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## Nursing in 1907.

### THE ORDER OF MERIT.

The members of the Nursing Profession all over the world feel that their work has been signally honoured, in that the great Founder of Professional Nursing, Miss Florence Nightingale, has been ranked by the King, with men of distinguished imperial service, in the Order of Merit.

### ORGANISATION.

Never has the nursing world been more alive than during the last twelve months, and it becomes increasingly difficult for even a weekly professional journal to deal with all matters of nursing interest as they arise.

### LEAGUES OF CERTIFICATED NURSES.

It is most satisfactory to watch the hold which the movement for the formation of Nurses' Leagues has taken on the nurses of the United Kingdom. Every League formed, so far, has proved an immediate success, demonstrating that the certificated nurses of a training school, who are very loyal to their *Alma Mater*, welcome the opportunity of keeping in touch with it, and with one another through an organised, self-governing society. The latest addition to the Leagues is that of Steevens' Hospital, Dublin, to which must be accorded the honour of initiating these societies in Ireland.

### A NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

The Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses has been quietly strengthening its position during the past year, and the question of a workable Constitution for a National Council has been under the consideration of a sub-committee. The result of its work will be brought before the members of the Provisional Committee early in the new year, as it is widely felt that now so many distinguished women are associated with it through the various societies and Leagues the time is ripe for the adoption of the Constitution of a National Council of Nurses, so that it may be in good working order before the next quinquennial meeting of the International Council of Nurses to take place in 1909.

The work of a National Council must be more or less of a consultative nature—leaving untrammelled the different societies affiliated in it to carry out the various objects which they have been formed to accomplish—its Constitution must, therefore, be somewhat elastic, so long as it is in harmony with the principles underlying the International Council of Nurses to which it is affiliated.

### THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The natural complement of the National Council of Nurses is the International Council which unites National Councils, as they unite the Leagues of Nurses. The event of the year in the nursing world has undoubtedly been the Nursing Conference in Paris convened by the International Council of Nurses. No one who attended that Conference at which representative nurses from fourteen countries were present, can doubt the great value of the work of the International Council, both in furthering professional solidarity and as a factor in raising and approximating educational standards. The dominant note of the Conference was that of professional unity. It was evident that the same problems confront nurses all the world over, and the unanimity of thought and purpose was remarkable.

### THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland has, as usual, during the past year held a watching brief for the welfare of the Nursing Profession in the United Kingdom, and has been ably supported by the Irish Matrons' Association of Dublin.

Early in the year Miss Mollett gave a most interesting address in London on "The Twentieth Century Probationer," from which we gathered that there is a strong family likeness between the probationers of all centuries. The President, Miss Isla Stewart, and a large number of members attended and took an active part in the proceedings of the International Nursing Conference at Paris in June. The value to the profession of the Matrons' Council was recently demonstrated by the

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