

Council and secure absolute control over the Nursing Profession—the determined aim of its Chairman and Executive Officers—at any cost.

On the other hand, the spirit of the Act provides for the election of independent candidates, and we are grateful to know that a number of public-spirited nurses are willing to come forward and take a sporting chance of election, trusting in a sense of rectitude and love of fair play and liberty in the rank and file of the Profession. Good.

Like Luther, whatever we do, let us do it boldly.

It was announced at a meeting of the Matrons' Council on Saturday that Registered Nurses had been urged and had consented to stand for election as Independent Members—the nominees of no group or Association of Nurses, but as representatives of the Nursing Profession as a whole—and who are prepared to work without fear or favour for the benefit of every Registered Nurse, irrespective of any Nurses' Society to which she may belong.

In their opinion the General Nursing Council should, like Cæsar's wife, be above suspicion, and this unprejudiced attitude can never be maintained by cliques liable to pressure through outside organisations.

The Independent candidates realise that the General Nursing Council is not only an Educational and Registration Body, but it is the Disciplinary Body of the Nursing Profession, which sits in judgment on charges of professional misconduct, considers cases brought before it of members convicted of felony or misdemeanour, with power to remove a nurse's name from the Register, and thus to deprive her of professional status and power to earn her living.

How absolutely essential it is, therefore, that such a Body should be entirely free from all outside control, place-hunting and wire-pulling, cannot be denied.

The more members of the General Nursing Council stand aloof from rival and organised bodies outside their own sphere of influence the better.

Moral.—Place Independent Candidates on the Council, pledged to serve the interests of the whole Profession, and not merely a privileged part of it.

THE PRESCRIBED SCHEME.

The Prescribed Scheme for the election of the sixteen Registered Nurses has not yet been reported to the General Nursing Council as approved and signed by the Minister of Health, so that additions will be made to the following

List of Independent Candidates when the Scheme is finally approved.

FIRST LIST OF INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO DATE.

Independent Candidates.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Member G.N.C. Formerly Matron, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

Miss M. Heather-Bigg, R.R.C. Formerly Matron, Charing Cross Hospital, W.C.

Miss Helen L. Pearse, Superintendent School Nurses, London County Council.

Miss S. M. Marsters, Superintendent, Paddington and Marylebone District Nurses' Association, Certified Midwife.

Miss Alice Cattell, Member G.N.C., Cert. St. George's Hospital, Private Nurse.

Miss Cathlin Cicely du Sautoy, Cert. Guy's Hospital, Formerly Lecturing Sister on Sick-room Cookery, Physiology, Hygiene, and Chemistry of Food, Tredegar House, London Hospital, Formerly Inspector for Wales, Q.V.J.I., Certified Midwife.

Miss Maude MacCallum, Member G.N.C.

Miss Susan A. Villiers, Member G.N.C., Fever Nurse. Matron, South-Western Hospital, Stockwell.

Miss A. M. Bushby, Sick Children's Nurse. Matron, Queen's Hospital for Children, Hackney, E.

Mr. Tom Christian, Member G.N.C. Male Mental Nurse. Cert. M.P.A., Chief Charge Nurse, London County Council Mental Hospital, Banstead.

PUBLIC MEETING.

Candidates for Election on to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to address Constituents.

On Thursday, November 2nd, a Public Meeting will be held at 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, London, W., at 5 p.m., at which prospective Candidates for Election on to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales are invited to address their Registered Nurse constituents. Councillor Beatrice Kent will preside.

Any Candidate who has accepted nomination will be welcome to the platform to place her or his policy before the constituency and to reply to questions concerning it. Candidates who wish to take part in the Meeting should intimate the same to the Hon. Secretary, Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Front seats will be reserved for voters, but any nurse may attend the meeting.

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