

sympathy with American Nurses in their work. The resolution which I would propose is:— "That this Annual Meeting of the British Nurses' Association desires to express the great pleasure with which it has heard of the formation of the American Nurses' Association, and the great sympathy which British Nurses naturally feel with American Nurses, both in their common objects, and their common work."

MISS BRANCKER (Matron of the West Bromwich Hospital) seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation.

DR. WYNN WESTCOTT: I am very sorry, on account of the scarcity of the male sex, I have to do two duties instead of one, but this is a very pleasant one. Apart from its professional and individual duties, it is a very important part of the functions of this Association to meet once a year in one of the important provincial towns, and there to transact both business and pleasure, as we have been doing here. The success very much depends on the reception we receive, which reception I can easily understand demands a great deal of care and attention from the ladies and gentlemen who undertake the task of organising the details. I am sure you will all appreciate the permission to meet in this pretty hall, and the skilful way in which it is decorated with plants and flowers. (Hear, hear). I move, "That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Gilbert Barling, and the other ladies and gentlemen who have kindly made the local arrangements this year, and especially to the committee of the Eye Hospital for their kind permission to hold the annual meeting in this hall, and to Miss Vaux for the trouble which she has taken in decorating and arranging it."

MISS WOOD: It gives me great pleasure to second the vote of thanks. I have been in correspondence with our kind friends, and I feel how much we owe the success of the day to them, as this is the outcome of putting their heads together. Miss Wood then announced that a free excursion had been arranged for Members to Warwick Castle, Kenilworth, and Leamington.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

DR. BEDFORD FENWICK: I have to propose yet another very pleasant resolution. It is, "That a most cordial vote of thanks be given to Dr. Malins for taking the chair on this occasion." It is naturally a great disappointment not to have Dr. Wade in the chair, because that would have been a very graceful connecting link between the British Medical Association, of which he is this year President, and the British Nurses' Association. But I think we must feel that no one could have guided this meeting, and by his

courtesy, tact and kindness, made us almost congratulate ourselves upon our disappointment, better than Dr. Malins has done. I have the pleasure to put this resolution to the meeting, and to ask that it be carried by acclamation. (Loud applause.)

DR. MALINS: Dr. Bedford Fenwick, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for the kind manner in which you have passed this vote of thanks, and also Dr. Fenwick for the terms in which he has proposed it. I can only say for my part, it has given me the greatest satisfaction to be able to fill up a gap which was unavoidably caused by Dr. Wade's absence. Doubtless to him the regret will be as keen as to you, because having interested himself up to this point, and so to speak having been prepared for the cordial reception you would have given him, it must be vexatious to him to put his address on one side, and waste his sweetness on the desert air. (Laughter.) In the first place he would have welcomed you to this large industrial centre. He would have welcomed you in the name of the Medical profession, whom he so ably represents, and he would have welcomed you in the name of the distinguished Nurses, who add so much to the comfort and the adornment of our town. The welcome would have been a substantial one in so far as expressing not only the feeling of those well able to judge, but also the feelings of the laity, who are not behind in hospitality, and who are always glad to extend the right hand of fellowship in welcoming those scientific workers who now and again favour us with their presence. The welcome would have been greater because of the signal success with which your Association has been attended—a success which I venture to say is almost unprecedented in the annals of similar organisations. You have made progress, and it remains for you to say that the constitution which you have put on a substantial basis shall be maintained in its integrity, and made, if possible, more firm and more stable in future. Miss Wood has given you some advice, and pointed out the way in which that advice may be carried to the best conclusions in the interest of the Association. If there was one point that, to my mind, deserved more close attention than another, it was the Benevolent Fund. In the hey-day of youth, in the enthusiasm of life, of brighter and lighter moments, when everything looks beautiful, when we have only to work and do our best, it is easy to sit down without counting the cost. But there comes a day—and sometimes it comes suddenly—and we break down at a time when least expected. And this is the time when not only the sympathy of an association like this is required, but what

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