

into the House of Commons by the Minister of Health, for the Registration of Nurses in England and Wales, and which became law, followed the lines of the Central Committee's Bill, and made provision for the establishment of an independent Governing Body for the Nursing Profession.

MISS LLOYD STILL said that the men who applied for incorporation as the College of Nursing did so only for the purpose of forming the Company, they had nothing further to do with it.

MISS BREAY said they were perpetual members of the College, in addition to forming the Company, and they could only be eliminated by its dissolution.

MISS RUNDLE said that the College Nurses wished to nominate and elect their own representatives to its Council, and they had chosen to elect doctors and laymen.

MRS. TSCHERNING (President Danish Council of Nurses) said the idea was to discuss how the College of Nursing could enter the International Council. She thought the nurses might perhaps consider "why should there be men in the College? We will enter the International." "Could you not," she asked, "find a way for it to do so?"

MISS RUNDLE said that one of the principles of the College of Nursing was that the nurses should manage their own affairs. They had chosen to have medical men and laymen on their Council.

MISS MUNCK said that if nurses were trying to get self-government they were not working for themselves but for the whole world. When men got together in their professional organisations one never saw women on their Boards or the members of any other profession.

It was right of the International Council of Nurses to say that the Nurses in each country must work out their own problems. She would like to urge on British Nurses to work together as women. The profession of nursing was the only one where men could not substitute women. They could not substitute nurses.

PROFESSOR ISABEL STEWART (Teachers' College, U.S.A.) expressed surprise at medical men and laymen being elected to speak for nurses. She could not help but wonder what it was that the nurses could not manage for themselves in their Executive Committee. They might have an Advisory body of men, but only to give advice on special points. To have as a prepondering element on their Executive Body people who could never represent nurses would not occur to nurses in America.

MISS LLOYD STILL said that the thirty-four local centres of the College of Nursing were entirely composed of nurses, and there was a predominance of nurses on its Council. She might say now that one Nursing Committee in England—the Nightingale Committee—was composed entirely of men.

MISS MUNCK did not think that affected the question. The only thing the Conference was there to speak of was an organisation of nurses, governed by nurses.

The discussion then closed.

#### THE DESIRABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES BROADENING ITS ACTIVITIES.

BARONESS MANNERHEIM, President I.C.N., in discussing the above subject, read the Preamble and Objects of the International Council.

##### PREAMBLE.

We nurses of all nations, sincerely believing that the best good of our Profession will be advanced by greater unity of thought, sympathy, and purpose, do hereby band ourselves in a confederation of workers to further the efficient care of the sick, and to secure the honour and the interest of the Nursing Profession.

##### OBJECTS.

(a) To provide a means of communication between the nurses of all nations, and to afford facilities for the interchange of international hospitality.

(b) To provide opportunities for nurses to meet together from all parts of the world, to confer upon questions relating to the welfare of their Patients and their Profession.

THE PRESIDENT said that in the words which she had read, both the Preamble and the Objects, we found the reason for our existence—the good of our patients and the good of our profession—the latter because if we did not take it up no one else would.

Nursing was an art mastered only by those who seriously studied it, and its welfare could only be furthered by them, but the International Council of Nurses never built up a Chinese Wall.

Every man should be master in his own house. How had our affairs been managed? Founded by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick it had been brilliantly done. We had felt immense good. We had had papers read at meetings which had been of the greatest importance. We had realised from reports, which had enriched the listeners, what was being done in the various countries. Was that still sufficient; did it meet the present need? We had till now been receptive, now it was said we should be more active. She thought that little voice was right, and that we needed a Committee of Work and larger headquarters; or perhaps the Secretary might reside in the country of the President for the time being; that would cost less than larger headquarters.

Referring to Sectional Conferences, BARONESS MANNERHEIM said Medical Societies had found it useful for groups of countries to unite, and the Scandinavian Northern Group of Nurses had already organised periodical Sectional Conferences. She thought a Committee was needed to make an investigation of the work desirable, so that the result might be ready in 1925, and the I.C.N. might start possibly on new lines.

MISS VERWAY MEJAN, President of the Dutch Nurses' Association, also spoke in reference to this subject.

#### THE POSSIBLE CO-OPERATION WITH THE NURSING DIVISION OF THE LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES.

MISS KATHERINE OLMSTED, Chief Nurse of the

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