

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

REPORT FROM HEADQUARTERS I.C.N.

Appointment of Executive Secretary.

The Special Committee to consider the Reorganisation of Headquarters (Chairman—Miss Clara D. Noyes) has appointed Princess Anna Schwarzenberg, formerly Superintendent of Nurses of the University Children's Hospital, Graz, Austria, as Executive Secretary of the Headquarters of the I.C.N. for a period of two years. The new Executive Secretary will take up her duties on the 22nd of May.

Change of Address of Headquarters.

In accordance with a decision taken by the City of Geneva the Quai des Eaux-Vives, where our Headquarters has been situated since 1927, has changed its name to Quai Gustave Ador. Please therefore in future address letters to our Headquarters, 14, *Quai Gustave Ador*, and not 14 Quai des Eaux-Vives.

Meeting of the International Council of Women.

A Meeting of the International Council of Women will be held in the International Institute for Intellectual Co-operation, Paris, from July 2nd to 12th of this year. The International Council of Nurses has been invited to send a Fraternal Delegate, and Miss Lloyd Still, our President, has arranged that our Executive Secretary shall represent the I.C.N. on this occasion.

A number of Public Evening Meetings will be held in connection with the Council Sessions of the I.C.W., that on Monday, July 9th, to be especially concerned with "The Right of Women to Work."

Our President feels that as many Members of the Board as possible should have an opportunity of giving their opinion on this important question, before the I.C.N. signifies whether it is willing or not to join in the Demonstration and support the Resolution; we have therefore asked the I.C.W. if the latest date for notifying them of our attitude, given as June 1st, could be extended to June 30th, which would enable at least three-fourths of the Members of our Board to give their opinion.

Fifteenth Conference of the International Red Cross.

As already mentioned in my circular letter of February 5th, this Conference will be held in Tokyo from October 20th-29th of this year. The I.C.N. has been asked to send delegates in an advisory capacity to the Conference. Our President has appointed the following three Members of our Board for this purpose: Miss Clara D. Noyes, U.S.A.; Mrs. Victoria Pon Yen, China; Miss Take Hagiwara, Japan.

The Report of our Education Committee, which will probably be ready in print in the English, French and German languages in July, will form one of the main bases of discussion in regard to nursing questions.

International Congress in Citizenship.

The Women's Centenary Council and the National Council of Women of Victoria, Australia, are arranging an International Congress on Citizenship, from November 19th to 26th of this year at the Old Parliament House, Melbourne, on the occasion of their centenary. Our President has appointed Mrs. Kidd, President of the New Zealand Trained Nurses' Association, or her proxy, to represent the I.C.N. at the Congress.

Second Post-Graduate Course of the International Hospital Association.

This Course will be held in Switzerland from August 15th to 23rd of this year, the participants attending lectures and demonstrations successively in Basle, Zurich, Lucerne, Berne and Leysin. Our Executive Secretary has been

appointed as the representative of the I.C.N., to give a lecture on "The Personality of the Nurse" on August 19th in Basle.

Association Badges.

In response to the request made by Headquarters in the circular letter of December 18th, 1933, we have received with thanks badges for display in our library from our member organisations in the following countries: China, Denmark, Finland, France, Holland, Iceland, India, Irish Free State (the State badge), and Sweden; we have, in addition, received the badge of the Latvian Nurses' Association. Three member organisations have informed us that they have no association badges. We should be glad to hear from the remainder of the countries which have not yet replied, in order that we may have as complete information as possible on this question.

Convention Concerning Night Work for Women.

We have received answers to the question put in the circular letter of December 18th from the greater number of our member organisations, and representative of most of the countries especially interested in this question, viz., Canada, Great Britain, Holland and the U.S.A. All replies, with one exception—that of France, were in the affirmative, i.e., that the I.C.N. should sign the Memorandum. As the vote was almost unanimous the Memorandum was signed by our President and Secretary.

Since writing you on this subject in our letter of December 18th we have been asked by the women's organisations to request our member organisations:

(1) to use their influence with their respective Governments to have "at least one of the Advisors accompanying each national Delegation (to the International Labour Conference) to be a professional woman of high standing, thoroughly competent to deal with this question. This is particularly important in the case of the Workers' Delegation, as this proposed revision concerns the intellectual woman working as an 'employee.' According to Article 389 (3) of the Treaty of Versailles these non-Governmental Delegates and Advisors are appointed by the Governments in agreement with the most representative professional organisations in each country. It is essential, therefore, to interview the Delegate in each country who has been appointed to represent the workers, and secure his consent to the appointment of a competent woman as Advisor to his Delegation on this particular question."

(2) "to interview in each country the various members of the Delegations to this coming Conference, namely, Government, employers' and workers' delegates, and to secure their official support for this revision when the matter is brought up at the Conference."

The Conference has been postponed and will take place in June instead of the middle of May, as originally planned.

It might be of interest to you to know that the "Memorandum" presented to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office was signed by the following organisations:—

PROFESSIONAL.

International Council of Nurses; International Federation of Business and Professional Women; International Federation of University Women; International Federation of Women Magistrates, Barristers, and Members of other Branches of the Legal Profession; Medical Women's International Association.

NON-PROFESSIONAL.

Equal Rights International (with reservation); International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship; International Co-operative Women's Guild; International Council of Women; World's Young Women's Christian Association.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)