

The Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses,
99, Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square, W.
December 29th, 1914.

DEAR MRS. FOX,—I have received your reply to my letter and, as you desire it, the matter will be brought before Council at their next meeting.

Yours truly,
(Signed) LUCY M. ROBINSON
(Chairman of Council).

17, Priory Mansions,
Drayton Gardens, S.W.
January 8th, 1915.

DEAR MRS. MARRIOTT FOX,—Your letter was brought before the Council to-day as you wished. The members ask me to express to you their regret at the prospect of losing a valued and loyal member such as you have been since obtaining your certificate. We do appreciate the special difficulties of provincial teachers and think some of them may be met, and we are therefore arranging a conference of teachers, as soon as we move into our new quarters; to discuss various points. The Council unanimously suggested that a meeting between two or three of them and yourself might find a happier solution than your resignation. They hope that you will be able to arrange to meet them on Saturday, January 16th, and Miss Manley is writing to offer you hospitality. May I hope to see you here (at my flat) between 4 and 4.30 p.m. on that day?

Yours truly,
(Signed) LUCY M. ROBINSON.

P.S.—The Council wish to defray your travelling expenses on this occasion.

Training School of Massage,
1, Thorncliffe Grove,
Oxford Road, Manchester.
January 13th, 1915.

DEAR MISS ROBINSON,—Your letter of the 8th inst. to hand, for which I thank you.

I do not see what difference my coming up to London to meet members of your Council can possibly make in the situation.

As I explained in my letter of December 9th when resigning from the Society, that I had given the matter very serious consideration and was resigning as a protest against the arbitrary methods adopted by the Society towards its Certificate holders and towards Teachers of Massage.

The aims and objects of the Society seem to have become such as to penalize with impunity the teachers of Private Schools and Members of the Society. To give you just another instance:—The Society's new rule prohibiting certificate holders, members and associates of the Society from giving certificates of training or efficiency; and the penalty that the Society will not receive pupils from schools or private teachers granting such certificates.

Does it not strike your Society as tyrannical to enforce such a rule upon old schools, some of which were established many years before the Incorporated Society was even in existence, and

where doubtless many of your earlier members and probably even some of your founders themselves received their training and certificates?

It is the methods upon which the Society is working that I am entirely opposed to, and therefore as a matter of principle I cannot withdraw my resignation nor my privilege of publishing our correspondence upon the matter; and this I consider to be in the interests of many in the Profession.

I saw Miss —, the inspector you sent to see me, as she was a personal friend and she knows my views exactly, and it would be of no use my repeating them to other members of your council.

My resignation must, therefore, be considered as final, and this being the case you will understand why I cannot at this time accept the hospitality kindly offered by yourself and other members.

Believe me,
Yours truly,
(Signed) K. MARRIOTT FOX.

157, Great Portland Street, W.,
February 18th, 1915.

DEAR MRS. FOX,—Your letter of the 9th December last has been placed before the Council of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses at their meeting held on the 12th inst., and I am instructed to say that, having regard to the reason you put forward for tendering your resignation as a member of the Society, and returning the certificate of proficiency in massage granted you by the Society in 1911, the Council much regret that you have declined the invitation sent to you through the Chairman to meet members of the Council known to you personally, to discuss in a friendly and open manner the various points you have raised, which they feel assured you need only to consider from an impersonal point of view to become convinced that all resolutions passed by the Council are for the ultimate benefit of the Society, its certificate holders and the profession generally.

As you say, masseuses holding the Society's certificate sign an undertaking to abide by "all rules and regulations of the Society," and, for their benefit, the three principal rules enforced from the date of the foundation of the Society, 1894, are printed at the foot of the declaration, but it stands to reason that, with the advance of the Society, additional rules and regulations must necessarily be made.

Early in 1913, with the increasing number of schools and private teachers of massage, it became necessary to safeguard the training of the would-be masseuse by requiring a minimum of instruction and practical work to be given at all schools where students were prepared and entered for examination, and, after many meetings of Council and Examination Committee and discussions on the subject with principals of long-established schools of massage, and members and teachers present at the annual meeting and Teachers' Conference in 1914, a detailed syllabus

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)