

know women all put the most important parts of their communications into postscripts. In this postscript I asked her whether she knew of any appointment likely to fall vacant in London as I should rather like to work there. I remember she sent me a few hasty lines on a half-sheet of paper saying that she was giving up her appointment as Secretary, and asking me to wire if I would like to apply for it. Two days after, I came up for an interview. Frankly, I did not like the look of my new surroundings at all. For one thing, in Scotland, we do not crowd many offices all into one building; I really thought of going home again but it seemed an impossible thing to turn one's back on an enterprise and there was the consideration too, so important to a Scotch woman—I had paid for my ticket to London! (Laughter.) Anyhow I started to climb the stairs to that office. I can remember them well, stairs covered with linoleum and ugly zinc facings. But what I did not realise, when I started to mount those stairs, was that, at the same time, I was setting my feet on a road on which I might never even live to see the bourne to which I was travelling, a road, too, upon which one finds there is never any turning back—the road that leads on to professional organisation. Your President has spoken of success this afternoon and I have been trying to recollect certain words of Emerson's in connection with this. The actual words I cannot remember, but they are to the effect that success means that a person feels that he or she has been placed in a particular position by the gods in order to carry out a particular piece of work and is "getting on with the job." I have had that feeling very strongly throughout years characterised by many struggles, but you and I have had something else besides that aspect of success only to encourage us. We have had a courageous leader, brilliant, with long clear vision and, above all, a great loyalty to the fundamental principles upon which she taught us that professional organisation should be founded. We often hear such things said about Mrs. Fenwick, but there is one thing that has struck me and no doubt has struck you too, although you might not put it in quite the same words. It is that no sooner does Mrs. Bedford Fenwick get an idea than she transforms it into an ideal and that is the right thing to do; for if each good idea is not so transformed, it simply withers and becomes one of the lost opportunities. When Mrs. Fenwick gets an idea she transforms it into an ideal. It does not matter greatly whether that ideal is a History of Nursing Pageant dinner or the establishing of Acts of Parliament on the Statute Book of the Realm; and we get together to set out to reach it, though I won't say that she doesn't do a little bit of what the Americans call "hustling" too. Anyhow, she gets us "up and at it."

I won't stand longer between you and the very delightful tea which I know is waiting downstairs but, just in closing, I would like to say that I do not regard this beautiful medal, which your President has presented to me to-day, as the reward for a race that is run, but rather as an inspiration to you and to me to—Carry On.

Introduction of Newly Elected Members of Council.

The President then welcomed and presented to the Council the newly elected Councillors, Miss Dorothy Kathleen Graham and Miss Gladys Ivy da Silva Le Geyt, Fellows, and Miss E. J. Haswell, Member, who were present in their Robes of Office, and presented them with charming bouquets of roses and carnations, for which they expressed warm thanks.

In presenting the new Members of the Council to the meeting the President invited them severally to face their constituents while she spoke a few words about each.

Miss Graham had already served the College well as a nominee of the Trustees, and now came before the meeting as the choice of the electorate. Her special interest was

Nursing Education. By her suggestion the Tutorial Group had been formed and through its medium the League of Sister Tutors had been developed.

Miss Le Geyt took a seat on the Council for the first time. She was a keen public health worker and her colleagues on the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, had reason to be aware that she possessed the gift, bestowed on few nurses, of journalistic talent, for she edited their official organ *League News* with conspicuous ability.

Miss Haswell, who represented the Members on the Council had already served one term of office as the nominee of the Trustees, and it welcomed her return to office, and also the fact that she was a provincial member. She had worked both at home and abroad and had interests in many parts of the world.

Votes of Thanks.

Miss Macdonald then proposed the first vote of thanks. She wished, she said, to propose a very sincere vote of thanks to Dr. Bedford Fenwick, because the Fellows and Members of the College had to realise what lay behind the Financial Report which had just been presented and adopted. She knew enough about matters relating to finance to understand what it meant to have the various items of income and expenditure so well balanced one against the other. We came year by year accepting these most encouraging reports and indeed expecting them, and we offered our thanks each year to the Treasurer. But when we did so we should bear in mind that we owe him a very long bill of gratitude. It was not only that he presented such satisfactory accounts for the financial year. It was not only that some unknown donor had such faith in his integrity that this great endowment had been handed through him to the British College of Nurses, that was only a small part of Dr. Fenwick's almost lifelong interest in and kindness to the Profession of Nursing. When future nurses study the history of our time they will have not only to read but to ponder on the story of the victory when the Charter of the Royal British Nurses' Association was won. There is no medical man who has done so much for the nurses. She did not say "more;" she said "so much." It was time we realised what his labour, his financial help and his advice had meant to professional nursing progress.

The motion was seconded by Miss M. G. Allbutt supported by Miss D. K. Graham and carried with prolonged applause.

Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Vice-President, then proposed a vote of thanks to the President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. She said she was honoured in being asked to propose the vote of thanks, which she considered was foremost in the thoughts and wishes of all Members of the Council, and of the Fellows and Members present. She wished to assure the President of the affection and gratitude which they all felt towards her. Also to once more express their warmest admiration not only of the great achievements she had attained in the past for the benefit of the whole of the Nursing Profession, but of the great work she was still carrying on during every minute of her life. We owed our President a large debt of gratitude, and she had the greatest pleasure in proposing this vote of thanks to her, coupled with the confidence and loyalty of all present.

Miss E. J. Haswell, in seconding this, expressed the opinion that too much loyalty and affection could not be given to our great leader, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, for all she had done.

The proposition was received and carried with enthusiasm.

The President, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said that what she had done was a pleasure, and when at any time she was prevented from working she felt that she was the loser.

The Meeting then terminated.

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