

not even the interest in the baby which a relative has. In these cases also the mother has no one to teach her the best way of looking after her baby.

A great deal has been done by Infant Consultations and Schools for Mothers, especially in France and Germany, where there are municipal schools. France was the first to start these schools in 1893, when she realized that if the birth rate decreases, the next best thing to do is to save all the babies you have got.

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

Mention any methods with which you are acquainted for making disagreeable drugs as palatable as possible.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

DEAR EDITOR,—Because of changes being made by the German Board of Education in the summer vacation, Sister Agnes Karll has had to withhold final announcement of the date for the Congress of Nursing to be held in Cologne, and this in turn has delayed me in writing to remind your readers of the meeting. However, it is now decided that the meetings will open on August 4th.

May I remind nurses' national organizations that we hope to get one full report from each country, showing the extent of all new lines of nursing, such as may be called "social" or "preventive" work, either in the public services or under private initiative? Of course, public-school nursing is included with new developments in visiting nursing and every similar branch of what Florence Nightingale would undoubtedly call "Health Nursing."

From every country where Registration is in force we ask also a report on the workings of State registration—what it does—how it may be improved—whether it is or is not a force for the advancement and strengthening of good nursing standards.

We do not now need the general kind of report which we formerly asked for countries in membership, as we now know pretty well the general lines of one another's development. But we hope to take up seriously and steadily the work of studying, comparing, and standardising nursing education the world over. This will be done in connection with the Reports of the Education Committee, of which Miss Hubrecht of Holland is Secretary.

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

Hon. Sec. International Council
of Nurses.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COLOGNE.

Final arrangements are not yet made for the social functions at Cologne. The Nursing Exhibition may be opened on the 3rd August. Anyway, the evening of Sunday, the 4th inst., will, after the custom in foreign countries, be spent in giving a welcome to the Delegates. The meeting of the International Council will be held on the morning of Monday, 5th August, and the Nursing Congress will open on the afternoon of that day. Delegates therefore should arrive in Cologne on Saturday, 3rd. This arrangement has been made by Miss Mollett, for the Matrons' Council Party she is going to chaperone, who will notify Sister Agnes Karll of the names of those who form it, so that tickets, badges, &c., will await them.

Next week in the Report of our National Council Meeting further details will be announced.

Miss Beatrice Kent has for some weeks past been compiling a report of nurses' social service work in Great Britain and Ireland. May we invite those who are interested in its various branches to communicate with her at The Nurses' Lodge, 9, Colosseum Terrace, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL.

We are informed by the Hon. Secretary, Miss Mollett, that owing to extensive improvements and rebuilding Miss Macintyre, the Matron of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, deeply regrets that she cannot entertain the Council in April, but the pleasure is only deferred.

MIDLAND MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The appointment of Miss Musson as matron of the General Hospital, Birmingham, was not only a very fortunate selection for the hospital and its nursing school, but for the interests of nursing in the midland counties. Until the advent of Miss Musson no matron took the initiative touching professional co-operation, but, through the organization of the Midland Matrons' Association the matrons in these counties now meet in a most friendly spirit and discuss in the most helpful manner many questions of interest. We hope this Association will depute a fraternal delegate to represent it at Cologne, as one Session is to be devoted to a discussion on "The Position and Duties of the Hospital Matron," with a view to interesting German hospital authorities in their responsibility in the matter.

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