

" My colleagues, I give you the toast : ' Our Guests and Visitors.' "

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, on rising to reply, amid long and enthusiastic applause, expressed great pleasure at being a guest of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association on this occasion ; someone had alluded to the work she had done, and she could only say that she had been privileged in having opportunity to do it, as, in her opinion, work was the one great thing in the world worth living for. In the old days of the profession, she, with others, had worked long hours and enjoyed the strenuous life, and she feared that the spirit of to-day in this connection would not carry the world to the highest point of evolution. Nurses have devoted themselves to duty, and she remembered, when Fever Hospitals were not of the high standard that they are to-day, her successor at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Miss Isla Stewart, one of the greatest women she had ever known, came from a Fever Hospital to Bart.'s. She was earnestly interested in elevating the standard of nursing infectious diseases, since which time, Mrs. Fenwick said, she had worked earnestly

and has, I would think, in our President, an old friend of mine, a supporter of distinction, charm and humour, a very great gift, and, in short, he would like to say thank you for this very enjoyable evening.

Miss Wright, R.R.C., Matron, Biggleswade Isolation Hospital, rose to propose a Vote of Thanks to the Committee for the very successful arrangements of this function ; she felt warm thanks were due especially to the Secretary, Miss Beatrice West, whose services had been invaluable ; she felt sure that the members of the Association were most grateful, and she had the pleasure of proposing a very hearty Vote of Thanks.

A very delectable dinner and enjoyable speeches completed, it was announced that coaches were waiting to convey the party to Sadler's Wells Theatre, for the performance of " Cavalleria Rusticana," followed by " Gianni Schicchi,"

At the close of the evening all agreed that the rendering of these two operas was *par excellence*, the singing and acting enchanting.

The guests and members again found coaches waiting to take them their various ways. So ended the Second



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Mrs. Bedford Fenwick. Miss H. McLoughlin.

Miss J. Ruddy. Miss A. S. Bryson. Dr. G. Harnett.

Dr. Malcolm Barker.

to associate the Associations of Fever Nurses with those trained in other branches of Nursing so that they might enjoy the same privileges in affiliation with others in the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Mrs. Fenwick then alluded to the wonderful International Congress of Nurses held in London in July last, when the cream of the Nursing Profession from all over the world had been present, and at which the Fever Nurses had taken an active part.

Mrs. Fenwick, in conclusion, expressed her very warmest thanks to the Association for their most kind invitation and great courtesy in enabling her to enjoy its wonderful hospitality.

Dr. Malcolm Barker, in replying for the guests, said how much they appreciated being once again guests of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association, and he would have liked to have listened much longer to the previous speeches and wished to express appreciation and thanks to the President for the very cordial welcome, not only on this but other occasions. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the doyen for the past 50 years of Nursing progress, has, for instance, in the movement for State Registration, taken such a shining part,

Annual Dinner of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association.

It was felt that gratitude was due to the outstanding personality of the President, Miss H. McLoughlin, for the charming manner in which she had conducted the function, which was acclaimed an unqualified success.

THE INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

Through this Association, founded to increase the usefulness of Fever Nurses and to promote and safeguard their Professional interests, Matrons of Fever Hospitals and Sanatoria have the opportunity of meeting to discuss difficulties peculiar to their work, and it is of the greatest value to them in their efforts to bring the hospitals up to the best possible standard.

The members of the Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association are united in their determination that this organisation shall maintain its freedom and independence for the betterment of the Nursing Profession, without which there can be no progress.

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