

by the Central Committee in its Nurses' Registration Bill should continue to be associated in any way with that Committee; and that it would increase the efficiency and prestige of the Central Committee if the names of such Societies or Hon. Officers were at once removed from its official lists."

In proposing the Resolution Miss Kingsford said that in 1910, when the Central Committee was formed, there was absolute unanimity amongst the eight Societies represented, and the Nurses' Registration Bill was brought forward. Then came the war and the help of every available nurse was needed, and a truce was called as to contentious legislation. The proposal for the Nursing College was put forward in 1915, when it was found, when its Bill was drafted, that there was the same old opposition to effective self-government for the nurses which had been met with from the Training Schools for 30 years. Two of the Societies affiliated with the Central Committee gave their adhesion to the College policy and accepted representation on its Council, and it became increasingly apparent that their outlook was antagonistic to the aims of the Central Committee. Office carried with it responsibility as well as prestige, and it was impossible to run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. She had much pleasure in moving the resolution.

Miss Beatrice Kent endorsed the above view. She thought the position was extremely anomalous and the principle incorporated in the resolution was a correct one, and should be acted upon.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Miss A. E. Hulme proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Major Chapple for his unflinching support of the Nurses' Bill, and with it she coupled the name of Dr. Goodall, to whom registrationists owed much for his steadfast support. Both Major Chapple and Dr. Goodall were the defenders and champions of the rights and liberties of nurses. The vote of thanks was carried with much acclamation.

Dr. Goodall, speaking for Major Chapple as well as himself, expressed his heartiest thanks for the way in which the meeting had received the proposition. It was a pleasure to him to do work for so energetic a body, in support of the Registration cause. He thoroughly supported the Resolutions.

A cordial vote of thanks to the chair concluded the proceedings of a very inspiring meeting, and those present then adjourned to 2, Portland Place, W., where Mrs. Walter Spencer, with her usual hospitality had provided a delicious tea.

MARGARET BREAY,
Hon. Secretary.

A MESSAGE FROM MAJOR CHAPPLE.

The following message has been received from Major Chapple, M.P. :—

"The meeting was splendid. Our movement was never so healthy and promising as now. 'Seek first the Franchise and everything else will be added unto you.'"

THE NURSES' PETITION TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

COLLEGE OF NURSING ATTEMPTS TO SMASH IT.

The very simple Petition which was issued by the Society for State Registration, asking in clear terms that any Act for State Registration shall embody the principle that the Central Committee has fought for all along, has aroused a storm of indignation amongst those who do not desire to grant representation to the organised societies of nurses. One might wonder why they should be so astonished and indignant at what is merely reiteration of a plain request, were it not that the natural deduction is that their case is not sound, and therefore they get flustered. The Central Committee can go calmly forward, for its policy is based on a rock that cannot be shaken, let the waves roar as they will.

The last wave that has roared is a long Circular from the College, intended to act as smasher of the Petition. It is likely to have the opposite effect on thinking minds. For one thing, if the right of representation, which the Petition asks for in half a dozen lines, were so evil a thing, it would be possible to demolish it by a cogent argument in an equal number of lines.

The College Circular, however, consists of four pages of very intricate writing. There is only one interpretation for such complicated action. There was a naughty horse once. He would not do as he was bid. So, after the failure of every kind of persuasion and lure, someone got on to his back, and galloped him up and down and round and round, and round and round, until he was so bewildered that he made a mistake and went into the gateway he had refused before.

Could the Circular have been intended to act in some such way? But, as we are neither bridled nor saddled, let us examine some of the clauses calmly.

Paragraph 2 implies that the signatories have been hoodwinked into supporting any Bill promoted by the Central Committee, whatever provisions it may contain.

The Petition asks in a perfectly straightforward way for direct representation on the Provisional Council as a fundamental principle.

If the demand leads logically to the support of the Committee's Bill, whose fault is that?

Paragraph 3 is misleading. It states that the Bills are identical in that they both promote a uniform curriculum at recognised "Hospitals

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