

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

A general meeting of members of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland will be held in the Lecture Hall of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W., on Saturday, February 12th, at 4 p.m., Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, in the chair.

### AGENDA.

1. To consider a circular letter, sent by the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., Chairman Joint War Committee, to the Chairmen of Committees of Hospitals, proposing to establish a College of Nursing on a voluntary basis, governed by a Council of Management nominated by the Chairmen and Governors of leading hospitals, physicians and surgeons lecturing to nurses, the Principals of Nurse Training Schools, and other persons interested in the education of women.

The scheme provides that the Governing Body for the Nursing Profession (the Council of Management) shall be *nominated* and not *elected*, an Examining Board shall be nominated, a Scheme of Examinations defined, and a Certificate of Proficiency in Nursing be granted by the College.

If favourably received, the promoters of the scheme propose to apply to the Board of Trade for incorporation without the word "Limited."

### RESOLUTIONS.

2. The following Resolutions will be submitted to the meeting incorporating the demand of Trained Nurses for Registration by Act of Parliament, providing for their legal status and professional self-government:—

The first Resolution will be proposed by Miss E. M. Musson, President, General Hospital Birmingham Nurses' League, and seconded by Miss M. Heather-Bigg, President Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. It will be supported by Miss B. Kent, Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and others.

#### RESOLUTION I.

Whereas this Meeting of Trained Nurses is convinced that only through an Act of Parliament providing for the State Registration of Trained Nurses by an elected Body, on which the registered nurses themselves have direct and sufficient representation, can the Profession of Nursing be effectively and justly organised; and that any voluntary scheme, such as that proposed by the Hon. Arthur

Stanley, M.P., Chairman of the Joint War Committee, in his Circular Letter to Hospital Committees is calculated to impede such legislation: this Meeting emphatically supports the Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and desires to urge upon the Government, and upon Parliament, the pressing necessity which exists for passing such a Bill.

It would further remind them:—

(a) That a Select Committee of the House of Commons has unanimously recommended such legislation;

(b) That the House of Lords has accepted the principle of Nurses' Registration, by passing a Bill in its support;

(c) That the House of Commons has given proof of its sympathy with the principle of such legislation, by its recorded majority of 228 to introduce the Bill into that House;

(d) That the medical profession in this country, through the British Medical Association, has on numerous occasions passed resolutions, expressing its approval of the State Registration of Trained Nurses;

(e) That the self-governing associations of nurses in England, Scotland and Ireland unanimously desire it;

(f) That the Parliaments of several British Dominions and other Countries have passed such Acts for the efficient education and organisation of nurses, and for the safety and welfare of the sick, which have proved to be of the utmost benefit to the community.

Therefore similar legislation is, in the opinion of this Meeting, a matter of urgent and national importance.

The following Resolution will be proposed by Mrs. Porter (*née* Keogh), Past President Irish Nurses' Association, and seconded by Miss Pell-Smith, Vice-President, Royal Infirmary Leicester Nurses' League:—

#### RESOLUTION II.

That should the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Nursing College Scheme when drafted be found inimical to the best interests of the whole Nursing Profession, the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland be directed to oppose its incorporation, without the word "Limited," by the Board of Trade.

The following Resolution will be proposed by Miss A. B. Curtis, President, Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League, and seconded by Miss H. Hawkins, Society for the State Registration of Nurses:—

#### RESOLUTION III.

That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions be forwarded to every Member of Parliament, to the Chairman and Members of the Joint War Committee, and to the Chairmen of Committees of recognised Nurse Training Schools.

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