

Nurse-training Schools? This Register would be a most important check upon the Training Schools, and would confer in the end great freedom upon the Nursing profession, and put into their pockets large shares of their earnings which in the meantime were going to the Training Schools. Another objection seemed to mean that because there was a movement going on for the Registration of Midwives, this movement for the Registration of Nurses should be put a stop to. The fourth objection was that the Registration of Nurses would lead to discord, and prove inimical to the great work of the Training Schools. It was for the Training Schools to put a stop to that discord. He believed that, so far from interfering with the work of the Training Schools, the Association would have the very opposite effect. It would prevent practices which had been objectionable in the past, and it would be of advantage to the sick of this country. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—"That whereas by the 23rd Section of the Companies' Act of 1867, it is especially provided that an association which can prove to the Board of Trade 'that it is formed for the purpose of promoting . . . charity or any other useful object, and that it is the intention of such association to apply the profits, if any, or other income of the association in promoting its objects, and to prohibit the payment of any dividend to the members of the association, the Board of Trade may by licence . . . direct such association to be registered with limited liability without the addition of the word limited to its name'; and whereas the Royal British Nurses' Association fulfils the above conditions, this meeting considers that the Association is entitled to be incorporated under the above Section. And seeing that authorities of the Nurse Training Schools have no control over Nurses who are not in their service, this meeting fails to comprehend by what right a few representatives of these Schools attempt to interfere with free subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, who may choose to enrol their names upon a Register of any description."

Mr. BRUDENELL CARTER, in seconding the resolution, said he had not been able to conjecture what reasons could be alleged against the proposals of the Association. He found their opponents had given no reasons, but only pretexts, most conspicuously coloured, which reminded him of the coloured air balloons sold in the parks by itinerant toy dealers. The opposition came from a somewhat tainted source, because while the efforts of the Royal British Nurses' Association had been, and would be to the end, addressed to raise the status, to improve the education, and to increase the earnings of Nurses, and to com-

combine them for that mutual protection and support, which the professions carried on by men had found it necessary to secure for themselves, it was notorious that the Training Schools were not conducted in the interests of individual Nurses, but on a basis of totally different motives. Any opposition coming from them should be looked upon by Nurses and by the public with extreme scepticism. The Nurses should rely upon their own powers of observation, and claim that privilege of effectual combination which the law had given them.

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK supported the motion, and contended that the private registers kept in the Training Schools did not protect the sick from women who chose to term themselves trained, nor from women certified as efficient who afterwards proved unworthy of trust.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Dr. PAVY moved: "That this meeting, representing at least one quarter of the Trained Nurses in the United Kingdom, is of opinion that the Register of Trained Nurses will furnish a greatly needed measure of protection to the public against ignorant and untrustworthy workers; will be most valuable to medical men as an easily consulted guarantee of a Nurse's technical efficiency; and will be highly appreciated by well-trained Nurses as the first attempt which has ever been made to remove from the recognised ranks of the calling those who discredit it and their fellow-workers."

Dr. BEZLY THORNE seconded, and said their opponents must be aware that the Registration Board would not entertain any application from a Nurse who could not produce evidence of moral character.

Miss CATHERINE WOOD said that the Hospitals which had opposed the Registration must have been for some time past sound asleep, and were at present in the condition of a person who had been rather suddenly awakened. They did not at present exactly know what was the condition of Nursing matters outside the Hospitals.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Sir EDWARD SIEVEKING proposed, and Sir JOSEPH FAYRER seconded, a vote of thanks to Sir William Savory for presiding.

Sir WILLIAM SAVORY, in reply, said that he rejoiced at the opposition which the Association had met, because opposition was inevitable to all progress; but it must ultimately enlarge its success. It was most fortunate to have these difficulties to encounter. They were determined to triumph over them. They had existed three years, and had enrolled three thousand members and Registered seventeen hundred Nurses. Those who opposed the movement might as well attempt

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