

work year in, year out, while they stood aside, whether from apathy or craven fear?

Mrs. GLOVER said one reason why nurses were afraid was that they feared they would not get testimonials if they did not conform to the wishes of the Matrons.

Mr. Bedford Fenwick pointed out that it was the nurses' own fault that their economic conditions were so unsatisfactory. They had had a Royal Charter since 1893 and had made very little use of it. She supported the contention of the previous speakers that they must co-operate if they hoped to manage their own affairs and raise their status. Nurses needed a wider outlook; in the past they had been too genteel for a trade union, and had not shown sufficient courage for a strong professional union. They should make it impossible for their employers to intimidate them. She advised the nurses to go away from the Conference and rebel against wrong.

SOME PHASES OF MODERN NURSING.

The second part of the Afternoon Session was devoted to the consideration of "Some Phases of Modern Nursing," dealt with by Miss Marsters, Miss Sinzinx, A.R.R.C., and Miss K. Atherton. It is proposed to report this next week, and to devote the rest of the available space to the Evening Session.

At the conclusion of the Session tea was served, and a very enjoyable half-hour spent.

EVENING SESSION.

THE REGISTRATION BILLS.

The Differences between the Two Nurses' Registration Bills, and Why the Royal British Nurses' Association does not agree with the Bill of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

At the Evening Session the chair was taken by Mr. Herbert J. Paterson, F.R.C.S., Medical Hon. Secretary, Royal British Nurses' Association, and Hon. Treasurer of the Central Committee for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and there was a crowded meeting of Matrons and nurses. The following members of the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., were present:—Professor Glaister, Miss Sidney Browne, Miss Lloyd Still, Miss Hogg, Miss Cox-Davies, and Miss Barton, Miss Rundle, and Miss Cowlin, Secretaries.

The CHAIRMAN said that in the afternoon they had considered the economic position of the trained nurse. This was closely bound up with a just Registration Bill, and a subject on which much light was needed. He hoped there would be a good discussion.

The first speaker was LIEUT.-COLONEL GOODALL, M.D., Hon. Medical Secretary of the Central Committee, who began by saying that they might wonder why a man should address a meeting concerned chiefly with women's affairs. But the professions of Medicine and Nursing were intimately bound up. He would leave Mrs. Fenwick to deal with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the College, as she was more thoroughly acquainted with them than he was.

In a lucid and logical speech Colonel Goodall then explained why any Act for the Registration of Nurses must concern the Medical Profession, and said that the British Medical Association, which included half the medical practitioners in the country, had taken great interest in the Bill, and from the beginning had furthered endeavours to get an Act of Parliament.

DIFFERENCES IN BILLS.

Contrasting the two Bills Colonel Goodall explained that the Central Committee's Bill had been in existence for nine years, and was promoted jointly by a number of Societies. Previous to 1910 there had been two or three Bills before Parliament, and the supporters of Registration were faced by the position that the authorities were of opinion that they should decide which Bill they wished to have. Consequently the Central Committee was formed, a lot of trouble was taken, delegates from England, Scotland, and Ireland met in conference and adopted a Bill, which had been varied from time to time to meet the varying situation.

At a later date the College of Nursing, Ltd., was formed. In the first instance it was not eager to promote State Registration, but when it found it would get no large support unless it did so, it promoted a Bill. Communications had taken place between the Central Committee and the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., in an endeavour to get a joint Bill, but these negotiations had not led to agreement.

There were several important points to which the Central Committee took exception, the first being that the College of Nursing made provision that the College, without the word "limited," should be included in the Bill. The College was a limited liability company, and it might be very desirable for it to drop the word "limited," but there were other ways by which this might be effected. The Central Committee objected to its being dealt with in the way proposed. The General Nursing Council set up under the Act was to administer it, and it was undesirable that any other body should be included. The General Medical Council might as well have incorporated the College of Physicians. There was no reason why any particular body should be mentioned in the Bill. He did not know why the College wished to be put in. If they joined with the Central Committee and supported its Bill they would have no difficulty in getting rid of the word "limited." The Central Committee recognized the useful function of the College as an educational body.

In regard to the incorporation of the Memorandum and Articles of Association in the Bill, the Central Committee most strenuously objected. It was not in the interest of the nurses. If the College was recognized in the Bill and received the approval of Parliament the Memorandum would have the force of an Act of Parliament behind it.

Colonel Goodall then dealt with the setting up of the General Nursing Council.

Under the Central Committee's Bill the First General Nursing Council was differently con-

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