

STATE REGISTRATION IN IRELAND.

We commend the admirable promptitude of the Irish Nursing Board, and the Irish Nurses' Association, when it was announced by the Minister of Health that he only intended to bring in a Bill for the State Registration of Nurses in England and Wales, owing to the fact that there are now departments for the control of health matters in Scotland and Ireland, in at once approaching the Chief Secretary for Ireland (Mr. Macpherson), to urge upon him the necessity of a Bill for the Registration of Nurses in Ireland.

The result of this action upon the part of Irish nurses was that on Wednesday, November 26th, Mr. Macpherson introduced into the House of Commons the Nurses' Registration (Ireland) Bill "to provide for the Registration of Nurses in Ireland," and it was supported by the Attorney General for Ireland.

The Bill was ordered to be printed, and was put down to be read a second time on the following day, Thursday, November 27th, but so far this has not been reached.

NURSES' REGISTRATION (IRELAND) BILL.

This Bill is almost identical with the English Bill, the only difference being (1) that the Chief Secretary for Ireland will be entrusted with the duties, in relation to nurses' registration, which come under the authority of the Minister of Health in the English Bill; and (2) It is provided in the schedule (Constitution of Council) that ten persons instead of twenty-five shall form the General Nursing Council, and that the First Council shall be constituted as follows:—

Four persons appointed by the Chief Secretary, after consultation with persons and bodies having special knowledge and experience of training schools for nurses, of the work of matrons of hospitals, of general and special nursing services, and of general and special medical practice.

Six persons who are or have at some time been nurses actually engaged in rendering services in direct connexion with the nursing of the sick, appointed by the Chief Secretary after consultation with such associations of organised bodies of nurses or matrons as represent to the Chief Secretary that they desire to be consulted in the matter.

After the expiration of the term of office of the first members of the Council, the Council shall be composed of four persons appointed by the Chief Secretary, as aforesaid, and of six persons, being persons registered as nurses under this Act, elected in accordance with the prescribed scheme, and in the prescribed manner by the persons so registered at the date of election.

We have no doubt, whatever, that a means of reciprocity, satisfactory to the nurses of the United Kingdom, will be adopted, and that the relations between the three Nursing Councils will be conducted with harmony and good will, for the benefit of the public and the nurses, for which purpose Parliament will have endowed them with judicial and disciplinary powers.

REGISTER OF NURSES.

The Irish Nursing Board has now published its first Register of Nurses, up to June, 1919, inclusive. It contains in separate columns, clearly arranged, the names, addresses, date of registration, and the qualifications of the nurses registered.

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS AND THE NURSES' BILL.**NURSES' REGISTRATION (No. 2) BILL.**

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRINCIPAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS IN LONDON, AT A MEETING HELD AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, GREAT ORMOND STREET, LONDON, W.C. 1, ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1919.

It was proposed by the Chairman of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, W.C. 1, seconded by the Chairman of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Tite Street, Chelsea, S.W., and carried *nemine contradicente*:—

"That the Committee of Representatives of the principal Children's Hospitals in London approve of the Bill in principle, but the Committee strongly urge that the interests of the Children's Nurses shall be protected by the appointment of not less than two persons on the Council."

It was proposed by Mr. Meller (Queen's Hospital for Children), seconded by Mr. Staniland Smith (Evelina Hospital for Children), and carried unanimously:—

"That recognition be given to the following resolution, adopted by the Committee of Representatives of the principal Children's Hospitals in London, on Wednesday, August 9th, 1916:—

"That Nurses trained in a recognised Children's Hospital for three years should be eligible for the full certificate by taking not more than two years' training in a recognised General Hospital."

The latter resolution is an expression of opinion which is unsuitable for incorporation in an Act of Parliament, but it is one which will doubtless come up for consideration by the General Nursing Council, when appointed, when defining the various reciprocal curricula for the training of nurses. Our consistent objection to Supplementary Registers of Specialists is that it is not fair for special hospitals to side track their trainees, and thus place them at an economic disadvantage in the prosecution of their profession. No nurse can be considered generally trained who has not passed through a term of practical experience in the nursing of sick children—and we would add the care of healthy children as well—so that reciprocal training between the General and the Children's Hospitals must be one of the questions of professional organisation to come before the General Nursing Council early in its deliberations, and with good will, always keeping the welfare of the patients to the forefront, we have no doubt a way will be found of conserving the interests of the Training Schools, as well as of the Nurses.

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