

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

CONGRESS 1937 ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE.

The first meeting of the Congress (1937) Arrangements Committee of the International Council of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on January 10th, 1936, at 4.30 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Chairman of the Committee, presided, and there were present Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, D.B.E., R.R.C., who as President of the International Council of Nurses has an ex-officio seat on all its Standing Committees, and the following Hon. Officers of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, all of whom, upon the invitation of the Chairman had consented to serve:—Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss Helen Dey, R.R.C., Miss Isabel Macdonald. *Vice-Presidents*: Miss G. M. Littleboy, A.R.R.C., Miss N. Farrant, Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss F. M. Campbell, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D. *Directors*: Miss M. Breay, Hon. Treasurer, Miss S. Villiers, J.P., Hon. Secretary, together with Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., past Vice-President, Miss R. Cox-Davies, C.B.E., R.R.C., past Director, and Miss D. S. Coode, President of the College of Nursing.

Miss E. MacManus, O.B.E., Director, was unable to attend.

SHORT STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

The Chairman expressed her thanks to the members of the Committee for consenting to serve upon it, and stated that the Congress Arrangements Committee and the Programme Committee were Standing Committees of the International Council of Nurses of which Committees she had been elected Chair.

In regard to the date of the Quadrennial Congress to be held in London in 1937, she had been in consultation with the President of the I.C.N., Dame Alicia Lloyd Still.

At their recent meeting in Geneva the Board of Directors of the I.C.N. had decided that the Business Meetings of Directors and the Grand Council in London should not take place before the second week in July 1937, so that they would not clash with the meetings of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

The arrangements for the Meetings of the Board of Directors and Grand Council were in the hands of the President and Hon. Officers, I.C.N.

Dame Alicia hoped that it might be possible to hold these meetings in the Hall of the College of Nursing, Henrietta Street, W., during the period July 12th to 17th, the Quadrennial Congress could then be held from July 19th to 24th.

These proposals were endorsed by Dame Alicia, and it was resolved that they should be tentatively agreed.

The Chairman reported further that she had considered with Dame Alicia the question of a meeting place for the Congress. The only building which appeared to meet the requirements was the Central Hall, Westminster, where the large Hall would hold nearly 3,000 persons, and where in other large and smaller halls, meetings could be held simultaneously. There was also accommodation available for catering for 1,000 persons. The cost of the Central Hall and buildings was £120 a day, an agreed sum being payable upon signing the contract.

It was agreed that enquiries should be made concerning alternative accommodation, but London was singularly deficient in Congress accommodation. If the Central Hall, Westminster was decided upon, it would be necessary to secure it at an early date, as it was already let for the first week in July, 1937.

FINANCE.

Questions of finance were discussed. It had been agreed at Geneva that the registration fee should be fixed at 10s. (English currency).

Ultimately it was agreed that a sub-Committee on Finance should be appointed, consisting of the Chairman, and Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, ex-officio, Miss M. Breay, Hon. Treasurer, National Council of Nurses; Miss E. M. Musson, Treasurer, I.C.N. and Miss Isabel Macdonald.

It was hoped that some financial assistance for the Congress would be forthcoming from the general funds to which the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain made a substantial contribution. It was resolved that a letter should be sent later to the Presidents of Associations affiliated to the National Council of Nurses, inviting their financial support.

CONGRESS FUNCTIONS.

The Chairman proposed and it was resolved that religious services should, if possible, be arranged in Westminster Abbey and in Westminster Cathedral, on Sunday, July 18th, 1937; she also reported that Dame Alicia had consented to approach the responsible dignitaries. It was also resolved that the proceedings of the Board of Directors and Grand Council should be initiated by a Reception, by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, at 39, Portland Place, London, on Sunday, July 11th, 1937.

It was agreed to inform Miss Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary, I.C.N., in reply to a letter from her, asking for suggestions for subjects for discussion at the Congress, that the Executive Committee N.C.N. would be summoned on February 7th, to discuss the matter.

The Meeting then terminated.

RE-ISSUE OF "THE INTERNATIONAL NURSING REVIEW."

Miss Anna Schwarzenberg, the Executive Secretary, notifies that *The International Nursing Review*, which has been partly in abeyance for the past few years, will from this date, February, 1936, be again issued from Headquarters as a quarterly journal. The subscription will be eight Swiss francs, which in English money now amounts to ten shillings and sevenpence.

To make *The Review* self-supporting, a minimum of 500 subscribers is necessary. The year 1936 will therefore prove whether nurses and nursing organisations throughout the world desire to maintain their own international organ. It is hoped to publish the first number on February 1st, and it is proposed that its business shall be very carefully conducted, as the issue of a Journal is necessarily a very costly matter.

Our National Council of Nurses has a complete file of *The International Nursing Review*, beautifully bound.

In her recent report to the Board of Directors at Geneva, Miss Musson, the Treasurer I.C.N., stated that the deficit on the *Review* for the years 1931-1934 amounted to £1,092 11s. 5d., and to clear it of debt cost £1,126 13s. 3d. inclusive.

The seed of happiness is little things—
A feather fallen from an angel's wings
Drifted towards earth—a song, a rose, a leaf;
Joy, overweighted, turns at once to grief.
Small flecks of sunlight to our weakness, are
More than the conflagration of a star.
Not limitless our hearts which cannot hold
Ingots, but rather powder of pure gold.
Lest man be blind with light, to him is given
Only the shadow of diminished heaven.
Wherefore let me on earth's adventure go
Accompanied by pleasures light as snow.
These ecstasies confound me—I would rise
By nicely graded steps to Paradise!

By Lady Margaret Sackville.

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