

## THE NURSES' REGISTRATION BILL.

On Friday, July 4th, the second Order of the Day was the

"Nurses' Registration Bill; Adjourned Debate on Amendment proposed on Consideration, as amended (in the Standing Committee.)" [27th June].

It will be remembered that when the House rose on June 27th, an amendment to Clause 4, proposed by Lieut.-Commander Astbury (Salford W.), and seconded by Major Hurst (Moss Side, Manchester) was under consideration.

It is very difficult for those not acquainted with Parliamentary procedure to follow what is taking place in the House of Commons, when the provisions of a Bill are discussed. We desire to explain therefore that on Friday last the House of Commons resumed the consideration of the Amendment to Clause 4, sub-section (1.), proposed on June 27th, by Lieut.-Commander Astbury.

Commander Astbury proposed to leave out paragraphs (a) to (k) inclusive (*i.e.*, the General Nursing Council as defined in the Central Committee's Bill) and to substitute a Council composed of one person appointed by the Privy Council, one by the British Medical Association, two by the College of Nursing, Limited, one by the Royal British Nurses' Association, and thirty-seven nurses elected by registered nurses.

DEBATE RESUMED JULY 4TH.

WRECKING POLICY CONTINUED BY SUPPORTERS OF THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

Debate resumed on Amendment proposed on Consideration, as amended (in the Standing Committee) [27th June]:

CLAUSE 4.—(*Constitution and Appointment of Council.*)

Amendment proposed [27th June]: To leave out the words,

- (a) Three persons to be appointed by the Privy Council;
- (b) Four registered medical practitioners, two to be appointed by the Local Government Board for England, one for England, one for Wales, one by the Local Government Board for Scotland, and one by the Local Government Board for Ireland;
- (c) Three registered medical practitioners to be appointed by the British Medical Association, one to be resident in England, one to be resident in Scotland, and one to be resident in Ireland;

and to insert instead thereof the words,

"namely, one person to be appointed by the Privy Council, one person by the British Medical Association, two persons by the College of Nursing, Limited, one person by the Royal British Nurses' Association, and thirty-seven nurses by election on the part of all nurses duly registered, the first election to take place on the expiration of two years from the passing hereof."— [Lieut.-Commander Astbury.]

Question again proposed,

"That the word 'Three' stand part of the Bill."

Major Nall (Hulme, Manchester) then said: I beg to move, "That the Debate be now ad-

journed." He thought a good many hon. Members would feel that with only an hour to spare, they could not adequately consider the many Amendments on the Paper dealing with this important question. He was prompted to take this course by the statement which was made by the Minister of Health last Friday, when he very clearly explained the position.

Major Barnett interposed: The hon. and gallant Member spoke last week on the Amendment now before the House. Is he in order in moving the Adjournment?

Mr. Speaker replied; If the hon. Member spoke on the Amendment on the last occasion, he would not be entitled to speak again on the Amendment now.

Major Nall said he was moving "That the Debate be now adjourned."

Mr. Speaker: That is speaking to this Amendment, and the hon. Member is disqualified from doing so.

Major Nall: May I move "That further consideration be now adjourned?"

Mr. Speaker: No. What is now before the House is the Amendment, and on that the hon. Member has already spoken.

### Amendment Negatived.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S PROPOSALS STAND.

The result of this amendment being negatived is that the House of Commons refused to accept the Constitution for a General Nursing Council proposed on June 27th, by Lieut.-Commander Astbury, and therefore accepted that proposed by the Central Committee in its Bill as follows:—

CLAUSE 4.—(*Constitution and Appointment of Council.*)

(1) The Council shall consist of forty-two\* persons to be appointed or elected as follows:

- (a) Three persons to be appointed by the Privy Council;
- (b) Four registered medical practitioners, two to be appointed by the Local Government Board for England, one for England, one for Wales, one by the Local Government Board for Scotland, and one by the Local Government Board for Ireland;
- (c) Three registered medical practitioners to be appointed by the British Medical Association, one to be resident in England, one to be resident in Scotland, and one to be resident in Ireland;
- (d) One registered medical practitioner to be appointed by the Medical-Psychological Association;
- (e) One registered medical practitioner to be appointed by the medical superintendents of fever hospitals approved by the Council as training schools for nurses in fever nursing;
- (f) Four persons to be appointed by the nurse training schools attached to hospitals approved by the Council; two by the nurse training schools in England and Wales, one by the nurse training schools in Scotland, and one by the nurse training schools in Ireland;
- (g) Eighteen registered women nurses to be elected as the direct representatives of the women nurses in the General Register; eight to be elected by

\* Now forty-five.—ED.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)