

WOMAN M.P. FOR ALBERTA.

NURSES MAY VOTE.

We have been fortunate in securing an interview with Miss Roberta Catherine MacAdams, Lieutenant in the Canadian Army Medical Corps, and now working as Dietitian at the Ontario Military Hospital, Orpington. Last week we notified Miss MacAdams' candidature for election as one of the two representatives of soldiers and nurses from Alberta, under the Alberta Military Representation Act at the forthcoming election for the Provincial Legislature of Alberta. The election begins in France on August 6th, and the result is expected to be known about the beginning of September. There are about 150 Alberta Sisters, and some 38,000 men on this side who have the right to vote.

As there are 22 candidates and two vacancies, the Committee who are supporting Miss MacAdams' candidature have a busy time before them. The plea they make on the electioneering sheet, in the centre of which is the very attractive picture here reproduced by the kindness of the Editor of the *Gentlewoman*, is a very effective one, "Give one vote to the man of your choice and the other to the Sister. She will work not only for your best interests, but for those of your wives, mothers, sweethearts, sisters and children after the war."

Miss Roberta MacAdams says:

"I shall work for the pension scheme for our soldiers, and I shall put my best efforts into plans for placing soldiers on the land when they return to Canada. Occupation must be found for our fighting forces and suitable training provided for them. The organisation of hospitals will be a very great part of my interest. The setting up of a standard of living for people who go out to settle on the land will be an important item in the parliamentary programme. Right social aims

will have to be established, good schools provided, and, in my opinion, in order to secure the right type of citizen, we must make it possible for our settlers to keep in touch with the world at large."

"There is co-education in the Dominion, so the people are not surprised that a woman fills any post. The candidate is selected from the fittest, irrespective of sex. We have a fine type of teacher in our poor districts as well as in our best. Children are taught the first principles of democracy, and the free schools account for the national type and character. These schools are not at all like anything I have seen in England. They are splendid structures, with copies of the best pictures on the walls and specimens of the children's

handicrafts. Bright, interested, patriotic men and women teach the children a high standard of life. Salaries? The lowest salary is £15 a month."

In both Canadian and American hospitals much importance is rightly given to dietetics, and their importance is emphasised in the case of the dietitian at Orpington by giving her the position of Sister and the rank of lieutenant.

Miss MacAdams is not a trained nurse, as stated in many papers, but a Graduate of the Macdonald Institute Guelph, which is affiliated with the Ontario Agricultural College, the Government Training School recognised by the Ontario Educational Department. The certificates she holds qualify her to teach

dietetics in schools, and that qualification is accepted by hospital committees for the dietitian in charge of the food preparation, and of the instruction of the pupil nurses in this branch. At present she is not acting as instructor, as all the Sisters at Orpington are fully qualified graduates. The commissariat is in charge of a quartermaster, who has a staff under him of cooks and assistants, while a corporal is in charge of the orderlies.

The ordinary military hospital diet is what is known as Army Convalescent Diet. Extras are prescribed by the medical officer in the same way



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[previous page](#)

[next page](#)