

and cruelty to patients—would fill pages, and make those who read them shudder; shudder as we often have done when we saw some little child, who from some terrible accident had been brought into the hospital, exposed to that atmosphere of evil. More evil was heard in one hour in a London hospital than would meet one's ears during months passed in a military one."

Through the heroic work of our nursing pioneers all this is changed, medical orders are carried out to the letter, patients are nursed with the utmost devotion, and the youngest child will hear nothing to stain its innocence. A wonderful testimony this to the influence of good women, for it was women, not men, who in the face of immense difficulties, changed our hospital wards from sinks of iniquity into places of sweetness and light.

To the nurses of the present day the above picture of the wards of a hospital seems grotesque, but it was unfortunately true enough when it was penned.

The Paris Conference.

We all know how Miss Christina Forrest works for a cause she thinks right, and we are pleased to hear that she proposes to "personally conduct" at least fifteen members of the Victoria and Bournemouth League of Nurses to the Paris Conference. They are already busy embroidering their Badges, which they are entitled to wear as affiliated members of the International Council of Nurses.

The Canadian Nurse has appointed Miss Bella Crosby as its representative at the Conference. This lady will attend and present the report in the Professional Press section, of *The Canadian Nurse*. This journal, which is published monthly in Toronto, is rapidly becoming the recognised organ of trained nurses all over the vast Dominion. It is sound on State Registration, professional organisation, and all the higher aims and ideals, without which no profession can obtain the public confidence and retain its respect. We welcome Canada.

The fact that Miss Keith Payne is coming from far New Zealand to join the international gathering has aroused much interest amongst several of her past pupils, who are now working in London. We are glad to hear that three Wellington State Registered nurses have joined the party of 40, so that New Zealand will be well to the fore.

International Council of Nurses.

FEDERATION UP TO DATE.

The International Council of Nurses at present is composed of American, British and German nurses.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF NURSES.

The American Federation is composed of The American Society of Superintendents of Training Schools for Nurses, numbering 284 members, and The Nurses' Associated Alumnae of the United States, composed of 108 Alumnae Associations and 14 State Associations, numbering upwards of 8,000 members—making the Federation 8,500 strong.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND (PROVISIONAL.)

The British Federation is composed of the following societies:—

	Members.
The Matrons' Council	188
The Society for State Registration...	2,030
The Registered Nurses' Society ...	120
St. Bartholomew's Nurses' League...	600
Leicester Infirmary League ...	218
General Hosp., Birmingham, League	166
Chelsea Infirmary League	120
Parish of Nottingham	104
League of St. John's House ...	116
Royal South Hants League... ..	61
Kingston Infirmary League	62
Victoria and Bournemouth League	84
Irish Nurses' Association	400
Dr. Steevens' Hospital League ...	100

Making a combined Membership of 4,369

THE GERMAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

The German Nurses' Association has a membership of 1,400.

A GRAND TOTAL.

The International Council of Nurses has, therefore, up to date, a federated membership of 14,269. At the next Quinquennial Meeting to be held in 1909, we have reason to hope that it will be very greatly augmented, as intelligent trained nurses are rapidly organising themselves into National bodies in our great self-governing colonies, and in the more progressive European countries.

The Queen's Fete.

The Queen's Fête at the Mansion House on June 13th, in aid of the Lord Mayor's Cripples' Fund, promises to be a great success. The Queen has consented to receive presentations of purses, and there will be many Royal stall holders. Two especially interesting stalls will be those of the American and the French Embassies.

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