The registration of asylum nurses is the most valuable and important interest at the present time, and the Association has taken an active part during the past year in supporting this.

Registration of asylum nurses is definitely assured if a Registration Act is obtained, but as the Report points out, it is now necessary to exert all possible influence to insure adequate representation on any future Registration Board.

The number of asylum workers has been estimated at 20,000, and the number of mental nurses, male and female, who will be eligible for registration will probably be almost as numerous as the general nurses. It is desirable, therefore, that not only should the Medico-Psychological Association be represented on the Registration Board in virtue of its position as the teaching and examining body, but also the Asylum Workers' Association, as representing so many fully-trained nurses, as well as the large body in process of training.

The efforts made by the Asylum Workers' Association in regard to the pension question, the Homes of Rest, the good service medals, etc., and last, but by no means least, the valuable information and instruction afforded by its organ, *The Asylum News*, should command the adhesion of every asylum worker. We heartily join in the regret expressed by Sir James Crichton-Browne that only 3227 of a total of 20,000 asylum workers should contribute to the support of an Association which confers so many benefits and offers so many advantages at so small a cost to the members.

The indifference of so large a majority of the workers to the advantages that would accrue from a more general combination cannot be easily explained. Probably the influence of the members of the Medico-Psychological Association, if actively exercised, would largely help to remove this unfortunate want of *esprit de corps*.

The State Registration of Nurses.

An important deputation, organised by the Central Hospital Council for London, was received by Lord Crewe, the Lord President of the Council, on June 14th. The deputation included Sir Frederick Treves, Sir Thomas Barlow, Dr. J. Kingston Fowler, Dr. W. H. Allchin, and several matrons of London and provincial hospitals.

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The object of the deputation was to protest against the State registration of nurses, and to suggest as an alternative an official directory, in which should be recorded the name, places, duty, periods of training, and appointments. The difficulty of removing a nurse from the register was one of the leading objections used by the deputation. Misconduct almost amounting to criminal misdemeanour, it was asserted, would alone suffice to effect such removal. Nurses, however disqualified for nursing by general inefficiency and misconduct, would remain on the register for the duration of their lives.

Lord Crewe, in response, definitely informed the deputation that there was no prospect of legislation on this matter in the present session, and the influential character of the opposition makes it very doubtful whether any legislation will be successful, for some years at least.

The Medico-Psychological Association has supported and will continue to support the right of mental nurses to registration if State registration is conceded to general nurses. If, however, this is not to be obtained, or is to be greatly delayed, it might be well to consider in the meantime the merits of the alternative scheme.

A directory issued by this Association of the nurses who had obtained its certificate, if compiled annually from applications, endorsed by a medical man, would be a fairly satisfactory evidence of continued capability and character. The expense of such a directory would, however, be prohibitive unless a small sum was paid by those wishing to have their names inscribed, and this would probably limit it to those engaged in private nursing.

Private nurses at the present time are quite sufficiently prone to assume the attitude of medical practitioners and to undertake the treatment of cases on their own responsibility. It is a question whether this tendency would not be increased by registration, whilst it would certainly be held in check by the necessity for the support of a medical man in renewing their annual application to a directory.

Nursing Examination.

The Educational Committee is not resting on its oars after the successful recognition which has been obtained of the eligi-

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