

Progress of State Registration.**STATE REGISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES.**

We publish below a continuation of the letters received by Miss L. L. Dock from Registration authorities in the United States, proving that the statements made by the anti-Registration Press (lay nursing journals) that Registration is a failure in the United States are not true.

TEXAS.

Board of Nurse Examiners for the State of Texas.

DEAR MISS DOCK,—In reply to your letter, I beg to say that Registration has done for the graduate nurse what nothing else could; it has brought it before the public, and everybody has been educated to the fact that it means hospital training for educated women. It has also put to rout the correspondence graduates, and they are not getting the work they did a year ago. As for Registration being a failure in Texas, it is only in its infancy; we hope to make a decided improvement, not only in the training schools, but some of the small hospitals will, no doubt, have to employ nurses, and let their training school go.

It has put before the public what nurses never could have done individually in Texas in a hundred years. I believe that Registration will be national in a year or so, and I even now have calls from everywhere in the State for nurses who are registered. It has not failed here; it has raised the standards for patients, doctors, and nurses themselves. I could tell you more, but it is enough to let Great Britain know that there is at least one State that has not failed, and it is the largest State in the Union. Even in Mexico they send to El Paso for R.N. nurses. I hope this information will be what you need.

Sincerely yours,

F. M. BEATTY,
President.

COLORADO.

State Board of Nurse Examiners, Denver,
Colorado.

DEAR MADAM,—Your letter to Miss Laura A. Beecroft, President, of Pueblo, has been referred to me for reply. In Colorado we see great benefits resulting from State Registration for nurses. Formerly, there was nothing to prevent a nurse who had been dismissed from an Eastern Training School before graduating from coming here and posing as a graduate. A number of such have been exposed, together with graduates from correspondence schools.

Because Registration has been obligatory, all graduate nurses in the State have been obliged to open their eyes to the progressive movement of the profession. Training schools have materially raised their standards of instruction.

Sincerely,

MARY B. EYRE,
Secretary.

State Registration in Finland.

The one universal echo of the International Congress of Nurses which was heard on all sides after the event was, "What splendid women they all were," referring, of course, to the official and fraternal delegates who attended from our Colonies and abroad. "How earnest of purpose; what high professional ideals; how intelligent; how simple and loyal." Then followed the question:—"How is it they are getting ahead of us in so many ways? How do they get their legislatures to grant them legal status? Why are we so much more material in many ways than our colleagues from other countries? Answers to such questions are not always palatable, yet we should look the reasons straight in the face—that is to say, if we wish to rise to their plane. The truth is, the middle classes, from which the majority of our nurses are recruited, are not subjected to a sensible system of disciplined education, many of our ideas are snobbish and demoralising, we are not taught to revere good honest work, and we are essentially apathetic and lacking in moral force. Industrially and professionally we offer ourselves a willing sacrifice to every needy exploiter who comes along; as women we have no citizenship, as nurses no legal status. The answer why others are giving us the lead in professional matters is because they are better women than we are—more self-respecting, more self-sacrificing, and more loyal; less petty, less apathetic, and, to be quite frank, less selfish.

Once again we must take a back seat. And this brings us to a piece of very good news from Finland, which Baroness Mannerheim, President of the Finnish Nurses' Association, shall tell us in her own words:—

"Surgical Hospital, Helsingfors.

"I must write to tell you our good news about registration. The new Regulations for Nurses have got the approval of the Medical Board, and are now before the Senate, where they will, in all probability, also be passed. After that they must go before the Emperor (of Russia), but we are full of hope, now that the Medical Board is on our side.

"The new Regulations mean a two years' curriculum of training preceded by a three months' preliminary training, a State examination, followed by the entry of the names of nurses in a State Register. It means also higher fees for nurses in the Government hospitals, whose example will, of course, before long, be followed by all the private and town hospitals. It means additional fees after 10 and 15 years' service and a pension at the age of 50, after 20 years' service, when a nurse will get the whole of her first appointments yearly. To us all this seems too good to be true. We certainly would have liked to get the three years' training, but I think this would have seemed such an impossibility to the authorities that we would then scarcely have got anything. Now we shall work towards that goal, and we shall certainly reach it, and in not a too distant future either.

"What has to me been nearly the most wonderful part of it all is that we have nearly all the medical world on our side. In the Committee

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