

a very able Committee, but it had met with opposition and that opposition was not dead. That was a great compliment to its advocates. But they had to face the fact that they did not stand a chance of Parliament looking at their Bill for years. But the question could be approached as the organisation of other professions had been approached, *i.e.*, by the solicitors and chartered accountants.

MISS BREAY (Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses) said that the majority of nurses would be satisfied with nothing less than legal registration. They were not a bit afraid of the opposition to their Bill in the House of Commons if they got facilities for its discussion.

MR. STANLEY, in reply, began by expressing his gratitude and appreciation for the way in which the discussion had been carried out. No more important meeting had been held in connection with the subject than this. He referred to the conciliatory way in which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and others had put forward their views, and expressed the opinion that they were not far from agreement. He would like to say to Miss Musson he did not see how they were to get over a nominated Council in the first instance. Dr. Goodall spoke of laymen on the Council, but it would be entirely in the hands of the College whether they were there or not.

On broad grounds he thought they all agreed in their aims, but differed on questions of procedure. He hoped they might be able to agree on those. He had carefully studied the Nurses' Registration Bill. Under its provisions, they would have to set up a Governing Body. Surely it would be the best way to have that body in working order and then go to Parliament to sanction it. Some of those present thought the Bill should come first and then the College. Why not the College and then the Bill?

It was feared by some that if that method were adopted, registration of nurses would be postponed indefinitely, but no recognition was conferred by the Board of Trade.

MAJOR CHAPPLE asked if Mr. Stanley would be willing to support the Nurses' Registration Bill.

MR. STANLEY replied that he suggested setting up the College now and getting the stages finished before the end of the War. Then, if they could agree about procedure, they would ask Major Chapple to introduce the Registration Bill into the House of Commons.

As to who would be the signatories to the Memorandum and Articles of Association, some outside Societies were represented in the room. Would there be any possibility of the meeting suggesting some signatories from those Societies? There would have to be some others besides those present—some of the large training schools—and three or four from that meeting would be quite sufficient.

He would be willing to meet the representatives of the Central Committee and confer on the Bill. The suggestion that the College should be incor-

porated in the Bill was worthy of discussion. But he did not want to stop the formation of the College. It had to be done now. Would there be any signatories from that meeting? If they referred back to the various societies, they might have to wait for months.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK said that the representatives of the Central Committee had not been empowered to take any such action. All they could do was to arrange to have a further Conference, without prejudice, to consider the Bill.

PROFESSOR GLAISTER thought it a little too hasty to ask those present to agree to sign the Memorandum and Articles of Association, when, so far, they had had no opportunity of seeing them. He suggested that they should adjourn and have another Conference in two or three weeks' time after these had been considered.

MAJOR CHAPPLE said that if they could go to the Government with an agreed measure he felt sure Parliament would accept it.

MRS. STRONG (President, Scottish Nurses Association) said that for over twenty years she had hoped to see a legal system of registration of nurses instituted. She hoped that by conference much might be achieved.

MISS MUSSON asked why the Governors of Hospitals should help to nominate the first Council.

MR. STANLEY replied nobody had said they would. Possibly his Circular Letter had given that impression.

MISS MUSSON pointed out the phrase in Mr. Stanley's Letter in which it was stated that the Promoters of the College would be sought amongst the Chairman and Governors of leading hospitals, &c., and that the promoters would nominate the first Council of Management. Trained Nurses did not think that the Governors of hospitals should govern them.

MR. STANLEY said he rather gathered that. He added he wanted to go on with the formation of the College. Something must be done and he regarded the Bill as more or less subsidiary. Let them go ahead, form the College, get a building of their own and a Board of Examiners. Then if they went to Parliament they would get what they wanted.

MAJOR CHAPPLE said in that case it was quite obvious those working for legal registration must go on. They believed that the College Scheme if carried out would torpedo registration, and they would therefore be obliged to torpedo the scheme.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK saw no reason for hustling. They had waited, she said, for thirty years and could wait a little longer. They wanted to avoid being compelled to oppose the scheme and they would have to oppose it unless they could come to an agreement on the Bill. She had haunted the lobby of the House of Commons for sixteen or seventeen years, and she knew the pulse of that House on the question of registration

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