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Editorial.

THE EVE OF THE PARIS CONFERENCE.

Now that we have really arrived at the eve of the Paris Nursing Conference all is expectancy. Those who have attended previous Conferences know how much they have gained from them in breadth of view in international knowledge, in the formation of lasting friendships, and they are eagerly looking forward to the coming Conference, which promises to be the most representative ever held.

On the other hand it holds a new experience for those who have never attended similar gatherings, an experience which is likely to prove memorable as well as delightful, and so both with those who have already absorbed something of the international idea, and those who are for the first time putting themselves in touch with it, all is pleasurable anticipation.

Members of the Conference in London have already had the opportunity of meeting some of the foreign nurses who will take part in it, and look forward with the keenest pleasure to the opportunity of increasing the acquaintance already begun, and to hearing from these eminent women of the progress made in other countries to further the efficient care of the sick and to secure the honour and interests of the Nursing Profession; for the primary object of all Conferences on Nursing, as of all training worthy of the name, must be to help those who take part in them to become more efficient, individually, and as a profession, for the ultimate benefit of the sick whom they serve.

It is a satisfactory proof of the influential interest which is being taken in Paris in

the Conference that so many notable Frenchmen and Frenchwomen, including the distinguished Hon. President, M. Léon Bourgeois, are giving it their support. Nothing could prove more conclusively that the nursing question is engaging the earnest attention of those interested in the care of the sick in France.

To the visitors, not only the Sessions of the Conference, but the opportunities afforded of visiting the many interesting institutions connected with subjects bearing directly or indirectly on nursing will be full of pleasure and profit.

French scientific and philanthropic institutions often attain to a high degree of proficiency, and the opportunity of learning much from a visit to them is one which should not be missed.

Not the least of the pleasures afforded in connection with the Conference will be the opportunities of seeing some of the art treasures of Paris, which are amongst the most renowned in the world. Both for those who now make its acquaintance for the first time, and those who revisit it as an old and well loved friend, this fair city, full of associations, with its wealth of beautiful architecture, statuary and pictures, holds its perennial charm and attraction.

On the eve of the Conference the **BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING** gives cordial greeting to all who will take part in it, and it has a special word of welcome for the members of the editorial staffs of those nursing journals from different parts of the world with whose policy and aims it is in cordial agreement, whose presence in considerable numbers will be a unique feature of the Paris gathering.

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