

## INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

By MARGARET BREAY, REGISTERED NURSE.

### MISS ISABEL MACDONALD.

Miss Isabel Macdonald, a member of the present General Nursing Council for England and Wales, entered the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, for training in 1903, and gained its three years' certificate. She is very interested in all questions connected with the National Health, and lectures for the Royal Sanitary Institute, whose certificate in Hygiene in its bearing on School Life, and its Health Visitors' Certificate, she holds. She was lecturer to the Scottish National Exhibition, lecturer under the County Committee of Fife and Haddington, the County Councils of Stirling and Kinross, and the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust. She has written two books on Nursing, and conjointly with another nurse won a £50 prize awarded by the Royal Sanitary Institute, of which she is a Medalist, as well as a Fellow of the Institute of Hygiene, and she holds the diploma of the Royal British Nurses' Association.

In addition, Miss Macdonald drew up the Syllabus for the courses of Instruction on Tuberculosis in Fifeshire, all of which goes to prove that she is conversant with much concerning the national health not included in the ordinary hospital curriculum, and that she has studied extensively methods of nursing education. She has also, for two years, had experience of private nursing. As is well known to our readers she is the very popular Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, and the Hon. Secretary of its Settlement and Helena Benevolent Funds, as well as of the Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund, so that her professional career has brought her into touch with a variety of nurses.

As a member of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, Miss Macdonald has kept

before her the promotion and safeguarding of the nurses' interests. She is one of the minority who endeavoured faithfully to discharge the duties she had undertaken, and to carry on its work as far as

possible when the majority absented themselves from duty for 10 weeks without reason assigned. Her vote has been cast for the right of the nurses who hold a certificate of training to have this qualification recorded on the State Register. She has supported the claim of the nurses for a protected uniform or badge, and for the right to use descriptive letters indicating their State qualification. She has, further, in no way receded from the position taken up by the General Nursing Council, that its Syllabus of Training in General Nursing outlines the knowledge which a Registered Nurse should be expected to have, and therefore the subjects in which she has a right to receive instruction, and is one of those who urge that the Minister of Health should be asked to sign the Syllabus at once, so that the Training Schools may get to work upon it.

Miss Macdonald, therefore, offers herself for election to the new Council as one who has been tested on the present one. The Registered Nurses who have studied the records of the Meeting of the General Nursing Council published in this Journal can estimate therefrom the work she has done in the past, and the lines on which, if elected, she will serve them in the future.

Miss Macdonald has a specially warmhearted sympathy with young nurses at the beginning of their careers. She not only wishes for them professional evolution, but she desires that they shall also be many-sided personally. The variety of interesting subjects dealt with in lectures given at the R.B.N.A. Club bear witness to this aspiration.



MISS ISABEL MACDONALD.

Secretary Royal British Nurses' Association.

A leader of the younger nurses in their aspiration for personal and professional evolution.

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