

at lunch she said, "You wouldn't believe it but my legs are just like rainbows, and I've got blacks all over my arms. You know it is always lucky to do things in threes and this is my third fall."

She is happily switched off this subject by the clatter of a spoon on the floor. "Pardon, Monsieur," says Marthe, and the gentleman who chaufs for us says, "Now what ought one to say in reply to that—'Don't mention it' that sort of thing?" And she eagerly begins her French instruction, "*Ce n'est pas d'importance*," which Monsieur the chauffeur repeats gravely, "*Par damn portance*. That's a very nice phrase. I must remember it, but could you say it in front of a lady?" And she innocently replies that it is used in the best society.

For she is one of those who take life seriously.

I. S.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Mr. Jenner Verrall presided at the meeting of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, held in the Council Chamber of the British Medical Association on April 13th, when the principal business considered was a letter from the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., inviting the Council to appoint nine delegates to meet a sub-committee of the Council of the College of Nursing, consisting of an equal number, "with the object of coming to an agreement upon the terms of a Bill to be brought before Parliament as an agreed Bill at as early a date as possible."

It was resolved:—

"That the Conference of March 24th, having accepted the three fundamental principles propounded by the Council of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, it is expedient that the Council should appoint delegates to consider the Draft of an agreed Bill for the State Registration of the Trained Nurses of the United Kingdom, *Provided that* the Draft to be considered is the Bill now before Parliament, which has the advantage of priority, and the support of a large number of societies which favour the State Registration of Nurses."

An application from the National Union of Trained Nurses for representation on the Central Committee was acceded to, with the right to nominate five members on the Committee.

In our next issue we hope to state concisely our views on the effect of the Constitution of the Council of the College of Nursing upon the professional status of the trained nurse, if a governing body is set up entirely nominated and controlled by a company of laymen.

EXPERT PROFESSIONAL OPINION.

We are glad to see, says *The Medical Press and Circular*, that the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses has taken the step of appointing a Protection Sub-Committee to safeguard the rights and privileges at present enjoyed by certificated nurses, as against the dangers threatened to the nursing profession by the proposed establishment of a College of Nursing. It is a misfortune that such a committee was not in existence two years ago. If it were, it might have been able to prevent some of the disasters that have come on the nursing profession since the beginning of the war. No one would have thought, however, two years ago, that in a time of national demand for trained nursing, the authorities would have permitted trained nurses to be jostled out of their legitimate employment by the intrusion of a crowd of amateurs, and that the salaries of trained nurses should be depressed by the competition of untrained persons. However, these things have come to pass, and they have been brought about mainly by the influence of a body whose head is the promoter of the College of Nursing. *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes*. It will not add to the confidence of nurses in the proposed College that Mr. Arthur Stanley has stated that it is his wish that the Council of the College should supervise the education of "V.A.D.'s."

THE IRISH NURSES' HOSTEL CO.

The fourth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Irish Nurses' Co-op. Hostel Co., Ltd., was held at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, on April 13th. The report of work and statement of accounts were read, and the balance-sheet was submitted, audited by the company's auditors. The usual 5 per cent. dividend, free of income tax, was sanctioned, and as there remained a substantial balance, it was proposed, and carried unanimously, that a bonus be paid to all workers on the staff, in proportion to their time of service.

This Nurses' Co-operation has only been in existence for five years, and so far has done excellently well, and it is hoped that in the future it may do still better, so that the workers may be able to participate in the profits much oftener than every five years.

We congratulate the Irish Nurses' Hostel Co. on their good business management and very satisfactory balance-sheet.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)