

The question in his mind was, "When were they likely to get registration? Was the opposition met with less?" Apart from the War, he feared it was not. There were more ways to Rome than one, and if the institution of the proposed College was with the object of obtaining registration it might be worth considering.

As an examiner for the Local Government Board for Scotland, he thought it was time something was done, and he thought that if the nursing profession were to get its rightful place, it would only be after they had done something to justify Parliament in taking action. The Law Society had been quoted as an example of organization, but they might take that of the profession of medicine, which began its organization through a College with a Charter. It was not until the first Medical Act was passed in 1858 that they obtained legal registration. It was a case of Providence helping those who helped themselves.

He was not sure that he was in favour of Mr. Stanley's method. He was not in favour of placing the nomination of the first Council in the hands of individuals. The signatories should represent associations of nurses. They must start right, as if there were a wrong cog in the machinery it would break and groan. He was relieved to hear that Mr. Stanley did not wish to substitute his scheme for legal registration, but regarded it as a road leading to it. From that point of view it was worthy of consideration on the part of affiliated bodies.

MISS E. GRAHAM, Joint Hon. Secretary with Colonel Mackintosh of the above Association, said her Association would carefully consider the scheme, provided it did not prejudice State Registration. She came into close daily touch with nurses, and found that 99 per cent. of nurses anxiously desired organization. They suffered cruelly for the want of it, and would welcome any practical scheme leading towards State Registration. Some people were of opinion that organization should be deferred till after the War, but that was not her view. She considered that those not called upon to take an active part in military nursing abroad should continue this work.

#### THE GREATER INCLUDES THE LESS.

MAJOR CHAPPLE, M.P., considered that the time was opportune for doing something. If not, much injustice would be done to the sick by the partially trained women. In his opinion, the best method of protecting the interests, both of the public and the nurses, was by passing the Nurses' Registration Bill now before Parliament. He was not in favour of going back to organization through Colleges. State Registration of doctors protected the sick from unregistered practitioners, and would equally protect them from unregistered nurses. At present there was no standardized test for nurses; and women, whether trained for three months or three years, or even in a massage house, could equally claim the title.

There was something to say for a College, but everything that was needed could be obtained

through a Nurses' Registration Bill. The greater included the less.

He had had practical experience, both in New Zealand and in the United States, of State Registration, and in practice it was found that it separated the sheep from the goats. Every girl who wished to be regarded as a trained nurse, went in for the full course; then a badge was issued, which the registered nurses wore on the uniform.

The supporters of the registration movement were advised to conciliate their opponents. Few people understood the opposition. Who were opposing them? Their opponents represented vested interest. It was impossible to conciliate vested interest; one must overcome it. The chief opposition lay with partially equipped training schools, and with those institutions which gave a certificate for less than three years.

If a hospital certified its nurses at the end of two years and sent them out private nursing in their third year, charging the public £2 2s. a week for their services, and paying them 11s. of that sum, naturally it would oppose the Bill. There was only one leading hospital which did that, and it was a strong opponent of State Registration of nurses.

Major Chapple invited Mr. Stanley and his advisers to come along and have an agreed measure. The Scottish Midwives Bill was passed as a War measure, and if they all united in asking for the same Registration Bill he believed it would be granted to nurses.

Mr. Stanley had minimized the value of the Division on the First Reading of the Nurses' Bill in the House of Commons in 1914, but it was of extreme value because it had unmasked the opposition, members had had to go into the Lobby, and those who had then supported the principle of the Bill would do so on future occasions, therefore it would go through with flying colours.

Referring to the Memorandum presented by Dr. Goodall on behalf of the Central Committee, Major Chapple said it was succinct, comprehensive, and put the position well. He then read the last paragraph, which runs:—

"We therefore hope that the Committee which has launched this Voluntary Scheme will co-operate with those who have worked so long and earnestly to obtain the organisation of the nursing profession—a statesmanlike course which would command the respect and approval alike of the medical and nursing professions, of Parliament, and the public."

Major Chapple appealed to Mr. Stanley to say whether it was not possible to discuss the Nurses' Registration Bill and then go to Mr. Asquith with an agreed measure. He himself saw the possibility. In regard to the opposition of vested interests it could not be eliminated, but it could be voted down. A voluntary Roll was entirely inadequate. It had not the force of law. The whole scheme was so inadequate that it did not deserve the serious consideration of Parliament, whereas in our own colonies, in America, and in

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