

CONGRESS FINANCE.

A Meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee of the Congress Arrangements Committee I.C.N. was held on February 28th, at 4.30 p.m., at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Chairman Congress Arrangements Committee, was in the Chair, and all members were present, *i.e.*, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, President I.C.N., *ex-officio*; Miss M. Breay, Hon. Treasurer, N.C.N.; Miss E. M. Musson, Treasurer I.C.N.; and Miss Isabel Macdonald.

SHORT STATEMENT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Chairman stated that at a Meeting of the Executive Committee National Council of Nurses, held on February 7th, 1936, a short report was placed before it of the recommendations of the Congress Arrangements Committee *re* the financial responsibility of the National Council for Congress business.

The Executive Committee considered a letter from Messrs. Hartley & Hartley *re* cost of hiring the Central Hall, Westminster, from July 19th to July 24th, 1937, inclusive, and unanimously agreed that the Central Hall should be booked for the dates mentioned.

HIRING OF CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

It was reported that the inclusive charge for six days' hiring of the Halls and Committee Rooms, including lighting, heating, cleaning, etc., after making a special reduction of 15 per cent. amounted to £423.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, and Dame Alicia Lloyd Still consented to sign the contract with the trustees.

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCING THE CONGRESS.

The Chairman stated: "As President of the National Council of Nurses I am of opinion that financial responsibility for the International Congress should be defined and agreed without further delay. I have therefore informally invited a legal opinion on the matter, and am informed that the Congress Arrangements Committee I.C.N. has no financial responsibility whatever, as its functions as defined in the Bye-Laws of the I.C.N. are merely of an administrative character, and that the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain will presumably be held responsible for the payment of expenses incurred in the organisation of the Congress, and as the National Council is not an incorporated body, every member is equally responsible. That under these circumstances the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain must authorise any appeal for money in connection with the Congress, and all expenditure of funds collected, so that they may be duly audited."

The Chairman ruled that under these conditions no Constituent Association has the right to issue an appeal for funds to members of the National Council in support of unauthorised projects in connection with the Congress it may wish to promote.

AN OFFICIAL APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

It was unanimously agreed that an Official Appeal inviting financial support of the organisation of the International Congress of Nurses, of which Great Britain is the hostess country, should be issued at an early date to the Presidents of every Constituent Association of the National Council. It was agreed that the Official Appeal should be signed by the three *ex-officio* officers of the Council, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss M. Breay and Miss S. Villiers, and by the three members of the Finance Committee, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, Miss E. M. Musson, and Miss Isabel Macdonald. The meeting then terminated.

UNITY THE NOTE OF SUCCESS.

We are glad to learn that many Presidents of the Constituent Associations N.C.N. are already expressing warm interest

in the organisation of the Congress, and offering personal help. No doubt at an early date they will be invited to accept some official position on the programme and thus advance the prestige of the Reception Committee.

In the meanwhile there must be unity of action in support of the Official Appeal for Funds, as we all realise the financial responsibility for the Congress Arrangements is a serious matter. We are also determined that "London, 1937," shall prove how sincere is our desire to emulate the spirit of international friendship with which our colleagues have welcomed us in so many lands at the great gatherings of the Nursing Profession since the International Council of Nurses was founded in London in 1899.

An account has been authorised and opened at the Midland Bank, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.1. in the account of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain (No. 3), as "The International Congress of Nurses Fund."

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

A meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain is convened for Saturday, March 14th, to be held at the Royal British Nurses' Association Club, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7. The Chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. by the President, Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C.

THE LEAGUE OF SISTER TUTORS.

A Meeting of the League of Sister Tutors will be held on Saturday, March 28th, at the house of the Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. Tea will be served at 3.30 p.m., after which Miss E. Wilkins, B.A., Principal of the Public Health Department at the Battersea Polytechnic, will address the members of the League. The proceedings will terminate with the discussion of League business.

"THE INTERNATIONAL NURSING REVIEW."

As we notified in our last issue *The International Nursing Review* has resumed publication, being issued from the Headquarters of the International Council of Nurses, at 14, Quai Gustave Ador, Geneva, as a quarterly journal, the annual subscription being eight Swiss francs. The value of the Swiss franc varies, but recently it was 10/7.

The Review is undoubtedly a valuable part of the Council's activities, nevertheless the Board of Directors, when it met in Geneva in 1935, did well to suspend publication until the position had been reviewed by the Publications Committee (of which Miss M. A. Roberts (U.S.A.) is chairman) in view of the statement made by Miss E. M. Musson, Hon. Treasurer I.C.N., that the deficit on the *Review* for the years 1931-1934 amounted to £1,092 11s. 5d. This is an expense which cannot be defrayed from the funds of the International Council of Nurses, and if publication is to be permanent those who value it must subscribe in sufficient numbers to ensure that it shall be self supporting.

The February issue of the *Review* contains many interesting articles in English, French, and German. There is a full page picture of the Florence Nightingale School at Bordeaux, besides an illustrated article with a portrait of Dr. Anna Hamilton, and others of the interior of the School. An interesting article on "Nursing in Syria," by Carolyn Ladd Widmer, has also some fine illustrations, as has also an article on the "Development of Nursing in Brazil," by Bertha L. Pullen. The standard of the *Review* as to matter and production is fully up to that of previous issues.

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