

Nurses' movement for thirty years, who, in an exhaustive address, placed before them the history of the movement since 1887 until this day, of the struggle of trained nurses for their professional enfranchisement through a Registration Bill, through which they might organise the educational and economic standards of their own profession, for the benefit of the public and the nursing profession—a campaign which has cost the nurses upwards of £20,000, owing to the powerful and interested opposition of the Nurse Training Schools and their officials to any form of self-governing co-operation and control for working nurses.

Whilst Mr. Stanley was publicly inviting charitable aid in support of his scheme, Mrs. Fenwick repudiated the suggestion that self-respecting members of the nursing profession had suggested the appeal, or been consulted on the subject, and expressed the opinion that to make a charitable appeal upon their behalf in war time not only impugned the patriotism of trained nurses but would undermine their professional and personal independence. Altogether a very momentous day, and one pregnant with hope for those nurses who are determined not to sell their birthright for a mess of patronage. Shackles are none the less fetters because they are made of gold.

A CHARITABLE APPEAL FOR THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

Queen Alexandra, Princess Victoria and Princess Christian were present at the concert held on May 2nd, at the Queen's Hall, under the auspices of the College of Nursing. The Queen was received by the Honble. Arthur Stanley, M.P., Chairman of the Council of the College of Nursing; Miss Swift, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Joint Committee; Miss Becher, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Military Nursing Service; Miss Sidney Browne, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Territorial Nursing Service; and Miss Lloyd Still, R.R.C., representing the nurse training schools.

The idea of the concert, which was organized by Mr. Victor Beigel, who has given many concerts in connection with the Red Cross, was that it should be one to which the nurses should come for real enjoyment and without any of the responsibilities of looking after patients; and the programme was evidently greatly enjoyed by the guests, who encored many of the performers, and brought the concert to a conclusion by themselves singing with great fervour, "Land of Hope and Glory."

Mr. Stanley, in the interval, made a brief speech, referring to the College of Nursing and the Nation's Fund for Nurses. He said that if the College was to be a success, they must have money. They did not want to start off with great names and large sums from distinguished people, but with the small sums of those who owed much to the ministrations of the nurses. It appeared to be

the right moment to ask the British public for this money, when hundreds of thousands of their men were being tended by these devoted women.

Miss Compton, representing the British Women's Hospital (promoted by the Actresses' Franchise League), announced that they were prepared to give their support in every possible way in raising "The Nation's Fund for Nurses."

We learn that the British Women's Hospital Committee, having been informed of the strong opposition of many trained nurses to a charitable appeal being made upon their behalf in War time, and objecting to undertake work of a controversial nature, has decided to postpone for the present any work for the "Nation's Fund for Nurses."

The suggestion, emanating presumably from the College officials, that the "Tommies" should be invited to support this appeal, has caused profound indignation throughout the organized nurses' societies. This is the first fruits of government without consent.

SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

A Meeting of the Executive Committee was held at 431, Oxford Street, London, on May 3rd, Mrs. Fenwick in the Chair.

NEW MEMBERS.

After the election of new members the arrangements for the Annual Meeting were considered.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

It was agreed that the meeting should be held in London on June 7th next, and that a full report of the year's activities should be presented.

The President reminded the meeting that the object of the Society was to promote a Bill for the State Registration of Trained Nurses in Parliament; representative of the interests of all concerned, on the Governing Body on which the Registered Nurses would from the first have direct representation, and which, after a three years' term of grace, provided for the protected title and definition of "Registered Nurse," and also for a Central Examination before registration, principles accepted by Parliament in the Medical, Midwives, and Teachers Acts.

The Society therefore supported the Bill drafted by the Central Committee for State Registration, and would oppose any Bill which did not include these fundamental principles. The President said the nursing profession was passing through a very grave crisis, owing to the policy of the College of Nursing, Ltd., which was inspired and largely directed by lay opinion, and maintained the demand of lay control for the Nursing Profession. There was no means for the expression of independent nursing opinion on its Council, as none of the nominated matrons were at liberty to accept

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