

gone through many trials, the last when it was bombed by the Germans in the late war. Near the Cathedral is a house said to have been the house where William the Conqueror was born—we were unable to obtain admission, sad to relate. Eglise Saint Machou and several other churches were visited. The old cloisters of Saint Machou are tucked away behind a dirty row of houses. They were built in 1500, and are said to be the last specimens of a mediæval charnel house. The centre was an old burial ground, the cloisters are built of wood and stone, the wooden frieze is decorated with skulls and crossbones, and the carving represents the Dance of Death. This place is very dilapidated and was being repaired. The Palace of Justice, Statue of Napoleon I, then to the station. So ended a very enjoyable day. We left Rouen bathed in the glory of a beautiful sunset, and the very earnest wish to visit it again at some time or another.

A. M. B., F.B.C.N.

The Assembly of the League of Nations.

During the Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva last month a dinner was given on September 10th to the Women Delegates to the Assembly under the auspices of the Joint Standing Committee of Women's International Organisations, at the International Club, 4, rue de Monthoux, when Dr. Winifred Cullis took the chair. Dame Edith Lyttleton was the only British Delegate this year.

Miss Jessie Holmes, F.B.C.N., and a member of various associations affiliated with the National Council of Great Britain, and through it with the International Council of Nurses, was present at the dinner, and has had other interesting experiences. She writes: "It has been very interesting going into the Assembly every day, then sending in a request to the Delegate of the country I wanted to see, and putting the claims of Nationality before him. Also in relation to my new work in the 'Scrubs' Prison I have met Mrs. Bigland, whose interest in Prison Reform is well known, members of the Howard League, a Professor of Psychiatry from Baltimore, who is present at every difficult case to be tried from the Baltimore Prison, a French lady—now a permanent invalid—who introduced concerts, and some form of entertainment into prisons, and other notable people."

The Report of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality.

The Report of the Women's Consultative Committee on Nationality, composed of representatives of Women's International Organisations, created by the January, 1931, Council of the League of Nations, and officially sent to the Secretary-General on July 16th for transmission to the Assembly of the League, was presented at the September meeting of the Assembly.

The Committee declared itself opposed to The Hague Nationality Convention inasmuch as it differentiates between men and women as regards nationality, and expresses the opinion that "the inclusion in The Hague Convention of articles giving an inferior position to women is a matter of the utmost gravity because of the psychological effect of the adoption of such a Convention upon the status of women all over the world. Women," the Committee state, "deeply resent the writing into an international agreement of articles founded upon the theory of the subjection of women. To recognise in practice this old idea is a refusal to treat a woman as a citizen in her own person. It is to deny her the status of an adult. Furthermore, it gives recognition to a system which has serious practical as well as spiritual consequences; a system which may deprive her at home and abroad of the protection of her own Government; may subject her even in her native land to the restrictions placed on aliens;

may deprive her of the benefits of state insurance and other state assistance; may make it impossible for her to hold public office, to exercise her profession, to obtain paid employment, to own and inherit property, and may place her under other disabilities.

"A code of international law should express the highest ideals. For this reason the Convention on Nationality should stand unequivocally for equality between men and women. The fact that some countries are not yet ready to accept such a Convention is not a reason for compromise with regard to the principle of equality. Any country not ready to accept the Convention in full with regard to this point could make reservations until a time when its legislation could be brought into harmony with the Convention."

The Committee state further that "since 1905 when women began to work internationally upon this subject, one body of women after another has joined in the movement, until to-day practically all of the international organisations of women, with branches in nearly every country and representing many millions of women, are united in the demand for recognition of the right of a woman to her own independent nationality. The Hague Convention has failed entirely to take into account this new position of women. It has failed also to take into account the strength of the demand on the part of women for equality in any international convention adopted upon this subject."

The Chairman of the Committee which drew up this document is Maitre Maria Véroné.

COMING EVENTS.

October 10th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Lecture on "London Bridge," by Major Rigg, O.B.E., F.S.A. 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. 3 p.m.

October 10th.—British College of Nurses. Class on Administration. Visit to Charing Cross Hospital, London, W.C. 2.30 p.m.

October 13th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Ramble. Charabanc leaves 194, Queen's Gate, S.W., at 11 a.m.

October 14th.—British College of Nurses. Class on Administration. Visit to the Brook Hospital, Shooters' Hill, S.E. 2.30 p.m.

October 14th.—Infectious Hospitals Matrons' Association. Autumn Meeting. The Royal British Nurses Association, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W. "A Cow and Gate" film will be shown. 2.30 p.m.

October 17th.—League of Sister Tutors. Annual Meeting. College Farm, Finchley, by kind permission of the Express Dairy Company. 2.30 p.m.

October 20th.—Royal British Nurses' Association. Miss Isabel Macdonald At Home to Members and Friends. 4-6 p.m.

October 20th.—British College of Nurses. Meeting of the Tutorial Group. Topic for discussion: "Nursing Procedures in Nervous Diseases." 39, Portland Place, London, W. 8 p.m.

October 22nd.—National Council of Nurses of Great Britain. Meeting of Executive Committee. 39, Portland Place, London, W. Tea 4 p.m. Meeting 4.15 p.m.

October 23rd.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Monthly Meeting. 20, Portland Place, London, W. 2.30 p.m.

October 24th.—British College of Nurses. Council Meeting. 39, Portland Place, London, W. 2.15 p.m.

October 30th.—British College of Nurses. Opening of Winter Session. Address on "A Hellenic Cruise and a visit to the Temple of Æsculapius at Epidaurus" by Miss Gladys Le Geyt, F.B.C.N. Punctually at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 to 6.30 p.m.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)