

### Nursing Echoes.

TOWARDS THE END OF this year, it will be one hundred years since Florence Nightingale and her band of nurses left these shores for the great work they performed in caring for the wounded soldiers in the Crimean War.

To mark this occasion the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (founded fifty years ago) has been engaged in making plans and it is hoped that the day of May 12th may be set aside and special Church services held throughout the Country.

At 6 p.m. on that day a service has been arranged to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral at which the United Hospitals Festival Choir will attend, and there will be contingents of nurses from the Services and a few of the Chelsea Pensioners.

It is hoped that special celebrations may be held in the Roman Catholic Churches through the services of the Catholic Nurses Guild.

Small flags bearing the lamp of nursing will be sold in hospitals, and by any other means permissible, on May 12th, at the cost 1s. each. After expenses have been met the proceeds from the sale of these flags and from the Church services will be donated to the National Florence Nightingale Committee of Great Britain towards endowing Florence Nightingale House in Cromwell Road, London, a hostel provided for international students of nursing taking courses of study in this country, and a permanent memorial to this pioneer of modern nursing.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland advise us that for the Ophthalmic Nursing Study Tour to be held from May 30th for one week, if nurses specially interested in this work are unable to attend the whole programme, opportunities are made for them to attend on separate days, for which application should be made as soon as possible.

#### Study Week, General Nursing Subjects.

The National Council of Nurses is also arranging a week's Study Tour for its members and nurses from other countries from May 16th to the 22nd. The programme includes a visit to Oxford and a Lecture at the Radcliffe Infirmary, a whole day will be spent at the Plastic and Jaw Unit of Rooksdown House, Basingstoke, Hants, where a series of lectures will be given. A visit also will be made to King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst, where also a lecture will be given. Those nurses who are unable to attend the whole week's programme are invited to make application for the separate lectures.

Further details of the programme, together with costs, can be obtained from the headquarters office of the National Council of Nurses, 17 Portland Place, London, W.1.

THE SUBJECT OF THE exhibition arranged this year by the Turco-British Association of Ankara and the British Council, Medicine and Nursing in Britain and Turkey, has been chosen to commemorate the centenary of Florence Nightingale's nursing campaign in the Crimea. The exhibition was opened in Ankara on March 3rd by the Turkish Minister of Health, Dr. Ekrem Hayri Ustündag and will be shown later in Istanbul.

The exhibition presents the history of medicine in the Middle East and the United Kingdom from early times to the present day by means of over 400 photographs supplied from London and Turkey, original manuscripts from the Topkapi museum, books from the Turkish National Library and material from the Institutes of Historical Medicine in Ankara and Istanbul. In addition to photographs the British Council have sent a selection of British medical periodicals, some containing articles by Turkish specialists, and specimen copies of the British Medical Book List. This list, issued monthly by the Council, includes besides details of new books, periodicals and government publications, material of special interest to research workers and administrators.

A large section of the exhibition is devoted to Florence Nightingale and her work in the Crimea and shows the subsequent development of the nursing profession both in Turkey and Britain. Original exhibits connected with Florence Nightingale, including prints, documents, sketches and personal objects have been lent for the Exhibition by Major Ralph Verney of Claydon, the Nightingale Fund Council of St. Thomas's Hospital and Mrs. Cecil Woodham-Smith who has also lent a large-scale model of Miss Nightingale's Crimean carriage.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION on the Law relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency is now ready to receive evidence on subjects within its terms of reference which are :—

“To inquire, as regards England and Wales, into the existing law and administrative machinery governing the certification, detention, care (other than hospital care or treatment under the National Health Service Acts, 1946-52), absence on trial or licence, discharge and supervision of persons who are or are alleged to be suffering from mental illness or mental defect, other than Broadmoor patients ; to consider, as regards England and Wales, the extent to which it is now, or should be made, statutorily possible for such persons to be treated, as voluntary patients, without certification ; and to make recommendations.”

Any person wishing to submit evidence should send a memorandum of evidence in writing to the Secretary of the Royal Commission at 23 Savile Row, London, W.1.

THE COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO the cost of the National Health Service (Chairman, Mr. C. W. Guillebaud, C.B.E.) has decided that the closing date for the submission of written evidence shall be 30th June. Anyone wishing to submit a memorandum should send it before that date to the Secretary of the Committee (Mr. E. Halliday), Minister of Health, Savile Row, W.1.

The terms of reference of the Committee are :—

“To review the present and prospective cost of the National Health Service ; to suggest means, whether by modifications in organisation or otherwise, of ensuring the most effective control and efficient use of such Exchequer funds as may be made available ; to advise how, in view of the burdens on the Exchequer, a rising charge upon it can be avoided while providing for the maintenance of an adequate Service ; and to make recommendations.”

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