

summoned to a marriage ceremony; she considered it a funeral."

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses petitioned the Privy Council not to sanction the proposed amalgamation. The Irish Nurses' Association and the Corporation of the City of Glasgow also petitioned it against the grant of a Supplemental Charter to the R.B.N.A., which would enable the College to absorb the R.B.N.A.

Ultimately, doubts seemed to have arisen as to the expediency of the R.B.N.A. and the College Company "living together in holy love and honesty," and the General Council of the Royal British Nurses' Association came to the conclusion that it would not be to the interest of the Corporation to accept certain alterations suggested by the Privy Council. We owe it largely to Mr. Herbert Paterson and Miss Isabel Macdonald that on November 5th, 1917, the President of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses was informed by the Clerk of the Council that he was "directed by the Lords of the Council to state that the Petitioners (the Royal British Nurses' Association) had decided not to proceed with their application."

Thus the marriage did not materialise, and the obsequies of the R.B.N.A. did not take place.

In October, 1918, after various suggestions as to a renewal of negotiations between the Central Committee for State Registration and the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., its Executive Committee reported to the Central Committee that, in accordance with instructions given to it, it had carefully considered the re-drafted Bill (Seventh Draft) of the College of Nursing, Ltd. It unani- mously reported "That, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, the present Bill of the Central Committee . . . is a better Bill than that drafted by the College of Nursing and should be adhered to."

This Report was adopted, and it was then resolved

"That it is the considered opinion of this Committee that the Bill drafted by the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses should be presented to Parliament, and that the College of Nursing, Ltd., be formally invited to agree to this Bill and to join in getting it passed."

ETHEL G. FENWICK.

(To be continued.)

### WEST MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL, ISLE- WORTH NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Matron of the West Middlesex Hospital, Isleworth, cordially invites all past nurses to the Winter Reunion of the Nurses' League, to be held on Saturday, November 24th, 1923. Tea 3-5 p.m. Dinner, 7 p.m. It is hoped all past nurses will make a special effort to attend. A limited number of those coming from a distance can be accommodated for the night if previous application is made to the Matron.

## GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL MEETING, OCTOBER 19th.

### POINTS FOR NURSES TO NOTE AND REMEMBER.

#### Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The point raised by Miss du Sautoy on the Minutes of the last meeting was a very direct and simple one, though it did not receive a direct and simple explanation. It was, briefly, that the proposal of the REV. G. B. CRONSHAW that there should be two papers in the Preliminary Examination, one on Anatomy and Physiology, and one on Hygiene and the Practice of Nursing, carried at the last meeting, was not entered on the Minutes, which it should have been, otherwise it could not be rescinded before the proposal on the Agenda for the present meeting was discussed.

The contention of MISS LLOYD STILL and DR. GOODALL that the discussion took place in Committee was correct, but it is a fact that the Council went out of Committee, and merely resumed, whereas it should no doubt have formally adopted in Council what it did while in Committee. But if it did not conduct its affairs in order it should have put them straight, and then discussed the question on its merits on the motion to rescind. As it was, the discussion on the point quite properly raised by Miss du Sautoy was very obscure, and one was left with the impression that there was something behind which was not revealed. One wondered also why MR. CRONSHAW sat silent during the discussion. It was all very bewildering. One does not lose oneself along a straight road, but one is liable to do so on a winding stair, and the methods of the G.N.C. are very tortuous.

#### Report of the Finance Committee.

We note that the expenses of two booklets relating to the uniform and badge are to be defrayed by accepting advertisements for one of them, and that a sub-committee has been appointed to approve and accept such advertisements. No proposal was made, nor were the Finance Committee asked to approve any financial arrangements in connection with the advertising scheme, but it is very undesirable that statutory publications should be financed by interested business firms.

The fact that the Finance Committee raised no objection to the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee that two additional clerks should be engaged (on the understanding that the appointments are temporary), and that no member of the Council, with the exception of Miss Wiese, even questioned the necessity for a staff of 43 persons in the G.N.C. office, throws the registered nurses back for redress on the provision of the Nurses' Registration Act (Section 4 (1)), which makes the appointment of the officers employed by the General Nursing Council subject to the consent of the Minister of Health as to numbers.

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