

showed that those averse to the negotiations knew the subject better than he did.

One result of the breakdown of the amalgamation had been that instead of the Council holding office for two years, they had reverted to their intention of making it elective, and a third had retired, and by-and-by they would learn who had been elected by the members.

In regard to a Nurses' Registration Bill, the members of the College were aware that an attempt had been made to come to an agreement with the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses as to the terms of a Bill. They got so close to agreement that no fundamental differences were left, but in regard to the constitution of the Provisional Council they did not see eye to eye, and negotiations were broken off. Since then the College had waived its objections and adopted the system advocated. He believed this removed the only obstacle. He hoped that before long they would be able to circulate a draft of a Bill which was now being printed. Major Chapple was to approach the Central Committee, and if they were in accordance with its proposals at last there would be an agreed Bill.

Sir Arthur formally moved from the chair the adoption of the Report and Accounts as presented.

This was seconded by Miss Sidney Browne and carried without discussion.

The result of the ballot was then handed in by the returning officers. All the twelve retiring members stood for re-election, and ten were re-elected.

*English and Welsh.*—Mr. Comyns Berkeley, Miss Amy Hughes, Miss Cox Davies, Miss McIntosh, Sir James Cantlie, and Miss E. C. Barton. The two new members are Sir Berkeley Moynihan, F.R.C.S., and Miss Margaret Hogg. The retiring members are Miss A. C. Gibson and Miss A. B. Baillie.

*Scottish.*—Miss A. W. Gill and Professor Glaister.

*Irish.*—Miss A. M. Curtin and Mr. Andrew Beattie, D.L. It will be observed that no Sister or nurse is included in the Council, nor is any provision made for this element.

In returning thanks the Chairman invited the members to raise funds for the running expenses. He did not ask them all to contribute 5s. but to go back and see that all their friends gave 10s.

Tea was served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Next week we shall give a Report of the Nursing Conference held on June 6 and 7.

## LAY CONTROL AT LIVERPOOL.

Chairmen and members of hospital Committees have formed themselves into a Local Committee of Finance, to manage the affairs of the Liverpool Branch of the College of Nursing, Ltd. It is proposed to rent modest accommodation in some suitable building, which will be the visible "Centre." The rooms will be available as a Club for nurses who are members, and will be the

local headquarters for propaganda work in the locality. . . . The Committee think that a sum of £2,000 should be raised at once."

Is it seriously advanced in Liverpool that the Matron of the Royal Infirmary and other College Matrons, to say nothing of the nurses, are incapable of managing a small venture such as this little Club? It is most injurious to the *amour propre* of the nursing profession that they must be treated like children. We hope to see nurse members of this Centre placed on the Finance Committee without delay.

## WIDOWS' MITES AT NORWICH.

Mrs. F. M. Jewson, Lady Mayoress of Norwich, sat at the receipt of custom in the Guildhall on Monday, June 10th, to receive contributions for the so-called Nation's Fund for Nurses. "Any amount, from widows' mites to the millionaire's cheque will help to further the work." We are thankful the appeal has not been addressed to "Tommies" and other patients in Norwich.

## LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

A General Meeting of the above League will be held in the Clinical Theatre, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on Saturday, June 29th, at 2.30 p.m.

On the Agenda sent out it was announced that Miss Musson, R.R.C., would speak on the progress of the College of Nursing, Ltd. We regret to learn she will now be unable to do so, and that the College Council has refused to appoint a substitute, as nothing would be more beneficial than a free and open discussion on College affairs, and this is apparently just what the College Council hesitates to grant. Statements from platforms by College officials to selected audiences is its policy, where intelligent questions are conspicuous by their absence, and from which criticisms are voted out of order if they happen to be made. We think much good might result from free and open discussion, and we regret the College is not going to face the music at the Bart.'s League Meeting. It is a great sign of weakness.

## THE PASSING BELL.

It is a curious coincidence that the Nurses' Registration Bill has always been introduced into the House of Commons by a Scotchman. First, in 1904, by Dr. Robert Farquharson, member for West Aberdeenshire; in 1905 and successive years by Mr. (now Sir Ronald) Munro Ferguson, member for Leith Burghs, and in 1914 by Dr. Chapple, member for Stirlingshire, who we hope will see it through.

We much regret to record the death of Dr. Farquharson at Finzean House, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, on Saturday last. Registrationists will always gratefully remember that he espoused their cause when the movement for State Registration of Nurses was not only misunderstood, but bitterly opposed by the Nursing Schools.

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