

nurses but would inflict a great injustice upon them by preventing them from practising in Great Britain, and would directly reflect on the teaching of the profession and the Irish training institutions.

The Council of the College of Surgeons expressed the view that Ireland should occupy a similar position to both England and Scotland in any legislation on the subject.

Mrs. Treacy also read many letters regretting the inability of the writers to attend.

Miss Hester Egan, Matron of the Coombe Lying-in-Hospital, Dublin, wrote:

"I quite intended attending the meeting this evening. . . . I have spoken to Dr. Gibson, our Master, and he wishes me to let you know that he and all the staff of the hospital are in sympathy with the meeting. Will you kindly let us know what course will be decided on, and now we can help in the matter."

Sister M. Albens, Matron of the Nurse Training School, South Infirmary, Cork, wrote:

"I thank you very sincerely for your most kind letter, which conveyed such valuable information. I am at present on holiday, but hope to return in ten days to the Infirmary, when I shall give this all important question my closest attention, and shall have a special meeting of the Nursing Committee summoned to consider fully a matter of such vital importance to Irish nurses. You may, I am sure, count on our whole-hearted support.

"Your kindness in the past, as well as now, emboldens me to ask another favour: That you will make us aware of any new developments which may strengthen your cause and ours."

RESOLUTION I.

Miss KELLY, Matron of Steevens' Hospital, then said:

Madam President and Ladies,—I beg to propose the following Resolution:

"That the Irish Nurses' Association observes with the greatest concern the attitude of the Local Government Board towards State Registration for Irish Nurses."

It has been publicly stated that the initiative in introducing the amendment excluding Ireland from the benefits of the Bill for the State Registration of Ireland has been taken by the Irish Local Government Board.

Miss Kelly then said that this was not the first time that the Local Government Board had treated nurses unjustly, and gave specific instances. She concluded: The passing of the Bill should be conditional upon its giving to Irish Nurses the same representation, qualification, and status which it gives to English and Scottish members of the nursing profession. To postpone the inclusion of Ireland means that all Irish nurses would be compelled to wait the pleasure of the Irish Local Govern-

ment Board, for their professional status, although the Board has no control of any kind over the large number of nurses trained in our general hospitals. Why should different treatment be forced upon Irish Nurses by Departmental or Executive interference?

Miss C. WILLS, Acting Superintendent, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute, who seconded the Resolution, said: This is a Nurses' question, and as soon as nurses prove by constitutional demonstration how earnestly they desire legislation just so soon will it be granted, not a moment before.

Miss Wills further said that if the exclusion of Ireland from the Registration Bill were carried into effect, it would have a disastrous effect upon Queen's Nurses in Ireland. In the majority of the districts throughout Ireland supporting Queen's Nurses, the Committees insist on having Irishwomen. The result, she said, will be we shall have no nurses to supply the districts, because it is not to be supposed that Irishwomen intending to take up nursing as a profession will come to Dublin, or to any of the provincial training schools, and pay a large fee, and at the end of their training find themselves with no recognised professional status at all. Besides, are Irishwomen going to submit to be stigmatised in this way? I don't think so. I urge you all to rouse up and protest against this proposal. There are many nurses scattered over Ireland who are not aware of the danger which threatens them. It will be your duty, if you know any of them to enlighten them, and to arouse their interest also.

Miss V. ROBERTS spoke forcibly in support of the Resolution on behalf of private nurses who, she said, had more to gain or lose than any others. She added, as to the grave injustice to Irish nurses, of proposing to exclude them from participation in what will only be their rights if this Bill passes, I leave the discussion to other speakers, and I feel we can place ourselves in the hands of the Executive members of the Irish Nurses' Association, who are straining every nerve to help the cause of Irish Nurses during this crisis. I ask you to aid them by bringing any influence you may possess to bear upon those who have the power of forwarding this measure of State Registration for Nurses, and especially the inclusion of Ireland.

RESOLUTION II.

Miss McARDLE, St. Lawrence's Home (Q.V.J.I.), proposed the next Resolution:

"That every Irish-trained nurse should pledge herself to use all her influence to have Ireland reinstated in the Bill."

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