

In addition, they will be deprived of a testimonial, and their uniform will remain the property of the Westminster Guardians.

We wonder what is the probation period of probationers at this Infirmary. It should be for a sufficient term, if a financial penalty is to be insisted upon. In the future, when the G.N.C. State Examination is in force, probationers will have a much greater inducement to fulfil their contracts of training, as the State Certificate of Nursing, carrying with it legal status, will, let us hope, do much for the stability of the profession—at present in such an unsatisfactory condition.

After the opening of the beautiful new Nurses' Home there is to be another great ceremony when the stone of the new hospital is laid at Bagatelle of the Maison de Santé Protestante, now doing such fine work in its cramped quarters in Bordeaux.

At the eleventh conference held in Calcutta in January last, it was agreed that the "Association of the Nursing Superintendents of India" and the "Trained Nurses' Association" should amalgamate and be known in future as "The Trained Nurses' Association of India." Communications should be addressed to Miss E. Griffin, Farhat Manzil, Nicholson Road, Delhi.

The lack of self-government in Australia has produced a very sad split in the professional ranks of the nurses. The Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association has for years done good voluntary Registration work, but it has been practically controlled by medical men, and, together with hospital managers, they have opposed Registration by the State. Thus the more progressive nurses in the State formed a Guild and appealed to the Arbitration Court for registration as an industry, which many of their colleagues consider *infra dig.* But nurses found that, when working with members of other registered crafts, including domestic workers in public and private hospitals, when their hours were up the unorganised and unprotected nurse was compelled to finish their jobs.

The Guild was granted Registration in February on condition it amended its constitution to exclude employers. The Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association have power of appeal to the Higher Court on their claim that "Nursing is not an Industry."

The delay in "speeding up State Registration" has thus ended disastrously for the

members of the Association, and the best thing to do is to join up with the Guild and together demand a State Registration Act; otherwise Victorian Nurses are not eligible to register under our Imperial Acts.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

We hope the official Delegates appointed by the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland to attend the Executive Meeting and Conference of the International Council of Nurses at Copenhagen on May 22nd, 23rd, and 24th next, are fixing up their plans. It is proposed the four Delegates should travel together, and Miss J. C. Child, who is to represent the South African Trained Nurses' Association, will no doubt join the party.

Miss Edris Griffin, the Hon. Secretary of the Trained Nurses' Association of India, notifies Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Sec. I.C.N., that it has nominated Miss Darbyshire, R.R.C., who was President of the Association last year, to act as its official Delegate at Copenhagen, and to ascertain if it is possible when she arrives in London. There should be no difficulty about this arrangement, and we shall be pleased, as Hon. President of the I.C.N., to give any further information required by Miss Darbyshire.

Miss H. L. Pearse, the Isla Stewart Delegate, will introduce the question of "The Necessity for an International Standard of Nursing Education" at the Meeting on May 24th, a question which should arouse great interest and instructive discussion.

It is interesting to find that two of our four National Delegates have the R.R.C. These decorations, with others, will, we hope, be worn at the official and social gatherings during the International Meeting.

NURSING AN EXEMPTED EMPLOYMENT.

The Unemployment Insurance Bill, as amended in Standing Committee B, has now been read a third time in the House of Commons, without alteration to the amendment making Nursing one of the exempted employments (Clause 9 (1) (bb)). Unless, therefore, any alteration is made in the House of Lords, nurses will be excluded from the irritating provisions of this Bill, which is quite unsuited to the requirements of trained nurses. We heartily congratulate our Profession.

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