

people through the ministrations of registered nursing practitioners, who are thoroughly educated, trained, tested and skilled for their responsible duties, and who are remunerated and held in the respect they deserve in the body politic.

"Long may the 'magician' at the Ministry of Health retain office, and his power in connection with the Nursing Act, which we all know will be administered by him in a just and liberal spirit." (Loud and prolonged Applause.)

The Chairman then called on Miss Isabel Macdonald, Royal British Nurses' Association, as a representative nurse, to second the Resolution.

MISS ISABEL MACDONALD SECONDS THE RESOLUTION.

MISS ISABEL MACDONALD in responding said:—

"Madam Chair, Dr. Addison, ladies and gentlemen, I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution just proposed from the Chair, and in expressing the pleasure it gives to us that the Minister of Health should have spared some of his exceedingly precious time in order to be here this afternoon. You nurses have briefed me well as regards your views in connection with the Nurses' Registration Act, there is scarcely a clause in it that one or other among you has not selected for special criticism, favourable or otherwise. On one point however, you have all been unanimous when you have come to me to ask questions, and to discuss the Act, and that is your appreciation of the ability and goodness of Dr. Addison in having had an Act for the State Registration of Trained Nurses placed on the Statute Book at last. (Loud Applause). I know you have anxieties regarding certain points, you have made that very plain to me as regards what you are pleased to term "the nominated Council," but I am going to say to you at this public meeting, just what I have said to you personally—"You must trust your Minister." Look back over the last few months of the history of the State Registration movement. Remember that to-day we are met to celebrate the redemption, in an incredibly short time, of a pledge that was given you, examine your Act, and remember that Dr. Addison has handed to you the reward of all your striving and all your sacrifice, and I feel sure that you will be encouraged to have full confidence that this Council which is to shape your lives and shape the destinies of your profession will be justly constituted.

In the name of those present here, and also, Dr. Addison, in the name of the nurse members of the oldest organisation of nurses, the Royal British Nurses' Association, I have the honour to offer you sincere thanks for your gift to the profession of nursing."

MAJOR BARNETT, M.P., SUPPORTS THE RESOLUTION.

MAJOR BARNETT, M.P.: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Dr. Addison, ladies and gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to me to be here this afternoon, and to congratulate you and your Society on your success in this great movement, which has been going on for so many years. We have heard from Mrs.

Bedford Fenwick what a long night of trouble and sorrow you have passed through, and I am afraid that if you had not been like the importunate widow in the Scriptures, you might still have been waiting for the State Registration of Nurses. There were a few successes, gained at long intervals, but those successes, after all, amounted to very little so long as the Bill was a Private Member's Bill, because it is about as easy for a Private Member's Bill to get through the House of Commons as it is for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle. We had the splendid efforts of Lord Ampthill in the House of Lords, which got the Bill through in 1908, and those of Major Chapple, who got a ten-minute reading of the Central Committee's Bill in 1914. Then we had our own Bill read a second time; and it was only when Dr. Addison came on the scene and brought in a Government Measure, that we succeeded, and we claim that substantially the best features of our Bill are in Dr. Addison's Act (Applause.) And we wish the Act—for it is now no longer a Bill—every success, and I associate myself with everything which has been said by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and by Miss Macdonald about the Minister of Health. We hope he will be long spared in office to administer the Act which has now been placed on the Statute Book. I have great pleasure in supporting this resolution conferring a vote of thanks.

LIEUT.-COL. GOODALL, M.D., SUPPORTS AS A MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVE.

THE CHAIRMAN: In the past, unless we had had the support of the medical profession, focussed through the British Medical Association, we, perhaps, even now should not have had a Bill through Parliament. (Hear, hear.) I, therefore, call upon Col. Goodall to say a few words from the medical point of view, in connection with this great triumph which we are now celebrating.

LIEUT.-COL. GOODALL: Madam, Dr. Addison, ladies and gentlemen, I am very pleased to be able to say a few words on behalf of the medical profession in support of this vote of thanks to the Minister of Health. As you have said, without the medical profession I doubt whether the Bill would have arrived at the stage which it has now reached. The medical profession and the nursing profession are bound up together; the nursing profession supports the medical profession; the one could not get on without the other. No one knows that more than you do, Sir, and it is the fact that you belong to the medical profession which has led you to expedite this Measure. I will not interpose any longer between you and the Minister, except to say how thankful we are that this Bill has become an Act. I am sure that if it had not been so, these controversies, which have been going on for so many years, would still have continued, because I am certain this Society would not have laid down the cudgels, and I am afraid there has been a good deal of strong opposition to it becoming law. I have

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