

Nursing Echoes.

* * All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.



WE announce with the utmost pleasure that Mrs. Hampton Robb, the acknowledged leader of Nursing Progress in the United States, has accepted the invitation of the International Council to attend the Quinquennial Meeting, and to present a Paper in the Nursing Session on "The Organization of Trained Nurses' Alumnæ Associations." Mrs. Robb's nursing career has been a brilliant one. Trained and graduated at Bellevue Hospital, New York City, she then gained some experience of private nursing in Europe. Later she was elected Superintendent of the Illinois Training School for Nurses at Chicago, where she made her name as a first-rate organizer, and for some years before her marriage in 1896 she held the important position of Superintendent of the Training School at the celebrated Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore.

MRS. ROBB was selected as Chairman of the Nursing Conference held at Chicago at the time of the World's Fair, and took the initiative in forming the American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools, of which she was the first President, and also rendered invaluable help in organizing the National Association of American Nurses, on the basis of organized School Co-operations with the power of delegation to the National Society, of which splendid Association she is now President. It is the Trained Nurses' Alumnæ Association of which she is going to speak in the Quinquennial Congress, a subject of the very greatest interest to nurses of all nations, who desire to effect systematic professional progress.

MRS. NEILL, of New Zealand, has been invited to read the Paper on "The Professional Training and Status of Nurses," a subject to which she has devoted much earnest thought; and Miss Scovil and Miss Murray, of Canada, Mrs. Quintard and Miss L. Dock, of the States, Miss Reijvaan and Miss Kruijse, of Holland, Mrs. Norrie, of Denmark, Frau Dr. Heer, of Switzerland, and delegates from other continental countries, are to take part in the Conference, and as Discussion is open to every one present, we have no doubt that those British matrons and nurses who have

proved themselves in the past, deeply in earnest in their desire and effort to obtain a high standard of nursing education, and to effect a high and self-respecting tone in their profession, will be present to give their colleagues the benefit of their experience and views on the numerous questions which must arise on the Papers to be presented in the Congress.

ALL liberal minded persons agree that an international nursing conference is of immense value to members of our profession, and must result in widening the views and sympathies of all those nurses who take part in it.

THE three nurses, trained at Guy's Hospital, who went out fourteen months ago to the Niger Protectorate, have returned to England in the Accra, which arrived at Liverpool on the 10th inst. Each of the nurses has suffered from fever.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "I am glad to see you have drawn attention to the case of a nurse who left her patient and broke her contract because this sort of thing is quite common amongst private nurses, if everything in a house is not just as they like and would have it; and this lack of consideration is greater now nurses work in co-operations, than when they were members of an institute, where more control could be exercised."

THIS seems a serious charge for a member of the public to bring against private nurses, but, we fear there is some truth in her accusation, as we have known nurses who argue that because they alone would suffer the loss of fee, no one is injured if they elect to leave a case. Such nurses fail to grasp the first elements of a professional co-operation, as in breach of contract with the public, they not only injure their own practice, but the popularity of every fellow member of the society to which they belong. It should be a strict rule in every co-operation, and not one honoured more in the breach than the observance, that no nurse should leave her case under any provocation, without the consent of the Superintendent. In private nursing the rough (and sick humanity is sometimes very unpolished) must be taken with the smooth.

It is quite appropriate that the *Café Chantant* in aid of the ever-impecunious Royal British Nurses' Association should add to its other demoralizing influences that of wide-spread patronage by doctors' wives and others, who have no connection in any way with nursing. It is only *comme il faut*, however, that Lady Priestley, who expressed her opinion of the whole nursing sisterhood in

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