

### Progress of State Registration.

The nurses in favour of registration, and how few are opposed to the principle in these days, will like to know just how our Bill stands in the House of Lords. (1) It was presented by Lord Ampthill on June 23rd, and read a first time. (2) It was read a second time without a division on the 6th July; thus the principle of registration was accepted by the House of Lords. (3) It was discussed by the Committee of the whole House on July 21st. (4) It was then considered and amended on recommitment on October 20th, and passed through Committee, and (5) considered and amended on report on November 2nd. Only one more stage of progress is now before the Bill. Lord Ampthill has put it down for debate on the third reading for Tuesday, November 10th, when it will either pass its third reading or be rejected.

One would naturally conclude that a Bill designed to benefit every sick person in the land, would have met with little or no opposition; but a small minority of hospital governors have most unwisely, led by Sir Henry Burdett, set themselves in acute opposition to the organisation of Nursing by Act of Parliament, and the protection and legal status which such an Act would bestow upon the trained nurses in their employment.

These gentlemen, failing to impress the House of Lords with argument, have resorted to personal abuse, and Sir Henry Burdett's notoriously vindictive Pink Pamphlet denouncing as a "Stage Army" the women who have organised and fought quite openly and constitutionally the registration campaign in the public interest, for the past twenty years, is now circulating genially around amongst the members of the Upper House! They will, no doubt, treat this attempt to intimidate women from doing their public duty, with the same contempt bestowed upon such unmanly tactics by the sensible Municipal Council of Paris, last year, which relegated the said pamphlet to the waste paper basket, and forthwith proceeded to give most hospitable official recognition to the International Nursing Congress, organised by the so-called "Stage Army."

It is sincerely to be regretted that Mr. Sydney Holland has associated himself with the attacks on trained nurses who maintain their right to an opinion upon their own work and affairs. But this being so it is reported that an attempt will be made to have our Bill rejected on

its third reading. Our duty is, therefore, very simple. We on our side must use every effort to impress the House of Lords with the justice of our cause—reserving the determination to continue in season and out of season our work for this reform. We have very good friends on both sides of the Upper House, and in every party in the House of Commons, especially amongst those who sympathise with just conditions for working women, and by these friends the nurses' cause is now recognised as that of the public. Let us, therefore, spare no effort to have our Bill read a third time on the 10th, and then be ready to work for it in the House of Commons.

### National Council of Nurses.

The meeting of the Grand Council, arranged for the 13th inst., has been unavoidably postponed until the 27th November, owing to the great press of work for the Nurses' Registration Bill. The Hon. Secretary will post the official notices and Agenda next week. In the meanwhile we hope all members of the Council will reserve the 27th inst. Those who compose the Council are—

- (a) The Presidents of all affiliated Leagues and Societies.
- (b) Duly appointed delegates from affiliated societies.
- (c) The Hon. Officers.

### Medical Approval of Nursing Reform in France.

On Tuesday, the 27th October, Professor Landouzy, Dean of the Faculty of Physic, visited the Ecole de Infirmières de l'Assistance Publique at the Salpêtrière, Paris. He was accompanied by numerous professors of the Faculty, members of the Academy of Physic, and distinguished physicians and surgeons.

M. Andre Mesureur, Professor of the School, on behalf of the staff and of the 170 probationers, thanked the medical corporation for their interest in the Training School.

Professor Landouzy kindly acknowledged the vote of thanks, saying he held the institution in very high esteem, and mentioned the deserved commendation of numerous physicians who had the pupils in their wards, particularly of his friend, the distinguished Professor Dieulafoy, of the Hôtel Dieu. The professors and the staff of the school, Mme. Jacques, Matron, Mlles. Hazaires and Grenier, Assistant Matrons, were then introduced, and the party proceeded to visit the Home, the arrangements of which were warmly commended.

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