

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Miss Clara D. Noyes, R.N., First Vice-President, was invited by the President of the International Council of Nurses to represent it at the third Pan-American Red Cross Conference, held at Rio de Janeiro from September 15th to 26th. Miss Noyes, as Director of the Nursing Service, American Red Cross, the staff of which Service is composed of fully qualified nurses, was attending the Conference as a Delegate from U.S.A., and as the programme included nursing matters for discussion of great importance to the Nursing Profession, such as the "Guiding Principles for the creation and improvement of Schools of Nursing," "Technical Collaboration of the Secretariat of the League of Red Cross Societies in this field, etc.," it was very necessary that the Educational Standards embodied in "The Educational Programme of the School of Nursing," recently approved by the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses, should have an exponent at the Pan-American Red Cross Conference.

The clerical staff at Headquarters at Geneva is usually six.

An Executive Secretary, Miss Schwarzenberg, who is a trained nurse. She is assisted by two secretaries with dual training, nursing and secretarial, English and French, an expert stenographer who is a linguist, with two additional clerical workers. No doubt the whole staff will be working to capacity when the organisation of the meeting of the Grand Council and the Congress, to be held in London in 1937, is under way. Already the Member Associations, of which there are twenty-nine, and ten or more countries with national representatives are being approached and invited to express their wishes as to the subjects they desire discussed. Later they will be invited to name speakers.

One week in four years in which the nurses of the world meet to discuss their needs, progress and aspirations always results in an over-crowded programme. Let us hope the Programme Committee for 1937 will aim to present fewer Papers, and provide time for more discussion from the floor.

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

MENTAL HOSPITAL MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Mental Hospital Matrons' Association was held at the Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W., on Saturday, September 7th. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and signed and the usual business transacted. There was an interesting discussion on the Matron's duties regarding the engagement and education of Nurses.

The following nominations were sent to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain:—

President: Mrs. Bedford Fenwick; Vice-President: Miss I. Macdonald; Director: Miss I. R. Taylor.

The Hon. Secretary read a list (attached herewith) of the members who had been the proud recipients of the King's Silver Jubilee Medal.

It was arranged to hold the next meeting on Friday, December 13th, in London.

I. R. TAYLOR,
Hon. Secretary.

Recipients of the King's Silver Jubilee Medal.

Miss E. E. Gardner, M.B.E., Durham County Mental Hospital.

Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone.

Miss S. A. Shorrock, R.R.C., East Sussex County Mental Hospital.

Miss E. Kilpack, Crauford House, Maidenhead.
Miss A. I. Charters, Dorset County Mental Hospital.
Miss M. Hunter, Powick Mental Hospital.
Miss H. Pearson, A.R.R.C., Hollymoor Mental Hospital.
Miss H. Lamb, Claybury Mental Hospital.
Miss I. W. Ptolmey, D.N., West Ham Mental Hospital.
Miss M. Scott Seymour, City Mental Hospital, Humberstone.
Miss E. M. Cuthbert, Severalls Mental Hospital.
Miss V. G. Smith, West Riding Mental Hospital, Menston.
Miss J. Cumming, Springfield Mental Hospital.
Miss I. R. Taylor, Kent County Mental Hospital, Chartham.

THE ROYAL INFIRMARY OF EDINBURGH NURSES' LEAGUE.

The Scottish Matrons are well organised, but the Nurses have taken a considerable time to follow the excellent example of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, in forming their Leagues.

It is good news, therefore, that the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary decided this summer to form a Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh Nurses' League. The following office bearers were elected:—

Miss Bladen, R.R.C., President; Miss E. D. Smaill, R.R.C., and Miss M. Millar, Vice-Presidents; Miss J. M. Murry, Miss Marshall and Miss Nuttall, Joint Secretaries; Miss Cumming and Miss Peterkin, Joint Treasurers. A Committee of twenty has been appointed.

THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

September is a month when little news comes our way from the Nurses' Organisations. The arrival therefore, of *League News*, the organ of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, is the more welcome. The Editor and those who help her are to be warmly congratulated on its contents and make-up; especially are we pleased to find reproduced pictures after restoration of Hogarth's magnificent "history paintings," which decorate the grand staircase leading to the Great Hall, "The Good Samaritan" and "The Pool of Bethesda." The members of the League are greatly indebted to Mr. McAdam Eccles, M.S., F.R.C.S., for his descriptive sketch of these magnificent masterpieces left so long neglected, and now with "great courage and superb skill" restored to their really amazing beauty. Treasures, indeed, which the general public are invited to inspect.

All the activities of the League appear flourishing. The Isla Stewart Memorial Fund, of which for so many years we were chairman, offers a Bursary, value £150, for a Sister-Tutor Course, commencing in October, 1936, at King's College, for Women.

With an income of £289 16s. 10d., the League has a substantial balance after donating a Capitation Fee of £23 10s. 8d. to the International Council of Nurses, and making a gift of £10 to the Florence Nightingale Thanksgiving Day of the National Council of Nurses.

To judge from the "List of Members" which with their addresses are printed in the *JOURNAL*, Bart's Nurses are apparently carrying their skill for the benefit of humanity throughout the world. We approve this spirit of adventure. To remain "Within the Gates" in so happy an environment is a great temptation—but for development of character and expansion of mind, see the world, and get into touch with its peoples, and its glamour and hardships.

The Editorial interests us greatly; it refers to the inauguration of the Prize of a Gold Medal for the Nursing Staff in 1885. We could a tale unfold.

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