

MISS O'FLYNN AND THE PIONEERS.

Miss O'Flynn spoke in support, and mentioned the work of Miss Huxley and the Irish Nurses' Association during the past eleven years. What work had been accomplished, in season and out of season, with expenditure of brains and money, and what strenuous toil had at length won its reward. It was now up to the Matrons to see nurses equipped by the best possible training to become professional women.

MISS REEVES AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Miss Reeves spoke of the Act and its possibilities, and the increased responsibility that the Act would bring. That there should be no more rivalry between various hospitals, but that they should all work more closely together, and in spite of financial stumbling blocks, all should stand and take a part. That small hospitals should be treated as wards of big hospitals; all should share alike in having the best possible material made available for training, and a system should be found under which good lectures should be given which all should attend. The Irish Nurses' Association press for uniform action and for the best obtainable systematic teaching.

MISS CARRE ON PUBLIC DUTY.

Miss Carre spoke of the prospective benefits to be desired by the nursing profession, and hoped that under the new Act the health and welfare of the nation would be vastly improved.

MISS CARSON RAE ON PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT.

Miss Carson Rae spoke on the benefits which nurses hoped to obtain from the Act. First, they looked for an improved status—hitherto their

work had been described as a domestic occupation, officially classed with that of the scrubbers and porters of a hospital, but now they were a definite Professional Unit with legal standing and State Recognition. They now hoped for standardisation of training, with improved education, three years' training, State examination, and a one portal to the Register. They further hoped, first, for the affiliation of hospitals whereby small and special hospitals may be enabled to carry on their work without injustice to the nurses; secondly, they hoped for post graduate courses. Miss Huxley had given them a very good résumé of the work done in conjunction

with our friends on the Central Committee, but naturally she had said nothing about her own work. From the beginning of the movement Miss Huxley had worked in it on behalf of Irish nurses, that they might take their place on an equality with their English and Scottish sisters in the Act. Every year she had attended meetings in London, often at great inconvenience, always at her own personal expense.

THE REWARD OF MISS HUXLEY'S DEVOTION.

Her reward had come now in the passing of the Act, and they owed her a deep debt of gratitude for her work on their behalf. They all wished to thank Miss Huxley very heartily for her kind thought in asking them to

spend such a happy evening, as well as to celebrate this great event in the history of nursing. Miss Carson Rae then proposed the health of Miss Huxley, which was received with enthusiasm, and carried with musical honours. After some time of delightful social intercourse the guests dispersed, with memories of a delightful evening not soon to be forgotten.

Congratulations were received from Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Breay, Miss Haughton and Miss Strahan.



MISS MARGARET HUXLEY.

Pioneer of the Higher Education of Nurses and State Registration in Ireland. Past President of the Irish Matrons' Association and of the Irish Nurses' Association.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)