

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

A meeting of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses was held, by the kind permission of the British Medical Association, in the Council Chamber at its offices, 429, Strand, W.C., on Saturday, October 26th. Mr. T. W. H. Garstang was voted to the chair. Major Chapple, M.P., who is in charge of the Bill, was present, and there was a large attendance of members.

Before the meeting was opened sympathetic reference was made to the recent deaths of two members of the Committee, Dr. John Biernacki and Miss Kathleen Sinclair Stewart, A.R.R.C., both of whom had died since its last meeting. The members of the Committee then rose while a vote of condolence with their relatives was passed.

IRISH NURSING BOARD.

A letter was read from Miss Carson Rae, Secretary of the Irish Nursing Board, enclosing the names of the five delegates nominated on to the Central Committee as follows:—

Col. Sir Arthur Chance, F.R.C.S., Chairman of the Board.

Col. William Taylor, M.D.

Miss Ramsden, Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.

Miss O'Flynn, Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin.

Miss McArdle, The Castle Red Cross Hospital, Dublin.

LETTER FROM THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

A letter was also read from the Secretary of the College of Nursing, Ltd., in connection with which Major Chapple made an explanatory statement, and action upon it was deferred until the Report of the Executive Committee on the College Bill had been discussed.

THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Report of the Executive Committee on the Seventh Draft of the College of Nursing Nurses' Registration Bill was presented by Lieut.-Colonel E. W. Goodall, who moved that it should be received. It stated that, in pursuance of the instruction given to it by the Central Committee at its meeting on July 6th, 1918, the Committee carefully considered the re-drafted Bill of the College of Nursing, Ltd., together with an accompanying letter from Major Chapple, M.P. This draft was the seventh draft, and was dated June 20th, 1918. The Committee compared this (the seventh) draft put forward by the College of Nursing

with the fourth draft which was considered by the Central Committee on a previous occasion.

RESOLUTIONS.

Five Resolutions drafted by the Executive Committee were adopted.

COUNTING OF VOTES.

1. Relating to the counting of the votes in the election of the Council.

TERM OF OFFICE OF FIRST COUNCIL.

2. "That a period of two years be named in the Bill as the term of office of the First General Nursing Council."

NOTIFICATION OF DEATHS.

3. "Every Registrar of Deaths in the United Kingdom, on receiving notice of the death of any person registered under this Act, shall forthwith transmit by post to the Registrar of the General Nursing Council a certificate under his own hand of such death, with the particulars of time and place of death, and may charge the cost of such certificate and transmission as an expense of his office."

NO AUTHORITY TO PRACTISE MIDWIFERY.

4. "Nothing contained in this Act, or in any rules made thereunder, shall confer any authority to practise medicine, surgery, or midwifery."

CENTRAL COMMITTEE TO PROCEED WITH ITS OWN BILL.

5. The Committee then passed the following Resolution, which was presented by Lieut.-Colonel Goodall, as a unanimous recommendation from the Executive:—

"That in the opinion of the Executive Committee the present Bill of the Central Committee, amended as suggested in Resolution G (relating to the counting of the votes in the election of the permanent Council), Resolution H (two years' term of office for the Provisional Council), Resolution N (duty of a Registrar of Deaths to notify a registered nurse's death to the General Nursing Council), and Resolution O (the addition of midwifery to medicine and surgery in the Clause which states that the Act does not confer authority to practise these professions) is a better Bill than that drafted by the College of Nursing and should be adhered to."

Lieut.-Colonel Goodall then moved that the Report be adopted, which was agreed.

COLLEGE OF NURSING INVITED TO SUPPORT CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S BILL.

It was then resolved:—

"That it is the considered opinion of the Committee that the Bill drafted by the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses should be presented to Parliament, and that the College of Nursing, Ltd., be formally

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