

even if it were desirable, of Parliament passing any such restrictive legislation. The Medical Acts do not make the registration of medical practitioners compulsory, nevertheless their moral and disciplinary force has been sufficient during the last fifty years to cause every medical practitioner of standing to register, and, under the influence of the General Medical Council—the central governing body set up by the Act—medical education and the status of medical men has been enormously improved. We look forward to the same beneficial results when a Nurses' Registration Act comes into force. Anyway there is plenty of choice in Registration Bills, as including the R.B.N.A. Bill, there will be three before the coming Parliament. The more the merrier.

Irish Nurses' Association.

An extraordinary general meeting was convened on Saturday night, 6th inst., at the Rooms, 86, Lower Leeson Street, to consider the question of a pamphlet recently issued by the Editor of the *Nursing Mirror*, and a plebiscite form *re* "Nurse Registration."

In the unavoidable absence of the President and Vice-President, Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Matron, Richmond Hospital, took the chair at 8 o'clock. Amongst a very large and representative audience of the nursing world in Dublin we noticed the following:—Miss Huxley, Elpis Private Hospital; Miss Pate, Matron, Adelaide Hospital; Miss Carson-Rae, Matron, Cork Street Fever Hospital; Miss Sutton, Matron, St. Vincent's Hospital; Miss Hughes, Matron, Portrane Asylum; Miss Reeves, Matron, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital; Miss Bradburne, Matron, Meath Hospital; Miss Hanna, Matron, Mercer's Hospital; Miss O'Flynn, Matron, Temple Street Hospital; Miss Golding, Matron, St. Edmundsbury Home; Miss Butler, Portobello Private Hospital; Miss Wills, Assistant Superintendent, Q.V.J.I.; Miss McArdle, Q.V.J.I., Superintendent, St. Laurence's Home; Miss Crowther, Q.V.J.I., Superintendent, St. Patrick's Home; Miss Keating, Matron, National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street; Miss Towers, Matron, Dental Hospital; Mrs. Manning, Elpis; Miss Jones, Matron, Monkstown Hospital; Mrs. Kildare Treacy, Matron, City of Dublin Nursing Institution, Hon. Secretary, I.N.A.; Miss Violet Roberts; Miss Sampson, Matron, Bloomfield Asylum; Sister Chadwick, Assistant Matron, Rotunda Hospital; Miss Cherry, Secretary, I.N.A.; and a crowd of Sisters and Nurses from various Hospitals and Institutions, as well as many private nurses. Miss MacDonnell asked

Mrs. Kildare-Treacy, Hon. Secretary, to read some correspondence received on the subject, which included the following letter from Wm. Field, Esq., M.P.:—

Blackrock, 6th February.

DEAR MRS. TREACY,—I am glad to know you are holding a special meeting to consider and protest against the insidious methods of those who are opposing the Nurses' Registration Bill. It seems an extraordinary procedure to propose money prizes for such an object. This is a new development of opposition tactics. I enclose acknowledgment from the Prime Minister to your resolution. Any help that I can give will be cheerfully afforded.

Best wishes for success.

Yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM FIELD.

Also the following letter from Dennis O'Carroll, Esq.:—

DEAR MADAM,—I have followed with much interest the action of your Association in regard to the State Registration of Nurses Bill, which was introduced into Parliament last Session, and have seen the success which you achieved in having some of your amendments grafted on to the Bill, and I trust your Association will be able to succeed in having further amendments embodied when the Bill is re-introduced, so that the Irish nursing interests will have better representation on the Council.

I understand there is an insidious move being made by the enemies of Registration in England to work up a make-believe plebiscite of the nurses as for or against Registration (State), and when one understands that the heads of large hospitals are unsympathetic to the scheme one can see at once how the nurses engaged in their staffs will have to record their votes, especially as the voting is not by ballot.

It will be for your Association to put the public on its guard against this manufactured return, and to show up the names of the parties at the back of the opposition, as well as the dodges resorted to, to carry on the game, and to explain not only to the nurses but to the public the motives at play to exploit the nurses at the expense of their own welfare.

Yours very truly,

DENNIS O'CARROLL.

Also letters from Miss Kelly, Matron, Steevens' Hospital, Miss Ramsden (President), Matron, Rotunda Hospital, all strongly disapproving of the plebiscite.

Two telegrams were received, one from Rev. Mother Superior, Matron, Hon. Secretary, and Nursing Staff, South Infirmary and County Hospital, Cork, as follows:—

"Please assure I.N.A. of our united sympathy.—Albens."

Another from Miss Hannan, Matron, Mater Infirmorum, Belfast, says:—

"Regret unable to attend special general meeting to-night. Wish it every success. Hope resolution will be passed condemning Sir H. Burdett's

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)