

conscience being permitted to this class of well-educated and highly-skilled women.

Such an attitude on the part of men who are largely responsible for the present disorganised condition of affairs in our ranks is as reprehensible as it is intolerable, and it is sincerely to be regretted that these gentlemen are so out of touch with nursing politics and aspirations, and, indeed, with public feeling on this question, that they attempt to deny to trained nurses rights and privileges which they themselves enjoy in their various professional organisations.

#### AN UNWISE ATTITUDE.

And while from the nurses' standpoint the attitude of the Council is greatly to be regretted, from the point of view of the hospitals represented we believe it also to be ill-advised. In the present financial stress it is unwise for public institutions, dependent for support on charitable subscriptions, to run counter to public opinion on a matter of this kind.

We believe we are right in saying that the members of this Council were not empowered by the Hospital Committees of which they are representative to oppose the Registration of Nurses. The point is one upon which they should certainly receive a direct mandate from their Committees as to the line of action to be taken, for, if the Committees of these hospitals attempt to stifle organisation amongst certificated nurses, who are in no way under their control, they will discover, if they do not already know it, that they are assuming a very unpopular attitude, and one which will certainly affect prejudicially the interests of the institutions over which they preside.

Further, the following regulation of the Council will be read with interest:—"The constituent hospitals shall be invited to contribute equally to the annual expenses." We at once enter a protest against a tax on hospitals funds to pay for the opposition to the demand of trained nurses for legal status, as, it is reported, large sums were utilised to pay for the opposition to their obtaining a Royal Charter ten years ago. Trained nurses are defraying the entire expenses connected with the promotion of their own Bill, and we think the British sense of fair play will condemn the action of any institution which utilise funds subscribed for the relief of the sick poor to oppose a class of women workers in their effort to protect the sick from ignorant and unqualified attendants, and to organise their own profession.

#### THE PUBLIC AND TRAINED NURSES.

During the last decade the public has become conversant, to a considerable extent, with nursing matters, and we have no doubt, when the just demands of a body of women who are doing splendid national work in hospitals, infirmaries and parishes, amongst rich and poor, at home and abroad—work which is of the utmost value to the body politic—becomes a debatable question in the House of Commons, that but few years will pass before the righteousness of their demands is recognised by the Legislature, and they are granted what they ask.

In the meantime, those amongst us who know that we are not asking for selfish privileges, but that our chief aim is the welfare of the sick, must use every effort to unite trained nurses in support of the Registration Cause, and to gain for it the adhesion of the all-important support of the nation at large.

#### OUR ATTITUDE OF MIND.

A calm and firm attitude of mind, tireless work, plenty of pluck, and disregard of discouragement must be our attitude of mind toward the question of Registration. After all, while discouragements there may be in regard to the details of the campaign, there are none as to its ultimate issue. Our success is assured, and sooner or later our opponents must realise that they are fighting a losing game, and that, while they may hinder progress, they cannot prevent it.

What we nurses desire is the judicial consideration of the nursing question by an unbiased authority which has no stake of its own in the question. We are quite prepared to bring our case to the bar of public opinion.

#### QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

The undermentioned lady to be Matron: Miss Annie Louise Cox.

The undermentioned Sisters and Staff Nurses are confirmed in their appointments, their period of provisional service having expired:—Sisters: Miss Evangelina Beck, Miss Rosabelle Osborne, Miss Alice Beatrice Wohlmann. Staff Nurses: Miss Susan Beatrice Lanyon, Miss Catherine Geddes Stronach, Miss Ethel Mary Denne.

Sister Frances Mary Hall resigns her appointment.

Sister Henrietta Tarleton Young resigns her appointment.

Staff Nurse Miss Margaret Mabel Rees resigns her appointment.

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