

sident of the Local Government Board all seemed averse to drastic changes.

Several delegates having discussed minor points, Mr. Pennant said that the object of the Conference was to consider the attitude to be adopted towards the proposals: (1) Were they in favour of interference by public authorities? (2) Were they opposed to officialising voluntary institutions?

One delegate pointed out that in many parts of the country it was impossible to get support for voluntary associations.

A delegate from Portsmouth pointed out that Nursing Associations existed as a means to an end, and that, whichever Report was adopted, nurses would still be required. The question, he thought, was how Nursing Associations were going to adapt themselves to the requirements of the future. If they worked within limits with the constituted authority, and kept up the standard, the work of the nurses would go on.

Another delegate referred to the difficulty of obtaining grants from Boards of Guardians, because the work of the Q.V.J.I. was not confined to the poor, and Guardians therefore objected to supporting it.

The inevitable question of the attendance and remuneration of medical men when called in by a midwife under Rule E 18 of the Central Midwives' Board was next discussed by the Rev. W. Buckland.

Mr. D. F. Pennant (Hon. Secretary, Queen's Institute), discussed the question of provident nursing, and said that fifty years ago, when District Nursing was a new idea, it was gratuitous, but the idea of the provident system was now gaining favour. Contributions might be made on the lines of an insurance against illness, as a voluntary contribution, or a thank-offering.

In regard to the State taking over the nursing of the sick poor, Mr. Pennant inquired whether a Government nurse could ever do all that a Queen's Nurse could achieve. He thought the provision of district nurses by the State a counsel not of perfection but of despair. A discussion took place, in which apparently affluent delegates present seemed quite certain of the desirability of payments by the poor.

Miss Lovegrove, Hon. Secretary of the Federation of Metropolitan Nursing Associations, read a paper on School Nursing, and advocated that a different set of nurses should attend the children in their own homes from those appointed to visit the schools.

Mr. Treacher Collins, F.R.C.S., member of the visiting staff of the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital, City Road, E.C., spoke of the importance

of training in eye work for District Nurses, and said that his hospital, recognising the importance of such training, approached the Q.V.J.I. and asked them to allow their nurses to come to the hospital for a month's instruction; eventually it was agreed that the time should be a fortnight, and 109 District Nurses had been trained in this way for one week in the wards and one week in the out-patient department. No mention was made of this in the report of the Q.V.J.I. He would still like the term extended from a fortnight to a month.

## Progress of State Registration.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, at which the Lady Helen Munro Ferguson will preside, the following resolutions will be proposed:—

### ON THE DEATH OF THE BELOVED PRESIDENT.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses desires to place on record its profound sorrow at the death of its President, Miss Isla Stewart.

The Nursing Profession has been deprived of a most inspiring and courageous leader, and has suffered an irreparable loss, by the death of one of its most brilliant members.

Miss Stewart's unceasing efforts for the advancement of nursing education and organisation, combined with her mental endowments, and generous breadth of character, removes from our ranks a splendid example of noble womanhood.

Resolved that we tender to the nursing staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital our heartfelt sympathy in their great bereavement.

### DISSOCIATION IN THE PUBLIC MIND OF TRAINED NURSES FROM CRIMINALS AND PROSTITUTES.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, in Annual Meeting assembled, desires to direct the attention of the public, and of Parliament, to the injury done to well-trained and reputable nurses, and nursing homes, by the exploitation of their professional uniform, and of bogus nursing and massage homes, for criminal and vicious purposes.

This Society calls upon the Government to give facilities, without delay, for the passing of a Nurses' Registration Bill, and upon Local Authorities to provide for the inspection and registration of Nursing Homes—a provision which would be welcomed by Homes of reputable standing—in order that the members of an indispensable and honourable profession may be dissociated in the public mind from criminals and prostitutes.

### A HOSPITABLE INVITATION.

Mrs. Walter Spencer extends a most kind and cordial invitation to those present at the meeting to go on to tea at 2, Portland Place, W., which is close to Chandos Street. We are sure many will gladly avail themselves of this hospitality.

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