

supported by a Statement and Appendices proving the points incorporated therein.

From the correspondence which ensued between the President of the N.C.T.N. and the Director-General of the Army Medical Service, the Resolution was not acceptable to that Department. Nevertheless, certain reforms have been made which are apparently the outcome of this protest.

The fundamental mistake in the organization of Military Nursing, in so far as the War Office is concerned, is the fact that it has deputed to a body of charitable and unprofessional persons the organization of nursing in military auxiliary hospitals, thus failing to control effectively the nursing in hundreds of hospitals in which sick and wounded soldiers are compulsorily treated.

DELEGATES AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Miss A. E. Hulme and Miss Beatrice Kent, who acted as the delegates of the National Council of Trained Nurses to the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in San Francisco, have returned full of enthusiasm for all they have seen and heard. It is hoped that early in the New Year they will give a report of their embassy to the Council.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The meeting of the International Council of Nurses in San Francisco in June, which in time of peace would have attracted many members of the affiliated National Councils, as well as nurses from all parts of the world, had, owing to the war, to be limited to a business meeting, as nurses had neither time, funds, nor opportunity to attend from abroad, and the great Congress held at the same time included for the most part members of the trained nurses' organizations on the American continent.

At the business meeting of the I.C.N., presided over by Miss A. W. Goodrich, the invitation of the Danish National Council to hold the next meeting in Copenhagen was accepted, and its President, Mrs. Henny Tscherning, unanimously elected President.

THE STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Owing to the procedure agreed upon in Parliament on the proposition of the Prime Minister, there have not been facilities for the discussion of private members' Bills, and consequently the Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has not been introduced this year, for the first time since 1904. Moreover, its sponsor, Major Chapple, M.P., M.D., has been serving professionally on hospital trains and in military hospitals. At the Annual

Meeting in June, the report pointed out that the urgency for passing a Nurses' Registration Bill was never greater than at the present time. Had a State Register of Trained Nurses been in force on the outbreak of war, the trained nurses would have had a definite status, and those chosen for duty in responsible charge of the sick would naturally have been selected from amongst those enrolled on the State Register; the unskilled help, willingly offered, could then have been utilized under the supervision of trained nurses.

It is necessary for the nursing profession and the public to be alive to the danger that proposals are secretly advocated by the anti-registration party for the registration of training schools as opposed to the registration of nurses. Such a proposition, specious as it may appear, is really one for the hall-marking of certificates, without schools being required to give evidence of training facilities, or of the efficiency of the teaching arrangements to a central professional authority. Registration on these lines would therefore be not only useless, but dangerous, and, moreover, would deprive trained nurses of any effective professional or economic control of their own affairs.

Moreover, the Nurses' Registration Bill practically provides for the recognition of training schools which conform to the standard laid down by the Central Authority.

The arrival in this country of nurses from New Zealand, South Africa, the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba in Canada, and the United States of America, wearing the State badges indicating their professional status, has afforded fresh proof to British nurses of their own lack of legal recognition. The reaffirming by the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland at its meeting in October of the Resolution passed by the Council in 1908 in support of State Registration of Trained Nurses affords proof that the Council is alive to the situation, and that its support will be available when the time comes to press for nursing legislation.

In Victoria, Australia, the Royal Victoria Trained Nurses' Association are endeavouring to secure the passing of a Nurses' Registration Bill. The crux of the question, and the one concerning which difficulty has arisen, is, as usual, the constitution of the Governing Body. Bills for the Registration of Trained Nurses have been passed in the States of North Dakota and Maine, in the United States of America, bringing up the number of the States in which Registration is in force to forty-two.

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