

a disadvantage. Their intention was to raise the standard of nurses all round.

In reply to a question from Mr. Munro, Col. Mackintosh expressed the opinion that it would be quite possible to secure a better working arrangement in regard to training between the general hospitals and the fever hospitals. The Council really thought the standard of nurses should be raised, and unless this were accomplished they could not get the best class of nurses. They did not want the Scottish nurses to be inferior in any way to the English nurses.

CONJOINT TRAINING ADVOCATED.

Miss Gill strongly advocated the importance of reciprocity as between Scotland and England, also it was of the utmost importance that the Scottish standard should be recognised by the English Council. She dealt with any scarcity there might have been of fever hospital probationers and criticised the figures supplied by the Local Authorities, pointing out that many of the nurses included in these figures had both general and fever training. She also dealt with the possibility of combining general and fever training in the future, pointing out that two years' training in a Poor-Law hospital and two years' training in a fever hospital might suffice.

THE VIEWS OF THE NURSES THEMSELVES.

Miss White also held that the question of reciprocity was a vital one for Scotland. She gave the views of the nurses themselves on the question of registration, and explained how they, particularly those who had received a fever and general training, felt on the subject.

THE REPLY OF THE SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND.

Mr. Munro, in replying to the deputation, endorsed the views expressed by Colonel Mackintosh in regard to the late Captain Balfour. The history of the matter they were discussing was well known. They need not go further back than September 15, when he met a deputation in Edinburgh of representatives of Local Authorities, who impressed upon him the desirability of a General Register which would include fever nurses, and the abolition of the Supplementary Register. The nurses, on the other hand, desired the retention of a separate register for fever-trained nurses.

THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE NURSES.

Judging by an enquiry held by the Scottish Board of Health, there did not appear to be any strong general opinion among fever nurses in Scotland in favour of a general register. He had had an opportunity of hearing both sides—the Local Authorities and the nurses. Having regard to the definite attitude taken up by the Council, and the absence of any strong feeling among fever-trained nurses against the existing rules, he proposed to adhere to them, and that the Scottish Register should, like the English one, have a Supplementary Register for fever nurses. It was

quite clear that some method should be adopted whereby the training in fever hospitals and in general hospitals should be made a matter of arrangement and reciprocity. It might be arranged that general trained nurses with four years' general training should be qualified for admission to the fever part of the register by one year's training in a fever hospital, and, on the other hand, nurses in the fever part of the register who had three years' training in fever should secure admission to the general register by two years' training in a general hospital. Some kind of arrangement like this was really necessary, and he hoped that that avenue would be fully explored by those interested in the future of the profession. They had to regard the question from the point of view of the future.

The deputation then withdrew.

WHERE TO REGISTER.

In England and Wales.—Apply to the Registrar, G.N.C., 12, York Gate, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

In Scotland.—Apply to the Registrar, 13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

In Ireland.—Apply to the Registrar, 33, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin.

NATIONAL BABY WEEK COUNCIL.

The National Baby Week Council held its annual meeting at the Armitage Hall, Great Portland Street, W., on October 25th, Viscount Astor presiding. He said that it was false economy to cut down the expenditure on child welfare. From a cold-blooded point of view children could be regarded as the future producers of wealth, and the prosperity of the nation depended on a good crop of healthy adults. It should be the aim of the nation to prevent children from becoming C 3 citizens.

Dr. Eric Pritchard, in moving the adoption of the report, made sympathetic reference to the loss to the Society by the deaths of Lady Henry Somerset and Dr. Murray Leslie.

The Hon. Treasurer, Mr. James Marsden, while deplored the state of the finances, alluded gratefully to the gift of £200 from the Virol Company, which had enabled them to close the year on the right side. He also announced that Messrs. Allen & Hanburys had drawn up a splendid appeal which was to be sent to every one with any money, if, indeed, anyone had any.

An address full of interesting statistics was given by Dr. W. Allen Daley, Medical Officer of Health for Blackburn, who emphasised the point that infantile diseases not only caused a high mortality, but resulted in many children remaining unfit.

He considered that day nurseries should be closed and that mothers should be subsided to stay at home and look after their children.

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