

1915.—War. The Prime Minister prohibited 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 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, including direct representation of the nurses on the Provisional Council, 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.

July, 1917.—The Hon. Arthur Stanley approached Major Chapple. Proposed a conference between himself, Sir Cooper Perry, Major 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 Major Chapple to Central Committee.

July 7th.—At a 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." Major Chapple, Colonel Goodall, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick appointed to represent the Central Committee. Resolution forwarded to Major Chapple as intermediary. Exception taken by the Hon. Arthur Stanley to statement of facts in BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING. In consequence no further steps taken by Major Chapple.

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

March 2nd.—Matter referred by Major 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 misunder-

standing 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.

#### THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

At the Annual Meeting of this Society last year the Fourth Draft of the Nurses' Registration Bill promoted by the College of Nursing, Ltd., was the one in circulation. Since then, a fifth Draft and within the last few days a sixth Draft has been issued. Your Executive Committee has not yet met to consider the Clauses of this Draft Bill in detail, but it still provides (1) for the legal incorporation of the College of Nursing, Ltd., which is a lay Company, and inserts a new section (3) under Clause 5, providing that "The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the College of Nursing shall, as far as are consistent with this Act, remain in full force and effect unless and until they have been varied or repealed by Rules made under this Act. In effect, therefore, the profession of Nursing is to be governed by a lay Corporation.

Clause 3 provides for compiling Supplementary Registers of Specialists, a system calculated to undermine and render nugatory the General Register of three years' trained nurses.

This Clause also provides that the first general Register shall include without further fee the Registered Members of the College of Nursing, Ltd., at the time when the Act comes into force.

Clause 6 provides that it shall be the duty of the Provisional Nursing Council *forthwith* to prepare and present to the Privy Council Rules required for setting up the First General Nursing Council, thus eliminating the provision requiring two years in which to frame Rules and compile a representative legal Register, and

(h) provides for setting up Local Boards other than the three National Registration Boards for England, Scotland, and Ireland.

On the other hand the draft provides:—

(1) For the representation of the organised Nurses' societies on the Provisional Council to frame the Rules.

(2) It secures for the first time the direct representation of the Registered Nurses on the General Nursing Council; and

(3) That a nurse must have had three years' general training in a Nurse Training School, or Schools recognised by the General Nursing Council and has passed the examinations prescribed by the General Nursing Council before registration.

Your Executive Committee will, in the near future, carefully consider word for word the provisions of the sixth draft College Bill, in the

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