

American Nursing World.

Miss Isabel McIsaac, President and Chairman of the Congress of Nurses, wishes the announcement to be made that all nurses, whether they are members of an alumnae association or not, are asked to participate in this Congress. Every kind of an organization of nurses may send a delegate, and individual nurses who are not members of any organization are cordially invited to attend the meetings, which are to be held in Buffalo during the week commencing September 16th, 1901.

Letters from the States are unanimous in an expression of opinion that the Nurses' Congress at Buffalo is going to be "immense" which does not only mean that American and Canadian Nurses are to flock to the gathering in hosts, but that Delegates from over seas are to be entertained and welcomed in a right Royal style, or rather in a truly Western way, which means that we are to have a very "good time." When one estimates the *esprit* of the average American woman at its true value, one feels quite content to leave all arrangements in her hands.

Speaking editorially, last month's issue of the *American Journal of Nursing*, says: "Miss Lampe has given us quite a new idea in regard to the necessary cost of living in Europe. In no way can a tired worker get the complete mental and physical change and rest as in the trip, if only of a few weeks, across the ocean. Until recently the expense of the ocean voyage has been prohibitive to people of moderate means, but with the great increase in the cattle trade with foreign countries, several lines of cattle steamers have been built that carry a limited number of passengers. For anyone who is not pressed for time these boats are usually comfortable, as in order to prevent injury and discomfort to the cattle, they are specially designed so as not to roll, and the two weeks required for the voyage may easily prove the most delightful part of the trip. For thirty or forty dollars one can cross in these boats, and be sure of comfortable accommodation. They are largely patronised by a cultured class of people with limited means, who have learned how to get the most out of their travels. Miss Lampe, who is a 'Bellevue' graduate, offers to give in detail any further information for the benefit of nurses who may desire to act upon her suggestion. In a later issue we shall endeavour to give, especially for the benefit of our foreign friends who are planning to attend the International Congress of Nurses, a list of these steamers, with their summer rates."

At these rates the ocean journey to the States would cost £6 5s. and £8 6s. 8d. A return ticket at the higher rate, £16 13s. 4d. Railway return, Liverpool, £1 13s.; return, New York to Buffalo, £3 6s. 8d. (1st); tips, £2; incidentals, £5, or a total outlay of £26 15s. But to attend the Nurses' Congress by this means entails a six week's leave of absence.

On the large ocean steamers, which take but one week to cross the Atlantic, the return journey would cost at least £44. Steamer, £32; Rail, England and the States, £5; tips, £2; incidentals, hotels, etc., £5.

The Reorganization Bill of the United States Army has passed both houses, been signed by the President, and has become a law. Section 19 stands for a great concerted effort on the part of the nurses of America, and a most encouraging example to the trained nurses of this country.

"An Act to increase the efficiency of the permanent military establishment of the United States.

"Section 19. That the Nurse Corps (female) shall consist of one Superintendent, to be appointed by the Secretary of War, who shall be a graduate of a hospital training-school having a course of instruction of not less than two years, whose term of office may be terminated at his discretion, whose compensation shall be one thousand eight hundred dollars per annum, and of as many chief nurses, nurses, and reserve nurses as may be needed. Reserve nurses may be assigned to active duty when the emergency of the service demands, but shall receive no compensation except when on such duty: *Provided*, That all nurses in the Nurse Corps shall be appointed or removed by the Surgeon-General, with the approval of the Secretary of War; that they shall be graduates of hospital training-schools, and shall have passed a satisfactory professional, moral, mental, and physical examination: *And provided*, That the Superintendent and nurses shall receive transportation and necessary expenses when travelling under orders; that the pay and allowances of nurses, and of reserve nurses, when on active service, shall be forty dollars per month when on duty in the United States and fifty dollars per month when without the limits of the United States. They shall be entitled to quarters, subsistence, and medical attendance during illness, and they may be granted leaves of absence for thirty days, with pay, for each calendar year; and, when serving as chief nurses, their pay may be increased by authority of the Secretary of War, such increase not to exceed twenty-five dollars per month. Payments to the Nurse Corps shall be made by the Pay Department.

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