

be permanently satisfied with an inferior grade of worker, with the accompanying loss of its own prestige, or it will reap the advantage made possible by the uncompromising high ideals of other callings by whom a generally good standard has been maintained.

The writer points out that "there was a time when hospitals were quite without influence in matters of general education; that was in the day of the untrained nurse or attendant, whom some of our reactionaries would like to bring back. Strange that in those days no one was satisfied, the public least of all. After all, she says, as a country we believe in education; indeed, we stand for it. Is it, then, really respectable for men of any standing to maintain that the "equivalent" of the first high school year is too much to exact of women who are to be entrusted with responsibilities of life and death?"

"The thing of real importance is not that nurses should be taught less, but that all women should be taught more; not that the courses of training for any serious work should be shortened, but better filled."

Miss Dock concludes, "I am not without experience in the daily urgency of getting hospital work done, and the often unavoidable necessity of retaining probationers of elementary education, but I am convinced that it is more wholesome in the long run to hold a standard sufficiently high to act as a stimulus, even if one often consciously falls below it, than to be satisfied with one which is nothing more or less than an endorsement of the 'status quo.'"

"The present is urgent, but those in places of responsibility and authority have not the moral right to ignore the future."

#### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

At the Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses, convened to meet on Monday, July 19th, at 11 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, Westminster, it will be in order to discuss resolutions, which must reach Miss L. L. Dock, the Hon. Secretary, at an early date. The three National Associations of Nurses, which have the right to place resolutions on the Agenda, are the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland, the American Federation of Nurses, and the German Nurses' Association. We must, therefore, adopt those we wish discussed at the meeting on April 7th.

## Progress of State Registration.

### REGISTRATION IN SCOTLAND.

We print in full the following report of the meeting held in Glasgow on Wednesday in last week to consider the question of registration of nurses published in the *Glasgow Herald* of March 18th.

A meeting to appoint committees to promote the Registration of Nurses in Scotland was held yesterday in the Christian Institute, Glasgow. Sir Hector Cameron presided, and there was a good attendance. Dr. Mackintosh, Medical Superintendent, Western Infirmary, at the outset, made an explanatory statement. The Committee which was formed at the end of last year to go carefully into the clauses of the English Bill felt, he said, that a Registration Council with head-quarters in London, with practically no representation from Scotland, should be resisted in the interests of Scottish nurses, and they were unanimously of opinion that a separate Registration Council should be appointed for Scotland. They felt that in order that the three Kingdoms might be adequately represented on the Council, and their interests safeguarded, they must have three separate branch Registration Councils. The question was not whether Scotland should stand alone and have a separate register for itself. The matter had been forced upon them, and it had been felt that it would be better to stand alone with a sound Bill than be implicated in any way with the English Bill as at present framed. There was no reason whatever why a Bill for the Registration of Nurses should not be introduced which would be satisfactory to England, Scotland, and Ireland, arranging for representative branch councils from each country, and a separate register for each country to be embodied in one common register, these branch councils to supervise examinations in their own country. If it were considered desirable, representatives from these branch councils could meet once or twice a year in London and form a Central Council, but what they must strive for in the meantime was that no English Bill be allowed to pass with Scotland omitted unless it contained a clause to the effect that nurses registered in Scotland would be held registered in England, and provision for having on its Council such representation as was indicated in the Scotch draft Bill. Their friends across the Border need never fear that the standard of Scottish nursing would ever fall below a standard which would be considered sufficient for England.

The office-bearers were afterwards elected, Lord Inverclyde being appointed President, Dr. Mackintosh, Honorary Secretary; and Dr. Johnstone, Honorary Treasurer.

On the motion of the Chairman it was agreed that the Association should be known as "The Association for the Promotion of the Registration of Nurses in Scotland."

The following were constituted the Committee:—Dr. W. Allan Jamieson, Edinburgh; Dr. Affleck, Dr. Playfair, Colonel Warburton, Edinburgh; Professor Glaister, Glasgow; Dr. Mackintosh, Glasgow;

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