

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Miss Eden (the hon secretary) read the report of the Executive Committee, in which she said:

"The Executive Committee is convinced that the Union will be more wanted in the future than it ever has been in the past."

"The Union has fought against the indifference to professional development and organisation from the first, and it has met with a large measure of success. Our real reason for existence is to draw out and develop the sense of responsibility of the nurse for her profession, because we know that only in that way will the highest be attained to. That is the deeper meaning of the expressions 'direct representation' and 'self-governance,' and the real reason for our earnest request that the nurses' societies should be accorded representation on the Council of the College of Nursing. This request has not been granted.

"Your delegates on the Central Committee for State Registration have consistently voted in support of the principles adopted at the last council meeting.—

- (1) Registration by the State.
- (2) One central examination.
- (3) A registered and protected title for the registered nurse.
- (4) A first Council elected and not nominated."

She also reported increased membership and a keener interest in the Union.

The Secretary reported that an enquiry into the economic condition prevailing in the nursing profession has been completed and would shortly be published in pamphlet form.

FEDERATION WITH SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The subject of federation with the Scottish Nurses' Association was discussed and a resolution passed at the annual meeting in Glasgow read; it was then decided that power should be given to the Executive Committee of the National Union of Trained Nurses to arrange this federation.

AFFILIATION WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Council also empowered the hon. secretary to apply for affiliation with the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING LIMITED.

A history of events in connection with the College of Nursing Limited was given, and particularly of the reason which led to the appointment of delegates to the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, and why these delegates had voted for proceeding with the original Bill for the State Registration of Nurses drafted by the Central Committee.

A short discussion followed, and the meeting then passed a resolution warmly approving of the action taken by the Executive Committee in supporting the Central Committee for State Registration.

CONSTITUTION RECONSTRUCTED.

The Constitution was passed on the second day, and is constructed on practically the same lines as that of the British Medical Association, and should do for nurses what their Association has already done for medical men.

The entire responsibility for the management of the Union now rests on the fully trained nurse.

We heartily congratulate the National Union of Trained Nurses on its progressive and constructive policy and recommend every certificated nurse to apply for full information concerning its constitution, and if satisfied that it is calculated to benefit the nursing profession by inculcating a spirit of personal responsibility, sympathy, and high ideals throughout its ranks, to help to build up a strong and effective professional union by becoming a member.

Never in the history of our profession has the absolute necessity for such a nurses' union been more apparent, and we predict that the National Union of Trained Nurses has a great future before it, if it keeps faith with the rank and file.

The day has gone past for the government of any body of skilled workers by the right divine of might, and as the College of Nursing Limited has made a huge blunder in attempting to govern the nursing profession without consent, the National Union has a splendid opportunity to provide power of expression for the women who intend to resist economic pressure and suppression, however powerful it may appear. It is the hope of the Union to organise trained nurses throughout the country on a system analogous to that of the British Medical Association, and we feel sure success will attend its public spirited efforts.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

We have been informed by Miss Rundle, the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., that "We are sending the Nursing Press copies of correspondence between the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses and the Hon. Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the College of Nursing, Ltd., copies of which are enclosed." Although it is not usual to publish privileged correspondence without permission, we hope the so-called Nursing Press will insert the correspondence in full.

The "Statement" drawn up by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, on the negotiations between it and the College of Nursing from its inception, will be issued at an early date, and will give an accurate report of the matter. No privileged letters will be published.

The "Statement" and the Nurses' Registration Bill as amended by the Central Committee should be studied by all nurses who desire that professional legislation should be effected on a thoroughly sound basis.

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