

Progress of State Registration in Australasia.

VOLUNTARY LEGISLATION.

The Tenth Annual Report and Balance Sheet of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association for the year ending June 30th, 1909, has been issued, and it records a year of most successful work for the trained nurses, and sick public, in the great Commonwealth, on which the officers are to be warmly congratulated.

The routine work of the Association has proceeded in an even and uninterrupted manner. The membership roll shows a very satisfactory increase, the total now standing at 2,576, as against 2,313 at the time the last report was submitted. This number comprises those upon the registers of the various branches as well as upon the central register, and the membership is distributed as follows:—Upon the central register, 1,560; on the Queensland register, 446; in South Australia, 256; Western Australia, 238; Tasmania, 76. The great support given to the Association by the medical profession is shown by the fact that there are on the roll the names of 173 medical members.

Perhaps the most satisfactory item to be reported is the establishment of a Branch of the Association in Tasmania, and it is very gratifying to the Council to be able to announce in this its 10th annual report that in this respect its work has now been completed. From the very foundation of the Society it was the intention of the founders to help to establish branches upon the same lines in the other States; and now this has been done in all—except of course in Victoria, where the R. V. T. N. A. fills a similar position.

During the past year the West Australian branch—in its infancy at this time last year—has made rapid strides, and the membership has almost doubled.

The older branches in Queensland and South Australia have made steady progress. It is gratifying to be able to announce that a stumbling-block to progress in South Australia has during the last few weeks been removed. Owing to a misunderstanding, the nurses at the Adelaide Hospital have not been in the habit of sitting for the central examination, and have thus been ineligible for membership. However, after one or two conferences between the South Australian Branch Council and the Directorate of the Adelaide Hospital, the misunderstanding has now been cleared up, and the nurses are to be sent up for the examination for the future, while it is hoped that a number of those who have already obtained

their hospital certificates since 1906 will sit for examination at an early date.

In New South Wales there have been 115 general and 74 obstetric nurses registered in the 12 months, but the total membership does not show a corresponding increase, owing to the transfer of 50 nurses to the Tasmanian Register. There have been two hospitals added to the list of Training Schools.

STATE REGISTRATION.

State Registration in New South Wales has met with so many vicissitudes during the last year that it is unwise to take too optimistic a view. The nurses' affairs are, however, now entrusted to very able hands. Dr. Mackellar has kindly interested himself in the question, and is about to submit a Bill to the House, which follows closely upon the lines suggested by the Council to the Chief Secretary last September. As Dr. Mackellar has the reputation of getting his Bills accepted by Parliament, there is every reason to expect the new Bill to become law.

The Irish Nurses' Association.

A good-bye soiree in honour of Miss Haughton, Matron of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, was given last Thursday evening, 9th inst., at the Café Cairo, Grafton Street, Dublin. Miss Haughton leaves Dublin shortly to take up the onerous and important duty of Matron of Guy's Hospital, London. As she was Secretary to the Matrons' Association in Ireland, and also a zealous member of the I.N.A., having done much to promote its welfare, the President (Miss Lamont) and Miss Kelly, President of the Matrons' Association, issued invitations to all the members, a goodly number of whom accepted. The occasion was further graced by the presence of Miss Lavinia Dock, of International fame, who came with Miss Huxley, her hostess in Dublin. After partaking of a *recherché* tea, Miss Lamont opened the proceedings in a telling little speech, alluding to Miss Haughton in the kindest terms, saying what a loss her departure will be to her sisters in Ireland. She also welcomed Miss Dock in the name of the Association as a most distinguished member of our profession. She then presented Miss Haughton on behalf of the Association with George Eliot's works, bound in scarlet calf, and bearing the following inscription: "To Miss Haughton, with the good wishes of the members of the Irish Nurses' Association. Dublin, Sept. 9th, 1909. (Signed) MARY LAMONT, *President*."

Miss Haughton briefly replied, thanking Miss Lamont for all the nice things she had said about her, and expressing her sorrow at having

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