

Macdonnell, R.R.C., Member of the Board of Superintendence of Dublin Hospitals; Miss Mayne, County Hospital, Limerick; Miss Cherry, and many other Irish friends are also to add to the representative character of the gathering.

#### INTEREST IN FRANCE.

The interest in the Congress is no less in France. From Paris will come M. G. Mesureur, M. and Mme. André Mesureur, M. Enjolras, Director of the Salpêtrière; Mme. Jacques, and Miss G. Procopé; Mme. de Keroéguen, Société de Secours aux Blessés, Croix Rouge; Mme. Alphen Salvador; Miss Chaptal—all of whom will take part in the Congress, M. André Mesureur in the Conference on School Nursing, Mme. Jacques in that on Education and Training, and Mlle. Procopé in that on Massage.

From Bordeaux we have reported a most influential delegation. Dr. Anna Hamilton and Miss Elston will both speak, the former in the Quinquennial Council Meeting, and the latter on Military Nursing in France.

#### THE DISTRICT NURSING EXHIBIT.

It will be known with regret that after all her hard work in helping to organise the District Nursing Exhibit, Miss C. C. du Sautoy will be unable to be present. Lady Hermione Blackwood can now be referred to concerning this section, at 9, Beaufort House, Beaufort Street, Chelsea, and after the 13th July Miss Eden will be in town.

#### AT HOME AT THE NURSES' LODGE.

Miss Hulme, Lady superintendent of the Nurses' Lodge, 9, Colosseum Terrace, Regent's Park, N.W., kindly invites members of the Congress to an At Home on Sunday, July 18th, from 4 to 7. There will be Tea and Sacred Music. Tickets are obtainable through the Central Office at 431, Oxford Street, W.

#### ST. ANDREW'S HOUSE CLUB.

Members of the Congress may like to know that temporary membership, at a subscription of 3s. 6d. a week, and bedrooms for 3s. a night, including light and attendance, may be procured at St. Andrew's House Club, 31a, Mortimer Street, Oxford Street, W. This Club is excellently appointed, and visitors to the Congress will be fortunate who can arrange to stay there. Application should be made to the Secretary.

#### SUPPLY RUNNING OUT.

The 550 invitations so kindly sent to members of Congress by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, are rapidly diminishing, and must now be strictly limited to members of the National Council, as only a few more can be given out. Those desiring to attend these functions must take their Congress tickets at once.

## Kensington District Nurses' Association.

The annual meeting of the Kensington District Nursing Association was held in the Vicarage Parish Room on Wednesday in last week, when the chair was taken by Canon Pennefather, Vicar of Kensington.

H.R.H. Princess Louise was present at the beginning of the proceedings, but expressed her regret at having to leave in order to attend the meeting of Queen Alexandra's Committee at Buckingham Palace. His Grace the Duke of Argyll, K.T., was present throughout the proceedings.

The adoption of the Report was moved by the Mayor of Kensington, and seconded by Dr. Howard Tooth, who said that he had had a close connection with large numbers of nurses, and the more he had to do with them the more he admired them. His knowledge of them was chiefly confined to hospital and private practice, and he had also seen their work in war on the field, or rather in the base hospitals. He had the greatest admiration for their self-abnegation, their close attention to orders, their care and kindness to the sick and wounded.

He was not so well acquainted with the work of District Nurses, but they were in a somewhat peculiar position, often having to make bricks without straw. He remembered as a student having attended a district maternity case, and he had never forgotten the utter destitution. Everything had gone to the pawnshop except the bed and the mattress; the patient had not even a nightdress. Imagine the relief in such a case to have a trained nurse coming in.

It appeared to him that special tact and sympathy were needed to carry out the duties of a district nurse. As an instance, she had to let light and air into unventilated rooms, and might meet with opposition in endeavouring to do so. She must therefore have qualities not necessarily needed in so high a degree by other nurses. Dr. Tooth spoke of the desirability for hospitals and district nursing associations to keep in touch with one another. Many cases might be discharged earlier from hospital if the attention of a district nurse were assured to them.

The Duke of Argyll said that the Association only had nine nurses and should have many more.

The Rev. F. W. Pakenham Gilbert also spoke and described the condition of his parish, in which the nurses of the Association work, which is one of the very poorest.

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