

K.C.B., Mr. Norman C. Craig, K.C., Sir G. Doughty, Mr. G. Denison Faber, C.B., Mr. Arthur Fell, Hon. E. A. Fitzroy, Mr. John Gordon, K.C., Col. H. B. Harrison Broadley, Hon. Aubrey Herbert, Major J. A. Hope, Sir C. R. Hunter, Mr. P. Kerr Smiley, Mr. G. R. Lane-Fox, Viscount Lewisham, Mr. H. J. Mackinder, Mr. D. Macmaster, K.C., Mr. Ian Malcolm, Mr. H. C. Mallaby-Deeley, Major A. C. Morrison-Bell, Mr. H. Nield, K.C., Sir Gilbert Parker, Sir Samuel Scott, Mr. Rigby Swift, K.C., Sir Mark Sykes, Lord A. Thynne, Col. J. W. Weston, Earl Winterton, and Col. C. E. Yate, C.S.I., C.M.G.

THE LABOUR PARTY.

The Independent Labour Party cast 25 votes out of 30 in favour of the Bill, led by Mr. J. Ramsay Macdonald, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. Will Crooks, Mr. G. N. Barnes, Mr. C. W. Bowerman, Mr. J. R. Clynes, Mr. C. Duncan, Mr. J. Keir Hardie, Mr. F. W. Jowett, and Mr. G. H. Roberts.

THE IRISH NATIONALIST PARTY.

The Irish Nurses' Association has great cause for congratulation in contemplating the record of the Nationalist vote, and the manner in which this Party has redeemed its promise of support. The supporters include Mr. John Redmond, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, Mr. J. Devlin, Mr. W. Field, Mr. W. Abraham, Mr. P. J. Brady, Mr. J. P. Boland, Mr. J. Clancy, Mr. W. F. Cotton, Captain A. J. C. Donelan, Dr. J. Esmonde, Sir T. Grattan Esmonde, Mr. Stephen Gwynn, Mr. J. G. Swift MacNeill, K.C., Mr. J. P. Nannetti, Mr. W. A. Redmond, and Mr. David Sheehy.

SUPPORT OF PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES.

In dissecting the voting for and against the Bill it is highly satisfactory to note that Nurses' Registration is in no way a party question. Quite otherwise—as members of every Party in the House are evidently fully alive to the importance of safeguarding the public, and granting to trained nurses some measure of professional protection. Thus we find that 161 Liberals, 59 Unionists, 66 Nationalists, and 25 Labour men voted in favour of the Bill, 189 of whom were members of English constituencies, 68 of Irish, 44 of Scottish, and 20 of Welsh, together composing the 311 voters who supported the Bill.

THE OPPOSITION.

The 83 votes given against the Bill were composed of 75 Unionists, 5 Liberals, 2 Labour, and 1 Nationalist, 79 of whom represented English constituencies, 3 Scottish, and 1 Irish. Thus the opposition came almost entirely from English Unionists. Let us hope the Unionist Party as a whole will now study the Registration question, which presumably many of them have not done, and that in the near future the sick poor and the nurses may have its whole-

hearted support for this most urgent reform. The present neglect of nursing affairs and lack of sympathy with the work of trained nurses is undoubtedly very injurious to the interests of the community.

THE SECOND READING.

What is the next step? To put down the Bill for a Second Reading. That has been done by Dr. Chapple for Friday in this week. But imagine a Constitution which permits one man to override a coalition majority vote of 228! Under our Parliamentary rules this can be done—and has been done for *ten years*—so far as our demand for a Second Reading is concerned. Mr. Handel Booth, or any professional blocker, of whom there are several in the House, or the Honourable Harry Lawson—a member of the House Committee of the London Hospital—has only to rise in his place and say "I object," and the Second Reading is automatically refused.

What we have got to do now is to obtain time from the Government, many members of which are evidently warmly in favour of Nurses' Registration, for a Second Reading. Anyway, with such a record behind us, legislation cannot be long delayed. All we have got to do is to work diligently in season and out of season—and our Bill must be passed into law at an early date.

THE UNPROFESSIONAL NURSING PRESS.

Of course, the anti-registration Nursing Press did all in its power to minimise the "stupendous majority." That was to be expected. Naturally Sir Henry Burdett lashed out savagely. It is only three weeks ago since he informed his misguided readers that "of course the Government do not intend to afford facilities for the discussion of the Registration Bill, because they do not believe that there is any demand for it, either from the nursing profession or from the public." Anyway, the House of Commons has given the *coup de grâce* to this ignorant and purposely misleading statement.

Miss S. Bulan, the foreign lady (laywoman) who edits Macmillan's nursing venture and condescends to instruct the nursing profession, in this country, concerning its own affairs, inserted a covertly antagonistic account of what took place in the House of Commons on the 3rd inst., and also proved the low estimation in which she holds the intelligence of her readers by *suppressing the result of the ballot!* Thus proving once again the devious methods by which the quack nursing press attempts to keep the truth concerning State Registration from the profession it exploits.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)