

**Interim Conference at Geneva.**

The arrangements for the Interim Conference convened by the International Council of Nurses to meet in Geneva from July 27th-31st were then discussed and the President notified that two parties were being organised from this country: the official party organised by Miss A. Carson Rae, on behalf of the National Council of Nurses, leaving London on Saturday, July 23rd, by way of Dover and Calais, and a second party, organised on behalf of one of its affiliated Societies, the College of Nursing, Ltd., on Sunday, July 24th, by way of Southampton and Havre.

The President emphasised that the official and business meetings were those of the Board of Directors, which would be held on July 25th (commencing at 9.30 a.m.), July 26th, July 27th and July 30th. There was no meeting of the Grand Council, and therefore no Official Delegates from the National Councils. But various affiliated Associations were sending representatives. Thus Miss Florence Embry, Hon. Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, would represent that League, and the Royal Infirmary, Bradford Nurses' League, and Miss Milligan, the Scottish Matrons' Association.

**China Unable to Hold International Meeting in 1929.**

Information has just been received from Miss Reimann that she has been notified by the General Secretary of the Nurses' Association of China that in view of the peculiar and totally unexpected conditions with which hospital workers in China are now faced, the Executive Committee of the Nurses' Association of China regretfully informs the International Council of Nurses that China's Nurses cannot carry the International Council of Nurses' Congress in Peking in 1929.

Miss Reimann further stated that it was probable the Canadian Nurses would renew their invitation, given at Helsingfors, that the Congress of the International Council of Nurses should be held in Canada in 1929, in which case it was decided to support the proposal, but, in the event of its not materialising, it was decided to recommend to the Grand Council to invite the International Council to meet in London in that year.

The President took the feeling of the meeting on an item on the Agenda for the Meeting of the Board of Directors, "Consideration of Co-operation with various International Bodies."

Miss Musson inquired how co-operation was possible with the International Labour Office, and Miss Cox-Davies deprecated the I.C.N. identifying itself with any political party.

The President considered it desirable for the Council to maintain its absolute independence whilst enjoying friendly relations with other organisations.

Miss Breay pointed out that this policy was approved at the Meeting of the Executive Committee in Copenhagen in 1923.

At that meeting a statement was presented by the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, in which the following passage occurred:—

"The National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland is of opinion that no alteration in the policy of the International Council should be made which affects the *fundamental basis* upon which the Council was founded, namely, (1) that membership is restricted to trained nurses, grouped in National Councils, who alone have power to vote; and (2) that each National Council is autonomous. Beyond this it has always been the policy of the International Council to invite the freest co-operation with other bodies interested in nursing, though not exclusively composed of nurses, and at the International Congress held in Buffalo, Berlin, Paris, London, and Cologne, we have had present as fraternal delegates distinguished medical practitioners, and lay men and women, on the

invitation of the Council, who have added both to the profit and pleasure of these Conferences. The Council has, in short, extended every courtesy to fellow workers interested in the National Health, and the progress of nursing, and this custom the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland desires to see perpetuated; but it is most strongly of opinion that there should be no fusion with societies other than the self-governing duly accredited National Councils of Nurses. It further considers that it is entirely through the strength and prestige of professional organisation that our nurses reach the position, dignity, and influence which enables them to be useful in mixed organisations."

The Executive Committee of the International Council of Nurses endorsed the Statement of the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain, and this policy was thus confirmed.

**Conference Badge.**

It was resolved to adopt a Badge for members of affiliated Societies attending the Conference similar to that adopted for the Helsingfors Congress, the price to be 1s. The Badge to be a mauve ribbon—the words National Council of Great Britain printed in silver, to be obtained from Miss Breay, Hon. Treasurer, N.C.N. of 39, Portland Place, W.1.

**The National Council *per capita* Contribution to the International Council.**

The President notified that it had not been found practicable to organise a Bazaar during the month of May in support of the *per capita* contribution of the National Council to the International Council of Nurses, and it was resolved:—

"That the Nurses' Organisations constituting the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain be requested to pay half the *per capita* annual fees due to the International Council of Nurses in January, 1927, by July 1st next."

These would then be forwarded to the Treasurer of the International Council of Nurses so that she might include them in the Balance Sheet to be presented by her to the Board of Directors at their Geneva Meeting.

**Questionnaire in Public Health Work.**

The reply to the Questionnaire on Public Health Work and conditions of service, sent by request of Miss Mary Gardner, U.S.A., Chairman of the Public Health Section of the International Council of Nurses, drafted by the Public Health Standing Committee of the N.C.N., was placed on the table for inspection.

The Comments on the Constitution and By-laws of the International Council of Nurses sent by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain for consideration of the Board of Directors were re-affirmed.

In connection with a resolution also submitted, "That in the opinion of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain it is advisable that the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses should meet annually at Headquarters at Geneva, and at such other times and places as may be considered necessary," it was proposed by Miss Musson, and approved, that an amendment should be moved to insert after "Geneva" the words "except in the Congress Year," when the Board of Directors would naturally meet where and when the meeting of the Grand Council and Congress took place.

**Resolution.**

It was resolved "that a Banking Account for the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain be opened with the Midland Bank, Ltd., at their 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1 Branch, and that the Bank be, and is hereby empowered to honour cheques, Orders for Payment, Bills of Exchange

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