

centres to adopt that system, but since then it had been practically adopted throughout England.

During the past year there had been created by the Government a General Nursing Council for the administration of the Nurses' Registration Act, and she had been nominated to sit on the Council. Registration in the future would be more difficult. Their difficulty had been that many young nurses did not care to go in for district nursing unless they could see their way to work up to the higher branches of the profession. Their idea in the Council was that the work of districts should be first considered and that district nursing should be a stepping-stone for some of the higher branches of the profession, notably the branch that went in for health visiting.

Lady Hobhouse may have been misquoted, but we feel sure we truly represent the opinion of the working nurses on the General Nursing Council, when we affirm that they would firmly oppose any suggestion to recognise the obsolete Plaistow scheme of classing experience in cottages as efficient training, such as can only be acquired by systematic teaching in hospital wards, and we at once question the statement that it is "the idea in the Council" to recognise any such retrograde step. The duty of the General Nursing Council is to organise an efficient curriculum of education, constituting trained nurses safe attendants on the sick, and to carefully provide that the poor shall have available in their cottages the same standard of nursing care as kings in their palaces. There is only one basis for such professional efficiency, and that is sound theoretical and practical teaching in hospital wards, on which to base special courses of experience in the district for public health nursing, and it is the duty of the well-trained members of the nursing profession, especially the Queen's Nurses, to keep the General Nursing Council straight on these principles, if it is the "idea" of the lay element to attempt to evade them.

#### THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES IN SCOTLAND DISSOLVE.

A meeting of the Association for the Promotion of the Registration of Nurses in Scotland was held last week at 8, Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, when, in view of the passing into law of the Nurses' Registration Acts, the affairs of the Association were finally wound up. Sir James Affleck, who presided, said the Association was founded about eleven years ago, and from a very small beginning it had grown to have a membership of over 3,000. Having secured the objects for which they set out, they no longer seemed to have any reason for continuing as an Association. He had no doubt at all that it was due in no small measure to the advocacy which was carried on by their Association that a result was secured, which, although not entirely all that they would have

wished for, was a very satisfactory termination of the difficult and long-continued struggle on behalf of the nurses of the country. Dr. D. J. Mackintosh, honorary secretary of the Association, read an account of the work accomplished. Professor Glaister moved that, as they had come to the end of their usefulness as a body, the Association be dissolved, and the credit balance be handed to the treasurer of the King Edward VII Memorial Home for Nurses in Scotland. This was agreed to.

#### PRESENTATION OF MEDALS AT THE WESTMINSTER INFIRMARY, FULHAM.

An interesting little ceremony took place on Wednesday, July 7th, when the Chairman, Alderman Woolley Walden, C.B.E., J.P., and several members of the Committee, met in the Recreation Room of the Nurses' Home of the Westminster Infirmary, Fulham, to present the silver and bronze medals to the two nurses who headed the list in the final examination, which was conducted by Mr. L. S. Burrell, M.D., M.A., M.R.C.S. The pretty recreation room was gay with flowers and plants when the Matron, Miss E. J. Booth, and a large gathering of the nursing staff assembled there to see the presentations. Alderman Woolley Walden spoke of the good results of the final examination—twenty nurses out of a possible twenty-one being successful and gaining their certificates. He congratulated the staff and spoke most encouragingly of their work. The silver medal was gained by Nurse Margaret Jane Moore, who obtained 271 marks out of 300, and who got full marks for her *viva*. Nurse Annie Allen, with 261 marks, gained the bronze medal.

The two nurses were enthusiastically congratulated by the staff with hearty clapping of hands.

#### THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

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