

Remedial Exercises in 1912 by passing the Society's S.R.E. examination is not correct. The Council is well aware she passed with distinction an examination in S.R.E. specially arranged by the Chelsea Polytechnic for members of the I.S.T.M. in 1904, and that from that date she had been practising and teaching Swedish Remedial Exercises.

(b) We would state that our students in preparation for the S.R.E. examination, 1914, had received the scheduled eleven hours' tuition per week in the School, in addition had attended twenty-four dissection classes in anatomy at King's College, Strand, W.C., and that all conditions for the 1914 S.R.E. examination were fulfilled by us.

In no regulation at that time existing was it stated that the whole of the scheduled instruction for the S.R.E. examination must be given by a trainer holding the Teachers' Diploma—the new regulations with regard to these ladies not coming into force until January 1st, 1915—we as members of Council knew this fact, and in no way attempted to deceive the Committee on this point. Further, in not one of the nine letters received from the Society's solicitors refusing our students' entries was it once stated that it was because our trainer holding Teacher's Diploma had only given two hours' instruction per week, nor was any other definite reason given. Was this because at this period the Council feared to make this definite statement, knowing that they had accepted the entry of a candidate, the Principal of a Training School in Manchester, to that examination without enforcing her trainer, a partner of two of the I.S.T.M. Founders, to carry out any scheduled curriculum—this candidate travelling to London for an occasional Saturday lesson?

If the I.S.T.M. professes to be a Public Examining Body, surely they should enforce the same regulations on every school entering candidates for their examinations; and, further, should have dealings direct with the Principals of the school, and not through an assistant employed by them, whose evidence in our case was taken "in camera" and our students' entries to the S.R.E. 1914 examination refused on this secret evidence.

In paragraph 3 it is stated that the Council only committed a technical error on September 18th, 1914, in attempting to remove our names from their roll. We would point out that the Council had ample time and opportunity to state a reason and remove us legally between that date and the issue of the Writ on December 4th, 1914, if they had had any just cause for so doing.

Further, it is inconceivable that such a technical error could have been made by a Committee which includes the names of Miss Lucy Robinson and Miss Rosalind Paget, who, as well known Midwives, must be thoroughly acquainted with the legal procedure with regard to the removal of members from the roll of a society—which is so frequently done at the penal sittings in connection with the Central Midwives Board—to say nothing of the fact that, within the period of Miss Scamell's Vice-Chairmanship, two members of the I.S.T.M. were removed by proper procedure.

We do not admit that our claim against the Society was altered in any way after the issue of the Writ. Legal proceedings were taken, not to bleed the Society, but solely to clear our good name, and in this connection we are instructing our legal advisers to refund to you the sum of 40s. lodged by you at the Court on account of damages. Upon our official re-instatement we withdrew further proceedings and accepted the Society's offer of the payment of costs incurred in the action. This fact you omit to mention in your letter of April 9th, 1915.

Your statements in paragraph 4 are a direct contradiction of your own official announcements appearing in *Nursing Notes*, October, 1914, *Nursing Mirror*, October 3rd, 1914, and *Nursing Times*, October 3rd, 1914, in which you state that because we were no longer members of the I.S.T.M., "therefore pupils prepared at their school cannot be received as candidates for the Society's Examinations."

We learn that at the Annual Meeting of the I.S.T.M. held on March 26th, 1915, a member of the Society publicly resigned her membership as a protest against the treatment we had received from the Council, and that the vote of confidence in your Chairmanship taken at that meeting was not unanimous. We trust that this protest and the publicity given to these and other letters and extracts of letters by the kindness of the Editors of the *Nursing Press* may lead to the total reorganisation of the profession of massage on a medical and judicial basis.

We are,

Yours truly,

(Signed) { I. M. SCAMELL,
C. L. BEDINGFIELD.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING,
UNIVERSITY HALL, GORDON SQUARE, W.C.,
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28TH.

PROGRAMME.

The Vocation of Nursing and its Power in the World To-day.

MORNING SESSION, 10-12.30.

Chairman.—Miss A. M. Boyle.

Addresses.—"The Call of God," Miss Mayers; "The Queen's Nurse, her difficulties and opportunities to-day," Miss Amy Hughes; "The Work of the Ranyard Nurse," Miss Zöe L. Puxley; "The Work of the Territorial Nurse," Miss R. E. Derbyshire; "The N.N.L. in its World-wide Aspect," Miss J. Macfee, B.A. *Interval*. "Colonial Nursing," Mrs. Villiers C. Hawkins; "Missionary Nursing," Mrs. James Maxwell (Formosa). Devotional Address, the Rev. G. Charlesworth (Chaplain, Guy's Hospital). *Intercession*.

AFTERNOON CONVERSAZIONE, 2.30-5.

Hostesses.—Mrs. Carless, Miss M. G. Collock, Miss Haughton, Mrs. Hoare.

Addresses.—"The Vocation of Nursing": (1) In the Home Hospital, Miss A. C. Gibson; (2)

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