

Miss HELEN PEARSE, Superintendent of School Nurses under the London County Council, who seconded the Resolution, said that she had nothing to add to what had already been said, but that no one had a right to inflict such an injury on others without a very good reason, and that reason so far had not been forthcoming.

The Resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION III.

"That a copy of Resolution I. be sent to all Matrons of General and Special Hospitals and Nursing Institutions who are not members of the Council, with the request that they will do all in their power to assist the Matrons' Council in this matter, and that the nursing staffs of these Hospitals be invited to memorialise the President of the Local Government Board on the subject without delay."

Miss SIDNEY BROWNE, R.R.C., late Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, in proposing the above Resolution, the last clause of which was added by the meeting on the proposition of Miss Baker, said that every nurse throughout the length and breadth of the country, must be in sympathy with, and support, the Resolution. The resolution was seconded, and on being put to the meeting, it was carried unanimously.

On the proposition of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, a very hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to those ladies on the Metropolitan Asylums Board who had championed the cause of the Matrons.

In bringing the proceedings to a close, Miss Stewart pointed out that the Matrons' Council was doing the work which should really be done by a Nurses' Defence Union. The lesson for every nurse of this episode was the need of professional co-operation, so that the whole nursing profession might act with united force. Votes of thanks to Miss Stewart for presiding, proposed by Miss Clara Lee, and seconded by Miss Macvitie, and to the Matrons' Council for calling the meeting, proposed by Miss Ross, were carried by acclamation.

Copies of the Resolutions passed at the meeting have been forwarded to the Right Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, to the Chairman of the London County Council, and to the Chairman of the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

#### THE IRISH MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

As soon as the Bye-Law passed by the Metropolitan Asylums Board degrading the Matrons in its hospitals from first to second class officials, was notified to the Irish Matrons' Association from the Matrons' Council Office in London, they with admirable promptitude summoned a special meeting to consider the matter, when the following resolution was carried, proposed by Miss Kelly, Lady Superintendent, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin; seconded by Miss Margaret Huxley, formerly Lady Superinten-

dent, Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin, and a former President of the Irish Nurses' Association:—

"The Irish Matrons' Association has learnt with grave concern of the recent action of the Metropolitan Asylums Board in adopting an alteration of its Bye-Laws, thereby depriving the Matrons of its hospitals of their rank as Principal Officers, and lowering their status;

"The Irish Matrons' Association would consider the sanction of such an order unjust, and dangerous to the maintenance of necessary discipline, therefore it earnestly supports the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, in its request to the President of the Local Government Board to receive a deputation of that body that it may lay before him the wide-spread and prejudicial effect such a change would have on the position of all Trained Nurses."

It was proposed by Mrs. Kildare Treacy, President of the Irish Nurses' Association, and seconded by Miss Carson Rae, Lady Superintendent, Fever Hospital, Cork Street, Dublin, "That a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the President of the Local Government Board, and to the Irish Members of Parliament."

Copies of these resolutions have been forwarded to the President of the Local Government Board in London, the President of the Irish Local Government Board, and to all the Irish Members of Parliament.

#### THE POOR LAW INFIRMARY MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Poor-Law Infirmary Matrons' Association was held at Chelsea Infirmary, S.W. on Tuesday, October 22, at 3 o'clock, to consider a resolution urging the Local Government Board not to sanction the retrograde proposal of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, to reduce the Matrons under that Board from first to second class officers. Miss Barton, the Matron, was in the Chair, and the Matrons of the following Infirmaries were present:—Miss Byles, Lambeth; Miss Ballantyne, Fulham; Miss Clark, West Ham; Miss Dowbiggan, Southampton; Miss Gooding, Woolwich; Miss Inglis, Shoreditch; Miss Little, Islington; Miss Marquardt, Camberwell; Miss Elma Smith, Central London Sick Asylum; Miss J. A. Smith, Kingston-on-Thames; Miss Stewart, City of London; Miss Todd, Wandsworth; Miss Wesley, St. George's in the East.

Letters of regret at inability to attend, and all strongly in favour of the resolution, were read from a large number of members of the Association.

The resolution was passed, and instructions were given to the Secretary to forward a copy of it to the President of the Local Government Board, and to ask him to receive a deputation on the subject.

#### THE PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

On Page 3 of the Cover of this issue will be found a Petition to the Right Hon. John Burns, M.P., President of the Local Government Board. We invite all those who feel in sympathy with the Resolutions to sign it, add their address, and forward it at the earliest possible date to the Local Government Board Offices, Whitehall, London, S.W.

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