

THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL.

The Nurses' Registration Bill, promoted by the Central Committee for State Registration of Trained Nurses, will be introduced by Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson this week. It is identical with the Bill introduced last session, and is influentially backed by members of every Party in the House of Commons.

Liberal.—Dr. Addison, Mr. Annan Bryce, Mr. J. Duncan Millar, Mr. Percy Alden.

Unionist.—Viscount Wolmer, Sir George Younger, Mr. Scott Dickson, Mr. J. F. Remnant, Mr. P. Kerr-Smiley (Irish).

Labour.—Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald.

Nationalist.—Mr. W. Field.

We hope that supporters of this important Bill will from all over the United Kingdom write and get friends to write to members of Parliament, urging them to take active interest in it. Every registrationist resides in some constituency, and it is her duty to bring the matter before its member. In these days no legislation, especially that which affects the status of working women, can be accomplished without conscientious and persistent work upon the part of the class affected, and we call upon every reader of this journal, the only journal for nurses which has the disinterested courage to agitate for organised education and a recognised legal status for trained nurses, to do her part and bring the question forward to the notice of the legislators in either House of Parliament in whose district she resides.

The greatest obstacle to women's progress is the selfish apathy of the average woman, and often in professional life of those of its members who are holding well-paid positions of responsibility. It is to their shame and discredit that this is true. And those matrons, therefore, who have the courage to stand firm for justice for the rank and file, are all the more to be commended, and the whole-hearted support of the rank and file should be theirs.

Second, in obstruction, to the lack of courage of those who should lead the profession in its just demands, are the unethical lay edited commercial journals dealing with professional affairs. They naturally fear a self-respecting ethically constituted body of trained and registered nurses. Their sole aim is cash, and by every means in their power they will fight to extract it. Remember, every penny spent on

the anti-registration press is grist to the mill which grinds your professional aspirations and rights to powder. Those nurses who profess to be in favour of professional organization, and professional status for trained nurses, and who surreptitiously associate themselves for money with these quack nursing papers, should take themselves to task and reconsider their position. They should either dissociate themselves from those who are the open or covert enemies of our cause, or by openly confessing their association with the anti-registration press, cease to pose as registrationists. Loyalty and honour demand one course or the other.

REGISTRATION IN SCOTLAND.

The Annual Meeting of the Association for the Promotion of the Registration of Nurses in Scotland, of which Lord Inverclyde is President and Dr. D. J. Mackintosh, M.V.O., Hon. Secretary, was held in Edinburgh on Tuesday at the Gartshore Hall, Y.M.C.A., George Street. We hope to publish a report in our next issue.

SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Association (President, Sir William Macewen) will be held in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, on Monday, March 4th, at 4.30 p.m. Miss Paterson, one of his Majesty's Commissioners, will address the meeting, and the position of nurses under the National Insurance Act will be explained.

ASYLUM OFFICERS' AND SERVANTS' BILL.

On Monday Viscount Wolmer again brought into the House of Commons his "Bill to limit the hours of employment of officers and servants in asylums and to amend the Asylum Officers' Superannuation Act, 1909."

BEQUESTS TO NURSES.

Mr. Robert Collins, of the Pier Hotel, Brighton, bequeathed £8,000 to his nurse, Miss Maude Froude.

Under the will of the late Sir Henry Harben, his nurse, Miss Maria Albert Jeans, benefits to the extent of £1,000. The will states that the bequest is "in token of his gratitude for her skill and careful attention to him."

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)