

the fact that training without natural qualifications and natural qualifications without training, would not turn out the best type of worker.

In Mrs. Stewart's paper there appeared to be no points which called for discussion. There could be no two opinions about the personal qualifications and high aims which she had so admirably outlined as being essential to success in the best sense of the word.

Dr. Barrie Lambert had reminded her hearers of the work which the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses had done for the profession of massage in the past by raising the status of the masseuse in the British Isles. She did not think that masseuses could ever be grateful enough to the founders of that society for the splendid work that they had done in protecting their interests and in making their profession one to which they were proud to belong. A great many of them hoped that the I.S.T.M. would still further earn their gratitude by throwing their Swedish remedial and massage examinations into one, and insisting on a year's course of preparation for their certificate. As Dr. Barrie Lambert had so ably pointed out, it was absolutely impossible to separate massage and medical gymnastics, and in a six months' course the medical gymnastics taught had necessarily to be limited in number and complicated curvature cases had to be left alone except in theory. Dr. Barrie Lambert had outlined a very complete course of training. The speaker said she had never been able to understand why medical electricity, including ionic medication, and Nauheim treatment had, as a rule, been left out of the curriculum in many schools and taken afterwards as a post graduate course. They belonged to the masseuses' department, and she was of opinion that they ought to qualify in them before being certificated.

There was a point here which should lead to some interesting discussion.

She had heard it suggested that if the I.S.T.M. insisted on a year's training for their certificate in the future, nurses who wished to take massage in connection with their nursing should be able to obtain a special nurse's certificate after a short training of a few months duration. This she considered wrong for three reasons. Firstly, all sorts of curvature cases and other deformities requiring very skilled massage and gymnastic treatment came into hospital and the nurses who treated them should be proficient workers.

Secondly, if a massage certificate could be fairly easily obtained a great many unsuitable people might take up the work.

Thirdly, a nurse might at any time wish to give up nursing and take to massage as her sole means of livelihood. She was then let loose with a certificate obtained after a short training, and so the whole standard of massage would be lowered.

Another point of interest was whether a three months' course of nursing in a general hospital for those who wished to enter the massage pro-

fession was advisable. The speaker considered such a course advisable, but not necessary.

Dr. Barrie Lambert had strongly advocated the inclusion of a short course of medical gymnastics in the curriculum of training. Many masseuses who had had no educational training found themselves at a disadvantage when it came to drilling even one patient, much less two or three together. It would be interesting to know what other masseuses thought of this suggestion. Miss Hogg and Miss Studley joined in the discussion, and the meeting terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to Dr. Barrie Lambert and Mrs. Hoghton Stewart for their interesting papers.

#### MORNING SESSION:

JUNE 5th.

#### THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Miss Huxley, President I.N.A., presided at the Morning Session on June 5th, when the State Registration of Trained Nurses was the first subject under consideration, and there was a full and enthusiastic meeting.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick who presented a paper with special reference to the Nurses' Registration Bill, the educational and economic aspects, and the questions of legal status, and how to build up the profession of nursing for the benefit of the public, began by moving the following resolution:—

#### RESOLUTION.

"This meeting desires to record its earnest conviction that it is absolutely necessary, both in the interests of the professional status of trained nurses, and of the public whom they serve, that provision should be made for their Registration by the State, and that such Registration should be under the supervision of a Central Professional Authority, and that admission to the Register of those who have fulfilled the prescribed conditions should be by the single portal of a State Examination.

"This meeting regrets that the Prime Minister has not, so far, found time for the discussion of the question in the House of Commons, and urges that facilities may be given for the second reading of the Nurses' Registration Bill at the earliest possible date."

Mrs. Fenwick said that in considering the question of the Registration of Trained Nurses by the State she would start from a point on which all who were qualified to express an opinion were agreed; that it was waste of energy to resist evolution, and that when a class of workers entered the ranks of industrial competition it was brought into touch with varied human interests which should be adjusted with due consideration to all concerned. To accomplish this order was essential, and to enforce order in the ranks of a profession legal power was necessary.

It would not be contested that such responsible work as nursing required a very thorough preparation, a prolonged training, during which time the instruction given to the pupil, both theoretical and practical should be systematic, and the

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