

was glad to be able to say that the College had shown an uninterrupted progress during the year, and that he hoped a time would come when a trained nurse would be in the position he was that day occupying, *i.e.*, giving them a report, as Chairman, of the doings of the College at an Annual Meeting.

He then called upon Mr. Comyns Berkeley—one of the Honorary Treasurers—to speak upon the financial report.

Mr. Comyns Berkeley confessed that while there was very much to congratulate themselves on in their financial position during the last year, the fact that there was a deficit of £1,400, proved that they must strain every effort to raise the Endowment Fund as much as possible.

He stated that if every nurse, beginning from that day, for the next two years would put by a penny every day towards the Endowment Fund, they would very quickly have the amount that they required. Miss Cox-Davies, who seconded this, suggested that the nurses should set themselves the task of doing this in one year. Miss Lloyd-Still handed in a cheque for £100 towards this Fund from the Nightingale School, and the Glasgow Centre had sent a large donation.

Miss Cox-Davies, in seconding the adoption of the Finance Report, said that they had reached a mile-stone in the Profession, and that it would be a good thing to pause and think. The College came into existence during a storm, and indeed the storm had not yet subsided, but it had not hindered or arrested the College activities in any way; as a matter of fact, it had acted as a good advertisement.

She stated that the State Register was now open, and but for the College of Nursing it would be more or less of a failure, because before the College was founded there was no Society to give it support, and all the nurses had done was to quarrel among themselves.

After votes of thanks had been passed, the Members were asked to sit still and hear the different announcements, and those who cared to were invited to have tea at the Cowdray Club, or be present at the laying of the foundation-stone of the College of Nursing.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

To fill eight vacancies, English and Welsh Section, Miss Geraldine Bremner, Miss Euphemia S. Innes, R.R.C., D.N. (Leeds), Miss Ellen M. Musson, R.R.C., Sir Edwin Cooper Perry, M.D., F.R.C.P., Miss Annie Peterkin, and Comyns Berkeley, Esq., M.C., M.D., were re-elected, and Miss R. Cox-Davies, R.R.C., and Ewen John Maclean, Esq., M.D., were elected from twenty candidates.

AN UNWARRANTABLE STATEMENT.

We are invited by a member of the College who was present at the meeting to point out how untrue were the statements made by Miss Cox-Davies at the meeting in her attack upon the free nurses' organisations. We shall refer to this unwarrantable attack next week.

THE MISCHIEF OF A RIVAL REGISTER.

At a recent meeting of the Dewsbury and District General Infirmary Board the Secretary, Mr. E. Hemingway—as reported in the *Dewsbury Reporter*—said that at the last meeting some publicity was given to the question of the Registration of Nurses. In consequence the nurses had become somewhat alarmed, and were afraid that after serving at Dewsbury for three years they would be turned adrift and would have to begin their training again. He had been to the British Hospitals Association Conference at Liverpool since the last meeting and had been able to get into conversation with the President, Sir Arthur Stanley. He explained the position with regard to the nurses at Dewsbury, and said that they considered these nurses received a proper training, for, in addition to lectures by the house surgeon, other medical men gave lectures, and examinations were held. Sir Arthur said he would find out the facts, and he (Mr. Hemingway) read a letter which he had since received from him, and which stated that from the conditions of registration by the College of Nursing it would be seen that, for the purpose of admitting practising nurses to the register of the College, hospitals having an average of no fewer than 40 beds in daily occupation throughout the year would be recognised. He understood that Dewsbury had about 60 beds at the Infirmary, so that the condition mentioned would apply to the Infirmary. A greater number of beds, however, was necessary for inclusion on the State Register.

We think it is high time that the General Nursing Council for England and Wales circulated the Leaflet which it approved at its last meeting so that hospital authorities may have correct information concerning the Nurses' Registration Act and its effect, and further, that when Sir Arthur Stanley undertakes to "find out the facts," he should do so, if he is not already acquainted with them.

It is Registration under the Nurses' Registration Act on the State Register, by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales which confers legal status, and registration by that Council only, so nurses must not imagine that if they spend hard-earned guineas to place their names on the Register of a Limited Company it will confer any legal status whatever. A company registered under the Board of Trade is required to keep a Register of its members.

Secondly, the information given by Sir Arthur Stanley that a greater number of beds than 40 is required for admission to the State Register is entirely erroneous for existing nurses.

No Rule has been approved as to the number of beds in institutions where "Existing" and "Intermediate" nurses received training qualifying them for admission to the State Register, and the Rules for Future Nurses have not yet been considered by the General Nursing Council.

We should advise Mr. Hemingway to obtain the "facts" for himself at first hand. He can do so

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