

# THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED  
THE NURSING RECORD

EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,507.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1917.

Vol. LVIII.

## EDITORIAL.

### A PROFESSIONAL VOICE ON THE COUNCIL OF THE Q.V.J.I.

The announcement made in the *Queen's Nurses Magazine* that two members of the Council of the Institute are to be elected, one by the Superintendents of Training Homes in England, Wales, and Ireland, and the other by the County Superintendents will be received with great satisfaction, not only by Queen's Nurses, but also by all who know the splendid work of these nurses, and realize how much expert knowledge and advice they can bring to bear upon the problems with which the Council of the Institute has to deal.

There is no body of nurses in the Kingdom whose work—remedial, preventive and social—is of greater value to the body politic. Through the length and breadth of the country healing, comfort, and knowledge, follow in their train, so that the whole standard of the national health has been raised through their agency. To give their Superintendents a voice on the Governing Body of the Institute is therefore not only a well-merited recognition of good work, but also an act of wisdom.

Any nurse on the Roll of Queen's Nurses, whether now working as such or not, who is not in the direct employment of the Institute, is eligible for election. The election this year is to be carried out by postal ballot.

It will be remembered that the Queen's Jubilee Institute for Nurses was founded in 1887, by her late Majesty, Queen Victoria, with the Women's Jubilee Offering of £70,000, its object being to train and supply nurses, for the sick poor in their own homes, to affiliated associations throughout the Kingdom. The income of the Institute is thus spent on the central organization,

and on expenses of training and inspection. The Affiliated Homes are financed and managed locally, but, in order to be eligible for affiliation, the standards must conform to those defined by the Institute and their work must be inspected from Head Quarters.

This explains the limitation of the qualifications for the representatives on the Council. Quite rightly those in the direct employment of the Institute—*i.e.*, nursing officials on the administrative staff, and inspectors who are directly paid by it, are not eligible for election as they could not be free agents, but Superintendents and Nurses working under the Committees of the Affiliated Branches and all who are on the Roll of Queen's Nurses, whether now working as such or not, are eligible as representatives.

To those who are not intimately acquainted with the organization of the Queen's Nurses the last point may need some elucidation. Once on the Roll, the name of a nurse remains on, even if she ceases to work under the Institute. She returns her Badge under these circumstances, unless by special permission she is allowed to retain it, but remains on the Roll, except in the rare cases when a name is removed "for cause."

There are, therefore, a number of ladies eligible for election by the Queen's Superintendents, who have leisure, and professional knowledge to devote to the work of the Council of the Institute which must be of the utmost value.

We congratulate the Queen's Nurses, therefore, that professional opinion will, in future, be voiced on their Governing Body by direct election, and we hope that, later, the electorate will be still further extended to include every Queen's nurse in active practice. No body of nurses in the Kingdom has deserved this privilege more.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)