

The Official Directory of Nurses Bill.

MORE PROTESTS.

LEAGUE OF ST. JOHN'S HOUSE NURSES.

At a General Meeting of the St. John's House Nurses' League, held at St. John's House, Queen Square, Bloomsbury, on April 30th, a Resolution was unanimously passed in condemnation of the Official Directory of Nurses' Bill.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to forward copies of the Resolution to Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and to Lord Ampthill.

KINGSTON INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

The members of the Kingston Infirmary Nurses' League on May 1st also passed a Resolution strongly condemning the Bill which was forwarded to Lord Ampthill by the President, Miss J. A. Smith, petitioning his aid in opposing the Bill on behalf of the League.

ULSTER BRANCH, IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 1st, a meeting was held of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association, at the Nurses' Club, Crane's Buildings, Belfast, to consider the Nurses' Official Directory Bill. Lady Hermione Blackwood, President, was in the chair. There was a very large attendance, many of the Matrons of Belfast hospitals and nursing institutions being present.

Miss Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, read a short and able paper, touching, of course, on the underlying principles of State Registration, in which she explained the futility and dangers of the Directory Bill. A very interesting discussion ensued, and Miss Mahaffy, Lady Superintendent of the Richmond Home for Nurses, Belfast, made an admirable speech, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Miss Tate, Matron of the Women and Children's Hospital, Mount Pottinger, and was carried unanimously:

"This meeting of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association, representing 169 Professional Nurses, wishes to protest against the Directory Bill for Nurses, introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, feeling it would be both futile and inadequate. Instead of advancing the interests of the Nursing Profession, this Directory Bill, fixing no minimum standard of training or character, and not being under the control of a Board consisting of members of the medical and nursing professions, would allow many inefficient and unworthy women a position under the State, to which they should not be entitled."

It was decided to forward a copy of the Resolution to Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and Lord Ampthill.

ASYLUM WORKERS' ASSOCIATION.

A Resolution condemnatory of the "Official Directory of Nurses' Bill," as not carrying out the recommendations of the House of Commons Select Committee on Registration of Nurses, has been forwarded on behalf of the Asylum Workers' Association to Lord Balfour of Burleigh and Lord Ampthill. The Association will oppose the Bill in the interests of Mental Nurses.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

The following letter has been addressed to Lord Balfour of Burleigh by the Committee of the National Women's Social and Political Union:—

My Lord,—My Committee are informed that the Nurses' Directory Bill, now before Parliament, is not approved by the members of the Nursing Profession.

I am therefore directed to write and express the hope that advantage will not be taken of women's lack of political power to impose upon Nurses' legal regulations which they regard as unjust.

That their conditions of employment should be at the mercy of a legislature over which they have no influence is sufficient proof of the urgency of Woman Suffrage.

Yours truly, MABEL TUKE,
Hon. Sec. for the Committee.

Examination and Prizes.

NEWCASTLE UNION HOSPITAL.

The probationer nurses of the Newcastle Union Hospital staff, who have completed their training, and those probationers who were successful in the recent yearly examination, were recently made the recipients of certificates and prizes respectively, the prizes having been awarded by the Heath Nursing Trust.

A very large company assembled within one of the wards of the institution, where the Lady Mayoress (Mrs. W. J. Sanderson) gracefully presented the awards. Mr. J. Fewster (Chairman of the Hospital Committee) presided.

The following nurses received awards at the hands of the Lady Mayoress:—Third year: Nurse Winton, 1; Nurse Quinn, 2; Nurse Elsdon, 3. Second year: Nurse Lake, 1; Nurse Sayers, 2; Nurse Young, 3. First year: Nurse Batey, 1; Nurse Traynor, 2; Nurse Daley, 3. Proficiency certificates at completion of three years' training: Nurse Quinn, Nurse Winton, and Nurse Crosby.

The Lord Mayor, in responding to a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Sanderson, warmly commended the work of the nurses, observing that he could imagine no better work done by nurses than that at the Workhouse. It could only be through love of work that it was accomplished so well.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)