

It is a pity that Miss Nightingale, in her seclusion, was cut off from intimate association with women of this broadly democratic type.

The nurses of to-day, then, regard Miss Nightingale's hostility to State Registration as a natural and explicable mistake, and, recalling her many splendid declarations of what the nurse should be, and how prepared, they feel that, in going on to develop their state examining boards and perfect their legal standards, they are really acting in full harmony with her precepts, and are loyally carrying on her work in her own spirit. Recognizing the oneness of her ideals with those of the small group of founders of the R.B.N.A., we see that their differences arose solely over the question of *how* training should be guarded, *not* what the training should be, and we only have to regret that she herself failed apparently to understand that the same idealism lit up the souls of those women as burned within her own.

## PROGRESS OF STATE REGISTRATION.

### LEEDS SUPPORTS REGISTRATION.

The desire of nurses all over the country to improve their status by means of registration found expression among Leeds nurses at a meeting held on the 17th inst. in the Lord Mayor's Rooms, at the Town Hall. Alderman W. Penrose-Green, the Deputy Lord Mayor, presided over a numerous attendance, and among those present were Sir Victor Horsley, Dr. J. B. Hellier, and Miss E. S. Innes, the Matron of the Leeds General Infirmary; Miss Gittens, Matron Leeds Union Infirmary; Miss Davies, Matron Royal Infirmary, Bradford; Miss Hills, Matron Royal Infirmary, Halifax; Miss Barnes, Superintendent Q.V.J.I. District Nurses Home, Hunslet; Mrs. Brothers, Lady Superintendent of the Yorkshire Co-operation of Nurses.

Alderman Penrose-Green expressed the view that skilled nurses suffered a hardship which was not known generally by the public in having to be put on a similar plane and work under the same conditions as those who had not passed their proper examinations. He further mentioned that on the previous day he returned from a visit to Central Africa, and at Nairobi Hospital he had called upon Dr. Mayo Robson, where he found him being attended by skilled English nurses, and on the road to recovery.

Sir Victor Horsley moved a resolution as follows:—

That this meeting of the nursing profession in Leeds, being cognisant of the danger to the health of the community caused by the present lack of nurses available for the service of the sick, and by the fact that this is largely due to the absence of any State recognition of their education and training, calls upon the Government to adopt as a Government measure the Bill recently introduced into the House of Commons by

Dr. Chapple, M.P., at the request of representative medical and nursing bodies of Great Britain and Ireland.

Sir Victor spoke eloquently of the great need of good nurses, the serious shortage at the present time—in Fever Hospitals, and Poor Law Infirmaries, and in District Nursing. There was deterioration in the quality of candidates, and State Registration would remedy it by giving nurses their proper status and by increasing their earning capacity.

The medical profession, he added, were in favour of the registration of nurses, and their duty now was to get the Government to adopt the Bill introduced by Dr. Chapple. It had already passed its first reading by a majority of 228.

Dr. Hellier seconded the resolution.

Miss Steel Innes supported the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

### REGISTRATION IN THE STATES.

The Nurses Registration Bill has passed both Houses in Kentucky, and has been signed by the Governor.

The Mississippi Bill for State Registration has also passed both Houses and was signed by the Governor last month.

Heartly congratulations to all concerned.

The amended Nurses Registration Act for New York State never got out of Committee, and therefore never came to the House at all—we learn that "the opposition was very bitter and some of it unscrupulous." An eminent American superintendent writes: "I wish I had been here to answer some of the preposterous letters that were published against it. It makes me aghast to think of hospitals uniting publicly against nurses who are merely working for freedom to do their work better. In watching their unbelievable performances, I understand the English situation as never before."

### PRESENTATION.

A pleasant ceremony recently took place at Lochbuie, Aberdeen, on the resignation of Miss Tennant, who has been district nurse for Lochbuie and Croggan for several years. At a large gathering in the Pavilion, at which Maclaine of Lochbuie presided, the parish minister (Mr. MacInnes) presented Miss Tennant with a well-filled purse of sovereigns on behalf of the subscribers, and Mr. George Duncan, Secretary to the Local Nursing Association, and others, spoke in high terms of her work. Miss Tennant subsequently entertained those present to tea.

### A GENEROUS GIFT.

Lady Nairn, of Rankellour, has offered to give a permanent home for the Victoria Nurses of Kirkcaldy. On the nomination of Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, to whom that duty was confided by the Committee, Lady Nairn has been appointed Honorary President of the Victoria Nursing Association in succession to Lady Helen.

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