

11. Or is a nurse to be compelled by the training-school to register with the College, and thus be a member automatically?

12. If so—if a nurse objects to the management of the College—does she lose her registration if she resigns membership?

13. As in proposed Bye-law 8, the President and the Council can summon a special meeting at will, why may the members not enjoy the same privilege? as it is provided that 100 members of the Corporation must have the support of one-fourth of the Council in requisitioning a special meeting, the latter provision practically deprives the members of power to summon a Special Meeting, and provides for a very autocratic and not a democratic form of Government?

#### IRISH MATRONS AND COLLEGE OF NURSING.

A meeting of Irish Matrons in Dublin was held on Tuesday evening last week, as Miss Cox-Davies was anxious to meet them. There was a fair gathering. Pertinent questions were asked, and it was definitely stated by the College representatives that the Certificates of Training Schools were not to qualify for Registration should the College Bill become law. There was to be a further examination and one portal for all. Nothing was said about an *open* term of grace. The present constitution of the College was criticised, exception being taken to the certification of V.A.D. nurses, and the power of the Council to elect anyone to be a member of the Corporation. A College advocate wished to push the formation of a Board at once, and said it would be terrible if Belfast formed one and Dublin was left out. The Irish Matrons remarked it would thus be only an Ulster Board, as Dublin would never listen to dictation from Belfast. They insisted on delay as agreed at the public meeting, until their questions had been answered by the College Council, and they had had time for consideration. This is certainly a wise policy, and there is nothing to be lost by it, as the Irish Nurses' Association has so long actively supported the Central Committee's Bill, which they helped to draft, that they know exactly what they want, and have the entire sympathy of the Irish National Party in their long struggle for nursing reform.

#### IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on the 3rd inst. at 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

There was a discussion on the meetings, arranged by the supporters of the College of Nursing, held on January 27th last at the Royal College of Physicians and at 34, St. Stephen's Green. The I.N.A. are still of opinion that there is no advantage to be gained by joining the College.

#### A MEETING AT BELFAST.

Miss Cox-Davies and Miss Rundle paid a visit to Belfast on the 29th ult., but we have received no report of the meeting.

#### NATIONAL POOR LAW OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, INCORPORATED, AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

At a Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Council of the above Association, held in London on the 20th January the following Report, presented by the President Mr. T. Percival, as published in *The Poor Law Officers' Journal*:—

#### THE ASSOCIATION AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING. CLAIM TO REPRESENT POOR LAW NURSES NOT ADMITTED.

The President submitted his report with regard to the affairs of the College of Nursing, Ltd. He explained that the Association had been invited to appoint representatives to sit on the Council of the College. Ten nominations had been obtained, consisting mainly of Matrons of Poor Law Institutions, and they had been duly forwarded to the Hon. Arthur Stanley, who stated in acknowledgment that while their views should be given every consideration by his Committee, their claim to represent the majority of Poor Law nurses was not generally admitted. There was little doubt that for this position they had to thank the Poor Law Infirmary Matrons' Association. The President read Mr. Stanley's letter, which concluded with the promise that he would do what he could to arrange for adequate representation of the National Poor Law Officers' Association on the General Nursing Council. The matter, however, had gone a stage further. In the *Times* of the previous day was a report of a meeting at which amalgamation between the Royal British Nurses Association and the College was agreed to, and a new Council of 39 members had been appointed, on which there was no representative of the Poor Law Unions or of the National Poor Law Officers' Association. Two or three Poor Law Matrons serving on the original Council had been elected, but not a single one of the names they had submitted had been accepted. Before accepting this as a final rebuff they must remember that the number of the Nursing College Council was not yet fixed; the original proposal was for a Council of 45, so possibly six vacancies had been left to meet the claims of the Poor Law Service for representation. Inquiry would be made and future action determined by the result.

#### REPRESENTATION OR OPPOSITION.

If the College authorities were unable to meet the claim put forward that Poor Law nurses should be given direct representation, he took it the only course would be for them to oppose the Registration Bill in Parliament until it was put into such shape as would meet the increase of Poor Law nurses to the fullest extent. That was the only object they had in view. They did not desire to differentiate between Poor Law nurses and other nurses trained elsewhere. In fact, they saw in this case a golden opportunity to remove once and for ever any such distinction. The College condition of 250 beds for a Poor Law

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