

That gave greater importance to the question than if only a Limited Company were acting.

Miss Hawkins (Barnet) asked if the Bill became law, of what direct advantage it would be to nurses. Did it secure the one portal of admission?

Miss C. Cochrane (Caxton) asked what would be the position of nurses in lunatic asylums and in country districts, these nurses received the training most suitable to them, in districts, not hospitals, and they were then bound over to work in districts for three years. It would be exceedingly unfair if they were put out of the pale, and looked on as inferior persons. She thought the College would like to snuff them out altogether. Again hospital nurses would not stay five minutes in the rural workhouses. In the workhouse with which she was acquainted they had a woman who was an expert in attending to sore backs and ulcers. Such women should not be treated as inferior mortals by set up nurses.

The Rev. W. Mahon, Chairman of the Wakefield Guardians, said he was there to offer the most uncompromising hostility of his Board to the Fourth Draft of the College Bill (if that were the last, but they seemed to be produced by magic). They were not hostile to the principles concerned, but to the whole College scheme under which guardians were absolutely and completely ignored. He considered it a direct insult to a set of publicly constituted authorities. It had been said by the deputation that Mr. Stanley treated them courteously *now*. He didn't thank him. It might be described as a death bed repentance, for he found, now that he had learned something that he *had* to consider the poor law authorities. He understood the Governing Council was to be under the absolute control of nurses. Nurses had not shown great powers of organisation, nor had they any organisations to deal with the question. Yet guardians who were experts, and knew what they wanted were to hand over their interests to a body of interested persons. (A voice: Employers' Bill.) His Board were of opinion that under no circumstances should they support the proposals of the College till they got what was reasonable and fair. They would not give their support to this or any other measure brought up by amateurs.

Mr. Arthur Chapman (Holborn Union) pointed out that the College of Nursing proposed to adopt *if thought fit* the certificates of certain training schools, but he was of opinion that this power would probably be taken away as soon as possible, on the ground of co-ordination, and considered that as part of the conditions required by the Association, they should arrange that the certificates of the training schools should be considered sufficient qualification for registration.

The Reverend J. Shaw (Epsom) agreed with the Chairman of the Wakefield Guardians and commented on the uninformed precipitancy with which the College of Nursing had made its appearance in the world. He thought before it was much older it would have lost some of its illusions

and delusions. When the scheme was first brought out, his Board were as astounded as it was possible for guardians to be. "Look," he said, "at the presumption of people who say they are endeavouring to secure the higher education of nurses, and who do not give one test. The Association should say, 'we want to know what your test is to be, we know what our own is.'"

Miss Hawkins (Barnet) said she spoke as a Poor Law Guardian and as a trained nurse. Mr. Mahon had touched the right nail on the head in speaking of direct representation, but it was incorrect to say that no association of nurses had considered the question. There was a large association of nurses—the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses—which had been working at this question for many years, and which was ready to fight, able to fight, and meant to fight for a just Bill, providing for a central examination, and a uniform curriculum, the only things worth having. She asked the audience whether they supposed the provision for the recognition of the certificates of certain training schools meant poor law schools. She was of opinion that it referred to a few privileged general hospitals.

A question was asked as to whether the nurses' association had come to any decision on this Bill, and Miss Hawkins replied that it had, and further it had come to the definite conclusion that it was strongly opposed to the constitution of the College and intended to fight for the nurses' interests.

Mr. List having replied, the Chairman enquired whether the Association agreed with the action of the Executive Council as defined in paragraph 19 of its report, and this was endorsed.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES IN SCOTLAND.

A meeting of the Executive Committee and members of the Association was held in the Christian Institute, Bothwell Street, Glasgow, on Friday, November 24th, 1916. Lord Inverclyde occupied the chair and amongst others the following members were present: Professor Glaister, Colonel Mackintosh, Major McCubban-Johnston, Dr. Newman, Sir James Afflick, Dr. Robertson, (Morningside Royal Asylum), Dr. Munro Ker, Dr. Maxton Thom, Miss Gill, R.R.C., Miss Melrose, R.R.C., Miss Gregory Smith, R.R.C., Miss Davidson (Bangour), Miss Rough, Miss Merchant, Miss Shepherd, Miss Kay, Miss Walker, Miss Dennis, Miss Brunsey, Miss Gordon, Miss Maxwell Camelon, Dr. C. Ker, Miss Graham.

Professor Glaister moved and Miss Gill seconded the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted and forwarded to the Central Committee, held on the 25th ulto.:—"That the Association for the Promotion of Registration of Nurses in

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)