

CONGRESS ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE, I.C.N.

The sixth meeting of the Congress Arrangements Committee of the International Council of Nurses was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W., on March 24th, 1937, at 2.30 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Chairman, presided, and there were present, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss D. S. Coode, Miss R. Cox-Davies, C.B.E., R.R.C., Miss M. A. Gullan, Miss M. Husband, Miss G. M. Littleboy, A.R.R.C., Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss Isabel Macdonald, Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P., Hon. Secretary.

Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Miss S. A. Villiers, and subject to slight correction proposed by the Chairman, were confirmed and signed. Regrets for absence were received from Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, R.R.C., and seven members of the Committee.

Correspondence.

A letter was read from the Chair from Miss Annie Goodrich, R.N., Dean Emeritus Yale University School of Nursing, U.S.A., expressing her great regret that it would not be possible to accept the invitation to take the Chair at the meeting at the Central Hall, Westminster, on the evening of July 21st, or to attend the International Nurses' Congress, which she felt would be an epoch-making occasion.

Letters were dealt with from Miss Ivett and Miss Downs, and from Miss Baggallay, Secretary F.N.I.F., requesting that the Foundation might be allowed a stall at the Congress for propaganda purposes.

It was agreed that as there was no room for stalls, space should be allotted on the table for display of professional literature.

Further invitations of hospitality for members of the Congress were received and referred to the Hospitality Sub-Committee.

The question of persons who were not members of nurses' organisations, and of those from countries where their organisations were not affiliated to the I.C.N. being permitted to attend the Congress was referred for discussion at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, on April 21st, of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman presented a detailed report of progress:—Owing to the illness of Miss Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary I.C.N., the President had felt compelled to send Miss Edwards, seconded from Headquarters, as Secretary of the Congress Committee, back to Geneva. Miss Edwards terminated her work as Secretary to the Congress Committee on March 10th, to the sincere regret of the Chairman, who desired to place on record an expression of appreciation for the admirable manner in which she had performed her duties, for her expert work, diligence and tactful association with her colleagues. Since her return to Geneva Miss Edwards had forwarded much necessary information required for the organisation of the Congress.

The Chairman reported that they were indebted to Miss Gullan for systematic work in the Congress Office, she had been good enough to attend almost daily, and had received and issued all tickets applied for up to date.

Miss Gullan is engaged recruiting a large staff of lady stewards required for service in the Central Hall, Westminster. The rearrangement of staff would be considered by the Finance Sub-Committee.

Sub-Committees.

All the ladies selected had accepted office on the three Sub-Committees.

In response to the invitation of the National Council of Nurses Congress Committee, many members of the Board of Directors had accepted to be their guests at the Cowdray Club, and the full complement of 30 were expected to attend from all over the world. It had been decided to print the programme in English, French and German and make it as complete as possible. Detailed arrangements at the Central Hall were considered and agreed subject to further suggestions.

Badges.

Designs for Badges were considered, submitted by Messrs. Fattorini, of Birmingham, and one was approved. It was agreed to give the firm the order.

Special ribbons inscribed "Vice-President," and purple ribbons for members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain were approved.

Financial Statement.

A short financial statement was submitted and it was announced that to date the response to the Congress Appeal Fund amounted to £1,006 12s. 6d.

Three hundred and fifty-one tickets had been sold, for which £175 10s. had been received.

Conference of Members of Sub-Committees.

An informal Conference had been held, on March 17th, of the members of the three Sub-Committees, when a useful discussion *re* their relative duties took place.

Report of President I.C.N.

Miss Gullan read a short report from the President, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, who was unable to attend, as follows:—

The Royal Family.

I am happy to report that Their Majesties the King and Queen have graciously given their patronage to the Congress, also that Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal will open the Congress on Monday, July 19th, at 10 a.m. She will be received by the Mayor of Westminster (the Hon. Arthur Howard). Many Ambassadors, Ministers and High Commissioners have given their patronage and hope to be present in person, or by proxy, at the opening meeting.

Sir Kingsley Wood will speak a few words of welcome as Minister of Health, after the Mayor has given the Civic Welcome.

The German contingent will attend the Congress, also the German Ambassador. Further hospitality was reported. Other items of interest were reported.

It was agreed that the next Meeting should be held in May, as the Executive Committee of the National Council was summoned to meet on April 21st.

The meeting then terminated and adjourned for tea.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE CONGRESS.

Nurses who are members of Associations affiliated to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and who wish to register as members of the Congress in July, 1937, should write to either the President or Secretary of their Association, asking for an Application Form and a signed Identification Form.

On receiving these, the applicant should bring or forward them to the Secretary, Congress Arrangements Committee 39, Portland Place, W.1, with her 10s. registration fee, when she will receive her Congress ticket.

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