

clyde, Dr. Mackintosh, M.V.O., Dr. Ker, Miss Gill, R.R.C., and Miss Cowper.

The Conference was held, by the kind permission of the British Medical Association, in the Council Room, 429, Strand, London, on January 25th, when the Central Registration Committee was formally constituted. Lord Ampthill was elected Chairman, Dr. Goodall and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Hon. Secretaries; and Mr. John Langton, Hon. Treasurer.

The Bill which had passed the House of Lords was taken as a basis of discussion, and was considered clause by clause, amended, and several new clauses adopted, No. 4, which constitutes the General Council of Registration, being referred to a sub-committee of eight to consider and report. This sub-committee met at 431, Oxford Street, London, W., on February 3rd, and agreed on a Draft Constitution, which was presented to a second meeting of the Central Committee on February 12th. It was somewhat amended and adopted.

The result of the Conference was eminently satisfactory, thanks to the earnest desire of all delegates present, to arrive at a conclusion, which would satisfy and benefit the nursing profession and the public, and also to the incomparable conduct of business by the Chairman, Lord Ampthill.

I am gratified to report that all the amendments made to the Bill proposed by your delegates were adopted:—

1. The appointment of Divisional Committees for England, Scotland, and Ireland, to act in an executive capacity.

2. The formation of a Supplementary Register of Male Nurses, to be represented on the General Council by a direct representative.

3. Special provision for five past or present Matrons on the first Council—two for England (one for general hospitals and one for Poor Law infirmaries), one for Scotland, one for Ireland, and one for Naval and Military hospitals.

4. Special provision for three matrons on the General Council—one for England, one for Scotland, and one for Ireland.

5. Representation of the Scottish Nurses' Association, the Association for the Promotion of Registration of Nurses in Scotland, and the Fever Nurses' Association on the first Council, and increased representation for Scotland and Ireland on both the first and the General Council.

#### *Fever Nursing.*

Your delegates voted for all the amendments included in the Bill, the most important of which were:—

1. The recognition of Fever Nursing as follows, proposed by the Fever Nurses' Association:—  
"Provided that any nurse whose name is placed on the General Register, and who holds a certificate of the Fever Nurses' Association, or its equivalent, granted under conditions approved by the Council, shall be entitled, on payment of a single registration fee of two shillings and sixpence, to have the words, 'also trained in fever nursing,' added to her record in the Register."

2. That one of the four direct representatives of the registered nurses on the General Council of the

registered nurses in England and Wales must be "also trained in fever nursing."

3. That "One registered medical practitioner to be appointed by the Medical Superintendents of the Fever Hospitals, which may be recognised as training schools for nurses in fever nursing under this Act," be elected on to the General Council.

#### *Mental Nursing.*

4. "That a nurse whose name is entered on the Mental Nurses' Register may be also entered on the General Register of Women Nurses, or on the Male Nurses' Register—if she or he fulfils the necessary conditions—provided that at the time of registration every such nurse shall declare under which qualification it is desired to exercise any right to vote for the election of a direct representative."

#### *No Authority to Practice Medicine.*

5. The re-insertion in the Bill of the following clause, proposed by the British Medical Association:—"Nothing contained in this Act shall be considered as conferring any authority to practice medicine, or to undertake the treatment or cure of disease."

The Bill, as amended, is before the Committee.

#### *The General Election.*

Immediately before the General Election upwards of 1,300 candidates were addressed by letter, petitioning for consideration for, and support of, the Nurses' Registration Bill if elected members of the House of Commons. A very large number of letters from men of all Parties were received in reply, expressing interest in the question, and promising support. A Congratulation Card was also sent to all old and new friends when elected.

The thanks of the Society are due to Miss Breay, Miss Cartwright, and Miss Hawkins in this connection, who voluntarily carried through the work.

#### *The Correspondence with Lord Inverclyde.*

The correspondence with Lord Inverclyde, President of the Association for the Promotion of the Registration of Nurses in Scotland in reference to the resolution passed at a recent meeting of this Society, is before the meeting. By request of Lord Inverclyde and permission of our President it has been printed in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

#### *Finance.*

As it was agreed that the constituent societies of the Central Registration Committee should subscribe towards expenses, I have forwarded £5 to the Hon. Treasurer, and promised another £5 if required.

#### *The £100 Registration Fund.*

I have received £41 2s. towards the £100 Special Registration Fund. The names of subscribers and amounts given have appeared in our official organ.

The report was adopted with expressions of lively satisfaction.

#### VOTES OF THANKS.

Heartly votes of thanks were accorded to Lord Ampthill for his kindness in convening the Conference, and bringing it to such a happy conclusion.

To Mr. Munro Ferguson, M.P., for his continued interest in and support of the question

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