

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK, who replied to the question, said she believed the lady nominated by the College of Nursing was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, for two years, for a private nursing institution, and had not a certificate. It had certainly been the rule for the last twenty-five years on Private Nursing Co-operations such as the Registered Nurses' Society, the Chartered Nurses' Society, the Nurses' Co-operation, and others, that the members of their staffs should hold a three years' certificate of training, and she did not think highly trained, certificated private nurses would be content unless their representative had attained this standard.

THE CHAIRMAN said, in conclusion, that a very lucid and amplified survey had been given by the candidates, and the characteristics for which they had been given credit were, she thought, well deserved. She hoped the electorate would put these ladies in power, and that those present would play their part in doing so.

A very enjoyable and successful meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chair, proposed by Miss Heather Bigg, and carried by acclamation.

GENEROUS ACTS OF KINDNESS.

The *American Journal of Nursing* for September is a monumental issue, as it contains a full report of the Proceedings of the Twenty-third Convention of the American Nurses' Association, which was called to order by the President, Miss Clara D. Noyes, on June 22nd, 1922, at the Plymouth Congregational Church, Seattle, Washington State. We were just thrilled to find recorded amongst the seven Honorary Members of this most efficiently organised Association of Nurses in the world, the name of the Editor of this journal, the only foreigner upon whom the honour is bestowed since the lamented deaths of Miss Florence Nightingale and Miss Isla Stewart. All the pettifogging jealousy and persecution to which we have been subjected at home for standing for self-determination, especially by the majority of reactionary and ignorant persons on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, appeared meaner than ever in comparison with the honourable recognition and generous acts of kindness we have received for over thirty years from our enlightened colleagues in the great American Republic. The above issue of the American Nurses' official organ—owned, controlled, and edited by the leading nurses in the world—contains a wealth of suggestion and information which should be at the disposal of every embryo Registered Nurse in this country: the contents are an education in themselves.

SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

ELECTION TO THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND

The following communication is being addressed by the Scottish Nurses' Association to Nurses registered in Scotland:—

37, Stobcross Street, Glasgow,
1st November, 1922.

DEAR MADAM,—For the first time in history nurses have an opportunity of themselves appointing a majority of those who are to form the governing body of their own profession.

The first General Nursing Council for Scotland, which was a body wholly nominated by the Secretary for Scotland, ceases to exist by 30th November, 1922.

It will be succeeded by the new Nursing Council, of whom only six will be nominated by the Minister; the remaining nine will be elected by the votes of nurses entitled to vote—that is, those who took the trouble to register.

The Scottish Nurses' Association reminds Scottish nurses that it took a large share in the prolonged struggle for the Nurses' Registration Act, and that it strenuously, though vainly, resisted defects in the Bill, whose evil effects it foresaw and predicted. The Association, therefore, hopes all Registered Scottish Nurses will admit its title to offer, at this crisis, its advice to the electors.

It is of primary and vital importance that the new Council, so far as the nurse-electors can make it, should be free of party or sectional aims, free to come to its own independent judgment of the interests of Scottish nurses, and not in bondage to any outside organisation. It would be a deplorable set-back to the Scottish Nursing Profession if, through the neglect of many to register who ought to be on the roll, or the neglect of those on the roll to vote, any number should be returned to the Council whose opinions can be dictated by an organisation in London.

At the same time the Council should fairly represent the interests of all kinds of Scottish Nurses, not alone of the General Hospital Trained Nurse, but also of those with special training, the Health Visitor, the School Nurse, the Sick Children's Nurse, the Fever Nurse; and the interests of the large number of Private Nurses must not be forgotten.

An independent Council, fairly representing all these interests, could hardly fail to serve the best interests of the Nursing Profession in Scotland.

WILL YOU BY YOUR VOTE HELP TO SECURE THIS?

The Association, having these ideas in mind, has surveyed the list of those nominated, and ventures to suggest to those entitled to vote that such a Council would be obtained, so far as the Nurses can help to obtain it, by the election of the following nine persons, whose qualifications are briefly noted. The first four have already served on the First Council, and are familiar with its work:—

MISS K. L. BURLEIGH is Matron of the Royal Hospital

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)