

one qualification, all were equals on the Register. She thought they should vote on the same principle, as being equals, and not for the position held by them.

These answers sufficiently indicate the line Miss du Sautoy would take if elected to another period of office on the General Nursing Council on these important questions. It should commend her to the electors.

#### MISS ELLEN EDITH FOWLER.

Miss Ellen Edith Fowler, who offers herself for election as one of the 11 Direct Representatives of the Nurses on the General Part of the Register, is doing so in the interests of private nurses; as with many other nurses in this branch, she is impressed with the urgent need for these interests to be represented by a certificated and experienced private nurse. There is widespread indignation in the private nursing world that the conjoint Associations of the College of Nursing, Ltd., the Hospital Matrons' Association, and the Infirmary Matrons' Association should have adopted as a candidate a private nurse partially trained in Scotland, and holding no certificate. They fully realise the responsibility of the work that they are called upon to undertake, and are proud of that responsibility, but they hold that private nurses, and especially one elected to serve on their Governing Body, should hold as a minimum the qualification of three years' training and certification.

Miss Edith Fowler was trained for three years and certificated at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, where she acted as Sister; and is a successful private nurse, who was for six years on the staff of the Registered Nurses' Society, and still, from time to time, takes charge of the office, as Secretary, thus keeping in touch with a large number of private nurses. She has also had many years' experience as the proprietress of an admirably managed private nursing home in the West End of London, taking an active personal interest in the care of the patients. In addition to general training, Miss Fowler holds the certificate of the Metropolitan Asylums' Board, and the certificate of the British Gynaecological Society. As a member of the Territorial Force Nursing Service, she took part in the nursing of the sick and wounded during the Great War.

She is keenly alive to the need for the organisation of private nurses, and, if elected, would endeavour to keep in touch with them, and to further their interests in every way, and would have time to attend the meetings and committees of the Council. She is, moreover, an excellent woman of business, and interested in finance.

She was a strong supporter of the movement for State Registration, and, we think, established a record by obtaining the signatures of every medical practitioner in Canterbury, save one, to a Petition to Members of Parliament in its support.

She is now resident in Canterbury, and Hon. Secretary of

the Canterbury Branch of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, taking a keen interest in all questions in which a good citizen can serve humanity.

#### ADVICE TO THE ELECTORATE.

We have had several inquiries as to the method of voting for the Direct Representatives on the General Part of the Register. We therefore advise attention to the following points:—

When you receive your ballot paper from the Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, study it carefully, so that you may be sure that you understand the directions before recording your votes. Remember that a spoilt ballot paper means a disqualified voting paper, and consequently lost votes for the candidates whom you wish to support.

A single vote may turn the election in regard to a candidate.

For the Representatives of the Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register there are eleven vacancies, and therefore you must not vote for more than eleven. But **you need not vote for eleven.** If you specially wish one candidate to be elected, vote for her, and for her only. If you wish to support the candidature of two Registered Nurses vote for those two, and those two only. Remember that if you vote for anyone else you lessen their chances of being elected.

In the case of the Registered Nurses on the Supplementary Parts of the Register, the Sick Children's Nurses, the Fever Nurses, and the Male Nurses can vote for one candidate only. The Mental Nurses, both men and women, can vote for two candidates, but these must be one man and one woman mental nurse. It is not necessary to vote for both, but they have the right to do so if they choose.

Lastly we desire once more to impress upon the electorate the responsibility and importance of exercising their vote, and to remind Registered Nurses of the words of the Select

Committee of the House of Commons, when it recommended to Parliament that the privilege of an open election should be granted to the Registered Nurses on the General Part of the Register.

"Your Committee cannot fail to recognise the advantages that accrue from a free election. It secures for the elected body a measure of confidence and support which it might not otherwise be able to obtain. It puts the profession on its honour to elect representatives that will be a credit to the profession. Such advantages cannot lightly be set aside."

Parliament accepted the recommendation, with the result that in the present Election Registered Nurses have been able to nominate for election any nurses on the General Part of the Register to fill the eleven vacancies. The duty of the moment is to "elect representatives that will be a credit to the profession."



Photo.] MISS E. E. FOWLER. [Lafayette.  
Standing in the interests of Private Nurses  
as a Direct Representative of General Nurses.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)