

really regarded as a black mark against a man if he did not belong to his professional society. In the same way it was hoped that any nurse who wished to be recognised as fully qualified would feel it incumbent on her to belong to the College.

Then there was the point as to the method of election on to the Council. The aim was that it should be elected by nurses.

In reply to the question raised by Mrs. Andrews and Miss O'Brien as to why the College should confer certificates on women connected with hospital work, there would be graded certificates for these. Take the question of V.A.D.'s who had passed their Home Nursing and First Aid examinations. The College would be a strong body, and it would be a strong position for it to take up that the nurses would eventually be the controlling body, granting certificates to those women engaged in hospital work who were not fully-trained nurses.

Dr. McGregor Robertson suggested that the interests of trained nurses were being attacked while they were abroad; that this was not the proper time to deal with this question, and Governors of Hospitals had written and expressed the opinion that it was not the time to deal with it. On such an important question the opinion of the nurses should be taken.

The interest in nursing was keener than it had ever been, people were inclined to take a broad view; after the war nurses would have to face rivalry from the partially trained, and it was essential they should set their house in order.

In regard to the election of members of the Council, it had been said they were getting into a vicious circle. A nominated Council would, in the first place, put nurses on to the Register. Dr. Robertson asked whether the members of the Council would all be nurses. Once the College was started nurses might elect whoever they liked on to the Council; the members need not all be nurses, but if the nurses were not satisfied with them they need not re-elect them.

Then there was the question of incorporation under the Board of Trade. Some nurses considered that derogatory, but once the College was registered it would have no more to do with the Board of Trade, but it was a necessary step which had to be complied with if that form of incorporation were desired.

Then he had been asked by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick who were the Committee? There was no Committee. So far the meetings had been of a purely informal nature, but as Chairman he had asked the advice of those eminently qualified to give it, amongst them were Miss Lloyd Still, Miss Haughton, Miss Paget, Miss Ray, Miss Mackintosh, Miss Hughes, Miss Darbyshire, Miss Montgomery, Miss Gill, Miss Gibson, Lord Knutsford, Sir Charles Russell, Sir Cooper Perry, Sir Henry Burdett, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Minet, Mr. Morris, Dr. Turney, Colonel Tunnard, and last, but not least, Miss Swift.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had also asked who were the signatories to the Memorandum, he was not

without hope that some of the representatives of the Associations present would consent to become signatories, that would be the nearest approach to unity.

In reply to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick who asked whether any one had consented to be a signatory to the Memorandum the Chairman replied that no one had so far been asked.

Continuing, the Chairman said he was anxious to bring in a Bill, one of their first efforts would be to try to bring in a Bill which would have the approval of all those interested in the question. He did not think there were any points of difference between them. He did not see why that Bill should not be the Nurses' Registration Bill before Parliament; he would like it to be the actual Bill; he would like those people who had fought for the cause for so many years to have the credit of their work. He thought it might very well be the Bill.

Miss Barton, President of the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association, said she had been asked to attend on their behalf, but not to give their opinion as they had not yet had the scheme before them. She personally had worked for years for State Registration, feeling that nothing else would be of use or an act of justice to poor law nurses.

In reply to a request from Mr. Comyns Berkeley and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Chairman promised that they should be supplied with a report of the proceedings, and of Miss Haughton's paper. In answer to a further question from Mrs. Andrews he said that if graded certificates were given this would be a question which would rest with the Consultative Body appointed by the College. Untrained women would then be labelled as V.A.D.'s.

The proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman which Mr. Stanley acknowledged by saying that if he had been of any service whatever in helping the cause forward he had been well rewarded.

#### IN SUPPORT OF STATE REGISTRATION.

The President of the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses acknowledges with thanks the following donations:—Miss K. L. Burleigh, 10s. 3d.; Miss E. J. Lloyd, 2s. 6d.

#### SISTER FRENCH MEMORIAL FUND.

Mr. G. A. Wright, F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon, and Mr. J. Howson Ray, F.R.C.S., Honorary Surgeon to the Manchester Royal Infirmary, state that a fund has been opened to place to the memory of the late Sister French (1) a tablet in S.I. Unit, and (2) a small stained window in the Infirmary Chapel. Former students, nurses, and patients who remember Sister French during her thirty-five years' faithful service, may send contributions to the General Superintendent and Secretary at the Manchester Royal Infirmary.

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