

to draft a Resolution or Amendment, know nothing whatever of Public Business, and have voted consistently against the Constructive Policy of the minority, in support of lay and medical control of the Governing Body of the Nursing Profession by persons totally ignorant of our affairs. In our opinion—and we have formed our opinion on personal observation—with few exceptions, the College representatives are totally unqualified to conduct the business of the Council. Moreover, their arrogant attitude towards the rank and file of the profession is well expressed in their latest ukase.

Not what you Registered Nurses think or wish, but what the College Caucus composed of your employers think and wish.

Only women who have proved subservient to the College Caucus have been nominated, and if elected we are well aware they will be as antagonistic to the self-government and independence of the rank and file in the future, as they have proved themselves to be in the past.

The question at stake now is whether the Nursing Profession shall govern itself as all men's professions do, or if we are to be controlled by Sir Arthur Stanley and his fellow hospital managers, Sir E. Cooper Perry and his colleague Medical Superintendents, the Matrons under their control, and multi-millionaires, who buy and sell our liberty with a flick of the pen.

Anyway, the whole tyrannical system is as out-of-date as the Dodo, and has got to go.

### ADDRESS OF INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES TO THE ELECTORS OF THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

The Independent Candidates must apologise for again addressing the constituency of the Nurses' Direct Representatives on the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. In doing so, those of their number who were members of the Council whose term of office expired on December 23rd, 1922, disclaim any responsibility for the breakdown in the system and method of the Election, as the Council was not consulted in regard to the details by the Returning Officer, who assumed and acknowledges entire responsibility for placing the clerical work in the hands of persons not responsible to the Council.

#### NAMES OF CANDIDATES.

The Independent Candidates who offer themselves for election to represent Registered Nurses on the General Nursing Council are:—

#### General Part of the Register.

MRS. BEDFORD FENWICK.  
MISS MILDRED HEATHER-BIGG, R.R.C.  
MISS HELEN L. PEARSE.  
MISS JESSIE F. BALLANTYNE, A.R.R.C.  
MISS SUSAN M. MARSTERS.  
MISS ALICE CATTELL.  
MISS ISABEL MACDONALD.  
MISS MAUDE MACCALLUM.  
MISS CATHLIN CICELY DU SAUTOY.

#### Supplementary Parts of the Register.

MISS ALICE M. BUSHBY.. Sick Children's Nurses.  
MR. TOM CHRISTIAN .. Male Mental Nurses.  
MISS MAUD E. WIESE .. Female Mental Nurses.

(Two Independent Candidates, Miss S. A. Villiers (Fever Nurses) and Mr. F. W. Stratton (Male Nurses) have been declared elected without a contest.)

The majority of the above candidates are well known to the electorate.

As their Election Address has already been submitted for your consideration, together with the portraits of the majority, they hope it is unnecessary to send you second copies.

#### Professional Policy.

The Independent Candidates desire, however, once more to bring to your notice the professional policy for which they stand, because the efficiency of educational standards, the value of State Registration to Nurses and the public, and the financial stability of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales largely depend on the knowledge, courage, and ideals of the persons elected to form the forthcoming General Nursing Council.

They stand firmly for the Statutory Rights incorporated in the Nurses' Registration Act, 1919, few of which Registered Nurses at present enjoy owing to the reactionary policy, and lack of sympathy with nursing ideals, of the majority of the members of the First Council.

#### Principles Supported by Independent Candidates.

1. SELF GOVERNMENT FOR REGISTERED NURSES, by a Council elected by Registered Nurses, the first principle on which other professions are organised.

2. EFFICIENT EDUCATION.—They are strongly of opinion that the "Prescribed Training" provided for in the Nurses' Registration Act (and defined in the Syllabus of Lectures and Demonstrations for Education and Training in General Nursing, drafted by, and unanimously agreed to by, the General Nursing Council in 1921), should be made compulsory at once, in Nursing Schools approved by the Council, so that probationers who have the right to know of what their training will consist, may be assured that the instruction they receive will qualify them for the State Examination to come into force in 1925, as provided in the Rules. Postponement, as proposed, means continued disorganisation in the standard of Nursing Education, and deprives Nurses in training of the most valuable privilege granted to them by Parliament.

3. AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION FOR "EXISTING" AND "INTERMEDIATE" NURSES.—This has been defined by the General Nursing Council as a minimum of one year's general training, followed by two years' experience, for the General Part of the Register. Attempts are now being made to depreciate this standard, making Nurses who are not sufficiently trained to be eligible for the Supplementary Parts of the Register eligible to be placed on the General Part.

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