

International News.

THE PARIS CONFERENCE.

The latest American Mail brings an interesting letter from Miss L. L. Dock about the Paris Conference. The American Councillors think three days must be given to the Papers and Discussions, that is six Sessions. The First Session will open with an Address of Welcome and will then be devoted to Papers by eminent French nursing and hospital workers on "The Modern Nursing Movement in France." We hope to hear of the great work of the *Assistance Publique* and its Nursing College, of the various training school systems from Dr. Bourneville, Dr. Anna Hamilton, Madam Alphen Salvador, and many others. The International Conference is taking place in Paris because we want to learn all our French neighbours are doing, and to show them how we have best succeeded.

Miss Dock writes:—

The French sympathisers and friends are showing much interest already, and for their kind sakes it is to be hoped that we shall have a good gathering of bright and progressive women. They will show us the French hospitals and the new nursing schools, and it will be a great opportunity to learn something of French movements and progress.

May I remind all our readers that official and formal delegates with formal credentials are not in the plan for this gathering, as no regular business is to be transacted. The meetings, the floor, and the discussions will be open to all, and nurses from any country and any organisation, or those not belonging to any, will be welcome. We shall commit ourselves to nothing but friendly acquaintance at this conference. No new members (countries) can be admitted, but if any are inclined to like the idea of international unity, and wish to join our ranks, the regular meeting in 1909 will be the regular business meeting at which new affiliations will be made. At that time we will welcome with open arms any national associations of nurses which are founded on the principles we require for membership, viz.: democratic principles; the principles of equality and self-government, under which the nurses of an association have their voice and vote in its policy and progress.

The other sessions will come under *Practical Training of Nurses*, in which Miss Isla Stewart and Miss Nutting will take the leading papers, while contributory reports on the progress of development will be given by our sisters from Germany, Holland, Italy, Denmark, and the British Colonies.

The theme of *Professional Organisation and Nursing Press* will occupy a day to do the subject justice, for in this connection there is much to hear and tell, including, as it will, the story of the nursing press in many nations, which has been the chief engine of nursing progress, and gives us so much to be proud of.

In this connection we must hear from the Leagues

and Alumnae, the State and National, and the International Associations of their progress, and give, no doubt, some time to talking over the affairs of those countries where organisation has barely begun, such as in France and Italy.

On the third day we hope to take up some of the lines of nursing which may rightly be called Public Health problems, such as the modern efforts to reduce infant mortality, the pure milk distribution, public school nursing, the share of the nurse in the war against infections, tuberculosis, etc., Military and Naval Services, sanitary inspection under Health Boards, visiting nursing among the poor, etc.

We hope to have enlightening discussions on all these topics, showing what is being done in all countries.

A paper which will be of interest to many nurses abroad will be one promised by Miss van Vollenhoven, on the Opportunities for Foreign Nurses in America.

Invitations are now being sent to leading workers in the nursing world to attend the Conference and contribute papers, and it seems as if we shall have a truly international response.

All official information will from time to time appear in the three international organs, the *British* and the *American Journals of Nursing* and in *Unterm Lazaruskreuz*; so that all those interested in the International Council and its work know where to obtain reliable information.

The American Nursing World.

Seven is a lucky number, and for the seventh time the Christmas number of the *American Journal of Nursing* reaches us in its gay seasonable cover of red holly berries and green, and we rejoice with the Editor and Company that during the past year it has been splendidly successful. To quote the Editor:

"We feel as the year closes that there are many and special reasons why the members of the nursing profession should feel proud of their magazine. It is, first of all, backed by nurses' capital, it is edited by nurses, the business management is in the hands of a nurse, and its directors are all nurses. It wields a tremendous influence in nursing affairs the world over, and is quoted from constantly by nearly every nursing journal that is published, whether professional or commercial.

"There has been an unusual amount of interest displayed, especially by the State Associations, in the development of the Journal during the past year, and the result has been a very great increase in the subscription list, which means a broadening of the Journal's educational and professional influence throughout our country. The mission of our magazine is educational. The financial management is developed, that its field of usefulness may be broadened.

"The closing year of 1906 has been one of exceptional prosperity. The future has never seemed more brilliant. When those pioneer workers in the

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