

Progress of State Registration.

RESOLUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE PETITION

THE REGISTERED NURSES' SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Registered Nurses' Society, held on Tuesday, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That the Registered Nurses' Society (the first Co-operation of Chartered Nurses), begs to support the Petition to be presented to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, urging that a Government Bill for the State Registration of Nurses should be introduced next Session, and desires to point out the disabilities under which nurses work who are at present engaged in the care of the sick in private houses, owing to the lack of definite standards of nursing education and efficiency."

Miss Julia Hurlston, the senior member of the Society, was elected to serve on the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses.

Seven new members were duly elected, and nine candidates accepted on probation.

The Report showed that the past month had been the most prosperous since the inauguration of the Society in 1894.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Superintendent, was elected to represent the Society at the Conference of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies on the 8th February.

THE KINGSTON INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

Miss J. A. Smith, Matron of the Kingston Infirmary, took the Chair at a meeting of the Nurses' League on Thursday, the 24th inst., and was supported by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Donald, when the following Resolution was proposed by Sister Wilson, seconded by Sister Bateman, and carried unanimously.

"That this meeting of the Kingston Infirmary Nurses' League unanimously supports the Petition to be presented to the Prime Minister pleading that the Government will undertake to introduce a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses into the House of Commons next Session, and desires to draw attention to the disabilities under which trained nurses and the public suffer, owing to the lack of educational standards, and professional control amongst those who attend the sick." The resolution was supported by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, in an address reviewing the whole history of the registration movement, which was listened to with intense interest.

Mrs. Fenwick laid stress on the necessity of the "State" acting as the impartial mother of

daughters as well as sons, and advised trained nurses whose work was a national asset to go straight to the Premier, the first Minister of State, and give voice to their needs.

The trained nurse—associated with the medical profession as she is in the care of the sick, and in a sense responsible for the physical condition of the people—played a very important part in the body politic. From the cradle to the grave, her ministrations were indispensable to rich and poor. The Britisher had not attained front rank amongst the nations of the earth, and populated a great part of the world through any intellectual superiority, but through that vital physical force the outcome of robust health. Who did more to keep the health of the nation at a high level than the well-trained intelligent nurse? No class of the community. The work of the trained nurse was absolutely indispensable to the national progress and supremacy. Let the State therefore give due consideration to its advancement by just organisation of the necessary educational curriculum and just protection of its economic conditions.

In returning thanks for a hearty vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Donald, and carried by acclamation, Mrs. Fenwick congratulated those present on the brightness, apparent comfort, and beautiful cleanliness of the Infirmary which she had visited with very great pleasure.

THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

At a recent meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association, the President, Miss Kelly drew attention to the Petition, which is in circulation for signature, to be presented to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. Miss Huxley then read the Petition, after which the following resolution, proposed by Mrs. Kildare Treacy, Vice-President, and seconded by Mrs. Manning, was put to the meeting and passed unanimously: "That this meeting of the Irish Nurses' Association heartily supports the Petition to be presented to the Prime Minister urging the Government to introduce a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses into the House of Commons next Session, and pledges itself to do all in its power to support the Petition." In proposing the resolution Mrs. Kildare Treacy urged the importance of every nurse, for the sake of the future welfare of her profession, taking a keen and intelligent interest in this matter, and of not only signing the Petition herself, but of doing her utmost to interest others regarding it. The Petition may be signed in the Reading Room of the Association, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin.

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