

NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The interest in the Congress convened by the International Council of Nurses in Montreal is daily increasing, and those nurses in this country who hope to attend it should not delay to book their passages and to notify the Committee of Arrangements in Canada, of which Miss M. F. Hersey (President of the Canadian Nurses' Association and Lady Superintendent of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal), is Chairman.

It is particularly desired by the Committee of Arrangements that each visitor will send them the following information by letter at an early date, and in any case before May 1st: (1) Her name, position, and address; (2) type of room desired (maximum price, whether single or otherwise), prices vary, from one dollar (4s. 2d.) to three dollars a day, exclusive of food; (3) proposed date of arrival and length of stay in Montreal.

The arrangements for the voyage are in the hands of Mr. Harper (Ocean Travel Department), Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, Berkeley Street, Piccadilly, London, W. (see page 54).

The main body of Congress members from this country will travel by the s.s. *Alaunia* (Cunard Line) which leaves Southampton on June 28th.

The International Officers, and the Official Delegates of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, will have to leave a week earlier in order to be present at the meetings of the Board of Directors, commencing on July 3rd, and the Official Delegates at the meetings of the Grand Council, commencing on July 5th.

These are travelling by the s.s. *Ascania*, leaving Southampton on June 21st.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN TRAINED NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Most of our readers are aware that Cape Colony was the first country in the world to have State Registration of Nurses, but this was carried out, not under a Nurses Act but under the Medical and Pharmacy Act, 1891, Cape of Good Hope, and the Registered Nurses have never had any representative on the General Medical Council in South Africa which administers the Act.

Last year a Medical Act was passed in South Africa incorporating four Medical Councils, and giving two seats on the Union Medical Council to representatives of the nursing and allied professions. Mrs. Bennie, President of the South African Trained Nurses Association (which is one of the constituent Associations of the International Council of Nurses), and Miss B. G. Alexander, R.R.C., its Hon. General Secretary, were elected to these seats, and we sent the following cable to the *South African Nursing Record*, the official organ of the S.A.T.N.A.

Congratulations.

Heartiest congratulations to all who have successfully worked to secure compulsory registration of nurses and representation of the nursing profession on their governing body, the General Medical Council, South Africa.

ETHEL GORDON FENWICK,

Founder, International Council of Nurses.

London,
22nd November, 1928.

As we go to press we have received the following letter from Dr. Tremble, the Editor of the *South African Nursing Record*.

Dear Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,

I am writing to thank you very much for your cable of congratulation to the Nurses of South Africa on their attaining representation on the General Medical Council. The cable was

published in my December issue, as you no doubt have noticed, and has been very much appreciated by our readers.

I was very sorry to see in the *B.J.N.* that you had been ill, and I sincerely hope that by this time your health is fully restored. I can assure you that even amongst the younger generation of nurses in this country, your services to the nursing profession, not only in Great Britain, but of the whole British Empire, are fully realised and that your interest in our local affairs is very much appreciated.

Wishing you all the best of health and fortune for the New Year.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. TREMBLE.

East London,
South Africa.

7th January, 1929.

We thank Dr. Tremble for his letter, and hope to offer our personal congratulations to Mrs. Bennie and Miss Alexander when we meet in Montreal in July.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

THE MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.

The Queen had a great reception when she visited the Middlesex Hospital, Berners Street, W., to lay the foundation stone of the new Nurses' Home in Foley Street, from the crowds which gathered on the pavement, and again in the pavilion erected for the ceremony, when Prince Arthur of Connaught, Chairman of the Hospital, led the assembled guests, and members of the Nursing Staff in giving three rousing cheers for Her Majesty. These were renewed when it was known that Her Majesty brought a message from the King that he was very pleased that the Queen was laying the foundation stone of the new Nurses' Home, and that his illness had brought him to appreciate more deeply than ever before the value of medical science, and of devoted nursing.

To the right of the Queen on the platform was Princess Arthur of Connaught, S.R.N., and Prince Arthur, as Chairman, in the course of his address of welcome, said: "We are fully conscious of the high honour which your Majesty's presence brings us, we humbly thank you for it, and our thankfulness is all the greater because we sincerely trust we may accept it as a sign of better hopes for the complete recovery of His Majesty the King, our Patron, for which we are in common with all His Majesty's loyal subjects so constantly and earnestly pray."

He alluded to the great work done by Her Majesty's two brothers as his predecessors as chairmen of the hospital, and referred with gratitude to the munificent anonymous gift of £200,000 towards the cost of the scheme for the Nurses' Home which had made its erection possible.

After a short service of dedication, conducted by the Bishop of Willesden, the Queen first placed in a receptacle in the stone, a glass vessel holding a sealed envelope containing the benefactor's name, a copy of the board's resolution recording their appreciation and gratitude for the gift, and a copy of the programme of the ceremony, and then after tapping and levelling the stone the Queen, in a clear voice, declared that it had been "well and truly laid."

After the ceremony the Queen accepted from the architect, Mr. W. Hall, a porcelain miniature of a Middlesex Hospital Sister in which she showed considerable interest, and from Prince Arthur of Connaught, on behalf of the anonymous donor, a barber surgeon's silver bowl dating back to the year 1698.

Her Majesty subsequently visited the wards, and spoke to many of the patients, and on leaving the hospital she received another rousing ovation from the members of the staff, the nurses and the students.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)