

THE INTERNATIONAL IN BELGIUM.

The days from July 13th to 15th, to be spent in Brussels by the International Council of Nurses, is being anticipated with pleasure. It will be a whirling time, and it is hoped we may catch a glimpse of the Royal ladies whose names and work are so well known. Queen Elisabeth is an example for all time of queenly courage and patriotism, and the lovely Crown Princess Astrid is active in all good works for the health and happiness of the people. Just now she is making a tour with her husband, the Duke of Brabant, of the Congo in South Africa, where she is proving her sincere interest in the native women and their jolly little babes. Princess Astrid is the mother of two beautiful babies of her own.

THE EDITH CAVELL-MARIE DEPAGE SCHOOL OF NURSING, BRUSSELS.

HISTORY.

On March 6th, 1907, Dr. Depage, in collaboration with

present buildings was decided upon (1914-1915), *i.e.*, a school of nursing attached to a hospital, the benefits from which were to help to maintain the school.

After the tragic death of Miss Cavell, the direction of the School was confided to Mlle. Jeanne De Meyer, who since taking over her post has undertaken the following activities, beginning in the years indicated below:—

1917—Training of district nurses, school nurses, etc.

1919—A home for children.

A surgical department.

1921—A medical department.

1925—A preliminary school of nursing.

1927—A maternity department.

The institution contains at present a total of 110 beds.

COURSE OF TRAINING.

- (a) A three months' preliminary course.
- (b) Courses for hospital and public nurses, following the State curricula.
- (c) Special department for midwives.
- (d) Special department for infant nurses.

Director, Mlle. Jeanne De Meyer.

First Nurse Instructor, Mlle. B. Ladisan.

Second Nurse Instructor, Mlle. A. David.

Instructor of Preliminary Course Mlle. M. Bihet.

Assistant Instructor of Preliminary Course, Mlle. S. Dupuis.

Fourteen trained nurses:

Head nurses of wards.

The school accommodates 100 students.

THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING, BRUSSELS.

This School was founded in 1919 by the Association of Public Health Nurses of Belgium. On October 1st, 1932, it was taken over by the Poor Law Relief Board of Brussels.

Formerly the School had a three-year course of study, two years of which were devoted to

the general course of training, and the third to specialisation in public health nursing. During its thirteen years of existence it has graduated 183 students, and is at present only giving a course of specialisation.

The School is situated at 33, rue Caroly, where it will remain until the completion of St. Peter's Hospital. (Hôpital St. Pierre).

The course of instruction lasts for one year. The candidates admitted must be in possession of the State diploma of a hospital nurse, or have completed a two years' course of training in a recognised school of nursing.

The curriculum includes, in addition to those subjects mentioned in the Royal Decree of September 3rd, 1921, the following: Industrial Hygiene, Mental Hygiene, Prison Anthropology, Elements of Civil and Administration Legislation, Organisation of Poor Relief, Social Case Work, History of Nursing. Students must submit written and oral reports, attend class-work, conferences and practical



Princess Astrid, Duchess of Brabant, chatting with Native Women, with the aid of a Nun interpreter, at the Congo Mothers' Welfare Centre, Leopoldville.

some leading Society women, organised a school of nursing on the principles of Florence Nightingale, with the following three aims:—

- (1) Training of skilled nurses.
- (2) Opening up of new careers for well-educated girls.
- (3) Raising the ethical standards of a profession at that time so little known in Belgium.

It was decided by the Training School Committee to appoint: a teaching staff (composed of doctors), a ladies' committee for the purpose of recruiting students and a Director of the School (an experienced English nurse—Miss Edith Cavell), and to hire four buildings in the rue de la Culture. The clinic thus founded was called the Medico-Surgical Institute of Berkendael.

After the first rather difficult beginnings in recruiting students and overcoming the hostility and general distrust, the situation began to mend; accommodation in the Institute became insufficient and the construction of the

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