

for the State Registration of Trained Nurses to present a Petition to the Privy Council against the grant of such powers, and dealing also with other proposals in the Draft Supplemental Charter and By-Laws.

It is only necessary therefore to recapitulate that the Privy Council gave serious consideration and weight to this Petition, and referred it to the Royal British Nurses' Association, the Council of which agreed with certain of the objections, and asked the Privy Council to amend their Charter accordingly. In view, however, of the limitation of powers by the Privy Council in regard to the official Register, by the substitution of the word "an" for "the," the General Council decided that it would not be to the interest of the Corporation to accept the alterations suggested, as the restricted powers granted would not be greater than the Association already possessed. This decision was confirmed by a special general meeting of members on December 12th. The Royal British Nurses' Association will therefore keep its Charter, and continue to be the Nurses' Chartered Association. As the College of Nursing, Limited, is in need of funds to finance its various projects, it has sought and obtained the assistance of the British Women's Hospital Committee, a Committee which has done much excellent work for the sick and wounded. It is much to be regretted that, contrary to the wishes of self-respecting nurses, to whom it is most repugnant, it is appealing to the public for the endowment of the College of Nursing as a war charity, and interfering with the educational, economic, and disciplinary standards of nursing, of which it has no knowledge.

THE PRESS BOYCOTT.

One of the most sinister features in the nursing controversy during the last quarter of a century has been the boycott of the nurses' views maintained by the majority of large London newspapers, so that the nurses have been unable to express an opinion in their columns, and place their views before the public. The boasted freedom of the press is an unknown quantity where a struggling profession of women is concerned.

It is not too much to say that, had it not been for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, which gives the nurses a voice in the press, every professional opinion and aspiration with which they are inspired would have been inarticulate.

THE DANGER OF A MONOPOLY.

Although the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses was the only Society of Nurses to petition the Privy Council on the

subject of the proposed amalgamation, others were alive to the danger of a monopoly of control of the members of the Nursing Profession by a lay Corporation.

THE SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Scottish Nurses' Association has consistently supported the line of action taken by the Central Committee, and also sent to the British Women's Hospital Committee a resolution supporting the action taken by the Society for the State Registration of Nurses in objecting to the proposed charitable scheme.

It may here be mentioned that in March last the Association opened new Club Rooms at 103, Bath Street, Glasgow, which have proved such a success that they are now open to all nurses, and afford a much-appreciated opportunity for the discussion of professional affairs.

THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The Irish Nurses' Association acted with promptitude and vigour in regard to the College controversy, and, with the support of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland, formed an Irish Nursing Board in May last with the object of promoting a scheme for the improvement of nurses' education in Ireland and of establishing a Register of Nurses. Mr. William Taylor, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, is Chairman of the Board, which includes three other distinguished members of that College, and well-known members of the Nursing Profession in Ireland, with Miss Carson Rae as Hon. Secretary.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The National Union of Trained Nurses has, during the year, stood consistently for the interests of the workers, and its Hon. Secretary, Miss E. L. C. Eden, has rendered invaluable service by her letters to the press on the question of Nursing Organization. The Union also organized a deputation to Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P., Chairman of the Labour Party in the House of Commons, which represented the Scottish Nurses' Association and the Irish Nurses' Association, as well as the Union. The deputation, introduced by Mrs. Sidney Webb, emphasised the necessity for the adequate representation of trained nurses on their Governing Body, as defined in the Central Committee's Bill, and the "quite different scheme started by the Honble. Sir Arthur Stanley, M.P., under the guise of a College of Nursing," the fundamental objection to which was that it set up a Council which for the first two years was not to include direct representation of the nurses themselves or of their Associations, and

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