

representatives of the interests of the workers themselves, in addition to the various organizations and persons which employ them. This meeting, therefore, earnestly petitions the Secretary of State for War that the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, and the National Union of Trained Nurses, which together represent the organized opinion of some 10,000 certificated nurses, may be accorded representation on the "Supply of Nurses' Committee."

In discussion on the Resolution, those present expressed themselves warmly in favour of informing the Secretary of State for War of the feeling of trained nurses in this connection. First, their earnest desire that the highest quality of nursing should be provided for men risking their lives in defence of the Empire, which at present they did not invariably receive; and second, that as the War Minister was an ardent supporter of the rights of organised labour, any Committee appointed by him to inquire into, and make recommendations concerning trained nursing, should include representatives of the organised nurses' associations upon it. Very strong exception was taken to a Government Department, which had to deal with the nursing comfort and well-being of sick and wounded soldiers, thus ignoring the existence and opinions held by trained nurses, especially after the fine national service rendered by them all over the world during the present war. The Resolution was unanimously adopted, and it was directed that it be sent to the Secretary of State for War, and the Chairman of the "Supply of Nurses" Committee.

THE REGISTRATION OF COTTAGE NURSES AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

It was reported that, as directed at the last meeting, correspondence had taken place between the Society and Mr. Stanley, Chairman of the College of Nursing, Limited, Miss Rundle, Secretary of the same, Miss F. C. Joseph, Hon. Secretary of the Public Health Sectional Committee of the National Union of Women Workers, and Miss N. Green, Secretary of the N.U.W.W. It will be remembered that a deputation from the Public Health Committee was nominated at an emergency meeting, to be introduced by its chairman, Dr. Jane Walker, to urge the registration by the College of various classes of nurses—including village, cottage, tuberculosis nurses, &c.—as advocated in a scheme by Miss Joseph, and to which the Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses took strong exception, and that ten weeks later, when the deputation was received by Mr. Stanley, no representative of the trained nurses' organisations on the Public Health Committee was included.

A letter had been sent to Mr. Stanley in which the views of the members had been set forth, and in which it was stated, "As the representatives of the Trained Nurses Organisations . . . were not included, my Society desires to dissociate itself from the opinions expressed by the deputation, which advocated the registration of cottage and

village nurses and other women engaged in nursing work, not necessarily trained in hospitals. We hold the opinion that these workers are not 'trained nurses,' and have no right to be included in our Register as such. . . . I am directed to ask you whether or no the Council of the College of Nursing, Limited, proposes to register cottage, village and sanatorium nurses and other untrained and semi-trained nurses. . . .

"The fact that Dr. Jane Walker, who introduced the deputation, has a seat on your Council makes it imperative that the trained nurses, who have not elected her to office, should know definitely whether this depreciation of nursing standards, as proposed by her and Miss Joseph, is contemplated in the scheme for the voluntary organisation of the nursing profession by the College of Nursing.

"My Society considers that it has a right to a direct reply to this question, which is of vital importance to the nursing profession."

MR. STANLEY'S REPLY.

In a reply from Mr. Stanley, he wrote:—"I met the deputation of the Public Health Sectional Committee of the National Union of Women Workers in my private capacity, and not as chairman of the Council of the College of Nursing, as I had no authority from the Council to express their views on the question of the Registration of cottage and village nurses. This is a matter which has got to be discussed and settled by the Council of the College, and any opinion which I could express would only be my own personal opinion and would therefore carry no weight.

I may add that I gave no promise or pledge whatever to the members of the deputation."

A copy of the letter sent from the Society to Mr. Stanley as Chairman was also sent to Miss S. Rundle, the Secretary, who acknowledged it, but so far no reply to the direct question whether or no the College of Nursing intends to register cottage, village and other women engaged in nursing work has been received from the Council, which Mr. Stanley wrote was to be discussed and settled by it. From Miss Joseph further unsatisfactory correspondence was reported, and the communication from the Society would be brought before the Executive Committee by the N.U.W.W. on September 21st.

THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL.

It was reported that the amendments made to the Nurses' Registration Bill by the Central Committee on July 13th had been considered by the Council of the College of Nursing on July 27th last, and the most important had not been agreed to. The constitution of the General Nursing Council was the principal question at issue. The Central Committee approved of a Governing Body, on which the Government Departments, and the Medical, Nursing, and Training School authorities empowered to nominate representatives on to the General Nursing Council, were clearly inserted in the Bill, as in the Medical, Midwives,

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