

to the drawing up of the Petition to the President of the Board of Trade, which appears in your issue to-day and which asks for postponement of the scheme for a Nursing College.

Let me make it quite clear that we are most emphatically *not* opposing the idea of a Nursing College. To begin with we could not do so without consulting our Members and to go on with I am not aware that any one does anything but approve of the institution of a College. All we ask for is that the scheme should not be hurried through without giving ample opportunity for the medical and nursing professions at large and the public bodies concerned to express their opinions on its Memoranda and Articles, and that these opinions should be carefully weighed and also that the first Council (which will hold office for two years) shall be representative of these bodies.

It is true that meetings have been held to which representatives of these societies have been courteously invited but at the first meeting they were told that the scheme was in too fluid a state to give them definite information, and at the next they were informed that the Memoranda and Articles were fixed and could not be altered.

The National Union of Trained Nurses stands for the rank and file of the profession. It claims that only by developing their sense of responsibility for their profession and their faculties for reasoned judgment as to its needs, can the highest standards be attained.

Our allegiance to all the principles we have fought for these many years past, make it impossible for us to do otherwise than ask that the College shall be established on a democratic basis.

We hope that at this juncture all nurses who care for these principles will come forward and join the Union in large numbers and so give that strength which comes from striving for a cause in which we believe.

Yours faithfully,

E. L. C. EDEN,

Hon. Secretary.

National Union of Trained Nurses,
46, Marsham Street, S.W.

RESIGNATION OF MISS AMY HUGHES.

Miss Amy Hughes has resigned the office of President of the National Union of Trained Nurses as she has accepted a seat on the Council of the College of Nursing Limited, the Constitution of which does not commend itself to the free members of the rank and file of the Union.

NEW APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments have been made through the N.U.T.N. :—

Armenian Refugees Relief Expedition.—Mrs. Armstrong.

Friends' War Victims Relief Committee, Chalons.
—Miss A. T. Fergusson.

Auxiliary Red Cross Hospital, Fonab, Perthshire.
—Miss Cracroft (Sister-in-charge).

Crag Head Hospital, Bournemouth.—Miss W. Allen (Night Sister).

Cirencester V.A.D. Hospital.—Miss P. Greene (Staff Nurse).

Messrs. Vickers, Barrow.—Miss McDowell (Matron of a Department).

We learn that the Nursing Inspectors under the Local Government Board have received notice that they are not to express an opinion on the College of Nursing Scheme. Why not? Their colleagues, the Matrons of Poor Law Infirmaries, who are in favour of it, have been permitted to accept office.

NURSES CLAIM LEGAL REGISTRATION.

WELL DONE, NURSES OF THE MIDLANDS!

Miss Falconer, Matron of the General Hospital, Cheltenham, did me the honour of inviting me to go and address her nurses on the subject of State Registration. I most gladly accepted, and went down on Thursday, the 30th ultimo.

Miss Falconer, being herself an enthusiastic supporter of the great cause, was not content to limit the meeting to her own nurses; she had, I found, written to all the neighbouring bodies and invited their attendance, with the result that we had a very good audience, and the following societies were all represented :—The Royal Infirmary, Gloucester; the Fever Hospital, Cheltenham; District Nursing Association, Cheltenham; District Nursing Association, Gloucester; Sick Children's Hospital, Cheltenham; Imperial Nursing Home, Cheltenham; Royal Nursing Home, Cheltenham; Cirencester Hospital; Red Cross Hospital, Cheltenham.

My first duty was to draw attention to the Voluntary College Scheme promoted by the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P., and his advisers, and to point out that its policy and principles are in direct opposition to those embodied in the Bill for State Registration for Trained Nurses now before Parliament. Miss Falconer clearly indicated the same from the chair, and warned her hearers against the danger of the scheme which so seriously threatens the liberty of the nurses. Beginning with the historic date of the founding of this great reform (some people object to this term, but to thousands of doctors and nurses this *is* a reform, and a very urgent one), I told of the past and present history, and how, in spite of all opposition, the movement had grown and spread, not only in this country, but almost all over the civilized world, and that in fifty-three States and Provinces the nurses were enjoying the acknow-

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