

Articles of Association. These and three others constituted the laymen in the College. He was the third, and his position on the Council was not exactly one of tyranny. It was entirely the other way. He seemed to spend his life trying to get nurses on the register whom it seemed a hardship to refuse, and they were almost invariably turned down. His proposals were vigorously criticised. Also he would have to come up for election very soon, and then the nurses could turn him off if they liked.

MATRONS CONSIDER COUNCIL ELECTED BY NURSES DANGEROUS.

As for the Constitution being undemocratic, he himself was responsible for its being so democratic—for some of the Matrons on the Council had come to him and said they considered it dangerous to have an entirely elected Council; would it not be better for the first few years to have some nominated members?

Then it was said that they wanted to admit V.A.D.s and nurses without three years' training. That was absolutely untrue.

THREE YEARS' STANDARD UNDERMINED BY LONDON HOSPITAL.

Certain arrangements had been made whereby nurses trained at the London Hospital, who worked for the hospital for four years, but need only have two years' work in the wards, could be admitted during the period of grace, as well as other exceptions.

THE BRITISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL FUND.

Sir Arthur then said it was quite certain that this thing could not be carried on without money, and explained that the British Women's Hospital Committee—a wonderful association of women on the stage who had banded themselves together in the first instance to work for the suffrage, but since the war had devoted themselves entirely to works of mercy—had undertaken to work in the cause of the nurses and through the "Nation's Fund for Nurses" to raise an endowment fund for the College and a benevolent fund.

A lady, who, he was sorry to say, was the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, was, unfortunately, for some reason he had never been able to discover, opposed to this scheme. They were doing work which she herself wanted, or did want.

As regards a College of Nursing, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had said, "Educational advantages for nurses mean a direct gain to the public, and I think you will agree with me that it is not just that the whole financial burden of the further advance of nursing should be entirely borne by nurses themselves. In other and richer professions, the public take their share in financial support. Witness the magnificent universities, the endowed professorial chairs, the medical colleges, public libraries, and numerous organizations which afford opportunities of study to different sections of workers, resulting in the ultimate benefit of the community at large, but owing their existence

to the munificence of a comparatively few public-spirited persons.

"I claim that the time has come when nurses need their educational centres, their endowed colleges, their chairs of nursing, their university degrees and State registration, and the present seems the psychological moment to come to the public, not as strangers, but as professional workers known and trusted through the length and breadth of the land, and to urge that, as nurses pour out on its behalf a skill and devotion for which gold is no real recompense, the public shall now prove its appreciation and interest in the noble work of nursing by giving something of its wealth to place nursing education and the status of the trained nurse on a strong financial basis."

THE NATION'S FUND FOR NURSES.

Viscountess Cowdray said she had been interested in nursing for thirty years. Referring to the College of Nursing she said: "We have now 8,000 members on our register, and I do not doubt that we shall double that number in the first ten years, and that in the second ten years we shall have the whole of the nursing profession."

The British Women's Hospital Committee had been asked why they were interfering with the nursing profession. They were not interfering, they were only anxious to help. She thought there was a good deal of truth in the saying that nurses were born, not made. What they aimed at through the College of Nursing was through scholarships and other means to give nurses more educational opportunity, so that they might learn to be more efficient after the war. Their ship might be in troubled waters, but they were not going to leave it because it was struggling.

When war broke out the women who formed the Actresses' Franchise League were anxious to do war work like the men. They appealed to her and said they felt if she would come in and give her name they could make their work a success, but they were busy people and without her they did not think they could carry it through. As the British Women's Hospital Committee they had raised the funds for the Star and Garter Hospital. Then they thought how delightful it would be if they could make a permanent memorial to the nurses, and they inaugurated the Nation's Fund for Nurses in connection with the College of Nursing.

All the work was voluntary. Their magnificent poster (the poster which makes every self-respecting nurse who has seen it squirm.—ED.) had cost them nothing, but the artist who designed it had had a fortnight's leave from the trenches for the purpose; and the cartoon in *Punch* cost them nothing. The College was, Lady Cowdray asserted, on democratic lines.

MATRONS NOT EMPLOYERS OF LABOUR.

Miss Cummins, Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, said that she was a fully-trained nurse and had spent every day of her professional life in hospital. It has been asked "why begin this scheme in the middle of the war?" It had also

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