

her words would make up in warmth what they lacked in eloquence.

The toast was honoured with enthusiasm to the refrain "To our next merry meeting. Hip Hip, Hooray."

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Trained Nurses, who responded, said that during the short time its members had been in Ireland they had been royally received. The Reception in the Hall of the Royal College of Surgeons, and the kindness of the Royal College of Physicians in placing their Hall at the disposal of the Conference for its meeting had been deeply appreciated compliments, and a courtesy which went far to make the Conference the success it had been. Such an attitude was the greatest incentive nurses could have to attain to the highest deals in their aim for the benefit of the national health. The Master of the Rotunda and the Matron had also received the members at that world-famed hospital.

Then the Pageant Committee and the Tableaux showed that there were two sides to nursing, and she was specially delighted and charmed at the way in which the tableaux taken from her Pageant of Nursing had been adapted and carried out with so much dramatic and artistic talent.

The King's representative, Lord Aberdeen, had also received the members of the Council in the most generous and kind manner.

The banquet that night ended the Conference, and thanks to the organising ability of the President, Miss Carson Rae, Miss Hughes, and many other willing workers there had not been one hitch. On behalf of the National Council of Trained Nurses she wished to convey to the Irish Nurses' Association its warmest thanks. The suggestion that they should return at some future time had been most gratifying, and they hoped to see their Irish friends again.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN IRELAND.

In proposing the toast of the Medical Profession coupled with the name of Dr. Fitzgerald, President of the Royal College of Physicians, Miss Haughton, Matron of Guy's Hospital, London, said that nurses had been much gratified that the Presidents of both Colleges had appreciated the fact that the Nursing Conference was arranged for the discussion of matters of great importance. With their thanks they coupled their congratulations to the two Irishmen lately honoured by the King, Sir Andrew Horne and Sir Robert Woods, and raised their glasses to the medical profession in Ireland.

The President of the Royal College of Physicians said that he felt very flattered at being asked to respond to the toast. He referred to nursing as an auxiliary branch of the medical profession. Where, he asked, would the physician and surgeon be if deprived of the aid of the trained nurse. On her devolved grave responsibility in carrying out the directions of the medical practitioner,

in dangerous illness and after grave operations she had to meet emergencies in which life trembled in the balance. On her report the medical man largely depended for his knowledge of the condition of the patient and the prognosis of the case. "Does the general public realise that," he asked. "I trow not." They failed to apprehend the awful beauty of self-sacrifice, and the general public and the medical profession stood as debtors to nurses, and on behalf of the medical profession he tendered them warmest thanks for the loyal and invaluable services which they rendered.

The trained nurse was too often overworked and underpaid. He understood that the National Council of Trained Nurses was formed for the purpose of looking after the interests of the nurses and improving their conditions, and these aims had his warmest approval.

THE CHAIRMAN.

Miss Musson, Matron of the Birmingham General Hospital, said she could not have a greater privilege than the duty assigned to her. She was proud to know that Miss Huxley and she had the same Alma Mater. Words failed her when she tried to sum up her qualities—honourable, strong, everything one could wish to be, and the President of all others that members coming from all parts of the kingdom would wish to have. It was typical of the thought of the people of Ireland that they went out of their way to make things pleasant for other people. Miss Huxley certainly had that faculty. She had very great pleasure in proposing the toast of the Chairman. The toast was enthusiastically honoured.

Miss Huxley, who on rising to reply received an ovation, said:—

Ladies and Gentlemen, I rise to thank you for the very kind manner in which you have responded to Miss Musson's gracious words. For the first time in my life I wish I could be eloquent so that I might respond in golden words on this occasion, but being a "doer" and not a "sayer" I must only ask your indulgence, and assure you of my gratitude for your kindness. I cannot let this occasion pass without expressing our hearty thanks to the Lord Mayor of Dublin for the graceful act of courtesy which placed these beautiful rooms at our disposal to-night. It has been a source of gratification to us all to find so many people ready to lend a helping hand in planning our first national conference, and making us feel so welcome in Dublin. To each and all we offer our sincere gratitude.

All good things come to an end at last, but not till all present had joined hands and sung "Auld Lang Syne" was the gay, happy, altogether delightful dinner arranged by the Irish Nurses' Association over.

One of the things which nurses will most value is the charming appreciation of their work so generously given by the President of the College of Physicians.

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