

Roll will prove invaluable evidence in favour of the existing nurses—whether they have two or three years' training. Just think what encouragement it would give to our friends in London and elsewhere if every one of us who has not joined this Society already would do so here; and not only that, but each make up her mind to induce her friends to take a place on that Roll also.

You can easily realise how such an announcement of new members from the Ulster Branch would cheer the hearts of those workers for State Registration on its appearance in our own Journal in its next issue, and spend one penny for the record.

If I do not weary you I should like to glance at the various nursing Bills now before Parliament. You are aware of the opposition which has been offered, for years, to the efforts of nurses to gain a hearing. I call it nothing short of cruelty to compel us to spend our time and money (of which we have so little to spare) upon fighting this opposition. However, after this long and patient struggle we hope and believe that we are at length approaching our goal.

Mrs. Treacy then clearly outlined the scope of the three Bills dealing with the organisation of nurses to be introduced in Parliament next session. (1) The Nurses' Bill, drafted by the Society for State Registration on honest and fair lines, of which she said they all approved. (2) The Bill evolved by the Royal British Nurses' Association with much reluctance, and after years of opposition to any registration for nurses by the State, embodying the views of some few London doctors and some of their hospital matrons, and giving utterly inadequate representation to nurses; and (3) the Bill sprung upon the nursing profession recently for the establishment of a Directory of nurses, giving no representation to anyone except the directorate, which would be placed in complete control of the nurses. In short, that the framers of the last two Bills have no idea of giving nurses anything but a stone (provided they are foolishly amiable enough to accept it), for the bread of which they stand in such pressing need.

Mrs. Treacy concluded by saying: "Surely ours is a noble profession, and one well worth fighting for. Mercy, pity, and love are the ascending steps of this ladder of our travail, and always with a humble consciousness that it is for the sake of Him who went about doing good."

Miss Mahaffy, Matron of the Richmond Nursing Home, in proposing a vote of thanks, said she was sure, after listening to Mrs. Kildare Treacy's most interesting address, that all nurses present would feel it their duty to join the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and she advised them to strike when the iron was hot, and join there and then.

Miss White, Matron of the Belfast Society for Providing Nurses for the Sick Poor, seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation.

During tea, which was then served, the Bijou Orchestra, kindly engaged by Lady Her-

mione Blackwood, played a charming selection of music. Afterwards a short programme of songs, contributed by Miss Kelsey and Miss J. S. Workman, and a most amusing duologue, by the Misses Carmichael, entitled "The Crystal Gazer," were much appreciated. The rest of the evening was spent in dancing, the Bijou Orchestra supplying the music.

Amongst those present were Miss Bostock, Matron of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Vice-President of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association; Miss Mildred, Matron of the Throne Hospital; Miss Jones, Matron of the Mater Infirmorum Hospital; Miss Johnstone, Matron of Banbridge Infirmary; Dr. Elizabeth Bell, and others.

### Irish Matrons' Association.

At the meeting of the Irish Matrons' Association, held on Saturday, January 4th, the officials for the year 1908 were elected. Voting papers had previously been sent out to all members. Miss McNeill, Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin, was elected President, by a large majority. Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Hon. Treasurer, and Miss L. V. Haughton, Hon. Secretary, were elected to continue in their respective offices. Sixteen Matrons and Superintendents of Nurses were present. Letters were read from Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, from Miss Isla Stewart, President Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, and from Miss Amy Hughes, General Superintendent of Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, accepting the Honorary Membership of the Association.

A discussion was opened by Miss MacDonnell, R.R.C., Lady Superintendent, Richmond Hospital, on "The Advantages of a Central Training School for Nurses for Theoretical Teaching." The opposition was led by Miss Shuter, Lady Superintendent, Royal City of Dublin Hospital. The majority present declared themselves in favour of a Central School.

L. V. HAUGHTON, Hon. Sec.

Those who attended the delightful lectures given by Dr. Kelynack and Dr. Ralph Vincent, at the Infants' Hospital, Vincent Square, at the end of last year will be glad to know that Dr. Vincent will begin another course in February. The subjects are:—*February 4th*, Malnutrition. *February 11th*, Atrophy, Marasmus. *February 18th*, Rickets. *February 25th*, "Epidemic Diarrhoea." *March 3rd*, Gastric and Intestinal Disorder. The lectures, as before, will be at 5 p.m.

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