

more than thirty years since I chose for your Association the beautiful old motto which you see on the scroll of its banner to-day. Looking back on the history of those years I feel that my Association has been "Steadfast and True" to a principle which I hope will ever dominate its policy—that of placing the welfare of the profession at large before every other consideration, before even the interests of the Association itself. With such a policy to guide you I look forward to the future of my Association with all confidence, and feel that this beautiful new Club will be used to benefit to the utmost extent possible the interests of the profession of nursing which all my life have been so dear to me.

I cannot close without referring to the devoted untiring services of Miss Macdonald, our valued Secretary, to whom the Association and its members owe so much, and I would ask her to accept my own personal warmest thanks, as well as the gratitude of the Association and of its members. (Applause.)

THE THANKS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

Miss Mildred Heather-Bigg, R.R.C. Vice-Chairman of the Association then said:—

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,—

It is my proud privilege this afternoon to thank you in the name of this representative meeting for coming here to-day. But it is always a Red Letter Day for us when our Royal President comes amongst us.

Your Royal Highness has never been a mere figure head. Your keen interest in the work of the nursing world has stimulated all our efforts. Not only have you ever been to the fore with suggestions for the health and well-being of Nurses, but it is to your Royal Highness that we owe the Charter of our corporate existence.

Your support and sympathy have culminated to-day in this magnificent gift of a club's equipment.

This Club, which your Royal Highness is just about to open, as well as the active part you took in securing State Registration for Nurses, are lasting proof of your success in raising the status of the nursing profession.

I will now ask your Royal Highness to fix this commemorative tablet on the wall by the side of the one Her Majesty fixed when she opened Queen Mary's Hostel for Nurses.

THE COMMEMORATIVE TABLET.

The Princess then fixed the Commemorative Tablet, and declared the Club open.

The Tablet bears the following inscription:—

This house was taken over by the Royal British Nurses' Association on April 15th, 1921.

This tablet was placed in position by Her Royal Highness Princess Christian, First President of the Royal British Nurses' Association, when the House was opened as the Headquarters and the Club of the Corporation, on May 18th, 1921.

TELEGRAMS OF CONGRATULATION.

The Secretary, Miss Macdonald, then read the following telegrams:—

From the South Australian Branch.—To the Royal British Nurses' Association: "The Branch Association, South Australia, send fraternal and loyal greetings, wishing the parent Association success on the opening of their new residence.—Margaret Graham, Consul."

From the Scottish Nurses' Association.—To Her Royal Highness Princess Christian: "The Scottish Nurses' Association, with the expression of its filial attachment to the Royal British Nurses' Association, and of affectionate loyalty to its head, offers warmest good wishes for the prosperity and happy social development of the new Headquarters.—J. McGregor Robertson, President."

From the Scottish Nurses' Club.—To the President: "The Scottish Nurses' Club offers its warmest congratulations, and most hopeful wishes for success and happiness on entering into possession of so beautiful a home.—I. Ailsa, President."

From the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund.—To the President: "Members of the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund wish to congratulate your Royal Highness on the opening of the Nurses' Club, and wish it every success."

From the Fever Nurses' Association.—To the Secretary: "On behalf of Fever Nurses' Association desire to tender hearty congratulations to Royal British Nurses' Association on successful inauguration of much-needed social club for nurses. Every good wish for future prosperity.—Foord Caiger, Hon. Treasurer."

From the Society of Chartered Nurses.—To the Royal British Nurses' Association: "All good wishes from your members of the Society of Chartered Nurses."

From the Association of Trained Nurses in Public Health Work.—To the Secretary: "The Association of Trained Nurses in Public Health send best wishes for the success of the Club, and for the continued success of the Royal British Nurses' Association."

From the National Union of Trained Nurses.—To the Secretary: "The National Union of Trained Nurses sends heartiest good wishes for the success of Club."

From the Professional Union of Trained Nurses.—To the oldest Association of Nurses—the Royal British Nurses' Association—greetings from the youngest—the Professional Union of Trained Nurses: We thank you for keeping the flag flying."

This concluded the proceedings. The Princess Christian and Princess Marie Louise then inspected the Club, and expressed much pleasure at its arrangements. Before leaving, they had tea in the Lounge. As the Royal party left the Club, hearty cheers were raised by the nurses present for the "Nurses' Princess."

The afternoon concluded with tea, daintily served, and a very successful and memorable occasion was brought to a conclusion. M. B.

ISABEL MACDONALD.

Secretary to the Corporation.

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