

CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

A statement has been circulated by the *Nursing Times* "that the Central Committee is considering the question of disbanding."

This statement is entirely erroneous.

The Central Committee, which is the first organisation of Nurses mentioned in the Schedule of the Act for the State Registration of Nurses, will, in the future, as it has in the past, continue to focus Nursing and Medical opinion for the benefit of the Nursing Profession and the community, so long as it considers it advisable to do so.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM CANADA.

The following letter has been received from Miss Helen Randal, the Editor of the *Canadian Nurse*, which is the official organ of the National Association of Trained Nurses of Canada, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. As our Act provides for reciprocity with our Canadian colleagues, under prescribed rules, our General Nursing Council will, in due course, be in communication with Nursing Authorities in that Dominion. Canadian nurses gave ample proof of their skill and devotion during the great war, and it will be gratifying to come into closer professional touch with them through the Act, upon the passing of which congratulations are conveyed to us:—

302, FIFTEENTH AVENUE,
EAST BURNABY, B.C.

MY DEAR MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.—Congratulations from *The Canadian Nurse* magazine on the passing of the Registration Bill after so many years waiting for it. We in British Columbia thought six years was a long time to get our legislation through, but you were much longer. Of course, like all Acts, there are compromises, and never a law that is perfect, but the establishment of central control means so much.

After so many years of the hardest work may I offer to you personally our congratulations that you have been permitted to see the fruit of your work and energy.

Very sincerely yours,
HELEN RANDAL,
Editor, *The Canadian Nurse*.

LONG OVERDUE.

We believe that the report of the Nation's Fund for Nurses (registered under the War Charities Act), which should have been ready in November, 1918, may be expected in about a month's time. We hope so, as it is long overdue, and there is no legitimate reason for delay.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NURSES' CO-OPERATION.

The above meeting was held at 35, Langham Street on Friday, the 6th inst., at 5.30 p.m. It is many years since such a large number of nurses was roused to be present at a meeting of the Nurses' Co-operation, but, partly owing to the fact that a whip in the shape of a postcard was sent round by the Lady Superintendent to those members of the nursing staff who were considered sufficiently docile and unthinking, and that even the help and applause of the office clerks (who were not nurses) were not disdained, there was a very full meeting.

Mr. Harold Low, M.R.C.S., the chairman, presided, supported by Drs. Turney and Giles, and—wonder of wonders—Sir Henry Burdett, who has not attended a public meeting of the Nurses' Co-operation for twenty years, defied his doctors (so it was said) and came. The "agitators" were also well represented, and after the chairman had gone through the business of the meeting, and amongst other things, made the announcement that two nurses' representatives who had faithfully served the nurses (one for sixteen consecutive years, and one a little under that time) had been supplanted, Miss Maude MacCallum, one of the nurses' representatives, and also the Hon. Secretary of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, rose, and announced that owing to the fact that a case was pending in the law-court, the minority did not intend for the moment to contest this election, she proceeded to remind the chairman that she had protested to him at a committee meeting against the trickery that was being used to deceive the nurses, and to influence their votes, and that she had put into his hands, a letter, purporting to come from nurses of the Co-operation who were, presumably, so busy being loyal that they had forgotten to put their names to the circulars they were sending out; also one signed by Mrs. Crowe, the Co-operation Secretary, which practically told the nurses that if they did not say "yes" to the question: "Are you satisfied with the present constitution?" the Co-operation would be broken up and their means of livelihood taken from them.

The honours of war, however, remained to the "agitators," as the chairman announced quite as an afterthought, that one of the two things they were asking for was to be conceded. Their demand is first, to be allowed to become members of the Nurses' Co-operation, secondly to have representation on the Home Committee of the Howard de Walden Club.

Some little time ago seven of the ten Nurses' representatives wrote a letter asking Mr. Henry Bentinck, the Howard de Walden Trustee, to receive them as a deputation on this subject. The request was acceded to, a special meeting was called, and all the nurses' representatives present (with the exception of Miss Geraldine Bremner, member of the Council of the College of Nursing,

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)