

gress in England has exceeded our anticipations, and it is indeed satisfactory that the majority of important nursing societies will be represented as the following list will show.

DIRECT DELEGATES.

- The National Union of Women Workers (The National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland), Miss Louisa Stevenson, Vice-President.
- The International Council of Nurses, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder.
- The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Isla Stewart, Hon. Vice-President.
- Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, Miss Mollett.
- League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, Miss Emilie Waind.
- The Registered Nurses' Society, Miss Sophia Cartwright.
- The Australian Nurses' Association, Miss McGahey.
- Bodies which have co-operated to be represented by Delegates nominated by the Sectional Committee (Nursing) of the Midwives' Institute, Miss C. J. Wood and Miss Amy Hughes.
- Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses.
- Colonial Nursing Association.
- Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association.
- Northern Workhouse Infirmary Nursing Association.
- School Nurses' Society.
- Guy's Hospital Training School for Nurses.
- Guy's Trained Nurses' Institute.
- Leicester Infirmary (Sisters and Nurses).
- Maternity and District Nurses' Home, Plais-tow.
- Asylum Workers' Association.
- Midwives' Institute and Trained Nurses' Club.
- Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses.
- Nurses' Hostel.

As to the Royal British Nurses' Association it is conspicuous by its absence, and the fact that the courteous invitation from America extended to this man-managed women's association — has been withheld from the nurse members—is only one more proof of its futility from a professional standpoint. This invitation should have been submitted with the names of suggested delegates to the members on the Annual Meeting Agenda in June, so that they could have voted on the subject. But we presume Mr. Fardon and his colleagues know just how far they can violate the constitution and ignore the nurses' interests without making themselves amenable to the law.

Methods of Ventilation and its Value as a Prophylactic.

A Summary of the Discussion of the British Congress on Tuberculosis on "Ventilation."

By MISS HELEN TODD.

Matron of the National Hospital for Consumption, Bournemouth.

Knowledge of the principles of the ventilation of buildings, and more particularly of wards and sick-rooms, must always be an essential part of a nurse's education, and the discussions of the British Congress on Tuberculosis on the need of ventilation of buildings under modern conditions of life, and the best methods of carrying it out, are therefore of special interest to members of the nursing profession. "Open-air treatment" of consumption, whether carried out in nursing homes or sanatoria, is very largely concerned with the question of ventilation. Our climate is too uncertain for an entirely out-of-doors life. Tropical deluges of rain, of which we have so recently had examples, necessitate shelters, which in their turn require ventilation, and in the majority of sanatoria for the poor, where the staff of nurses and servants must be as small as possible on account of expense, the patients usually have their meals served in large dining-halls and sleep indoors. Moreover the large Institutions, such as those at Ventnor and Bournemouth, are nearly always provided with chapels, and these are invariably the worst ventilated portions of the building.

Not only is ventilation among the curative methods in the treatment of phthisis, but as a prophylactic measure (in conjunction with light and cleanliness) it is even more important.

Much stress was laid upon this in the State section of the Congress, thus Dr. Robertson, of Sheffield, pointed out that "there has been accumulating during past years ample evidence that, given good conditions as regards light, ventilation, and cleanliness of dwellings and work-places, the amount of tuberculosis is very much less than in places where these are deficient." This should be read together with Dr. Coates' (Manchester) remarks on his experiments as to the infectivity of dust taken from houses where consumptives had been living who were not careful as to the disposal of sputa. In the experiments the conditions of light and ventilation of the houses examined were noted as all important factors.

It was proved that "a large cubic space per head" is of little avail if the ventilation be bad, for "the effects of fresh air and sunlight on the bacillus are well known," and again in the same paper the fact is dwelt upon that the influence of sunlight and fresh air in "the prevention of ac-

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