

THE COMING CONGRESS YEAR.

A few days and 1937 will be here—during the early months of which the full programme of the Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses must be carefully organised. Arrangements are well on the way. The Central Hall, Westminster, is our meeting place, and as the International Council of Nurses stands for self-government of nurses in their Associations, and as we have a thoroughly representative Congress Arrangements Committee, we have no doubt all will be in order in time. Recently Miss Schwarzenberg, the Executive Secretary of the I.C.N., spent a week in London, and has attended long meetings day after day of the Programme Sub-Committee, during which a draft of meetings, Chairs and Speakers has been agreed, which draft will, at an early date, be sent out from Headquarters at Geneva, to all Presidents of Member Associations, inviting an early reply to invitations to take Chairs and to name Speakers, so that expert representatives may be secured and the programme may be finally approved at an early date.

It was agreed to translate Papers into English and French, if received at Headquarters before the end of March (the earlier the better), after which date translations of Papers sent in cannot be made. It is hoped to issue the Programme in attractive form in I.C.N. colours, and that it should contain the list of Member Associations, I.C.N., Hon. Officers, the Congress Arrangements Committee, Patrons, Vice-Presidents, Lady Stewards, description of Official Badges, the Congress Programme, and Official Invitations.

CONGRESS TICKETS.

Congress Registration tickets, price 10s., can only be issued overseas by Thos. Cook & Son, upon the presentation of an Identification Certificate, signed by the President of the Member Association in each country.

In Great Britain Congress Registration tickets will be on sale at Headquarters, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, and at the College of Nursing, Henrietta Street, W., and, we hope, at a centre in Scotland. Upon the presentation of Identification Certificates, every nurse who is a member of any association affiliated to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain will have the right to apply for a ticket and thus register as a member of the Congress after 1st March, 1937. Early application, it is hoped, will prevent congestion, as in the past.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

On Sunday, July 18th, 1937, Religious Services will be held. The Chapter of St. Paul's Cathedral will allow a Special Service to take place at St. Paul's Cathedral, at 9.30 a.m., when the Archbishop of Canterbury has kindly consented to preach. There is little doubt this Service will be very largely attended by members of Congress.

The Archbishop of Westminster has also been good enough to arrange a Service at Westminster Cathedral on Sunday, July 18th, the time to be announced later.

Those of us who attended the exquisite Service arranged in Notre Dame, in Paris, in 1933, for the I.C.N. Congress, will never forget it.

THE BUSINESS MEETINGS OF THE I.C.N.

The President, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, and the Hon. Officers have arranged that the Board of Directors and Members of Grand Council of the I.C.N. will hold their business meetings from July 12th to 17th, in the College of Nursing Hall.

The Ceremony of Welcome in connection with the Conference will take place on Sunday, July 11th, by invitation of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, the hostess country, at its Headquarters at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

Lavish hospitality is being arranged for these delegates during the week, and it is to be hoped that every Member Country in the I.C.N. will be well represented by its full complement of President and four Delegates. Everyone will be warmly welcomed. The more the merrier.

We may look forward, therefore, to two weeks' association, from July 11th to 24th, when the Nursing Profession will have opportunities to confer upon questions relating to the welfare of their patients and their profession, and thus promote the health of the nations.

RECEPTION OF THE MATRON-IN-CHIEF AND MEMBERS OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

The Matron-in-Chief and Members of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service were at Home at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, on Wednesday, December 2nd, from 3.30 to 6 p.m. This Reception has always a character all its own. Tradition, dignity, the renewal of many old friendships and memories, as well as the graceful hospitality of the hostesses, all combine to make it a gathering that few of those privileged to receive an invitation care to miss. Miss Martin, R.R.C. (Matron-in-Chief), makes an ideal hostess, as she goes round exchanging courtesies with her guests, and the reception this year maintained all the charm that, in the past, we have associated with it.

TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

The Matron-in-Chief wishes all T.A.N.S. members a Happy Christmas and Prosperity in the New Year, and desires to remind those who have not yet sent their enrolment parchments to their Principal Matrons that these are now due.

AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT.

We learn that Miss Ida Butler, R.N., has been appointed to succeed the late Miss Clara D. Noyes, R.N., as Director of the Nursing Service of the American Red Cross, at Washington.

Miss Butler held the position of Assistant to Miss Noyes, and as she is exceedingly popular, her appointment will meet with approval throughout the American Nursing world. It is to be hoped that she will be able to attend the International Congress of Nurses next July, and take part in the Session when the organisation of an efficient Red Cross Nursing Service will be discussed such as plays so prominent a part throughout the United States.

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