

**THE SCOTTISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.**

The Annual Meeting of the Scottish Nurses' Association will be held at the Scottish Nurses' Club, 205, Bath Street, Glasgow, on Saturday, November 27th, at 2.30 p.m., when the President, Mrs. Strong, will give an address on "The British College of Nurses." Mrs. Strong is taking a very active part in the organisation of the College, attending the meetings at Headquarters, and taking an interest in all its developments.

We hear that many nurses in Scotland just now are making inquiry about the College, so it seems that Mrs. Strong's address will be specially opportune.

**AMERICAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION.**

The proceedings of the Twenty-fifth Convention of the American Nurses' Association held this year at Atlantic City, New Jersey, has now been published, and contains much of interest.

Specially interesting was the Report of the Joint Committee on Self-Analysis presented by Miss Clara D. Noyes, which stated that the existence of three national organisations in the United States all concerned with Nursing, has for some years occupied the attention of nurses and others. A large number of the ablest members of the profession have felt and continue to feel that one organisation of nurses—The American Nurses' Association—with special divisions, Educational (The National League of Nursing Education), Public Health Nursing (the National Organization for Public Health Nursing), would not only be logical, but quite feasible, and would result in strengthening professional relationships, and ultimately actual accomplishment in the several fields of nursing. On the other hand a large number of leading nurses take the opposite position.

Because of the continual discussion, Miss Eldredge, appreciating the importance of the question after assuming office as President of the American Nurses' Association, brought the question to an issue by appointing a Committee representative of the three Associations, for the purpose of studying the question.

As a result of the statements submitted by the Boards of Directors of these various organizations, the Joint Committee state that it is apparent to them that none of the three organisations believes that the time is ripe for federation, the National Organisation for Public Health Nursing, however, being the only one of the three which does not believe the principle of federation between the three sound at any time.

The Board of Directors of the National Organisation for Public Health Nursing stated that it believes this organisation should be separate and distinct for the following reasons:—

(a) Lay Membership and full participation in the formation of policies and conduct of the work is a vital necessity for the public health nursing body, but would defeat the purposes of a purely professional body.

(b) During the twelve years of existence the N.O.P.H.N. has established relationships, which are essential to the continuity of organised community health work with other public health organisations. With some of these a still closer relationship will probably be desirable. Such connections would, in the opinion of the Committee, be inappropriate and undesirable for a professional body. Such relationships are simplified by an independent existence which implies full control of policies and finances.

The Code of Ethics presented for the consideration of the American Nurses' Association with the Report on Ethical Standards by Miss Lillian Clayton, Chairman of the Committee, will repay careful consideration, and should assist other Nurses' Organisations in formulating such a Code.

Presiding at the Mental Hygiene Section, Miss Eldredge, President of the Association, said, "There is possibly no

section of the American Nurses' Association that is more important to us to-day. . . . In the old times when I was trained we considered that all a man's illnesses were from his neck down, and that anything the matter with his head, had little to do with illness."

Miss De Witt, Managing Editor of the *American Journal of Nursing*, in her report to the stockholders, said, "We put every cent of money we get into the *Journal*. When the end of the year comes, we have only enough to say that we have a little margin. We never make money on the *Journal*, but at present the *Journal* is costing us to manufacture and to mail, exclusive of all other expenses, nearly \$6,000 (£1,200) dollars a month. You see that is a tremendous sum, and we feel that we must cut down our pages somewhat."

Miss Eldredge presented an admirable report of the Helsingfors Meeting of the International Council of Nurses as a Delegate of the American Nurses' Association to that meeting. In the course of it she said it was unfortunate that an article in the *World's Health* has given the idea that the Nurses' Associations of Esthonia, Latvia, Korea, and Czecho-Slovakia which were asked to appoint Associate and National representatives have been kept entirely outside the International Council, and that nursing had been put back by this. Miss Noyes had an opportunity of meeting nurses later who proved conclusively that this statement is erroneous and misleading.

Miss Eldredge also said that contrary to the statement in the *World's Health*, the General Sessions, and Round Table Meetings of the Congress were wonderfully well attended, considering the fact that the majority of the nurses were paying their own expenses and had a strong desire to see Finland, and concluded by saying, "I cannot sufficiently express my appreciation to the (American Nurses') Association that I was enabled to represent them at Helsingfors. It was a most inspiring meeting. The women who have been names for so long have come to life, and are very real people. The problems of each of the countries which we visited are practically the same as the problems that we have in this country. Their hospitals are wonderful, their women are full of enthusiasm, and while there is much in which they do not reach our standards, there is much in which we do not reach theirs. I believe that to each one of us who attended this Conference was given a view of internationalism, and the brotherhood of the nations which will not only affect our lives in our organisation, but will affect us in our whole attitude toward the world and its problems."

**RETENTION FEES.**

The Registrar of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales has been notified that some nurses who forwarded the retention fee of 2s. 6d. on September 1st have not received receipts for the money sent.

It was found on investigation that letters containing these orders had not reached the office. In cases where the counterfoils had been retained by the senders it has been possible to take action with the Post Office authorities. Most of the postal orders were made payable to the General Nursing Council and were crossed, and it has been ascertained that so far none of them have been cashed.

Any nurse who may have forwarded her retention fee and has not yet received a receipt is requested to write without delay to the Registrar, General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 20, Portland Place, London, W.1, and to enclose counterfoil (with particulars inserted on it) of the postal order sent.

As several thousand nurses have not yet paid the retention fee, further reminders will be sent out early in November. Acknowledgments have been sent for all retention fees received up to date. Those who have not had receipts for fees sent will realise that the money has not been received.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)