

STATE REGISTRATION IN QUEENSLAND.

As we notified last week, a Nurses' Registration Bill, as part of a Public Health Bill, has been introduced into the Queensland Parliament, and although women are enfranchised in the Commonwealth of Australia, no provision was made in it for representation of the Nursing Profession. The main points emphasised for amendment by the Nurses are:—

1. The importance of the Nursing Profession being represented on the Board.

2. (a) That a person who is registered as a General Nurse shall obtain a certificate of training in Midwifery in six months.

(b) That a person without previous training in a general Hospital shall serve twelve months in a lying-in hospital before obtaining a certificate.

(c) That the same privileges shall be allowed Midwifery Nurses who are practising, and have not received the regular course of training, as is granted to General Nurses in the concessional clause of the Bill.

3. That some provision should be made for the registration of Mental Nurses.

Upon the demand of the Queensland Branch of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association, the Home Secretary has promised amendment in the Bill on these points, and the amended Governing Board will now consist of five members: two medical practitioners nominated by the Medical Board, two medical practitioners or Nurses to be nominated by the Queensland Branch of the A.T.N.A., and a medical practitioner employed by the State in connection with the Hospital for the insane, so that even this small measure of recognition places the nurses on their own Governing Board in the minority.

As it is stated trained nurses cannot be obtained in some country districts, the Act will not apply to these localities.

Provision is also to be made for the registration of Mental Nurses with a three years' certificate of training in a Mental Hospital. A question of difficulty which has arisen is: Are Nurses who have been trained or are in training in hospitals for sick children included in the term "General Nurse"?

Up to the present the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association has placed the names of Nurses trained in hospitals for sick children on the General Register.

It is quite probable that, by this date, the difficulties have been solved and the Bill become law. Social reforms for the benefit of the community move along much more rapidly in our great self-governing Dominions beyond the

Seas than they do at home, where the vulgar estimate of worth is wealth, not work.

MIDLAND MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

At the recent meeting of Matrons, held at the General Hospital, Birmingham, the question of "State Aid as it would affect Nurses" was discussed. Miss Mary Gardner and Miss Bodley read admirable papers, which aroused an interesting discussion.

REFLECTIONS

FROM A BOARD ROOM MIRROR.

At the quarterly meeting of the Royal Free Hospital, W.C., it was stated that a new agreement had been entered into with the London Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine for Women, which provided *inter alia* for the annual payment of £100 to the hospital for the facilities given to the students of the school. Lord Sandwich, who presided, wished it to be more widely known that gifts in kind to the hospital would be most welcome, particularly fruit, vegetables, and game, which would materially decrease the cost of provisions.

The Committee of Management of the Mount Vernon Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest have arranged for the reception of Paying Patients at their Northwood Sanatorium, at an inclusive fee of £1 10s. per Patient per week.

The Secretary will be glad to furnish full particulars on application.

When the Countess of Lonsdale opened the new King Edward Memorial wing of the Cumberland Infirmary, by which the extension scheme, costing £30,000, is now complete, on Saturday, a message was received from the King expressing his pleasure at the tribute paid to his late father.

At the annual meeting of The Royal Orthopaedic and Spinal Hospital, at Birmingham, the Chairman, Mr. James Keay, gave the public a very good reason why it should support this useful charity. He said the work of the hospital was being carried on in a very satisfactory manner. Not a single complaint had been received, and, though the returns were down, he did not think the record was a bad one. They had 12,294 attendances, 1,392 new cases, and 564 operations. Practically every other patient required an operation of some sort. The hospital was always full, and he thought it would be admitted that the committee were doing all that lay in their power to ameliorate the conditions of many sufferers. They trusted, therefore, that the people of Birmingham would help them to carry on the work.

The Medical Committee in their report thought that the attention of the public should be drawn to the fact that the hospital, and no other in the city, devoted a large proportion of its income to the

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