

nurses, who are not under tuition, should not be classed with young probationers. We advise military Staff Nurses to unite on this important question of rank, and if need be bring their just demands before the Army Council.

### NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN WORKERS AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

At the June meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Union of Women Workers—which is practically the governing body of the National Council of Women.

Miss Macdonald moved:—

“That the request for affiliation received from the College of Nursing, Ltd., be granted.”

Miss Eaton seconded and Miss Joseph supported.

Amendment moved by Miss Macmillan:—

“That it be remitted to the next meeting in order that members might report as to the constitution and the governing body.”

Miss Wade seconded.

Mrs. Allan Bright pointed out that the present Council of the College was a preliminary one only.

The amendment was put and lost.

And the resolution was then put and passed.

It appears to us that several very vital principles in connection with the status of the Affiliated Societies are involved in this decision; and as the revised Constitution of the Council is to be considered at Harrogate it would be well to define the constitution of societies eligible for affiliation.

1. We have always been under the impression that these conjoint bodies—the N.U.W.W. and the N.C.W.—are Women's organizations as expressed in their titles; as we find Object 3 is to “co-ordinate women's organizations nationally and locally”; and under “Membership” it is stated “Members shall be women.”

#### THE COLLEGE OF NURSING, LTD.

The College of Nursing Company was founded by seven lay signatories (all men) who are called Subscribers and shall be perpetual members of the College of Nursing—(they are not even medical men!)

These seven signatories nominated men and women to form a Council, which nominated body has defined nursing standards and took power to make, alter and repeal bye-laws, rules and regulations as they think fit. The Memorandum and Articles of Association are autocratic in the extreme, and one alone, which takes power to remove a nurse's name from the Register, “as the Council may in its discretion think proper,” without power of appeal, condemns the motives of the men who drafted it.

It is almost impossible to believe that the

Executive Committee of the N.U.W.W., had it had a report on the Constitution before it, would have agreed to affiliate to a Woman's National Council, a Company so constituted, in spite of the partisan advocacy of certain members of the College who have seats on its Executive Committee.

Mrs. Allan H. Bright is in error in stating that “the present Council of the College was a preliminary one only.” The College is governed by the Memorandum and Articles of Association which defines it; and the nominated Council has defined all rules and regulations, standards for registration, and drafted seven impossible Bills without bringing them before the nurse members for discussion and approval. It is provided that one-third of these autocrats shall retire annually, but are eligible for re-election—and this year, at the first election, they all promptly sought re-election, and not one of the 100 Sisters, Nurses or independent candidates nominated had a real chance of election, as no Roll of Voters was printed and no candidate could appeal to an electorate!

But the question to which the self-governing Affiliated Societies of Nurses would like a straight answer is—Are Limited Liability Companies, promoted by men, of which every Signatory is a man, of which the Hon. Officers, Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary are men—which is calculated to very seriously interfere with the educational standards, the economic conditions, hours of labour, professional discipline and self-government of trained nurses, really “organizations of women,” or qualified for affiliation with the “National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland?” For, if so, it is imperative in the interest of truth and justice, that organizations and companies promoted by male employers, founded to control women workers, should be clearly included as eligible for membership of the National Council of Women in the revised Constitution. We hope there will be a clear pronouncement on this point at Harrogate. Self-governing professional women will then know where they stand. Personally, after twenty-five years' association with the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, we consider, as we always have done, that professional women should have expert representation on the Executive Committee, and until this principle is conceded, the Union will continue to fail in equitable action from lack of knowledge, not from lack of goodwill.

#### HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

The College of Nursing is starting a local centre at Cambridge. Miss Cowlin, who addressed a meeting of nurses there recently, had apparently never heard of the world-wide movement for higher education and State Registration of nurses until a quarter of a century after its inauguration, and so unselfishly supported by that noble woman Miss Isla Stewart, whose pupil Miss Cowlin had the honour to be.

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