

Further this meeting respectfully informs the Minister of Health that the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses will resist, by every means in its power, any attempt to deprive the Nursing Profession of the legal status and other privileges granted to them by Parliament.

FEVER MATRONS ADDRESS THE MINISTER OF HEALTH.

We learn that the Matrons of the Metropolitan Asylums Board supported by the Matrons of Fever Hospitals outside its jurisdiction, have addressed a letter to the Minister of Health on the disastrous results of the reorganisation of the Standing Committees of the General Nursing Council, in so far as the interests of Fever Nurses are concerned, on the Education and Examination Committee. From this important Committee Miss Villiers, expert in Fever nursing, has been eliminated and a laywoman elected in her place. Fever Nurses naturally resent this action of the majority of the General Nursing Council, and have invited the serious consideration of the Minister of Health to this grave injury to their important branch of nursing.

MEETING OF FREE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

Don't omit to attend the Open Meeting convened by the Free Nurses' Organisations, at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, on Saturday, April 8th, at 5 p.m. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will make a Statement on the policy of the minority on the General Nursing Council, and on the many mis-statements made in Parliament and elsewhere concerning it, and a Resolution will be moved pledging the Free Nurses to demand and work for "Self-government for Registered Nurses by Registered Nurses." As Miss Rossiter reminds us in her admirable letter in another column, "nurses are free, enfranchised women with a duty to the community first, and next to their profession; and in the immediate future lies their golden opportunity." Until our profession wrenches itself free from the demoralising tyranny of which we have had an astounding exhibition in the General Nursing Council of late, the lives and status of nurses are not worth a row of pins. We are not to be intimidated by an unconstituted majority, and this can only be proved by unflinching resistance to their methods. Our post-bag proves the intense feeling aroused by recent events in the ranks of nurses free from economic pressure. Now is the time to show ourselves inspired by professional self-respect.

THE REGISTERED NURSES' PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL.

Councillor Beatrice Kent, the President of the R.N.P.C., conveyed the thanks of the Council to Major Barnett and the Members of Parliament who voted for his Motion on March 22nd last. She addressed the following letter to members who voted against it. Some interesting replies have been received:—

SIR,—I deeply regret to note that, on March 22nd last, you voted in the House of Commons against Major Barnett's motion praying His Majesty to annul two new Rules signed by the Minister of Health on behalf of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. I feel sure that had you realised the methods by which these Rules have been thrust upon the Nursing Profession of this country, and the opening for tyrannical control which they provide, you would have hesitated to inflict further disabilities upon a class of professional women to whom the public owe protection, and who are already sufficiently oppressed.

The members of my Council strongly resent the threat made in the House of Commons by the Minister of Health, that, in the event of the Rules being rejected, he would move the repeal of the Nurses' Registration Act, granted to British Nurses by the King, Lords and Commons of this Realm.

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully,
BEATRICE KENT.
President.

THE PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, held on March 31st, 1922, a great deal of business was got through, and various resolutions passed.

VOTES OF THANKS.

TO MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, WITH ACCLAMATION:

"That this Union of Free Nurses, wishes to express to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, its very great gratitude for the firm stand she has taken on their behalf on the General Nursing Council. They fully realise that but for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, the record of their certificates might have been taken from them without their knowing it, until too late to protest. They are also most indignant that Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the only real expert in Nursing affairs on the Registration Committee, should have been turned off to give place to a lay woman, who has no knowledge whatever of nursing qualifications. They bind themselves to do their utmost to hasten the time when the General Nursing Council has no member upon it who is not a Registered Nurse."

TO MAJOR BARNETT, MR. JAMES WILSON, MR. RICHARDSON, CAPTAIN ELLIOT, AND MR. SPENCER:—

"That this Union of Working Nurses wishes to thank most gratefully, Major Barnett (who moved), Mr. James Wilson (who seconded),

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