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Preparations, Inventions, etc. spring step.

It is always a pleasure to introduce to the thinking members of the community a useful novelty. There has recently been patented a device which will be welcomed as a boon by those who are on their feet, either walking or standing, during many hours of the day. We refer to the excellent invention "Spring-Step," invented by a medical man and introduced by the London Shoe Company, of Queen Victoria Street, and Bond Street. It has been designed for the purpose of supporting the instep arch of the foot and strengthening the various bones, muscles, and ligaments which enter into its formation so materially that the leg weariness which is such



a common source of pain and suffering, is lessened to a minimum. As shown in the illustration, the device consists of a thin piece of steel, solid for one half of its surface and cut into a series of lateral springs on the other half. These latter should slowly yield to pressure from above, whilst the solid half is fixed by the weight of the body. It is covered by a thin casing of kid, and is so constructed as to allow of being slipped on the stockinged foot and retained in position by an elastic band, thus allowing of boots or slippers being put on at will. The boots or slippers being put on at will. The price is 2s. 9d. per pair. The "Spring Step" is easily adjusted, and comfortable to wear. We · recommend nurses to give it a trial, as we think that it will prove a comfort to those of them whose work involves much standing.

El Thrilling Manifesto.

Dalziel wires from Pretoria: Madame Olive Schreiner, the noted novelist, has published here a thrilling manifesto in support of peace for South Africa under the title of "Words in Season." The article appeals to the Boer Government and the nation to forget past differences, and to stretch out the hand of brotherhood to "strangers in your midst." The manifesto concludes: "We do look further yet with confidence from the individual love of liberty, symbolical of every Englishman, to the great heart of England's people; we know well the great fierce freedom-loving heart of England is not dead yet. Under a thin veneer of gold we still hear it beat. Behind the shrivelled and puny English Hyde, who cries only 'Gold,' rises the great English Jekyll, who cries louder yet, 'Justice and Honour.' We appeal to him—history shall not repeat itself."

Outside the Gates.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF WOMEN.



THE Congress Office has been removed from 20, Motcomb Street, S.W., to Members' Mansions, 36, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Secretary, Miss Teresa F. Wilson.

The International

Congress will hold its meetings in London, June 26th to July 3rd, 1899. The Westminster Town Hall has been secured for headquarters, and meetings will also be held at St. Martin's Town Hall, and in the Convocation Hall of the Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, S.W.

Full particulars will be found in "The Congress Handbook," which will be ready June 19th, price sixpence.

Readers of the Nursing Record will kindly note that application for tickets must be sent direct to Miss T. F. Wilson, Members' Mansions, 36, Victoria Street, S.W. The ordinary ticket of membership is 7s. 6d., but members of any Society affiliated to the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland, or to any Branch of the N.U.W.W., are entitled to tickets at the reduced price of 5s. Money orders are payable to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, International Congress Fund, General Post Office, London. Postal orders or cheques will also be accepted.

The ticket makes the holder a member of Congress, with the right to attend any of the Sectional Meetings, and to take part in the free discussions arranged for each Session.

It is proposed to print the name of the Society to which any member belongs after her name in the official list, should this be desired, together with her London address during the Congress week, both of which should be sent at once to Miss Wilson.

Membership of Congress includes the right to apply for not more than two tickets of admission (subject to the approval of the Hospitality Sub-Committee) to the official entertainment at Stafford House, on the evening of Monday, June 26th.

Applications for these tickets (price 5s. each) should be made immediately, to the Hon. Sec. of the Hospitality Sub-Committee, Mrs. Mackenzie Davidson, 76, Portland Place, London, W., with "Stafford House Entertainment" written on the envelope.

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