

consented to take office as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Report of the Executive Committee emphasises the difficulty of obtaining bi-lingual nurses, and states that the Committee has been compelled to advertise overseas for nurses for those places where the local committees are prepared to take uni-lingual English nurses. We are not surprised, for nurses are not usually linguists, and in any case Dutch is not a language much studied. But English nurses have the merit of adaptability, and if set down in a community where many of their patients speak Dutch, we believe they would soon acquire a useful knowledge of that language.

Miss J. E. Pritchard, the Secretary-Superintendent of the Order, in presenting her Annual Report of the Order for the year 1936, addressed to His Excellency, the Earl of Clarendon, late Governor General, began by lamenting the scarcity of nurses for work in remote rural areas. She briefly referred to the good work done and to the difficulties met by the nurses in various districts, speaking appreciatively of these. The Report concludes:

"This Report has been written with the sadness which is inevitable at the thought of Your Excellency's approaching departure from South Africa. Your deep interest in conditions more particularly as they affect the women and children in the rural areas has been an inspiration to all those whose work, in however small a degree, is connected with rural nursing.

"In conclusion, may I express my own gratitude to Your Excellency for your great kindness to me personally and for your ever ready and understanding sympathy in times of difficulty."

Mrs. Conradie, a member of the Council of the Order, drew attention to the serious lack of trained nurses, but emphasised that no shortage should be an excuse for giving girls anything but the most efficient training for the most responsible work that awaited them. Further, the nurses wanted by the Order must be bi-lingual because that was the surest way of getting at the heart of the people, but bi-lingualism alone was not enough. What they wanted was women with the mental and spiritual equipment which would be able to face courageously the discomfort, hardship and loneliness in those areas where they would work. She paid a very warm tribute to the nurses of the Order who, for many years, had given such devoted service and gained the affection of the people amongst whom they live. She concluded with a tribute to Miss Pritchard, Secretary-Superintendent of the Order, who for 23 years had devoted herself to its work with the utmost loyalty and keenness.

PLEASE NOTICE.

On production of the Ticket of Admission to the International Congress of Nurses, July 19th to 24th, folders containing Badge, Programme and Congress information will be issued to Members of Congress at the Rooms of the London Medical Society, 11, Chandos Street, Cavendish Square, W.1, from July 15th to 18th inclusive between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Miss M. A. Gullan will be in charge of the distribution department.

LEGACIES FOR NURSES.

Mr. Robert George Hovenden, of Eastbourne, left £100 to Nurse Harriet Mumford, of Staines.

A GREAT EVENT.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal will open the new permanent Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, at 23, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Thursday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. This is an event of immense importance to the Nursing Profession, not only in England but throughout the Empire. This fine building emphasises the high place in the body politic attained by the Nursing Profession since the passing of the Nurses' Registration Acts in 1919; and will, we have no doubt, inspire it with a keen sense of responsibility not only to those it serves, but to the profession for whose honour it is responsible.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC ASSOCIATIONS OF NURSES.

The International Council of Catholic Associations of Nurses is to hold its Third International Congress, under the Presidency of His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster, at University College, Gower Street, W.C.1, from July 14th to July 18th.

The subjects down for discussion are: on July 15th, The Apostolate of the Catholic Nurses; on July 16th, The Catholic Nurse and the Mental Patient; and on July 17th, The Catholic Nurse and Maternity. Tickets for the whole Congress, including Reception by His Grace the Archbishop of Westminster on Wednesday evening, and Reserved Seats at Westminster and Southwark Cathedrals on Sunday, July 18th, cost 10s. Two days 7s., and single day 4s.

The Council of Catholic Associations of Nurses, which has usually met at the same centre at a date near that of the International Council of Nurses, proposed last year that there should be co-operation so that the 10s. ticket admitted to both Congresses, but this has not been considered permissible, as the International Council of Nurses is strictly non-sectarian; nurses from every land of every form of faith being eligible for membership through non-sectarian National Associations of Nurses. Thus members of the International Council of Catholic Associations of Nurses are eligible to attend the I.C.N. Congress if members of its National Associations, and their Identification Certificates are signed by the President.

Our basis of membership is National, and other International bodies are not eligible for membership. We are expecting a large number of Roman Catholic delegates to attend the I.C.N. Congress, July 18th to 24th next, as the question of religion does not arise, and they will, of course, participate in all its privileges.

We specially hope to welcome the Religious, as their vocational standards are of the greatest value in debate.

RED CROSS INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR, 1937.

Owing to the number of countries participating in the Red Cross International Bazaar, on July 7th and 8th, it has been found necessary to move to larger premises. The Bazaar will, therefore, be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, S.W.1, instead of at Bedford College, as previously announced. As this Bazaar is to benefit the Florence Nightingale International Foundation please let all friends know of this change of address.

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