

would always be those who were unable to make provision for their old age.

THE EARL OF PEMBROKE.

The Earl of Pembroke said that his first duty was to express deep regret at the absence, through illness, of Lord Crewe, the Chairman of the Amalgamated Committees.

After inviting the meeting to endorse the proposition of the Joint Committee, that there should be a statue of Miss Nightingale—not necessarily a costly one—erected in London, and that annuities for old or disabled nurses should be established, he said that many excellent schemes had been before the Committee, and they had come to the conclusion that a pension scheme was the most desirable. There was not the same necessity for the extension of nursing education. It was true Florence Nightingale had her heart in schemes for the training of nurses, but an enormous number of institutions had followed her lead in establishing training schools. No fresh organisation need be started as an admirable fund (presumably the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund) was already in existence, which could administer it. He was authorised to say that the scheme had the hearty support of the King and Queen. When methods of raising money were discussed he thought that circulars might be sent for distribution in both Services. Soldiers and sailors might not give large sums, but they would like to contribute to the fund. Then there were the nurses who owed almost everything to Florence Nightingale, whose example was followed by all. But the appeal, when made, should be to all classes and professions.

RESOLUTION.

Lord Pembroke then proposed the following resolution:—

"That this meeting desires to express its approval of the scheme for a memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale which has been submitted by the Memorial Committee, and calls upon them to take the necessary steps to carry it into effect."

MR. WAINWRIGHT.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Wainwright, who said he had for many years been associated with Miss Nightingale in the work of St. Thomas' Hospital, and it was always an inspiration to be allowed to interview her. The desire for a memorial to Miss Nightingale was not confined to England and her Colonies, but he had letters from the United States of America asking to be kept in touch with the proposals made.

Discussion was not invited, the question being immediately put to the meeting by the Lord Mayor and carried, a large number of those present taking no part in voting.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor.

Sir Henry Burdett protested against the statement made by Mr. Holland that this country was twenty-five years ahead of any other nation in its system of nursing. From personal knowledge of nursing matters in the United States of America he could testify that they had a system of training in many respects more thorough than our own.

In this connection it is interesting to note that Miss Mary S. Rundle, the "Isla Stewart Scholar" sent by the members of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses for a year's course of study at Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York, after outlining the course, concludes:—

"I think what I have said will convey to you the impression that the American Nurse is in earnest in building up a profession of which she may be proud.

"Everything that I have seen so far leads me to think they are very much ahead of us.

"Their advantage began with State Registration, although it is not law in all the States yet; and in this one can easily see the value of a professional teacher and the possibility of a uniform training for a nurse."

"I am indeed fortunate to have been offered this opportunity. I only wish many of my colleagues could share it."

M. B.

Progress of State Registration.

The members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses will, we are sure, desire to express to the Secretary of State for War, through their official organ, their congratulations on the Peerage which the King has been pleased to confer upon him. Mr. Haldane, who takes the title of Viscount Haldane of Cloan, was a friend to the Registration Cause at a time when the question was not so well understood as it is at present, and on the back of the first Nurses' Registration Bill, introduced into the House of Commons in 1904, his name appears as supporting it immediately after that of its introducer, Dr. Farquharson of Haughton.

It is, after all, not surprising that Parliamentary honours should have fallen liberally to the share of those Members of Parliament who have supported the Nurses' Registration Bill in the past, for clear thinkers, and men of ability, of whose services the country has need, inevitably understand the justice of the claim that nurses should provide the public with proofs of sufficient training and competence, and that those who are able to do so should be enrolled in a Register maintained under State authority, be given the title of "Registered Nurse," and thus be distinguished from those who do not attain to the prescribed standard. Fuller information on this important movement can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

CANADIAN NURSES ALERT.

We are glad to learn from a correspondent that "the question of the Registration of Nurses is a very live one all over Canada." The Bill drafted by the Graduate Nurses' Association of Ontario provides that "every member of the Association shall have the right during the continuance of his membership to use the designation 'Registered Nurse,' and may use after his or her name the initials, 'R.N.,' signifying 'Registered Nurse.'"

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