

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRAINED NURSES.

On Thursday, the 27th ult., "in all reverence and gratitude," a beautiful chaplet of laurels tied with purple ribbon was placed on the grave of Mrs. Elizabeth Fry, in the Friends' Burial Ground at Barking, by representatives of the National Council of Nurses, to commemorate her first visit to Newgate Prison in 1813. In this age, when reverence and gratitude are not, as in the past, prominent characteristics of our people, it is well that the Nursing profession should cling to them, and in so doing realise the happiness to be derived from appreciating and emulating the splendid example of those great and generous pioneers who have made smooth for us so many stony pathways. The Council was represented by Mrs. Fenwick, Miss Cutler, Miss Hulme, formerly Lady Superintendent of the Devonshire Square Institute of Nurses, and Miss Foster, formerly a sister on the staff founded by Elizabeth Fry, Miss Elma Smith, and Miss B. Kent. The little party was courteously received at the Friends' Meeting House by the Secretary, Mr. H. R. Steele, who conducted them to the graveside, marked only by the uniform little stone, on which her name is inscribed with that of her husband, and beneath which rests all that was mortal of this very noble lady.

THE INTERNATIONAL AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Miss L. L. Dock, Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses, sends a most interesting note of proposals for the 1915 Congress at San Francisco. Dr. Helen Parker Criswell—who is a certificated nurse as well as medical woman, has been made Chairman of the Arrangements Committee in California. This is a first-class appointment, as she is a most energetic, public spirited woman, who will surely make things happen. The World's Panama-Pacific Exposition Committee is eager to arrange the affairs of the International Council of Nurses according to their wishes, and it is hoped to fix up the date of the meeting for early in June, 1915. All sorts of suggestions are floating around. Trained Nurses' Day is assured—when our profession will be specially honoured by the Exposition authorities. A Nurses' Building in the Fair grounds has been proposed. That would be delightful. It would be a real hive of nursing energy, a most delight-

ful meeting place. Conference Halls large and small will be secured, and if all goes as desired and anticipated by our American colleagues, the 1915 International will be very wonderful and entrancing. Everyone who is anyone in the Nursing world must make an effort to be there. The World's Fair is to be truly magnificent, and will be an education in itself. The street of amusements is being worked out, and is certain to excel the "Midway" at Chicago, and the "Pike" at St. Louis.

THE MISUSE OF NURSES' UNIFORM.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The Public Meeting to protest against the Misuse of Nurses' Uniform will be held on Friday, the 14th inst., at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W., at 8 p.m., at which Dr. Chapple, M.P., will preside, and it is to be hoped that the room will be crowded by those interested in preventing its abuse. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will move a resolution of protest, calling the attention of the Government to the very grave injury suffered by the nursing profession as a whole in the estimation of the public, by association with persons of immoral character, who constantly appear in the dock in nurses' uniform.

The resolution will also thank the Premier for his promise that the claims of the Nurses' Registration Bill shall receive consideration, as in the opinion of those supporting the Bill legal status for trained nurses is absolutely necessary, if they are to protect themselves and the public from exploitation by ignorant and criminal persons.

It is not too much to say that recent revelations in the police courts and the press have horrified the nursing profession, and that they feel strongly that thieves and base women, who wear nurses' uniform in the dock with the intention of arousing sentimental consideration for their crimes, and sentences, should be prohibited from doing so.

Then the degradation of their cloth by prostitutes on the street and white slave traffickers, is another abomination which should be put down by the police. We have seen blear-eyed, yellow-locked Delilahs, with their bonnet strings cocked up under one ear, on the prowl. The fact is that the widespread abuse of the trained nurses' uniform is making it impossible for delicate-minded women to wear it. It used to be a protection; now it is rapidly becoming a disgrace.

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