

### THE COLOGNE CONGRESS.

Sister Agnes Karll hopes that the English National Council of Nurses will give all the help and support possible to make the Triennial Meeting of the International Council of Nurses as great a success as possible. Your President has assured her that she may depend upon the utmost enthusiasm in complying with her request.

Two functions are settled. (1) That the Congress is to be entertained at a Municipal Banquet on the Opening Day, and (2) That the Congress will close with a presentation of the Nursing Pageant in the magnificent Gürzenich—which lends itself splendidly for the purpose.

The people of Cologne are great at pageantry, so that the speaking parts will be easily allotted, but Sister Karll is anxious that as many of the characters, as possible should be arranged for soon, and I feel sure that those members of our National Council who have dresses—and who are prepared to take them to Germany—will volunteer to take part in the Pageant.

The Appeal for Registration will be re-written by Miss Mollett and translated by Sister Karll, to meet the special needs of German Nurses. Registration is in force in Germany, but does not require the high standard that German nurses wish to attain and to be enforced.

The presentation of our Pageant will be a great historic event at Cologne, and I hope many of our members will take part in it. I shall be pleased to hear from all those wishing to do so—at the earliest date possible.

Sister Karll wants the affiliated Leagues to take their Banners. This no doubt many will do, and those who have not yet adopted a Banner will find the time ripe to do so. Our Council will lend the Florence Nightingale, the Isla Stewart, the Catherine Loch, the Agnes Jones Banners, and I think we ought to add the Dorothy Patterson (Sister Dora). I am most anxious that the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland should show the very best of good feeling towards its German colleagues and do all in its power to help them in every way. May I urge our members to consider methods by which this helpful spirit can be best practically applied, and to come to the National Council Meeting on February 15th full of suggestions to accomplish this end. We are going to be received in the most hospitable spirit, and we must attend the Congress in the most friendly way.

ETHEL G. FENWICK,  
President, N.C.N.

### THE TRAINED WOMEN NURSES' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

#### THE REPORT OF THE NURSES' PROTECTION COMMITTEE.

An Open Meeting for Nurses was held at Morley Hall, George Street, London, W., on the evening of Thursday, January 18th, to receive a Report from the Nurses' Protection Committee, to hear an Address from Miss Mollett on the National Insurance Act as it affects Nurses, and to discuss the advisability of forming an Approved Trained Nurses' Friendly Society.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presided as chairman of the Nurses' Protection Committee, and said many letters had been received from those interested and unable to attend. They regretted the absence, through illness, of Miss Amy Hughes, who was to have spoken. Miss Eden wrote that at a meeting of the Nurses' Social Union held at Taunton on the 16th inst., the following resolution was passed:—"In the opinion of this meeting the formation of an Approved Friendly Society for Female Sick Nurses is desirable." Miss E. A. Stevenson, of the Scottish Trained Nurses' Association, wrote: "I sincerely trust that the result of the meeting will be the formation of an Approved Society of Trained Nurses. If nurses assert the right to govern the contents of their own pockets I feel sure they will teach a valuable lesson which is required in various directions."

Mrs. Fenwick then reported that a very influential committee of twenty-two persons had carefully watched the interests of trained nurses during the course of the National Insurance Act through Parliament. The committee had petitioned the Chancellor of the Exchequer to receive a deputation to lay the case of trained nurses before him, but this had not been granted. A memorandum had then been sent to him pointing out the disabilities of nurses under the Bill. In a second communication to the Chancellor the committee pointed out that in the Bill purporting to deal with National Health and Invalidity, "trained" nursing was not mentioned—that while Approved Societies had power to give grants to hospitals and nursing institutions, there was no guarantee of the quality of the nursing provided, and that in its opinion insured persons have as much right to a State guarantee concerning the qualifications of nurses, for whose services they are compelled to subscribe, as they have to the guarantees afforded them, through the respective State registers, of the qualifications prescribed for their medical attendants and midwives

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