

much appreciated, and gladly accepted.

The further details of the arrangements were left in the hands of the Hon. Officers, and the Meeting then terminated.

### Headquarters and Lodgings for Delegates and Visitors to the Congress.

In reply to many inquiries, it has been arranged that St. Ermin's Hotel, St. James's Park, London, S.W., is to be headquarters for such delegates as wish for a hotel. It is next door to Caxton Hall, most comfortable, spacious, and daintily furnished, yet moderate in its charges. A single bedroom, bath, lights, and service will be provided for six shillings a night. Breakfast, 1s. 6d., 2s., or 3s.; luncheon, 3s.; and dinner, 5s. Arrangements are being made with hotels and boarding houses for the accommodation of nurses whose slender purses must be considered, and care will be taken that comfort and cleanliness shall be included.

All such nurses should *at once* communicate with Mrs. Glane, Anglo-Scandinavian Travelers' Guidance Bureau, 47, Great Portland Street, London, England, W., who will give them prompt assistance, as London will be very crowded at the date of our Congress owing to two other conventions being held at the same time.

### Progress of State Registration.

#### IN SCOTLAND.

At the Convention of the Royal Burghs of Scotland, held last week in the City Chambers, Glasgow, under the presidency of Lord Provost M'Innes Shaw, the question of the State Registration of Trained Nurses was brought forward by Councillor W. F. Anderson, Glasgow, who proposed that in any measure promoted for the necessary registration of nurses, provision be made for (a) Due recognition of a nurse holding a certificate for fever nursing in a hospital administered by a local authority under the Public Health (Scotland) Act, and (b) adequate representation by Scottish trained nurses or municipal representatives on such general council as may be appointed, or alternatively; (c) a separate Council, representative of such general Council, to deal with the interests of Scottish trained nurses. Councillor Anderson said that they were all agreed that the time had come when there ought to be registration of nurses. He was of opinion that Scottish nurses should be controlled by a Scottish Board.

Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, M.P., said he was generally in favour of the principle of a separate organisation for Scottish requirements, but, there were exceptions, and he was inclined to think this was one. If the Scottish nurses desired to be excluded from the Bill, which he introduced, their exclusion would not be opposed by him, or those whom he represented, but he was not quite confident that this exclusion was so much desired as was sometimes represented. Mr. Ferguson emphasised the necessity for one standard for the United Kingdom, and said it was doubtful if the English authorities would accept the Scottish standard as equal to their own, in which case Scottish nurses desiring work in England would be under a disadvantage. Councillor Steele thought the standard for Scotland could be kept up to that for England, and on Mr. Munro Ferguson's suggestion the question was remitted to the Annual Committee for further discussion.

The larger representation of Scottish interests on the General Council is a question which depends on the number of representatives permitted by the Privy Council. The one Central Council of examination (with, of course, convenient centres in various parts of the United Kingdom), advocated by Mr. Ferguson, is essential to the efficiency of any registration scheme. The registration of fever specialists, without general training, as suggested by Councillor Anderson, must be strenuously resisted both in the interests of the public and of the nurses themselves.

Whilst in England the Metropolitan Asylums Board and the leading Medical Superintendents and Matrons in our great fever hospitals, are earnestly considering co-operative methods of nurse training between the general and fever hospitals, whereby probationers working in both might have the great advantage of a complete practical nursing education, it is deeply to be regretted that the municipal managers of the fever hospitals in Scotland should attempt to register insufficiently trained fever specialists.

That it is for the interests of the nurses that this suggestion has been made cannot be conceded. It has been proposed for the convenience of the managers of special hospitals, but must inevitably result in failure, as, once a practical system of co-operative training of nurses has been inaugurated, sensible women will certainly not be satisfied with the altogether obsolete standard advocated by the managers of fever hospitals in Scotland.

*previous page*

*next page*