

The Conference on Registration.

A Conference between the promoters of the three Nurses' Registration Bills was held in Committee Room No. 15, of the House of Commons on Monday last, with a view to arriving at an agreement which would enable the various Societies favourable to the principle of State Registration to concentrate their energies in support of one Bill. The Chair was taken by Lord Amptill until he had to leave, after which Mr. R. C. Munro Ferguson, M.P., presided.

The following ladies and gentlemen took part in the Conference:—

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, Miss E. S. Haldane, LL.D., Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Dr. Wallace Anderson; Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Secretary, Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses; Miss Isla Stewart, Matron and Superintendent of Nursing, St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., late Matron-in-Chief, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service; Miss M. Mallett, Matron, Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital; Miss H. L. Pearse, Superintendent of School Nurses under the London County Council; and Miss L. A. Morgan, Hon. Secretary, Fever Nurses' Association.

THE ROYAL BRITISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Mrs. Coster, Nurse Hon. Secretary; Mrs. Strong, late Matron, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow; Sir William Macewen, LL.D., F.R.S.; Dr. Macgregor Robertson; Mr. John Langton, F.R.C.S.; Dr. Bezly Thorne; Dr. Comyns Berkeley; Mr. Arthur E. Barker, F.R.C.S.; Miss Annie J. Hobbs, late Secretary; and Miss Ethel C. Tawney.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES IN SCOTLAND.

Mr. J. W. Cleland, M.P.; Miss A. W. Gill, R.R.C., Lady Superintendent of Nurses, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh; Miss J. Cowper, Superintendent, Scottish Branch, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses; Miss Netta Stewart, Edinburgh; Miss Isabel Davidson, Bangour; Professor Glaister; Dr. J. O. Affleck; Dr. Maxtone Thom, Medical Superintendent, Royal Infirmary, Glasgow; Dr. Mackintosh, Medical Superintendent, Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Miss M. Huxley, Past President, Irish Nurses' Association; Miss Kelly, Lady Supt., Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin; the Lady Hermione Blackwood, President, Ulster Branch, Irish Nurses' Association; Miss Haughton, Matron, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospi-

tal, Dublin; Miss E. C. Barton, Matron, Chelsea Infirmary; Miss M. Breay, Hon. Secretary, Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

1. That this Conference, representing the supporters of the three Bills for the Registration of Nurses, which are at present before Parliament, is unanimously of opinion that such legislation is urgently needed in the interests alike of trained nurses of the medical profession and of the public.

2. That this Conference is of opinion that the State Registration of Nurses can only be based successfully upon the principle of a single portal system of admission to the Register for the whole of the United Kingdom, provided that the several parts of the United Kingdom be adequately represented, and that the principle of administrative decentralisation be not necessarily excluded.

3. That this Conference is of opinion that under a single portal system nurses should be admitted to the Register only after—

(a) A three years' course of training, with a definite curriculum prescribed by a Central Nursing Council, conducted in recognised Hospital Nursing Schools.

(b) Having passed a uniform examination conducted by examiners appointed by, and under the supervision of, the Central Nursing Council, at suitable centres throughout the United Kingdom.

4. That a Committee be now appointed to consist of representatives of each section represented at this meeting, to draw up one Bill embodying the above principles, which can be presented to Parliament with the unanimous support of the promoters of the present Bills, and to consider which a further meeting of this Conference will be held.

It was agreed that five representatives should be nominated to form the Committee by each of the four societies taking part in the Conference.

The Conference lasted over two hours, and the discussion was animated.

On the motion of Professor Glaister, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to Lord Amptill when he left the chair, and, on the motion of Mr. Cleland, to Mr. Munro Ferguson at the conclusion of the meeting.

REGISTRATION OF ACCOUNTANTS.

A Bill providing for the registration of professional accountants in England and Wales has been introduced by the Earl of Chichester into the House of Lords, and read a first time. This is yet one more proof of the need for definite standards felt by professional workers.

REGISTRATION OF FARRIERS.

It may interest nurses to know that the registration of farriers has been in existence for the past 20 years, and about 7,000 shoeing smiths are registered at the present time. Examinations are held at various centres, and it is universally admitted, as a result, that the efficiency of shoeing-smiths has greatly increased.

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