

a free and open election a lady trained under her wise supervision could not have been found, possessing the highest qualifications, to succeed her in office.

It is therefore most earnestly and respectfully submitted that the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital should individually take action at this important juncture, by demanding that, on their behalf, a public inquiry should be made into the matters now brought before their notice.

I am, Sir or Madam,

Your obedient servant,

ELLEN SHUTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Cleveland House, Chiswick Lane, London, W.
June 15th, 1910.

Quotes from Private Letters.

BY PERMISSION.

"I send you a guinea for the Defence of Nursing Standards Fund, and only wish it was £100.

"I should say Bart's feels much as we should as a nation, if we had to accept the cadet of a hostile and inferior Power in the place of the Peace Maker, just as we are all mourning for him with so much genuine grief."

"This appointment (at Bart's) is a direct vote of censure on the Nursing Department, by the Election Committee—to which the representatives of the Medical Staff have subscribed—outsiders can come to no other conclusion. This is the reason we want a public inquiry."

"It may interest you to know that I have decided not to train at 'Bart's,' but elsewhere. I want my certificate signed by a Matron holding a Three Years' Certificate."

"Even old 'Londoners' feel the injustice of this appointment. We 'Londoners' expect Miss Lückes to have trained her successor, and if the Committee don't think a Matron capable of that they should find one who is." ("Londoners" may rest assured on this point.—Ed.)

"We are being assured with emphasis on all sides that this appointment was unpremeditated. How providential for the selected candidate that she is only "thirty-nine," as stated by Miss Lückes in the *Westminster Gazette* on the 16th inst., and that she had not passed that fateful Rubicon, her fortieth birthday—the age limit so carefully inserted in that astounding advertisement."

"I hear an outburst of indignation was expected over this appointment, so the lady in question was hustled off to Switzerland for a holiday, as Miss Lückes puts it, 'out of reach even of the echoes of this strangely unreal controversy.' But the *Evening News* man has

stolen a march on the Matron of the London Hospital, and run Miss McIntosh to earth at Grindelwald, where he showed her the newspaper reports of the protest! When invited to confide in this enterprising reporter, she intimated she preferred to converse on the 'glow that was shining at that moment over the heights.'

"When asked if she expected to introduce any new methods at Bart's, she replied:

"I cannot tell at present."

"How about bringing the Sisters 'to their proper level?' That little item in the programme must not be allowed to lapse."

"Coming events cast their shadows before them! But is not the Matron of the London Hospital, just a little previous in awarding the Bart's Gold Medal? According to her exceedingly specious and impertinent statement in the *Westminster Gazette*, the paragon of all the virtues, which the London Hospital is; with so much self-sacrifice bestowing as Matron upon Bart's (with equal generosity we hasten to deprecate the necessity for this noble abnegation!) 'secured her certificate for knowledge of medical and surgical nursing in a manner that would have entitled her to a gold medal from Bart's.' Considering that the Matron elect 'secured her certificate' after an insufficient two years' training, it may interest Miss Lückes to know that at Bart's she would have been required to gain the necessary skill and experience of a *thoroughly trained nurse* by working under skilled supervision for a *third* year, and passing first, a final examination before being eligible for this much coveted honour—an honour several of our most distinguished graduates might have advanced as applicants for the post of Matron to their Alma Mater, had not the age limit of 40 'cut them out' of competing with a Matron's Assistant from the London Hospital, aged, according to Miss Lückes, 39."

"Nothing will convince the Nursing World at large that this is a clean business."

"No protestations upon the part of Miss Lückes will reconcile Bart's nurses to the depreciation of their professional status. They are unanimous in the opinion that a highly trained gentlewoman should have been selected to fill the place of the eminent Matron they have lost."

"I feel the doctors can't have played the game, and I do feel for all those excellent women at Bart's being insulted like this."

"This place (Bart's) is like a charnal house."

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