

## THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

### A STATEMENT OF FACTS CONCERNING NEGOTIATIONS.

As incorrect statements are being made concerning the negotiations which have in the past taken place between the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses and the College of Nursing, Ltd., a plain statement of facts may be useful.

1914.—The Nurses' Registration Bill drafted by the Central Committee introduced into the House of Commons by Dr. Chapple under the ten minutes rule, leave to bring in the Bill was given by a majority of 229.

1915.—War. The Prime Minister debarred the introduction by private members of controversial Bills.

1916.—College of Nursing, Ltd., drafted a Nurses' Registration Bill. Meetings took place between representatives of the Central Committee and of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

June, 1916.—Direct representation of the Nurses on the Provisional Council to frame Rules agreed upon.

July, 1916.—Principle of direct representation repudiated by College of Nursing. A proposal substituted that the first Council should be composed of 45 *nominated* persons—a breach of agreement which deprived the Nursing Profession of *direct* representation on their own Governing Body.

September, 1916.—The Central Committee informed the College of Nursing that if four amendments set out were not adopted by the College negotiations would be discontinued.

October, 1916.—No guarantee given by College. Negotiations discontinued. Central Committee decided to proceed with its own Bill.

1917.—Negotiations for affiliation took place between the Royal British Nurses' Association and the College of Nursing. Supplemental Charter applied for to Privy Council. Charter not granted in its entirety. R.B.N.A. withdrew application for Supplemental Charter. Affiliation did not take place.

July, 1917.—Hon. Arthur Stanley approached Dr. Chapple. Proposed a conference between himself, Sir Cooper Perry, Dr. Chapple, and another, stating he was willing to surrender the position he and his friends had taken up in reference to a nominated Council. Proposal referred by Dr. Chapple to Central Committee.

July 7th.—At meeting of Central Committee invitation for Conference accepted, agreed "that three representatives should be appointed respectively by the Central Committee and the

College of Nursing, Ltd., and that the College be requested to include one nurse." Dr. Chapple, Colonel Goodall, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick appointed to represent the Central Committee. Resolution forwarded to Dr. Chapple as intermediary. Exception taken by Hon. Arthur Stanley to statement of facts in BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. In consequence no further steps taken by Dr. Chapple.

1918, February.—Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley again approached Dr. Chapple, and proposed to resume negotiations with a view to getting an agreed Bill.

March 2nd.—Matter referred by Dr. Chapple to Central Committee, which adopted a reply to be sent direct to the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., setting out four fundamental principles of such vital importance that no compromise thereon was possible, asking if the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., was prepared to agree to the insertion of such Clauses in any Bill promoted for the State Registration of Nurses, and stating that if these enquiries were answered in the affirmative, then the Central Committee was of opinion that the proposal for a Conference made by the Chairman of the College of Nursing might be further considered.

March 13th.—Reply sent to Secretary, College of Nursing, stating that, to prevent misunderstanding and delay, the Central Committee was of opinion that any further communication from the College of Nursing, Ltd., on the question under discussion should embody the opinion of the Council of the College, and be conveyed to the Central Committee through the usual official source.

March 15th.—Communication acknowledged by Secretary of College of Nursing.

Up to date no reply has been received from the Council of the College of Nursing to the questions forwarded in the communication from the Central Committee on March 13th.

### FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES.

The Central Committee, in safeguarding the interests of trained nurses and the public through a Nurses' Registration Act, claim:—

(1) An Independent Governing Body for the Nursing Profession on which trained nurses have direct representation.

(2) Trained nurses to have equal rights to registration during the term of grace. No preferential treatment for nurses on the Nursing College Register.

(3) A minimum period of three years' hospital training after the period of grace.

(4) A one portal examination for the General Register.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)