

THE MEMORANDUM.

The Memorandum printed on four pages of superfine paper has been sent broadcast, regardless of cost, and we have received a large number forwarded by indignant recipients, who are not members of the Collège, and have no intention of placing themselves in such an invidious position. Sent with it in many instances is a covering letter from Miss Rundle in the following terms:—

Dear Madam,—In the belief that certain members of your staff are also members of the College of Nursing, I am directed by the Council of the College to ask if you will kindly give the enclosed Memorandum publicity on your Notice Board.

Pasted on to the Memorandum is a slip printed in very bold type—

IMPORTANT.

To the Members of the College of Nursing, Ltd.

You are advised by the Council of the College not to sign the Petition which has been sent to you by the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. If under a misapprehension you have already done so, you should write immediately to withdraw your name.

Enclosed herewith you will find a statement which gives in detail the reasons for this word of caution.

A fine ethical standard indeed to set before an honourable woman!

The members of the College are not even invited to use their intelligence, or permitted to exercise their convictions. Simply not to sign. That is the *mot d'ordre*, and don't venture to disobey it!

A BASE INSINUATION.

We shall deal at length on a future occasion with the Memorandum, but in the meanwhile we hasten to repudiate the base insinuation made by the Council of the College of Nursing "that a claim will be made that any signatures given to the Petition, though in reality given only in favour of the one point of 'direct representation,' really imply a general support of the Central Committee's Bill as against the Bill promoted by the College"!

OUR HONOURABLE RECORD.

The honourable conduct of its business by the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses has never been impugned, until opposed by this Company of Employers. Its campaign has been straight, fearless and successfully conducted. Subterfuge, perversion, and broken promises, unblushing plagiarism, the absorption of the ideas, and credit for work done by others, have not been included in its methods and policy, and we claim that the College Council owes every member of the Society an abject apology for the insulting insinuation it has not hesitated to print in its intolerance of the opinion of those who decline to submit to its dictation. Needless to say the Memorandum contains several inaccurate

and misleading statements which we shall refute in due course and submit to our friends in Parliament. In the meanwhile a word to the wise.

Claim your right to effective self-government. Sign the Petition to the Premier in your thousands. Remember that in a few weeks those of you who are independent will be responsible and enfranchised citizens. Your vote will count with that of any man.

Copies of the Petition can be obtained free by application to the Petition Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

E. G. F.

POOR LAW GUARDIANS AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.**ANOTHER BROKEN PROMISE.**

At the conference last year between representatives of Poor Law Unions and the three Hon. Officers of the College of Nursing, the former were led to believe they were to be given representation on the Council of the College. Now that such representation has been "bluntly" refused, much indignation has been aroused and Boards of Guardians all over the country are supporting the Association of Poor Law Unions in its declaration of war.

The *Poor Law Officers' Journal* reports that "the Gainsborough Guardians, at their last meeting, received the communication which (as reported) has been sent out by the Poor Law Unions' Association, drawing attention to the fact that in the Council of the College of Nursing, Ltd., Poor Law Nurses were not to be represented, in spite of previous promises to the contrary, and notwithstanding that about one-fourth of all the nurses in the Kingdom are in the Poor Law Service. After discussion, the Guardians resolved: 'That, pending the acceptance by the promoters of the Royal British College of Nursing of the minimum requirements of the Association, or any modification thereof agreed to by the Association, this Board of Guardians will withhold its support of the proposals of the said College.' It is rather peculiar that the word 'Royal' crops up frequently in reports on matters connected with the College. No intimation has yet been made public of the grant to the College of a Royal Charter by the Privy Council, and it must be a source of annoyance to the College authorities to discover an unwitting use of the prerogative."

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

There will be a meeting of the London Branch at 46, Marsham Street, on Wednesday, June 13th, at 7 p.m., when Miss Marsh, author of "Towards Racial Health," will lecture on "Parenthood and the Coming Generation." Members are invited to bring friends and to join in the discussion after the lecture. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend.

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