

"That this meeting of the Representatives of the British Medical Association re-affirms its opinion that the State Registration of Trained Nurses is desirable, and approves of the Bill which has recently been introduced by the Right Hon. R. C. Munro Ferguson, and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister and the President of the Local Government Board."

This is the fourth occasion on which the British Medical Association has passed a Resolution in support of State Registration of Nurses at an Annual Meeting.

THE CENTRAL REGISTRATION COMMITTEE.

In connection with letters from the Infirmary Medical Superintendents' Society, the Convention of Royal Burghs, and on behalf of the Medical Officers of Health in Scotland, in relation to points in the Nurses' Registration Bill, of which they desired alteration or amendment, these letters were brought before a small meeting of members deputed to attend by the societies affiliated to the Central Registration Committee. It was decided that the letters should be considered by the whole Committee, and it is probable that a meeting will be held at the end of this month for this purpose.

REGISTRATION IN AUSTRALASIA.

At the recent annual meeting of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association the following Resolution was proposed by Dr. R. H. Fetherston, and carried unanimously:—

"That the Association is in favour of Registration by the State of Nurses; and, if carried, that the Council take such steps as it may think necessary to give effect to the above."

In proposing the Resolution Dr. Fetherston quoted a letter which he had received from Miss H. Maclean, Assistant Inspector of Hospitals and Registrar in New Zealand, who wrote:—

"My opinion formed after three years' work in New Zealand, is that a good Registration Act for Nurses, providing for professional (both medical and surgical) demonstration, is the best thing that can be devised for improvement in their own status and in their usefulness to the public; that this legal recognition, though not so necessary where voluntary associations have accomplished so much in Australia, yet would give a stability and a certainty to the profession which can be obtained in no other way."

Miss Madge Jones, who seconded the Resolution, said that the New Zealand nurses whom she had met has spoken most enthusiastically of State Registration.

As the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association is already promoting a Bill in New South Wales with the same object, it seems likely that, before long, the Commonwealth of Australia will be added to those countries which have organised the education and registration of nurses under the authority of the State.

IMPERIAL MEMORIAL TO MISS NIGHTINGALE.

In connection with a Scheme for an Imperial Memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale, to be considered at a meeting at Grosvenor House on the 28th inst., it is proposed to raise a fund to

render pecuniary assistance to aged or incapacitated nurses. The fact that Miss Nightingale devoted the fund raised by the Nation after the Crimean War, as a memorial of her services, to the foundation of the Nightingale Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital—which was organised on a sound financial basis, the probationers paying for their own training—proves that her chief interest was in the direction of nursing education. It will be very regrettable, therefore, if the present opportunity is missed, and the fund raised is devoted to a philanthropic scheme, which we may hope will, in the future, touch an infinitesimal number of indigent nurses, rather than to evolving a comprehensive scheme for the extension of nursing education, and which would, in consequence, improve the economic condition of the whole nursing profession, thus retaining the spirit of Miss Nightingale's great work for humanity, and for the nursing profession.

NURSES' MEMORIAL TO MISS NIGHTINGALE.

There is apparently a consensus of opinion amongst nurses that a "Nurses' Memorial" to the Founder of their Profession should be raised, and that it should take the form of a beautiful statue to be erected in a prominent position in London, the Metropolis of the Empire.

LOSS TO THE SOCIETY.

I have to record with great regret the death of Dr. William Berry, of Wigan, for many years a Vice-President of this Society.

After the adoption of the Report, a discussion ensued on the question of a Memorial to Miss Nightingale, and the following Resolution was passed unanimously, the Hon. Secretary being requested to forward a copy of it to the Hon. Secretary of the proposed Imperial Memorial.

RESOLUTION.

"The Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, comprising nearly 3,000 certificated matrons and nurses, considers that any Imperial Memorial to the late Miss Florence Nightingale, O.M., the Founder of Professional Nursing, might appropriately incorporate a scheme for the extension of nursing education, and in consequence for the improvement of the economic position of the whole nursing profession, rather than for the establishment of any scheme of a philanthropic nature, which, it may be hoped, would only benefit a few individual nurses.

"This Committee considers that Miss Nightingale's claim to the gratitude of the world is based upon her genius as a scientific educationalist.

"The financial relief of indigent nurses, an object admirable in itself, might well be extended by increased support of existing societies having this philanthropic object."

The Committee expressed itself in favour of supporting a scheme for the erection of a statue of Miss Nightingale in London as a Nurses' Memorial, and if it was not adopted by committees having the matter of memorials

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