

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

The third *Bulletin* of the International Council of Nurses is to hand, in which the Hon. Secretary, Miss C. Reimann, writes:—

"I shall be glad, on behalf of the Election Committee, to receive applications from countries wishing to affiliate with the I.C.N. in 1925. Several countries have already mentioned their wishes in this direction; if possible, all applications must be in before January 1st. Nurses from countries that will not be able to fulfil our requirements for membership, but wishing to be represented in our Council, can apply to have an Hon. Vice-President as representative.

"A few invitations from countries wishing to have the Congress following the 1925 one in Helsingfors, held in their countries, have been received. Will Nursing Associations wishing to extend such an invitation to the Council please let me know, if possible, before January 1st, in order that everything may be ready to be voted upon in Helsingfors?"

The date of the Meeting of the International Council of Nurses, and of the Congress to be held in connection with it in Helsingfors in 1925, is now definitely fixed. Miss Reimann writes:—

"The Congress in Helsingfors, Finland, 1925, will be held from July 20th to 25th. . . . The following is an outline of prices at the present rate of exchange, *without any reduction*, consisting of the journey to Helsingfors from different parts of Europe, and also some proposed trips to be taken after the Congress. If several nurses agree on the same trip, a considerable reduction will be granted. (Special arrangements will probably be made for nurses going from Canada and the United States, as a very great number seem to be planning to go.)

In going the least expensive route to Helsingfors, the approximate length of journey, and price, including first class steamer, second class rail, meals and hotel rooms or sleeping car berths, will be as follows, subject to fluctuations in prices, or rates of exchange:—

To Helsingfors:—

From Stockholm	23 hours	Swedish Kr. 80.
From Copenhagen	45 hours	Danish Kr. 130.
From Christiania	49 hours	Norwegian Kr. 280.
From London	96 hours	£11 6s.
From Edinburgh	98 hours	£12.
From Paris	118 hours	French francs 1,500
From Brussels	112 hours	Belgian francs 1,400
From Amsterdam	110 hours	Fl. 200
From Berlin	50 hours	Gold M. 115
From Vienna	62 hours	Kr. 40,000
From Zurich	60 hours	Swiss francs 300.
From Riga	16 hours	L. Rub. 10,000.
From Reval	4 hours	E. Mkcs. 7,500.
From Rome	74 hours	Lira 1,600.

Note.—From Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, the above routing is by direct steamer, Hull-Helsingfors. From Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and Austria, by direct steamer, Stettin-Helsingfors."

The above fares are, we presume, for the single journey. According to information obtained here, the return journey would cost about £3 less.

Miss Reimann gives various suggested tours for the extension and enjoyment of the return journey, including five days in Finland, £8, ten days, £15; tour in Sweden and Denmark, £44, in Norway and Sweden, £40, and last, but not least, a tour in the Land of the Midnight Sun, including Lapland and the North Cape, the Norwegian Fjords, Bergen Mountain Railway, Christiania, Stockholm and Copenhagen, £63. There is no limit to possible enjoyment, if purses permit.

We note on page 1 that, "during the recent war the work of the International Council of Nurses was discontinued," but this is not correct. The Congresses were not organised during the war—nurses were far too busy to attend them—but, through the International organs, the constituent Councils kept well in touch, and great numbers of nurses from many countries called at the Council's Headquarters in London, and were interested in its aspirations.

It will be remembered, also, how deep was the disappointment when it was found impossible to hold a Congress as well as the meeting of the Grand Council in Copenhagen in 1922, not because there was any doubt as to the success of such a Congress, but because, with all its excellent organisation, the Danish National Council, in the time at its disposal for making the arrangements, feared that it would be unable to cope with the multitudes who would arrive.

A meeting of the Executive was held in San Francisco in 1915, during the Annual Convention of the American Nurses' Association, when representative nurses were present from Great Britain, Holland, and Australia, and the President, Miss A. W. Goodrich, R.N., presented a report, when she said, "Letter after letter has been received from various parts of the world voicing the disappointment and grief of our members, not only that they cannot be present, but that it should be because of the terrible tragedy that is being enacted on the other side."

At Atlanta, in May, 1920, the following Vice-Presidents of the I.C.N. were present, and conferred:

Miss Clara D. Noyes, R.N., President of the American Nurses Association, Miss Jean Gunn, President Canadian National Association, Baroness Mannerheim, President, National Council of Nurses of Finland, and Miss Charlotte Munck, of the Danish National Council of Nurses, and three applications from National Associations of Nurses for affiliation were received.

The *Bulletin* includes the paper on International Aspects of Nursing, read by the President, Baroness Mannerheim, at the Conference held at the British Empire Exhibition; a paper by Miss Enid Newton, Hon. Vice-President for Serbia, and Miss Reimann also gives the following interesting item:—

Within the near future a Nurse Registration Bill will be presented to the Norwegian Parliament. The Norwegian Nurses' Association, which stands for a three-year continuous professional education for nurses in recognised qualified schools of nursing, is strongly opposed to "The National Organisation for Prevention of Tuberculosis," which recommends a recognition of two types or grades of nurses: one, with a three-year professional education, for cities and hospitals; and one, with a professional education for one year and a half, for rural districts. There is no scarcity of nurses at present in Norway, as the eighteen schools registered by the Norwegian Nurses' Association graduate 400-500 nurses yearly, which number, according to the report, is fully satisfactory to the present demand. It is most interesting to learn that these eighteen schools have always plenty of applications from young women wishing to enter for their professional education, while this does not seem to be the case with schools giving a shorter course.

LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

Three lectures on Renaissance Painting (Giotto to Michelangelo) illustrated with lantern slides will be given on Tuesdays in the Medical and Surgical Theatre at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, under the auspices of the Nurses League on the following dates:—(1) *September 16th*—An

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