

the Territorial Force Nursing Service, and that in the formation of the last-mentioned Service the greatest assistance had been rendered by the late Matron, Miss Isla Stewart, to the Lady Mayoress, at that time Lady Truscott, in its formation for the City.

Dr. Dobson pointed out that when the vacancy of Principal Matron to No. 1 (City of London) Hospital, caused by the death of Miss Isla Stewart, had to be filled that it would have been natural to appoint her successor at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but it was found that the lady appointed did not possess the qualification (a three years' certificate of training) required of Sisters and nurses joining the Territorial Force Nursing Service. Therefore, the Mansion House Committee went outside the City for the Principal Matron of the City Hospital, and appointed to this honourable position one of the late Miss Isla Stewart's most distinguished pupils, Miss Cox-Davies, a gold medallist of the Nursing School of St. Bartholomew's, Matron of the Royal Free Hospital, who had practical experience of Army Nursing during the South African War. In moving the Resolution, Dr. Dobson said he spoke practically in the name of St. Bartholomew's Hospital nurses, of their League, which was 700 strong, and of the Defence of Nursing Standards Committee. He spoke also of the affection and loyalty of St. Bartholomew's nurses for their Training School, and of the fact that they had raised a large sum of money for the new Nurses' Home.

Dr. Dobson's speech, which was well received, was seconded by Mr. A. H. Donaldson, M.R.C.S., who also received his medical education at St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

Mr. Donaldson referred to the two years' certificate of training held by the lady selected, and asked whether letters of protest had not been received from medical men.

Sir Alfred Cripps, K.C.V.O., K.C., M.P., pointed out that the appointment was a slight on the nursing staff of the hospital; that the age limit was absurd; that the whole of the applications had never been referred to the Election Committee, the applications having been previously sifted by a sub-committee of six, and those of six candidates only referred to the Election Committee, so that they had had only a limited opportunity of choice, and the whole thing had not been fairly put before them. He was not speaking in opposition to the Election Committee, but appealed to them to let the question be reconsidered.

Sir Vesey Strong also supported the Resolution.

Sir Ernest Flower said that he had very great doubt whether the Governors realised the situation, or the anger which had been aroused outside by this appointment. He thought it would have a great influence on contributions to the hospital.

Sir Henry H. Crawford said that the situation in which the Governors were placed was farcical. All the nurses were required to have a three years' certificate, yet the Matron was admitted with one of two years' training. He appealed for a reconsideration of the matter.

Lord Sandhurst said that it was not in the power of the Governors to refer the matter back to the Election Committee, which had full power to make appointments, and its decision was final, to which Sir Henry Crawford replied that if that were so the whole discussion was a farce.

One Governor spoke in support of the appointment in what has been described as a ranting speech, and he contended that the appointment was the business of the Governors, that the opposition had been got up by women outside, and the affairs of the hospital had got into the press, with damage to the institution. He did not understand what the talk of two or three years' training was about, and contended that experience counted.

LORD SANDHURST DEFENDS THE APPOINTMENT.

Lord Sandhurst, who was evidently in no judicial frame of mind, defended the appointment from the chair. He said that no sooner had the Election Committee got off their chairs than all sorts of rumours were current. He asserted that they had taken great trouble to secure the best candidate, and read Miss McIntosh's certificate of two years' training and one year's service, which was hardly calculated to corroborate this statement. He said he was sorry that Sir Alfred Cripps considered the matter had not been fairly placed before the Election Committee. As to the age limit of 40, they could not be blamed by the Governors for that, as the Governors had agreed to it at the last Court, but he did not say from whom the suggestion arose.

Lord Sandhurst then proceeded to say that he was going to tell the Governors the position straight. The whole opposition was engineered and worked up by one or two women outside, associated with busybodies, and they were not going to stand it. The action of these people was seen everywhere. Lord Sandhurst then referred to the letters which he had received from medical men protesting against the Matron's appointment, called for by Mr. Donaldson. He said he had received about 60, but the writers were not Governors, and it was an impertinence for them to interfere.

In speaking of the action of the nurses, he

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