

ganised societies, which are professional forces. The public spirit shown by these societies in all matters affecting their profession is most commendable and worthy of imitation.

The Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association is a vigorous offshoot of the parent society. It has recently fulfilled a cherished desire and opened a club room in Belfast which is greatly appreciated by the members.

THE REGISTRATION MOVEMENT.

Looking back, the year has been one of the very greatest progress, and although it may not appear so on the surface, great strides have been made towards the legislation necessary for the foundation of the Profession of Nursing.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has been active in promoting this object. A representative Committee has been appointed in Scotland to deal with the question, and in Ireland the trained nurses have proved that they are practically unanimously desirous to obtain a State Registration Act. What is now needed is a strong and united effort to induce the Government to take up the question.

Next Session there will be three Bills before Parliament, that of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, which represents the views of the nurses who are working for this reform; that of the Royal British Nurses' Association voicing the opinions of the few illiberal medical men who govern that Association; and the Bill for the Establishment of an Official Directory to be introduced on behalf of the Central Hospital Council for London, which is an Employers' Bill.

In the United States of America Bills for the Registration of Trained Nurses have been passed in the District of Columbia, West Virginia, New Hampshire, Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, and Georgia.

ABROAD.

In France.—There is evidence of a general awakening to the need not only for devotion in the care of the sick, so generously bestowed for centuries by the religious, but for systematic training in the theory and practice of nursing to fit women of whatever creed for their responsible duties. Surely this is the result of the "Thesis on Nursing," written by Dr. Anna Hamilton, of Bordeaux, whose wonderful pioneer work in the provinces, is now beginning to show results. Miss Elston at the "Tondu," and the pupils trained in the Bordeaux schools, are carrying forth the methods with splendid results. In Paris the opening of the Nursing College at the Salpêtrière Hospital, under the authority of the Assistance Pub-

lique, with its full complement of 100 pupils, under the supervision of a *Surveillante Générale* as head of the training school, is a most important step in the development of nursing in France, and with the opening of the beautiful new Private Hospital at Neuilly, organised by Mme. Alphen Salvador and Dr. Hartmann, further facilities will be provided for nurse training.

In Germany.—The German Nurses' Association, under the able leadership of Sister Agnes Karll, is bravely working for higher nursing standards, and improved conditions for nurses. Intolerably long hours of labour, poor pay, little liberty, and broken health, have, until recently, been the lot of German nurses. When we realise that the "Matron" is non-existent, and that German nurses are usually under the personal authority of a Medical Director, it is easy to grasp the hopelessness of the position, morally and physically. Until the "Matron" with full authority arrives German nursing conditions will lag behind. To brave Sister Karll may be given the credit of exposing abuses, and proposing remedies.

In Scandinavia.—In Norway and Sweden there is evidence that standards are rising. In Denmark nursing organisation is progressive, and the demand is for the trained Matron at the head of nursing schools. Baroness Mannerheim is the inspiration in gallant little Finland—thoroughly trained in England, Matron of a hospital, a Member of Parliament, and President of the Finnish Nurses' Association, she is the woman set apart to lead nursing reform in that progressive land.

In Holland.—The first Association of Nurses founded in Holland, like our own R.B.N.A., was absorbed by medical men and other employers. Dutch tenacity of purpose, however, is proverbial, and Dutch nurses have formed themselves into a self governing society—Nosokomos—and admirable leaders have come along. This Society, like those of other nations, is earnestly considering the educational and industrial conditions of nurses in the Netherlands, and is representative of the intelligent forces in the profession.

In the Colonies.—From Federated Australia and New Zealand come excellent reports of organised work. In South Africa nursing conditions are not at the present time very satisfactory owing to the disorganised state of the country. In Canada progress is being made the ultimate goal being the State recognition of nursing as a profession.

In the United States.—Turning to the Golden West, we here find nursing organisation wonderfully effective. In each State of

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