

and it was assumed that when this was done its passing by the Assembly was only a matter of form, and it would speedily become law.

The difficulty, as usual, appears to be the constitution of the Governing Body. In the beginning, the nurses suggested one Bill to cover all nursing, but the Committee of the Women's Hospital insisted on a separate Bill for the midwives. Now, when the Nurses Bill is under consideration, the question of two boards is raised as a difficulty.

In presenting the position to the representatives of the bodies concerned, the Minister said that the Midwives Bill had passed through the Legislative Council with but slight amendment, but it was being blocked in the Assembly, and suggestions had been made that one Board should be sufficient to perform the duties of the separate Boards as provided for. He had tried by amendment to bring about amalgamation when he recognized the danger of blockage, but was ruled out of order by the Legislative Council. It remained for representatives of the associations concerned to meet, and secure representation on a single Board.

No doubt the difficulty arose from some fear that the nurses will have too much power on their governing body. In this country we are quite conversant with such tactics.

As we go to press we learn that an amendment has been carried in the Legislative Assembly, giving the administration of the Midwives Bill to the Health Department. The Nurses' Registration Bill was discussed in the Legislative Council, and progress reported.

## NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF CHINA.

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### CHINESE MEETING.

The Chinese graduate and pupil nurses of the city were the guests of the afternoon on September 2nd, and all papers and addresses were in the native tongue. Dr. Liu (of the Methodist Women's Hospital) presided with gracious dignity. After the devotional exercises, Dr. Liu made a few preliminary remarks, in explanation of the Nurses' Association, its purpose and its membership, now numbering over 100; and also for the benefit of the non-members present gave the official titles in Chinese, as decided on by the Association for graduate and pupil nurses. The graduate nurse to be known as "hu-shih," and the pupil nurse as "hu-sheng."

Mrs. Bayard Lyon, formerly Miss Chung of Tientsin, was to have given the address of welcome to our Chinese guests, but unfortunately was unable to be present. In her letter of regret she expressed the hope for an even more helpful Conference than the one held last year in Shanghai, if that were possible. "In the writer's estimation

the profession of nursing is the most honoured of all professions in which women may engage. It cannot fail to better fit her for what ever walk of life may be hers. The welfare, physical and moral, of the children of the next generation, in this or any other land, lies largely in the hands of the mothers of this generation. May we as members of this association put forth every effort in our power to help our Chinese nurses in their profession, thus preparing them to carry on the work which we can only begin for them in this great needy land."

The next address was given by Surgeon-General Ch'uan, of Tientsin, ever a warm and loyal friend of our profession. He welcomed us most cordially to the national capital, urging us to feel not as strangers but as honoured and welcome guests. He then went on to speak of the importance of the nursing profession from the standpoint of the doctor. "I consider that, in the struggle with disease for a human life, to have a good nurse is seven-tenths of the battle won. The nurse is the doctor's right hand and the patient's friend. Who does not long for a loyal and gentle friend to stand near in time of suffering and peril, and this is the place which often, in the absence of one's own, the faithful Christian nurse can so well fill. There were those who said that the nursing profession could not grow in China. But that day has passed. The nurse has proven her worth in this land, and has come to stay and to multiply. Keep your ideals high. A nurse worthy of the name must have education and refinement, and a character above reproach. Go forth with love, faith, and purity of heart, your hope for the future is bright."

Miss Tippett of Pingyangfu followed with one of the most spirited and spiritual appeals that nurses were ever privileged to hear. Would that all of our pupil nurses throughout the land might have listened and *learned*. Space does not permit of a complete translation, but she said in part, "Let us not lightly regard our profession, by means of which we on the one hand serve our Master, and on the other minister to our fellow men. I wish to liken our lives as Christian workers to this glass syringe which I hold in my hand. I have bought it and it is mine to use as I will. It must obey the impulse of my fingers. It must be empty so that I can fill it with the desired solution. It must be clean, it must work smoothly. Dear friends, we have been bought with a price; we are not our own, we are His. We must pray to be used as He would have us used. We must pray to be pure, to be willing to be used, to be cleansed of all that would hinder His purpose for our lives. The story is told that someone asked Christ, 'If your disciples should fail to carry your message to the sinning world, what then?' The Master replied, 'There is no other way. I trust them and them only.' He is trusting you, He is trusting me to-day! The Chinese have a saying which being translated reads, 'With three of one mind, even earth's dust turns to gold.' Important everywhere, it is

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