

## NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

### INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

After some communications between Headquarters and the Canadian Nurses' Association, the Hostess Association to the International Council of Nurses at Montreal, in 1929, it is probable that the date of the Nursing Congress will be arranged for the second week in July, from the 8th to the 13th inst.

The uncertainty has arisen owing to the attempt to make our Quadrennial Meeting contingent upon the International Hospital Congress to be held in June, in the United States.

In the opinion of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain this was quite unnecessary, as very few Nurses, if any, from Europe could spare time and money to attend both meetings, and it would be well in future to fix our important International Council Meeting and Congress irrespective of other fixtures. Our Quadrennial is of so important a nature in the Nursing World, that it cannot be made dependent upon the convenience of other persons and professions. Arrangements have hitherto been made at a time mutually convenient to Hostess Nurses and their guests, and we hope that this principle will be adhered to in the future.

The *I.C.N.*, the official organ of the International Council of Nurses, carries to its members the following message from Baroness Sophie Mannerheim, which is particularly pathetic, inasmuch as she believed it to be a message of convalescence, whereas it is one from her death-bed :—

Do you believe in dreams? I had one last night, such a beautiful dream. There were roses all round me, heaps and heaps of lovely roses, fresh, dewy, of every description and colour, filling the air with their sweet scent and my heart with joy at their loveliness.

Now, if ever a human being has been spoiled by flowers, I have been, and it has made me feel very small indeed to think of the little I have been able to give compared to the loving kindness poured out on me during the whole of this long sickness, which has now lasted more than a year and is only slowly changing into convalescence.

So, when I stood surrounded by those dream roses of mine, I thought that now, at last, I also had something to give. They will go out to you all, sisters of our beloved calling, bringing you fresh courage and new hope and helping you over your difficult moments. With them in your hands you will enter the chambers of sickness and death and bring solace and peace.

For they were certainly given me that I might scatter their loveliness among you all, so that every one should receive her share.

Take them, sisters, and God bless you and the work of your minds and hands. They bring with them good wishes for the coming year from one who has never before known as she knows now what a blessing good nursing can be to those who are in sore need of help.

SOPHIE MANNERHEIM.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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.

### INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The first quarterly meeting of the above Association was held by kind invitation of Miss Orchardson at the Monsall Hospital, Manchester, on Wednesday, March 14th. Miss Villiers, the President, was in the chair. One item on the Agenda, relating to the "unrecognised" training school accepting candidates for two or three years' training was freely discussed, but the members felt that although fully sympathetic and recognising the difficulty in staffing the smaller schools, the only way in which the matter could be dealt with, was by advising all small hospitals to apply for and adopt a scheme of affiliation.

After the business meeting, the members adjourned to the nurses' recreation room, where a most delightful tea was served. After tea, Dr. Sutherland, the medical superintendent, escorted a party round the wards, pointing out the special items of interest.

The operating theatre on the puerperal block was very up-to-date, and the babies were a very great attraction.

The wards looked particularly bright with spring flowers.

The members feel they are greatly indebted to Miss Orchardson and her assistants for their untiring efforts, and in extending such a hearty welcome, and also to the Hospital Committee for their hospitality.

### THE ROYAL WATERLOO HOSPITAL NURSES' LEAGUE.

The enterprise of the Royal Waterloo Hospital Nurses' League (which is affiliated to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain) in bringing out an official organ, admirably edited and published, is much to be commended.

The *League News* for March contains much interesting information, and its Editorial shows that the members keep in touch with the wider issues of professional affairs as well as with the more intimate ones of the hospital and League.

We note the following comment on the recent election of members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales. "It is interesting to note that while many members were re-elected, the balance of the Council is improved by the election of a fair number of new members, though we should like to see a more equal representation from the Provinces. One feels it is regrettable that so comparatively few trained Nurses should have taken advantage of the opportunity of voting for their own representatives on the General Nursing Council."

The Board of Governors have decided to award a prize to the Nurse who passes first in the Final Hospital Examination, provided she obtains over 75 per cent. of marks, and the first of these prizes was awarded to Miss D. M. Williams, who gained the certificate of the Hospital in July last. Miss Williams has now been appointed Out-patient Sister in succession to Miss Willoughby who, after holding that position for three years, has now been appointed Sister of the Wards for Paying Patients.

Enterprise is also shown by members of the League in the way in which these are taking up work overseas. Miss S. H. Andrews at the Government and Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Miss M. V. Jones at the British Hospital, Port Said, Miss Grabham with the Anglo-Persian Oil Co., Persian Gulf, and Miss B. Ward has accepted a post in Marseilles.

It is wonderful also how keen Nurses are to help their Training Schools, and the Nursing Staff at the Royal Waterloo Hospital, have collected the following sums of money for this purpose since June last :—

For the Building Fund, by Sale of Pencils	£28	15	9½
Jumble Sale for the General Fund	26	5	0
Pound Day for the General Fund	47	17	10
An American Tea for the Building Fund	12	19	6

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