

fore, when the last link has been forged in that chain of unions, the perfect circle of Unity will have been described, and peace and universal brotherhood will at last have come to stay on earth. There is nothing more certain than that I as well as you "must strive for universal good, for thus and only thus shall good come unto me," and you.

Before I move the Resolution, I should like to make it clear that this special scheme for forming a professional union, originated in the ranks of working nurses, and no existing society is responsible for it.

#### RESOLUTION.

I will now read the Resolution.

This meeting resolves:—

**"That immediate steps be taken to form a Professional Union (registered under the Trades Union Act) for the mutual help and protection of trained women nurses."**

Association of Nurses, and Hon. Secretary of the oldest Benevolent Fund for Nurses, I, perhaps, see more than any one else of the consequences of past and present dangers to the nurses. As to the question of whether a Trade Union should or should not be formed, that was settled in March, 1916, for when the employers in any body of workers wish to form a Trade Union they form a Limited Liability Company. Such a company was formed in the profession, and the natural sequence to it, sooner or later, is a Trade Union in the rank and file. The one is called forth by the other.

At the same time, six months ago I was opposed to a Trade Union, but the events of the 27th June last,\* and more especially the methods resorted to, to bring those events about, *drove* me to the conclusion that if the nurses decided to forge now in their own ranks the weapon analogous to that which their employers had created and used



Mr. Theodore Goddard,

Miss MacCallum  
(Chairman).

Mr. Alfred Lugg.

I have much pleasure in moving this Resolution and I call upon Miss Macdonald to support the Resolution by putting before the meeting the special dangers to the nursing profession. (Loud applause.)

#### THE DANGERS WHICH THREATEN THE NURSES.

Miss Isabel Macdonald prefaced her speech by saying that she was not on the platform as representing the views of the Association to which she belonged. I speak, she said, simply as an independent nurse, and because I will lose no opportunity that ever offers of making known the wrongs of the nurses. I accepted the invitation to speak on the subject of the dangers which threaten the nurses because I believe that, owing to the fact that I am Secretary of the oldest

to the nurses' hurt, they (the nurses) were justified, and more than justified.

#### DANGER No. 1.

Of all the dangers which threaten the nurses I think the greatest is the nurses themselves. They move about in a walking sleep, tacitly accepting the fact that things are not as they would like them to be, but without the courage or mental alertness to find out what is wrong, and to put it right. One would think that what one sees in the nursing world to-day might serve to arouse them to get better conditions for themselves. Every day into my office there drift

\* The wrecking of the Central Committee's Nurses' Registration Bill in the House of Commons by the representatives of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

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