

course it came to the knowledge of Council that the students at your school were receiving only two hours' weekly instruction from this teacher instead of eleven as scheduled.

As our dealings were necessarily with the responsible and qualified teacher, she was interviewed, and admitted that she was only engaged by you for two hours' teaching weekly. There was, therefore, no alternative but to refuse her signature to the entry qualification form for candidates, though the authorities fully sympathised with the pupils who had paid you training fees, and deeply regretted this disqualification.

The teacher was advised by the authorities to notify you and the students of the refusal of her signature, and this was done.

You were, therefore, fully informed as to our action and the reasons for it.

3. The Council decided that your conduct was detrimental to the profession and that it would be an act of injustice to other schools, where the examination requirements were loyally fulfilled, to allow you and Miss Bedingfield to remain as certificate holders and members of the Society. By a unanimous vote, your names were removed on September 18th, 1914, and you were notified of it.

In so doing, the Council committed a technical error, inasmuch as you had not been warned of their intention; but they thought it unnecessary to do so, owing to your full cognisance of all the circumstances. On September 24th, 1914, an announcement appeared in various nursing papers, stating that "in consequence of a dispute with the I. S. T. M. the Misses Scamell and Bedingfield would not, in future, prepare pupils for that Society's examinations." This was misleading to the public, and the Society were forced to notify in the same papers your removal from the Roll.

Later you caused a writ to be served on the Society, demanding "damages for breach of contract," a claim which was untenable; on second thoughts, this was varied by a claim for a declaration that you were still members of the Society, and for damages. As the resolution of September 18th was irregular, the Council paid into Court forty shillings in full discharge of any damages you might have sustained, and later reinstated you and Miss Bedingfield as certificate holders and members. You were notified of this, and thereupon accepted the damages paid into Court, and further proceedings in the action were stayed.

4. The Society received numerous letters and visits from pupils at your School, who stated that they were being prepared by you for our examinations in 1915, in direct contradiction to your published statement of September 22nd, 1914.

You are incorrect in your statement that your pupils were refused on account of your being no longer a member of the Society. Membership carries no right or privilege to prepare and enter students for examination, nor does the Society decline to accept from teachers who are *not members*, if our conditions are carried out.

The reason for non-acceptance of your pupils is contained in the resolution passed on March 12th, 1915:—

"That, in consequence of the neglect or refusal on the part of the Misses Scamell and Bedingfield to comply with the regulations and requirements of the Society with reference to the training of students in preparation for the examination in Swedish Remedial Exercises in July, 1914, this Council is unable to accept pupils from the Misses Scamell and Bedingfield for any of the examinations held by the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses."

Please note that the Society reserves to itself the right to publish your letter and this reply in the event of your failing to do so in next week's issue of the nursing papers.

Yours truly,

(Signed) LUCY M. ROBINSON.  
(Chairman).

The Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses,  
157, Great Portland Street, W.,  
April 9th, 1915.

DEAR MISS BEDINGFIELD,—Your letter dated March 15th, addressed to me as chairman of the Council of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses, was laid before the Council at their meeting this afternoon, when your resignation as a member of the Society was noted and accepted.

We note your reasons for resignation are embodied in Miss Scamell's letter of the same day, and therefore refer you to our reply to her.

Yours truly,

(Signed) LUCY M. ROBINSON.  
(Chairman).

School of Massage and Swedish Remedial Exercises.

55, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, S.W.

April 10th, 1915.

To the Chairman of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses.

DEAR MADAM,—We beg to acknowledge your registered letters received this morning accepting our resignations as members of the I.S.T.M. Before sending this correspondence to the nursing press for publication there are many statements in your letter of April 9th, 1915, to Miss Scamell which would be misleading to the public if left uncorrected; we therefore hasten to rectify some of them.

Your statements in paragraph 1 do not in any way alter the fact that the exemption rules for the Teachers' Diploma Examination in 1913 were changed without the authority of the Council, nor does the fact of its being an inaugural examination make changes which favour certain candidates permissible.

In reference to paragraph 2. (a) The statement that Miss Scamell first qualified in Swedish

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