

employment for nurses trained in Ireland; it robbed every Irish nurse of her chance in the competitive arena outside this country. It was a humiliating proposal in a personal sense, and in its bearing on the future of Irish training schools it threatened to be a disastrous proposal for these institutions. Lord Crewe seems to have perceived this when, in acknowledging the memorial of the Irish Nurses' Association, a few days later, he stated that he had already placed on the Notice Paper amendments to the effect desired by the memorialists. All that now remains to be seen is that these amendments shall give the nurses in Ireland fair play, and confer on them perfect equality with the nurses of England and Scotland."

A correspondent of the same paper writes:

"Under the Act of Union the people of Ireland are entitled to send 103 members to the House of Commons to represent their views, and make their wants and wishes known. These members ought to be the people who should decide what legislation should be extended to Ireland, and, if extended, what modifications should be introduced. If Acts are to be extended to Ireland the thing must be done by Parliament, and neither by the Castle nor by the Local Government Board."

"A Munster Man" writes in the *Irish Times*:

"Now that we have the nurses' side of the question put plainly before us by their published correspondence, does it not strike one, on glancing over the list of names signed to those very able letters, that matrons who have been administering their own "governments" in the Dublin hospitals, I suspect for a couple of decades or more, should know at least something of the needs of nurses, and should be well worth conferring with as to those needs by any authorities, nowever exalted?"

"I have constantly noticed some of these names on the Governing Boards of Nurses' Pension Funds, National Health Associations, and Councils of the campaign against our Irish plague; and why, in the name of common sense, are they not to be referred to about their own affairs?"

"I have only to remark, as a provincial, that I think the Dublin Hospitals' Boards are to be congratulated upon the services of the very capable ladies who manage their domestic and other economies."

The *Cork Examiner* says:

"Although the later intimation of the intentions of the Irish Government and the attitude of the Local Government Board towards the Nurses' Registration Bill should assuage the indignation of Irish professional nurses at the slight implied in their proposed exclusion, the measure is still exposed to so many dangers and stumbling blocks that the nurses and their friends are perfectly justified in making good their position against insidious attack."

#### TO OUR IRISH READERS.

In response to enquiries from correspondents in Ireland, we beg to notify that the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* may be obtained from a large number of Railway Bookstalls, and two

leading Dublin firms, as shown by an advertisement on another page.

### Progress of State Registration.

Lord Ashbourne has given notice of Amendments which he will move to the Nurses' Registration Bill with the object of securing the re-instatement of Ireland, when the Bill is again discussed in Committee in the House of Lords on re-commitment.

Miss A. H. Holford, Matron of St. Helen's Hospital, Dunedin, New Zealand, in applying for membership of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, writes as follows:—

DEAR MADAM,

I do not know whether I am eligible for membership, but in any case I feel so truly in sympathy with the cause that I may be forgiven for asking to be allowed to voice my feelings from this distant land, and to record my vote in favour of State Registration for Nurses *who are trained*. We in New Zealand fully appreciate our privileges, the protection of which we have been enjoying for the last seven years.

This Hospital was opened in September, 1905, by the late Premier, and as Government selected me for the post of Matron, I feel it my duty as well as my pleasure to take an active interest in all which pertains to the nurses' interests.

Seeing in the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* the application form for membership of the Society for State Registration, I decided to apply for membership. The result will prove itself later on.

Please convey my earnest prayers for success to those enthusiastic members whose work is aided so far only by good wishes on this side of the world, by many who are anxious to see the Home nurses wearing their badge of Registration as proudly as do we New Zealanders.

Yours sincerely in the Cause,

A. H. HOLFORD,

Matron.

Such a letter is very cheering to those who are working to obtain legal status for nurses not only because it affords evidence that a system of State Registration for Nurses does accomplish what is hoped for it, but also as demonstrating the cordial goodwill and fellowship felt by members of the nursing profession in the Fortunate Isles for their colleagues in the Mother Country.

#### WASHINGTON STATE NURSES TAKE ACTION

The important topic of the last afternoon at the third annual meeting of the Washington State Association of Graduate Nurses, was the reading and discussion of the Bill for State Registration of Nurses, which is to be presented at the Session of the Legislature early in 1909.

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