going to Paris in June.

On Thursday afternoon, 30th, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has an At Home at 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W., for which many invitations have been accepted.

Representing the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Barton, the Hon. Secretary of the Provisional Committee, will present Mme. Salvador with a bouquet at 4.30 p.m., and express the appreciation of the members of the affiliated Societies of her kindness and courtesy in helping to organise the International Nursing Conference at Paris.

On Friday, Miss Isla Stewart gives a luncheon to meet Mme. Salvador, when she will visit the fine old Hospital, which ranks as the first Royal Hospital of the Empire—with its splendid record of eight centuries of healing behind it.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)