

## GENERAL MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The result of the election for four direct representatives for England to be members of the Council is as follows:—

Elected.—Sir T. Jenner Verrall, M.R.C.S. (Bath), 5,362 votes; R. A. Bolam, O.B.E., M.D. (Newcastle-on-Tyne), 4,872; E. B. Turner, M.R.C.S. (London), 4,803; J. A. Macdonald, M.D. (Taunton), 4,745.

In offering congratulations to all four gentlemen, trained nurses will wish to express through this journal—the nurses' registration organ—their special felicitations to Sir Thomas Jenner Verrall and Mr. E. B. Turner—both good friends of our State Registration cause—Sir Thomas Jenner Verrall has long been a delegate on the Central Committee, representing the British Medical Association and given it the benefit of his fine administrative talents; and to Mr. E. B. Turner, as Chairman of the Medico-Political Committee of the B.M.A. we also owe a special expression of gratitude for invaluable help last summer when our Bill was before Parliament.

## THE NURSES' CO-OPERATION DISPUTE.

Those representing the Nurses on the Nurses' Co-operation, 22, Langham Street, W. 1, having been interviewed, refuse to make any statement as to the matter at present under discussion between the members of the Society and the members of the Nursing Staff. Sir Henry Burdett, being a member of the Society, and therefore in a position to attend their meetings, does not scruple to make copy for his papers of the private affairs of the Co-operation. The opinion of seven out of ten of the Nurses' Representatives is that as the matter is in the hands of the legal advisers of both the members of the society, and the members of the Nursing Staff, with a view to the whole position being adjusted, it is neither right nor proper that any publicity should be given to the question at the present time.

This attitude has also been adopted by Miss Hoadley, the Lady Superintendent of the Co-operation.

Many years ago this journal pointed out to the Nurses that they were not members of the Co-operation, and that Sir Henry Burdett and other members of the laity having been incorporated by name as "The Nurses' Co-operation," they had entire power of management, financial and disciplinary, and the nurses were merely their servants. In the past nurses have been so lacking in business acumen that they have been the sport of a variety of exploiters, and we fear they are doomed to suffer for their apathy and ignorance.

We have never yet met a nurse member of the College of Nursing, Ltd., who has read its Memorandum and Articles of Association before signing the unjustifiable Agreement by which action she signs away her right of appeal, should

the Council—largely composed of rich and influential employers and their salaried officials—remove her name from the so-called register they have compiled, and incidentally from membership of the College.

The private nursing world will await with interest an accurate report of the Nurses' Co-operation dispute, and in the meanwhile will condemn unhesitatingly Sir Henry Burdett's action in publishing in his journals the privileged proceedings of the Committee of which he is a member, the type of journalistic tactics for which these publications are notorious. His attack upon the nurses—euphoniously termed "wolves" in one of these rags—will make them still more determined to no longer submit to his intolerable control if by hook or by crook the law can release them from it.

We hear that Her Royal Highness Princess Louise who is the Patroness of the Nurses' Co-operation, has been appealed to to relieve the situation.

## PUBLIC HEALTH.

### AN IMPORTANT NEW DEPARTURE.

The National Union of Trained Nurses has always taken an active interest in the Public Health work of Nurses, and sends us the following interesting item of information, *i.e.*

The Minister of Health is proposing to appoint a small number of Nurse Inspectors for the purpose of assisting the medical staff of the Ministry in inspectional work throughout the country. Candidates for these appointments should possess the following qualifications:—

(1) Full nursing training, general and children's hospitals.

(2) Central Midwives Board Certificate; also subsequent practice in Midwifery.

(3) Experience of Health Visiting or Sanitary Inspector's work, or inspection of Midwives.

(4) Knowledge of maternity and infant welfare centres and day nurseries.

(5) Experience of social questions relating to maternity and child welfare work.

The scale of salary will be £250 a year, rising by increments of £20 to £500 a year, inclusive of war bonus.

### INSURANCE INSPECTORS.

It may not be generally known that the post of Woman Inspector in the Insurance Department of the Health Ministry is generally filled by the promotion of Assistant Inspectors. We are informed that any future vacancies for the latter posts will be filled in accordance with the general scheme for the recruitment of the Civil Service, but it is not possible at present to give any information of the number of vacancies which are likely to occur, or of the qualifications which will be required.

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