

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

ISLA STEWART FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

When the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses considered what memorial should be raised to its Founder it was generally felt that the most appropriate form would be of an educational character. The Sub-Committee appointed to consider the matter made a recommendation in this sense to the General Meeting of the League held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, on November 25th, 1911, and a Committee was formed of members of the League, with Mrs. Bedford Fenwick as Chairman and Mrs. Shuter as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, to be named the "Isla Stewart Memorial Committee."

The deep interest of the late Miss Isla Stewart in the International Council of Nurses is well known. She presided over the meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland in 1899, when the Council was founded, the early meetings when the personnel of the Council was selected and the Constitution defined, were by her invitation held at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. She attended the meeting in Buffalo, U.S.A., in 1901, the meetings in Berlin 1904, Paris 1907, and took a leading part in that held in London in 1909, the hospitality which was so conspicuous a trait in her character, members of the Council in the Great Hall of St. Bartholomew's Hospital during the Congress Week, and spoke of it afterwards as one of the happiest days in her life.

It was felt, therefore, by the Isla Stewart Memorial Committee, that it would be a specially appropriate application of the Fund to make grants to members of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses attending the Congress convened by the International Council of Nurses to meet in Helsingfors in July next, and one which would be in entire accordance with the wishes of Miss Stewart, could she express an opinion, for she was a firm believer in the exceptional value of such Congresses from the educational point of view, as well as in their broadening and inspiring influence, through the facilities they afford for meeting prominent nurses of world-wide repute.

The Isla Stewart Memorial Committee have, therefore, made grants to four League members attending the Congress, and we have pleasure in presenting the portraits of two of these ladies in this issue.

Miss GLADYS LE GEYT, S.R.N.

Miss Gladys I. Le Geyt gained the certificate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, in 1904, and has since had

a varied and honourable career. On leaving her training school she was appointed Theatre Sister at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh. To that work followed training at the Dundee Royal Maternity Hospital, and on its completion the certificate of the Central Midwives Board. Miss Le Geyt tells us that she traces all the underlying desires, through the succeeding years, to get back to work among mothers and babies, and to the varied and very increasing possibilities offered in Public Health work to this experience.

Administrative work as Home Sister at St. Bartholomew's Hospital followed; then an opportunity to travel in the United States gave the interesting experience of working for a few months at the Hospital of the Good Samaritan, Los Angeles, and a most valued possession is a testimonial she holds from the Lady Superintendent of that hospital. A short visit to Japan included an afternoon spent at a most interesting hospital in Tokyo, modelled on European lines.

Six years as a member of the official staff of the London Association of Nurses brings us to the time of the pressure of service needed in the Great War, and work at the Military Hospital, Endell Street, followed.



MISS GLADYS LE GEYT, S.R.N.

In 1918 Miss Le Geyt was appointed Superintendent of the North Islington School for Mothers, which led to her present appointment as Superintendent of the Maternity and Child-Welfare Centre, and Superintendent Health Visitor under the Metropolitan Borough of Bethnal Green. In April, 1921, Miss Le Geyt was appointed by the Minister of Health to serve as a member of the Central Midwives Board, and acted in that capacity until March 31st of the present year.

Miss HONOR F. MacCORMAC, S.R.N.

Miss Honor MacCormac entered the training school of St. Bartholomew's Hospital in 1903 and obtained her certificate in 1906.

In 1908 she went to the Royal Chest Hospital, in the City Road, E.C., as Sister for five months, and at the end of that time was offered the post of Office Sister at St. Bartholomew's Hospital by Miss Isla Stewart, and so returned to her training school. She still held this position when Miss Stewart died, and was, therefore, intimately associated with her work for the last two years of her life. In 1910 Miss MacCormac was appointed Sister in Matthew Ward, a position she still holds.



MISS HONOR F. MacCORMAC, S.R.N.

Those who know St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and more especially those who have passed through its Nursing School, know how it holds its alumnae, and talking with Miss MacCormac, in her pleasant sitting-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)