

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

THE CONFERENCE.

Owing to the interest aroused in the proposed Conference and also to the difficulty, in these days of sudden pressure of work, for members of the nursing profession to be certain of their time, the Executive Committee have decided to throw the Conference open to any members of professional Nurses' Societies and Leagues who may be able to attend at the above address on Thursday, June 29th, at 2.30 p.m.

The secretaries of the Societies and Leagues have been invited to send six representatives, and the Secretary of the Union will be glad to receive their names, as well as those of others, if it is possible to send them beforehand, but all will be welcomed.

No resolutions will be put to the meeting, which is to be regarded as a preliminary one for a more formal meeting later on. It has been called with a view to offering an opportunity for hearing different opinions on important questions of the day. Ten minutes' papers will be read on the following subjects, to be followed by discussion:—

1. The difficulties of training in small institutions and the possibilities of combined training.
 2. The economic conditions in the nursing profession.
 3. The political position in the nursing world.
 4. The work of Nurses' Societies.
- Tea will be provided.

Miss Cancellor will preside, and amongst others who will speak are Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Musson and Miss Pye.

V. THURSTAN,
Secretary.

IN SOMERSET.

COMMUNICATED BY THE FROME BRANCH
SECRETARY.

Miss Thurstan gave two lectures on Friday, June 16th, and Saturday, June 17th, at Frome and at Orchardleigh in Somerset to members of the N.U.T.N., to the Mothers' Union members of Frome and to others interested in the subject of nursing.

She gave a very interesting account of the so-called Polish Refugees in Russia, who are really people of seven or eight different nationalities and of different religions and who took refuge in the interior of Russia from the great German Invasion of Poland and Galicia last year. Miss Thurstan herself made a tour of many of the refugee camps to see what English people could best do in coping with the difficult problems of feeding and housing these vast numbers of homeless people.

The Russians themselves are doing a great deal, but the numbers are so great that they gladly welcome any help from this country. As Miss Thurstan pointed out, we owe a special debt to Russia whose prompt invasion of Germany at the beginning of the War did so much to help the

Allied cause in the West and without which we in this country might have been subjected to the same terrible disasters which have befallen Poland and Galicia.

She mentioned some ways in which we could help specially to save infant life, by supporting Maternity and Fever Hospitals at Petrograd to which units of doctors and nurses have been despatched by the N.U.W.S.S., the nurses being selected by the N.U.T.N.

Many of her hearers were greatly moved by her appeal and would gladly offer their services, could they do so without deserting their posts at home.

LEAGUE NEWS.

The Report of the Conference of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, organized by the General Hospital, Birmingham, Nurses' League, and held in the Central Hall, Birmingham, June 9th to 12th, 1914, has just made its appearance in a pretty blue cover, and excellently edited and printed. Its publication has been delayed by the very onerous duties which have devolved upon the President Miss Musson, ever since the outbreak of War.

LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY NURSES' LEAGUE.

The annual meeting of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League was held in the Recreation Hall at the Nurses' Home, on June 21st. The president was in the chair. Forty-two members were present. Letters of apology for absence were read from several members, including the treasurer. The meeting heard with regret that her non-attendance was caused by ill-health and wished her speedy recovery.

After the usual business had been concluded, Miss Vincent, R.R.C., made a short statement *re* the College of Nursing and the proposed Bill for the State Registration of Nurses, which was followed by an interesting discussion, and the following resolution, proposed by Miss Ellis, and seconded by Miss Jessie Davies was put to the meeting and carried:—

"This meeting expresses its satisfaction that the College of Nursing is upholding the principle of registration of trained nurses by the State, and earnestly hopes that the Bill may be brought forward without delay. It further urges the necessity of recognising the principle of self-government for nurses, and asks that the trained nurse may be adequately represented on the governing body."

It was a great disappointment to all that Miss Sumner, Matron of Princess Christian Hospital, Englefield Green, who had promised, if possible, to give an account of her work abroad, sent a telegram to say that she was detained by duty.

Tea was served in the corridor of the Nurses' Home, and was as usual a most enjoyable function.

Hearty congratulations were given to Sister Barnes, one of the first members of the League, on having been awarded the Royal Red Cross.

E. G. WALDRON, *Secretary.*

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