

International News.

The Transactions of the International Conference on Nursing, held in Paris, will be sold, bound, for five shillings, and unbound for two shillings. Orders from the United Kingdom may be sent in postage stamps to Miss Breay, Treasurer, 431, Oxford Street, London. Orders from the Continent should be sent by Post Office Order to the same address.

It is not necessary to urge the importance of these reports sent from many countries, nor their historical value as records of our profession. Every League, Club, or Training School Library should possess the full file of International Council Reports. The first set, that collected for the interim meeting of the International Council at the time of the Buffalo Congress of Nurses, is contained in the bound volume of the Transactions of that Congress. Copies of this are still on hand in America, to be had from the Associated Alumnae, and may be ordered through Miss Dock. The price, originally five shillings, has been lowered to three shillings. The second set is that of the first Quinquennial Meeting, held at Berlin, price one shilling. This may be ordered from Miss Breay. The third set will be that of the Paris Conference, and may also be ordered from Miss Breay. It will appear during the summer.

LAVINIA L. DOCK,
Hon. Sec.,

International Council of Nurses.

The last issue of *La Garde Malade Hospitalière* is largely devoted to an interesting report of the proceedings of the International Conference on Nursing at Paris, and it is announced that future issues will contain some of the most important papers presented. One section deals with the professional press, and states that it was not one of the least advantages of the Conference that the editors of nursing journals were able to meet and discuss their position. It goes on to say that such journals should be edited by professional women because only those who live the life of nurses can comprehend their needs and aspirations, and plead their cause. It also points out that nursing journals should be owned by nurses.

De Vlaamsche Verpleging (The Flemish Nurse) one of the most recent journals published in the interests of nurses, contains a sympathetic account of the Conference, by Sister Taconis. Thus, through the medium of the different nursing journals the nurses of many nations are kept in touch with nursing ideals.

Progress of State Registration.

Considerable attention has been aroused in the nursing world by an article which has appeared in the *Daily Mail* under the heading of "Bogus Nurses," entitled "The Danger of State Registration." Quite a number of copies have been posted to us, with letters begging us to expose the fallacies therein contained.

We really are surprised that our contemporary, which has recently done so much good by the wide publicity it has given to the "Nurse Thief," and to the facility with which criminals can at present pose as nurses, should publish so illogical and obsolete an article. Every argument advanced in it has been exploded by evidence before the Privy Council in 1893, and before the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1905. The *Daily Mail* is not often so long after the fair. It is usually well informed and up-to-date. In a letter addressed to our contemporary, Miss Breay, Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council, exposes the fallacy of the assertion that "the leading members of the medical and nursing professions in Great Britain are solidly planked against a State hall-mark for nurses."

In refreshing contrast to the above article is the intelligent outlook of one which appears in the current issue of the *World's Work*, entitled "A Great Movement in a Great Profession." The writer shows that "The finished nurse is a skilled, scientific worker of a high grade, and she is crying for State recognition and protection. There is nothing to stamp the finished product from the pretender, and the doctor and the patient have not always the time and the opportunity of investigating a nurse's credentials. Is it right that where life or death is in question, the public should not be protected from the fool and the swindler? The trained nurse asks for a State register similar to that adopted for the medical profession, on which she can be put after examination and from which she may be removed for professional misconduct. This seems a simple and reasonable demand to the outside world."

We commend the whole article to the attention of our readers.

The *Daily Telegraph*, in a column devoted to hospital matters, says: "If it were generally realised that there is no legal restriction on the assumption, by any unscrupulous woman, with little or no training, of the designation and costume of a 'nurse' public opinion would press for a more satisfactory organisation of the nursing profession." The more public attention is drawn to this the better.

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