

which the objects of this Society are stated in four clear propositions.

Firstly, State Registration of Trained Nurses by Act of Parliament.

Secondly, an elected Governing Body for the Nursing Profession on which the Registered Nurses have direct and adequate representation.

Thirdly, a central examination for nurses at the expiration of the term of grace provided for in the Nurses' Registration Bill, before admission to the Register.

And fourthly, the protected title of Registered Nurse for those placed on the General Register.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, held on June 8th, the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, gave an illuminating résumé of the conferences between the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses, and the Nursing College Delegates.

It remained to be seen if the Bills of both parties could not be combined in their essential features, including the agreement as to the Constitution of a Governing Body.

In view of the strong desire on both sides to come to a mutual understanding, there was every reason to hope that an acceptable Bill might be agreed upon at some date in the near future.

Our sincere thanks are due to our indefatigable President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who has been working for these principles for the last twenty-five years, and consequently has a most intimate knowledge of the technical and legal points required in such a Bill. We can rest assured that with her watchful devotion to our Cause the liberties, and highest interests of the Nursing Profession will be safeguarded and preserved.

#### THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

The President then gave a short account of the College of Nursing scheme, and said that it was no longer possible to separate the College from a Bill for the State Registration of Nurses. As deliberations were still proceeding between the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses and the College it would be improper to go into details, but she mentioned some points which she had direct authority from Mr. Stanley for stating. Mr. Stanley was of opinion that if an agreed Bill was arrived at, and with the help of Major Chapple, a Nurses' Registration Bill might be passed as a war measure, probably before Christmas.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick said that it was in no contentious spirit that she repeated what she had said at the last meeting of the League, that the College scheme as outlined in Mr. Stanley's original letter and incorporated in its Memorandum and Articles of Association was exceedingly dangerous to the best interests of the nursing profession, but much had happened in the past six months calculated to mitigate such effects. State, as apart from Voluntary, Registration had been adopted by the College and a Nurses' Registration Bill drafted. There had been several meetings between the representatives of the College and the Central Committee to try to

get an agreed Bill. This could only be done by inserting clauses considered of vital importance in nursing legislation. Many of their proposals had been accepted, and if further additions were included it did not appear improbable that with compromise a Bill might be agreed upon. They must not, however, think that everything was plain sailing. The constitution of the College as defined in its Memorandum and Articles of Association was autocratic and impossible. For instance, it was expressly provided that the College, which was presumably an educational institution, should not grant either titles or diplomas to trained nurses. They must not permit so obsolete a mandate to stand. Those framing legislation were responsible for the status of future generations of nurses and they must conserve their interests. However, by conference much could be done, and she was inclined to think that if an agreed Bill were adopted it would not be so very different from their own statesmanlike measure to which so much thought had been devoted.

Miss M. Huxley then gave a most interesting and sympathetic account of the recent Irish rebellion in Dublin, after which the members adjourned to the Great Hall for tea, which, as usual, was dainty and delicious, and to which many guests were invited. Mr. Algernon Clarke's Ladies' Trio played delightfully. Registration and the war provided absorbing topics of conversation.

M. B.

#### THE PHYSICAL CLINIQUE.

The Physical Clinique for Wounded and Disabled Soldiers at 126, Great Portland Street, was opened on July 1st by H.M. Queen Alexandra. Its special features are the Whirlpool Bath and the Zander appliances.

The baths, actuated by currents of water, by electric motors and by compressed air, have a strong tonic effect on the special conditions of muscles and joints due to injuries. The baths differ in detail, one pattern for feet, another for arms, and one for the entire body, but the principle is the same throughout.

The Zander appliances for extension and flexion of stiff joints and contracted muscles are extremely interesting. The apparatus has been obtained from Paris, and consists of twelve pieces. We were informed that the whole of this wonderfully ingenious apparatus cost only £175. Neither this nor the Whirlpool Bath has hitherto been in use in England. The treatment, which is entirely free, will in the first instance be given to wounded and disabled soldiers. About sixty cases can be treated in the afternoon, which at present is the only time the clinique is opened.

#### THE EDITH CAVELL STATUE.

The *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Memorial Fund for the erection of a statue to Edith Cavell now amounts to 58,527 shillings and ninepence (£2,926 7s. 9d.). We look forward to seeing Sir George Frampton's beautiful statue in its place near Trafalgar Square—a splendid national site.

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