

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, represented the National Council of Nurses at the Josephine Butler Centenary Commemoration Service in Westminster Abbey, on April 24th, and also on the platform at the Great Public Meeting of Commemoration at the Central Hall, Westminster, on April 25th.

Meeting of Executive Committee.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain will be held in the Board Room of the Registered Nurses Association, at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on Tuesday, May 22nd, at 5 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. Members of the Committee are asked to notify the Hon. Secretary whether or not they will be able to attend.

Sub-Committee on Montreal Congress.

The Sub-Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain met in the Board Room of the Registered Nurses Association on April 12th, at 4.30 p.m.

The following Members were present: Mrs. Fenwick in the chair, Miss M. Breay, Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss R. Cox-Davies, Miss Ruth Darbyshire, Miss M. A. Gullan, Miss H. Lamb, and Miss Isabel Macdonald.

Miss H. L. Pearse, Miss Helen Dey, Miss C. H. McCara and Miss E. M. Musson were unavoidably prevented from attending.

AGENDA.

1. Correspondence.
2. To receive suggestions for the organisation of the official party of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain attending the International Nursing Congress at Montreal in July, 1929.
3. To receive recommendations to facilitate the conduct of business at the Sessions of the Congress (*vide* letter from Chairman of the Committee on Programme).
4. To suggest subjects which it is desirable to discuss on an International platform.
5. To suggest speakers to be invited from Great Britain to take part in the Congress.
6. Other business.

1. A letter was received from Miss Reimann, Secretary, International Council of Nurses, notifying the date of Congress in Montreal—from July 8th to 13th, 1929.

2. It was decided that boats recommended by Thos. Cook & Son should be inspected, and Miss Bushby and Miss Darbyshire kindly consented to undertake the inspection and report to the Sub-Committee.

3. Suggestions for Conduct of Business were adopted, and it was agreed to recommend, in accordance with past practice, that a "Watchword" should be included in the Programme of the first General Meeting at Montreal.

To facilitate the conduct of business it was agreed that at the Sessions of the Congress the programme should not be overloaded, and that there should be greater opportunity of discussion from the floor. Many other suggestions were adopted.

4. Subjects desirable to discuss on an International platform were agreed under the headings of (a) Education; (b) Public Health; (c) Private Nursing; (d) Mental Nursing; and several other topics were put forward for discussion.

It was agreed to forward a Memorandum embodying the suggestions to Miss Jean Gunn, Toronto, Chairman of Committee on Programme, in reply to her letter, to Miss Nina Gage, New York, President, and to Miss Reimann, General Secretary, International Council of Nurses.

It was agreed that should the suggestions be approved by the Committee on Programme, the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain would have pleasure in sub-

mitting names of speakers, conversant with the various subjects, if desired.

It was agreed to await a reply to the Memorandum before fixing a date for the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

Notice.

Miss H. L. Pearse, Hon. Secretary of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, will be obliged if members of affiliated Associations, or other trained nurses who are hoping to attend the Congress of the International Council of Nurses at Montreal next year, will notify her of their intention, even if they cannot yet arrive at a definite decision, so that some idea may be formed of the number likely to attend. Letters should be addressed to her at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

A meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland will be held by kind permission of the Matron, Miss Stewart Bryson, and the Board of Management at the Northern Hospital, Winchmore Hill, N.21. on Saturday June 2nd, at 3 p.m. Members are asked to inform Miss Stewart Bryson of their intention to be present. 'Bus No. 529 from Tottenham Court Road is the most direct route.

THE IRISH NURSES' UNION.

The Annual Meeting of the Irish Nurses' Union took place this year on Tuesday, May 1st, in the Nurses' Hostel, 34, Stephen's Green, when the annual report was considered and officers and committees elected for the coming year. The Agenda included Resolutions dealing with conditions of service in county hospitals, hours of work in Dublin Union Hospital, the Local Appointments Commission, travelling allowances for District midwives, remission of motor taxes where private cars are used for dispensary work, midwives' salaries, and the future activities of the Union. Only delegates had power to vote and take part in the business, though other members attended.

Miss Healy, Superintendent of Dublin Child City Welfare Nurses, has been appointed a delegate of the I.N.U. on the National Council of Trained Nurses of the Irish Free State in place of Miss Holohan, resigned.

"DAWN."

Nurses could wish for no finer presentation of Edith Cavell in "Dawn" than that of Miss Sybil Thorndike in the Herbert Wilcox production presented in London, first at the Palladium, and then at the Marble Arch Pavilion. She has studied the part sympathetically, and acted it with the skill to be expected of so eminent a member of her profession.

The story of the heroism of Edith Cavell needs here no repetition, it has blazed around the world. We recognize the fortitude and serenity of her last hours of life, the high courage with which at dawn she faced the rifles of the firing party detailed to carry the sentence into effect.

But the film emphasises also other aspects of her character, and especially the constant strain and anxiety of her life during the months when, responding to the appeal of men in sore peril she first hid them and then organised plans of escape by which she saved their lives, well knowing that she risked her own life thereby.

Excellent is the acting of Miss Mary Brough as Madame Pitou, the courageous woman who carried refugees to freedom in her barge, and Madame Ada Bodart who led them from the Rue de la Culture to the trams.

The relieving point of the last scene is the refusal of one of the firing party to take part in the execution. Quickly he met his fate, and no doubt his reward. "To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise."

It is a fine film which should be seen by everyone.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)