

"(4.) The doing anything incidental or conducive to carrying into effect the foregoing purposes."

3. It appears from the Draft Charter, that the membership of the Corporation is proposed to be confined (subject to a power to elect honorary members) to qualified medical practitioners and Nurses, and that it is sought to acquire power to make and alter bye-laws, and to impose penalties for disobedience thereto.

4. Your Petitioners believe that such a list or Register of Nurses as is contemplated by the Draft Charter, would, if established, be regarded and used by the public as an authoritative guide in the selection of Nurses, and that Registration therein would be considered a sufficient and conclusive guarantee of competence. And your Petitioners further believe that the Royal British Nurses' Association, if incorporated as aforesaid, would be enabled, by means of the position and dignity accruing from the possession of a Charter, and by reason of the control they would have over the Register of Nurses, to acquire a real power of determining the qualifications requisite to constitute a trained Nurse, and of regulating and controlling the training and education of the whole body of Nurses.

5. Your Petitioners humbly submit that such

a Register could not be made to supply the kind of information which is essentially required in the case of Nurses for the sick, such as the possession of gentleness, tact, presence of mind, and other personal and moral characteristics, without which no training can produce a good Nurse.

6. Your Petitioners further submit that the establishment of such a Register as is contemplated by the Draft Charter would, for (amongst others) the reasons stated in pars. 7, 8, and 9 hereof, be detrimental, not only to the general body of Nurses, but also to the public and the medical profession.

7. The systematic training of Nurses is of recent origin, and, although it has made great advances, both as regards the number of Hospitals and Infirmaries in which it is carried on, and as regards the extent and quality of the training required, it is still in process of growth. Much longer experience than is, at present, available, and a very considerable development in the means of training, is necessary before any general concurrence of opinion as to what should be considered an adequate training for a Nurse can possibly be arrived at. Until such concurrence of opinion is obtainable, it would, as your Petitioners submit, be premature to establish a central body, with exceptional powers of controlling

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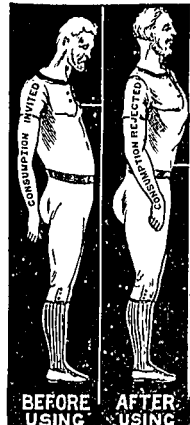
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