

## The International Council of Nurses.

### THE PARIS CONFERENCE

The majority of those invited to take part in the Conference have now replied, and the list of eminent speakers who have accepted makes the success of the Conference a foregone conclusion. The programme will be published at an early date.

News which has pleased us greatly concerning the Nursing Conference comes from Germany. We learn that the town of Dusseldorf is sending Sister Erna Weydemann to Paris to give the story of "Germany's War on Infantile Death." This lady is in charge of Professor Schlopmann's wards, a great specialist. The Dusseldorf Hospital is an Academy for practical medical work, where, after taking their degree, young medical men gain a twelve months' practical experience. It is most encouraging that in this scientific centre they are fully alive to the importance of modern nursing, and that they realise it to the extent of paying the cost of sending one of their most eminent nurses to take part in the International Conference on Nursing.

Fraulein Karll assures us that the very greatest interest has been aroused throughout the German Nurses' Association in this gathering, and many members intend to be present.

We hear also with pleasure that the Irish Matrons and Nurses are organising their trip to Paris through a Tourist Agency, and already Miss Breay, Hon. Treasurer, is being applied to, at 431, Oxford Street, W., for Conference tickets. These cost one franc (10d.), and will not be issued for a few weeks. The Committee however, are pleased to receive applications, and the names of those nurses who intend to attend, so as to gather some idea of the number likely to go from the United Kingdom.

## The Matrons' Council.

Miss Mollett has consented to give an Address on the 20th Century Probationer before the Matrons' Council on the 11th of April, and we have no doubt that it will arouse as much interest as Miss Isla Stewart's Paper on the Twentieth Century Matron, the latter having been translated into five foreign languages, and printed in the Nursing Journals all over the world.

We hope a Probationer may be invited to open the Discussion. It would be quite natural for a modern Probationer to do so.

## League News.



A Special Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses was held in the Nurses' Sitting Room, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C., on Friday, March 8th. The President, Miss

Isla Stewart, was in the chair, and the well filled room testified to the interest in the subject before the meeting, which was to consider the following Resolution:

"That the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, having a membership of 590 Certificated Nurses, begs to support the Petition to be presented to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses. The League also urges the advisability of making this a Government Measure next Session, considering that the public as well as the Nurses themselves suffer from the lack of a definite and recognised standard of nursing efficiency."

A number of letters supporting the Resolution were read from absent members.

The Resolution was then proposed by Sister Surgery (Miss Armitage), who said that as she had always worked in the hospital there were others who knew even better than herself the necessity for State Registration of Trained Nurses, for it was when nurses left their training schools, and went out into the private nursing world that they came most in contact with the evils arising from the present lack of standard in nursing matters. The League had met to consider the desirability of supporting as a body the Petition to be presented to the Prime Minister, asking him to introduce a Nurses' Registration Bill, as a Government Measure.

At the present time there were no generally accepted rules governing the nursing profession, no uniform methods of training, and no educational code was required. Nurses were, in fact, a lawless body. So long ago as 1893 Sir James Paget, whose name would always be held in honour by Bart's nurses, had declared himself in favour of State Registration, and described present conditions as ridiculous as well as unjust. She had pleasure in moving the Resolution.

It was seconded by Mrs. Hayward, who said that as the wife of a doctor who had many nurses working for him, she was well acquainted with the need for a Register of Trained Nurses, which would ensure a supply of reliable workers. The standard of many

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