

## Progress of State Registration.

We are glad to announce that a Conference has been convened between representatives of Societies promoting the three Bills for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, to confer upon clauses on which there is a divergence of opinion. The letter convening it is signed by Lord Ampthill and Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, M.P., who have advanced the interests of the Bill of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses in Parliament; by Mr. Finlay, M.P., on behalf of the Royal British Nurses' Association; and by Lord Inverclyde and Mr. Cleland, M.P., on behalf of the Association for Promoting the Registration of Nurses in Scotland. Ten members of each of these Societies and also of the Irish Nurses' Association, have been invited to take part in the Conference, which will be held in a Committee Room of the House of Commons on Monday, June 28th, at 3 p.m.

The Parliamentary Bills Committee of Glasgow Corporation recommend with regard to the two Nurses' Registration Bills which apply to the United Kingdom, and the Registration of Nurses (Scotland) Bill, which provide for the establishment of a general council for the registration of nurses for the constitution of such a council, for the keeping of a register of nurses, for the qualifications for admission to the register, and for the penalising of persons using the title of registered nurse after the Act comes into force, that they be remitted to the Sub-Committee on Public Bills, with the addition of Councillor Steele, to watch the progress of these Bills, and to take such action as they may deem advisable to protect the interests of nurses in the service of the Corporation.

The Committee should say, rather, to protect the interests of the Corporation, as this body is supporting a Bill, which provides for the Registration of nurses trained only in infectious nursing, a provision which, if carried into effect, would be most detrimental to the interests of fever nurses.

### TEACHERS DETERMINED TO BE REGISTERED

Speaking at the thirty-fifth Annual Conference of the Association of Head Mistresses at the North London Collegiate School for Girls, Mrs. Woodhouse, in her Presidential Address, said that Registration was again, as it had been nine years ago, when the Conference last met at the North London Collegiate School, one of the subjects for discussion. She considered it little short of a disaster that teachers could not to-day claim as a professional body their

right to be registered or recognised. As units in the State they counted for nothing, were "entered" nowhere, had no official nor professional status, did not belong to a fully accredited profession, and this notwithstanding the fact that they were alive to the great importance of registration, for which professional equipment was an essential. She thought no one in the educational world now doubted that anything but gain would accrue to the profession by the realisation of a professional outlook, by the possession of definite educational aims, by insight into the many problems to be faced, and by the attainment of skill and ability to realise a professional horizon. She did not regard the labours of the seven years during which the Registration Council was in existence as wasted. The question of the status of the teacher had been continually before the public mind, as well as that of the efficiency of schools, the need and value of experience had been weighed, and the relative values and equivalents of degrees had been under constant revision. The culmination of this experience was the fact that associations, whether of heads or assistants, had made up their minds to have registration. In this determination the teachers have the entire sympathy of this journal—their case is analogous to that of trained nurses.

## Drastic Discipline.

The half-yearly Meeting of the General Council of the Cottage Benefit Nursing Association was held on Thursday, at Denison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W., the Earl of Ancaster, President of the Association, presiding. Miss B. M. Broadwood, the Hon. Secretary, read the draft of a letter prepared for circulation amongst Members of Parliament, *re* the State Registration of Trained Nurses, asking them to oppose any measure introduced by Parliament for the State Registration of Nurses, which would stereotype training, create a monopoly in nursing, and interfere with the liberty of the subject. It expressed the hope that members would oppose any Bill which excluded all women who had not been trained for three years. Miss Broadwood proposed that the letter should be signed by Lord Ancaster as President of the Association, and herself. Lord Ancaster thought Miss Broadwood had better sign it. He inquired if any Nurses' Registration Bill was before the House of Commons at present, and on being told "No, Mr. Asquith discouraged it," said he thought it a great mistake to send out the letter only to be put into

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)