

name of their late Matron, and in the name of the 700 women holding the certificate of the hospital, and associated in the League, she said, as they would, she knew, wish her to say, that they were bitterly resentful of the affront placed upon Miss Stewart. Many of them owed every bit of their professional success to her. She tried to make good nurses of them, and good women also, straight, true, conscientious, self-sacrificing, ready to think first of the sick, loyal to those who governed them.

And, if the Governors thought for any reason that fresh blood was advisable, Bart's nurses were willing loyally to accept their decision. Had a woman been selected with wide professional experience, she, and others also, would have held out the hand of warm friendship to her; but they were not ready to accept anyone who held a lower qualification than the Bart's certificate. The protection of the standard for which that certificate stood was a trust to Bart's nurses from their late beloved Matron, and as President of the Bart's League she felt it her duty to speak on that League's behalf.

The resolution was also supported by Dr. Kingsford, Dr. Bonney, and others, and a fund in connection with the expenses was opened by Mr. T. W. Craig with a promise of £5, and of as many guineas and smaller sums by others in the room.

The resolution was then carried unanimously with the greatest enthusiasm.

RESOLUTION II.

The Chairman then called upon Miss Beatrice Kent to move the second resolution.

That copies of the foregoing Resolution be sent to his Most Gracious Majesty the King as President of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, to every Governor, and to the Members of both Houses of Parliament, with the humble and earnest Petition of this Meeting that a Public Inquiry shall be immediately made by the whole body of Governors into the matters referred to, and that justice shall be done to the memory of a noble woman, to the body of women trained under her direction, and that the very grave dangers to life by fire shall be averted from the nurses of St. Bartholomew's Hospital by the erection forthwith of a new Nurses' Home.

A CORPORATE RIGHT.

Miss Kent said she was not a St. Bartholomew's nurse, but she claimed her corporate right, as a member of the nursing profession, to move the resolution. She regarded the appointment as an act of intimidation. In regard to the Nurses Home, nurses were public servants, and it was a public duty to see that their accommodation was sanitary, safe, and comfortable.

The resolution was seconded by Miss E. C. Parry (cert., St. Bartholomew's Hospital), supported by Dr. Hanson, Dr. Flora Murray, Mr. Robert Baker, and others, and also carried unanimously.

A most remarkable and successful meeting, at which many matrons not trained at St. Bartholomew's, and ladies of social position, were present to support Bart's nurses in their claim for justice, concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, who had conducted the meeting with great intelligence and tact.

M. B.

The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses.

There was a very crowded meeting of members at the Annual Meeting of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, at which Lady Helen Munro Ferguson presided, at 11, Chandos Street, W., on Thursday, June 2nd.

The minutes of the last Annual Meeting having been read and confirmed, Lady Helen gave the following address from the chair.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

I think that what we are all most conscious of here to-day is of the gap in our ranks. It is probably not so much the business to be transacted, which has brought this large meeting together as the thought of the friend and leader who has passed away. No one is more conscious than I am of the difficulty of adequately expressing our sense of the loss of Miss Stewart. I cannot speak from personal knowledge of her professional achievements, of the qualities she displayed in discharging the duties of her office, but her success is known to the world and the professional positions which she filled (which Lady Helen enumerated) show the high estimate in which she was held by the whole nursing profession. But perhaps it is fitting that one who knew her best outside her special environment should speak of her to-day. What impressed me most in Miss Stewart was her wisdom in a different capacity. Her gifts of mind and character were of the high order which makes a man or woman an effective force in any position. I knew her best in the committee room, where she fought an uphill battle, and for many years she was a leader in the Registration movement, in which the promoters had to contend with many adverse currents and mysterious undercurrents.

Then there was a comet in the firmament, a comet with a wondrous tail, upsetting to reasonable influences, but still Miss Stewart went serenely on. No check upset her equanimity, or daunted her courage. In fighting hard for a cause she maintained her equilibrium. We are all apt to make things we have very much at heart somewhat personal matters, but Miss Stewart was of too big a nature for that. She always conducted argument with courtesy, appreciated her opponent's point of view, and was ready to compromise when compromise did not affect the principles at stake.

We are glad that she lived long enough to see eight important societies, whose representatives meet as one committee under the chairmanship of Lord Ampthill, united in support of one Registration Bill. By this agreement the Registration movement has reached a different and more hopeful stage. There are still difficulties to be faced. We still have our comet blazing over the East End of London—(A Voice: And over the City)—but the best test of any woman's work is that it should prosper after she has passed away. It proves that her aims were high, her cause just, and her methods right. What Miss Stewart worked for you may win, and raise the standard of nursing in this country. There are many ready to carry on her

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