

PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

Those of us who are members of Nurses' Organisations should carefully study their Constitutions. In reference to the International Council of Nurses, the following Notes may be studied with advantage.

CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES OF THE I.C.N.

The Board of Directors. Composed of the Hon. Presidents, the Five Officers of the Council, and the Presidents of the affiliated National Associations. It acts as an Executive Committee, and if unable to attend meetings, a President may nominate a substitute.

The Board of Directors may appoint Associate National Representatives in countries where a National Association has not been organised.

The Grand Council. Composed of the Foundation Councillors, the Five Officers, the Presidents of affiliated National Associations, and the Four Official Delegates, elected by such National Associations.

The Congress. Composed of the members of the Grand Council, and all Members of affiliated National Associations, approved and certified by them. All Members have a right to take part in debate and vote at meetings of the Congress.

Special Guests. A limited number of Special Guests may be invited by the Programme Committee to take part in the proceedings of Congress as Speakers, and usually include representatives of the Government of the country in which the Congress takes place. These Guests usually attend the Opening Session and give Addresses of Welcome. A limited number of eminent Scientists and Physicians and Surgeons are usually invited to address the Congress and attend social functions.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Miss Villiers, Hon. Secretary, will be pleased to receive notifications from Members desirous of attending the I.C.N. Congress, Paris-Brussels, July 10th to 15th, after March 1st, addressed to her at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, so that the official Certificate may be filled in authorising Thos. Cook and Son to make arrangements for travel and hotels at reduced rates, according to the printed schedule. Every Member can then make her own arrangements.

THE PURPLE RIBBON.

The Purple Ribbon inscribed in silver, "National Council of Nurses of Great Britain," will be issued at cost price to all Members who take tickets for the Congress. These Ribbons have proved their value as personal introductions during the Congress, and should make a brave show in Paris-Brussels.

Such Ribbons of different colours printed with the name of the country and organisation to which Members of Congress belong would add greatly to the amenities of the Meeting.

If the Badges of the affiliated organisations are worn it would add to recognition.

THE CONGRESS PROGRAMME.

Please File for Reference.

The Programme of the Congress in almost final form, which is published in this issue, should be carefully filed for reference.

WHAT TO READ.

- "Quatrain," by Eileen Tremayne (not to be missed).
- "Queen Victoria," by Lord Ponsonby.
- "Waiting for a Ship," by Marcus Lanesen.
- "Gordon," by H. E. Wortham.

THE HOSPITAL WORLD.

The Prince of Wales, as President of King Edward's Hospital Fund for London, has appointed a Committee to take action on the report in regard to the administration of the out-patients' departments of the London Hospitals, and the action of His Royal Highness has been warmly received. The long time of waiting by patients in the crowded out-patient departments of most hospitals is a question which needs serious attention, and anything which can be done to lessen this will be greatly appreciated alike by doctors, nurses and patients.

Colonel Augustus Browne, late R.A., of the United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W., who died on December 10th, at Hove, Sussex, leaving £59,938, left nearly £50,000 to hospitals and charities.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.**Collection of Records of Results of Serum Treatment.**

As the usual period of the highest incidence of Cerebro-Spinal fever is again approaching, the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health considers that "it is obviously desirable to secure the closest and most accurate observation on the efficiency and potency of all the serums thus in use. Seeing that by far the most valuable test of the efficiency and potency of these serums is clinical and that it rarely happens that any one hospital has sufficient cases for useful differential study, the Department is now endeavouring by means of individual case inquiry to collect and examine all evidence available regarding the results of serum treatment, both as to the methods of administration and as to the nature of the serum used. The co-operation of Medical Officers of Health, hospital medical officers and medical practitioners in this matter is obviously essential and is cordially invited. Forms for the purpose will be sent on application to the Senior Medical Officer, Med.I., Ministry of Health. As, however, the data required (see Appendix II) are few, any communication which contains them will be equally useful for the purpose.

RESEARCH INTO MENTAL PROBLEMS AND DISORDERS. GIFT OF £10,000.

Through the medium of the Council of the British Medical Association, Mrs. R. G. Burden, of Clevedon Hall, Clevedon, Somerset, Warden of the National Institutions for Persons requiring Care and Control, has announced her desire of making available for the encouragement and prosecution of research into mental problems and disorders the sum of £10,000.

It is the donor's desire, says *The Times*, that the present Director of Medical Services at Stoke Park Colony, Stapleton, Bristol (Professor R. J. A. Berry), shall be in a position of responsibility with regard to the research work to be undertaken. In view, however, of the national importance of such research, active steps are being taken to form a committee of management and direction so fully representative of the public interests concerned as to ensure that so generous a gift to the nation shall worthily serve the purpose for which it is intended—and advancement of medical knowledge and the relief of mental disorder and suffering.

Sterilisation of the Mentally Defective will be discussed at a Sessional Meeting arranged by the Royal Sanitary Institute, in the Town Hall, Warrington, on Friday, February 24th. Dr. J. Gifford, Deputy Medical Superintendent of the Winwick Mental Hospital, will open the discussion.

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