

1918, as arranged in San Francisco last year, an opinion with which the British and American National Councils regretfully agree.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE
REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

The Central Committee throughout the year has been actively engaged in consideration of the College of Nursing Scheme and—when it drafted a Nurses' Registration Bill—in endeavouring to arrive at a conjoint Bill. The reasons why agreement has so far not been reached have been fully stated in this JOURNAL, and in the Statement recently published by the direction of the Central Committee. The composition of the Local Board for Scotland, recently nominated, has made nurses in England and Ireland realize the danger of entrusting the control of the professional and economic, as well as the educational, interests of nurses to the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd. Failing agreement between the two bodies, the Central Committee, with the co-operation of the British Medical Association, proposes to proceed with the introduction of its own Bill, a policy endorsed by the delegates of its affiliated societies at the last meeting of the Central Committee by twenty votes to two. The Bill has therefore been amended by the Executive Committee, and is ready for introduction at any opportune moment.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF
TRAINED NURSES.

The immediate result of the proposal for the registration of trained nurses on a voluntary basis was an increase of the membership of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, the applicants affirming their belief in the following principles:—

1. State Registration of Trained Nurses by Act of Parliament.
2. An elected Governing Body for the Nursing Profession, on which the registered nurses have direct and adequate representation.
3. A Central Examination for all nurses, at the expiration of the term of grace provided for in the Nurses Registration Bill, before admission to the Register.
4. The protected title of Registered Nurse for those placed on the General Register.

The Society endorses the policy of the Central Committee in amending its own Bill, and issuing a "Statement" on the negotiations between the Committee and the College of Nursing, Ltd., but this decision was only reached after every effort had been made both by the Society collectively, and by its President

individually, to arrive at agreement with the College of Nursing as to a conjoint Bill in co-operation with the Central Committee. The Society supports as fundamental principles:—

(1) Direct representation for the medical and nursing professions on the Provisional as well as the Permanent Council.

(2) That the Rules and Regulations for registration during the term of grace shall be agreed to by the nurses' direct representatives.

(3) That no nurse shall be registered after the term of grace who has not passed through three years' training in a hospital, or in hospitals (to provide for reciprocal training) and passed a central examination.

These principles have not so far been incorporated in the Bill drafted by the College of Nursing, Ltd.

SOCIAL SERVICE.

In the branch of Social Service—a department of their work in which nurses are increasingly interested, it is interesting to note that a course of training for Health Visitors and Superintendents of Infant Welfare Centres, extending over three years, has been established at the Royal College of St. Katherine, Poplar, E.; that a scheme for the District Nursing of Measles and Whooping Cough has been outlined by the Central Committee for District Nursing in London; and that, following the Report of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, and the dissemination of knowledge on this question, there seems at length a prospect of adequate opportunities for treatment and nursing care being organized for patients suffering from such diseases. The subject is one in which trained nurses have taken special interest since the Hon. Albinia Brodrick presented a paper on the question at the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in London in 1909.

OUR ROLL OF HONOUR.

During the past year the Roll of Honour of trained nurses who have died at the post of duty has been unusually large. The nursing profession salutes those of its members who have thus been "faithful unto death."

The name of Sir Victor Horsley, who so closely identified himself with the work of nurses for the organization of their profession, rises unbidden to our minds when we tell over the losses of the year. We miss him profoundly, and his eager, logical, chivalrous support. Let us hope that the principles for which he contended so earnestly may shortly be incorporated in an Act of Parliament.

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