

The Scottish Association bases its assertion that "the cost of registration per head need not exceed two guineas" on no statistics, but we have already shown that its estimate of the fee necessary for registration is the same as that of the promoters of Lord Amptill's Bill.

#### GROWTH OF THE MOVEMENT.

We read: "It is now many years since it became recognised that registration of nurses was desirable in order to protect the public from fraud and incompetence, and in order that trained nurses might receive the recognition that their calling merits."

We are glad that the Scottish Association recognises the fact that trained nurses have for over twenty years been working to secure the above ends.

It is pertinent to enquire what, throughout this period, the majority of members of the Scottish Association have done to help the nurses associated together for the achievement of so laudable a purpose. We have no hesitation in saying they have done absolutely nothing, and what influence the medical leaders of the Scottish Association have had has been privately used *against* Registration, whilst, with a few exceptions, the Matrons and nurses have maintained a masterly inactivity.

#### THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Referring to the appointment by Parliament of a Select Committee to enquire into the question of Nurses' Registration in 1904 (not 1905 as stated in the pamphlet), we read that "The Select Committee reported in favour of Registration, and even indicated a scheme for carrying it out."

The unwarrantable statement has been made on page 20 of the Scottish Committee's pamphlet that in Lord Amptill's Bill the Registration Council only represents the nurses, while under the Scottish Bill it represents (1) the Nurses, (2) the training schools, (3) the medical profession, (4) the Universities, (5) the Government Departments. It is, therefore, interesting to compare the constitutions proposed for these central governing bodies under Lord Amptill's Bill and the Scottish Bill respectively, with the recommendation of the Select Committee in its Report to Parliament on August 9th, 1905.

Its recommendation was as follows:—

"The Central Body should consist of Matrons, nurses, and representatives of the medical profession, of training schools for nurses, and of the public."

#### LORD AMPHILL'S BILL.

Lord Amptill's Bill provides for a General Council (of 16 persons) for the Registration of Nurses in the United Kingdom.

*Matrons and Nurses* are to be represented by 7 registered nurses directly elected by the registered nurses, for there can be no doubt that the nurses would elect a proportion of their representatives from the Matrons of Training Schools.

*The Medical Profession* by 6 registered medical practitioners, 1 appointed by the Local Government Board, 1 by the General Medical Council, 3 by the British Medical Association, and 1 by the Medico-Psychological Association.

*Training Schools and the Public*, 3 persons appointed by the Privy Council.

A Council so composed, and following closely on the lines indicated by the Select Committee, can in no sense be rightfully described as having its representation limited to nurses, and we hope Lord Inverlyde will at once take steps to dissociate himself from so erroneous a statement made on behalf of the Association of which he is President.

#### THE SCOTTISH BILL.

The Scottish Bill provides for a Council of 16 persons for the registration of nurses in Scotland only.

*Matrons and Nurses*.—Two Matrons of General Hospitals, appointed by the Secretary for Scotland. (This at once excludes hospital Matrons in Scotland from taking their seats as the elect of the profession to which they belong, and makes them official nominees). Three registered nurses elected by the nurses on the General Register, one by the registered fever nurses, and one by the registered mental nurses.

*The Medical Profession*.—Two Medical Superintendents (why Medical Superintendents?) appointed by the Secretary for Scotland. The medical members of the Board should be elected by their peers.

*The Public*.—Two lay persons appointed by the Secretary for Scotland.

*In addition*, the following persons are to be appointed: 1 by the Local Government Board, 1 by the General Board of Lunacy, 1 by the Courts of the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrews alternately, 1 by the Courts of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen alternately, 1 by a Joint Committee of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow.

Later in the pamphlet we are informed that the Scottish Committee "grant the training schools the fullest representation on the Registration Council." How is not apparent on reference to the above constitution of the proposed Council, unless indeed the promoters of the Scottish Bill are of opinion that the "full-

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