

August 6th, and as she has practical experience of the system, and expresses the opinion that it has acted as a wonderful lever in raising the standards of nursing in the Dominion, and improving the education and status of nurses, her opinion coincides with that expressed by Dr. Chapple in the House of Commons at the recent meeting with members of the Society for the State Registration of Nurses.

Other countries are preparing most interesting papers and exhibits. On August 7th the day will be entirely devoted to Social Service and Preventive Nursing in all its branches. The paper from the United States will open by a description of the Department of Nursing and Health at Teachers' College, New York, written by Miss Nutting, and will conclude with material collected by Miss Waters (author of "Visiting Nursing in the United States"), showing the direction and extent of new lines.

It is estimated that at least 1,000 nurses will attend this world Congress, and we are glad to learn that a large number are planning to come over from the United States of America—as educationally and professionally the Americans give the lead to the nursing world. They have gone ahead of us long ago—more's the pity.

The Canadian paper is being prepared under the auspices of the National Association, and will probably be in a large measure the work of Miss Rogers, Superintendent of Public School Nursing in Toronto, who will take to Cologne an excellent exhibit of the work under her direction.

At the annual meeting of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, recently held at Toronto, Miss Louise Brent in the chair, Miss M. A. Mackenzie, Chief Lady Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada, resident at Ottawa, was elected President to succeed Miss Snively, who resigned office.

The question of delegates to Cologne was discussed, and Miss Phillips, of Montreal, undertook to provide a costume for Jeanne Mance for the Nursing Pageant on August 4th. This is truly a bit of realism—that the great Jeanne Mance should arise and come from the far-off land where she worked and died so heroically three hundred years ago! The nursing profession must cling to all the romance of its makers—this was our hope in creating a Nursing Pageant.

NURSES AND THE NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.

THE EXCLUSION OF TRAINED NURSES FROM DIRECT REPRESENTATION ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

On the introduction of the National Insurance Bill into the House of Commons by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in May of last year it was at once apparent that it would intimately affect trained nurses personally and economically, and a meeting was convened and held at 11, Chandos Street, W., on July 10th, when the position was placed before the nursing profession. Since that time the readers of this Journal have been kept informed as to the action taken to secure skilled nursing to the insured sick, and to safeguard the educational standards and economic interests of trained nurses.

A Committee was appointed at the public meeting, with power to take any necessary action for the protection of the nurses' interests, afterwards known as the Trained Nurses' Protection Committee. This Committee asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation, a request which was not acceded to, but the Chancellor promised to consider any representations placed before him in writing, and memoranda were accordingly forwarded to him.

Later the Right Hon. R. C. Munro Ferguson took charge of amendments supported by trained nurses, but, owing to the application of the closure, these amendments were not considered by the House of Commons. Trained nurses were, however, led to believe that their desire for direct representation on the Advisory Committees under the National Insurance Act would receive equal consideration with the claims of the certified midwives. Later the Insurance Commissioners, when appointed, invited nominations from Societies of Nurses for seats on the Advisory Committees. When, however, the names of those appointed were made public it was found that while the registered medical practitioners had their direct representatives through the nominees of the British Medical Association and the Association of Medical Women, and the certified midwives through the nominees of the Midwives' Institute, the nurses' organizations had been excluded from direct representation, the Commissioners having nominated two Superintendents working under Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses on the Joint Advisory Committee. Thus while all other industrial

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)