

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, U.S.A., 1941.

Miss Effie Taylor, President I.C.N., in a letter to Miss Villiers, Hon. Secretary N.C.N., thanks for communication of May 11th, and writes: "I am happy that the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain is in accord with my suggestion to appeal to the Rockefeller Foundation for financial support of Nursing Education in connection with the International Florence Nightingale Foundation."

Miss Taylor adds: "At the Biennial Meeting of the American Nurses' Association (recently held in Kansas City) a preference was given for Washington in May (for the 1941 Congress) if the new Arena is built by that time. It is promised. Washington is beautiful in May, but too hot later. The Embassies are all open then, but closed later. There are therefore many advantages to be considered before deciding on any other place. I will write again when I am in possession of any information. My kind regards to my friends at 39, Portland Place."

Even nearly forty years ago Washington was a lovely city, since which time it has developed into one of the most stately capitals in the world. We saw it first by moonlight from a balcony at the Garfield Hospital, the silver shaft of the Washington Memorial aspiring to touch the stars!

REPORT OF WORK AT HEADQUARTERS.

The Executive Secretary, Miss Anna Schwarzenberg, has recently issued to members of the Board of Directors a Report of the work at Headquarters of a very interesting and informative nature.

We gather that the scope of the work at Headquarters increases steadily and that the appointment of a permanent assistant to the staff will soon become essential.

Miss M. J. Matheson, M.A., trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has succeeded Miss Edwards as English Secretary. Miss Hentsch, who was so helpful during the Congress, last year, has taken an administrative post at La Source, Lausanne, and temporary help has been required owing to sick leave during the winter. It is hoped that by next winter the staff will be more accustomed to the English winter.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONGRESS.

Thus there has been some unavoidable delay in the issue of the Proceedings of the Congress. The English version is now ready, and the translation into French and German will be completed shortly.

We advise that copies of the Proceedings of the Congress be procured for the Libraries in Nurse Training Schools, they will repay study by students and Registered Nurses alike. It is an invaluable record of our wonderful Eighth Quadrennial Congress, I.C.N., held in London last July, past like a flash after two years' intensive preparation. We intend to have copies handsomely bound, so that they may be permanently preserved by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain as all the *International Nursing Reviews* have been.

The Secretary notifies that 1,000 subscribers are required to cover the cost of the *Review*, and that an assistant may shortly be required to deal with the *Review* alone.

BADGES.

An interesting collection of Badges received from National Associations are placed in the Library. Further contributions would be welcome, as it is desired to make this collection complete.

CHANGES IN ASSOCIATIONS.

Germany.—Frau Oberin Blunck has informed the Secretary that the Nurses' Association of Germany, of which she is President, will shortly be dissolved, and its members will be absorbed into a new German Association

which will be much larger and will include the nurses who do not belong to some other organisation. The Secretary visited Berlin in March to talk over possibilities of affiliation to the I.C.N. of the new Association in place of the one at present affiliated, which is to be dissolved. A report will be submitted to the next meeting of the Board of Directors in 1939.

Austria.—Oberschwester Birkner reports that nothing has been finally decided about the Nurses' Association of Austria, but it is likely that it will be dissolved and its members included in the new German Association.

THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE.

The International Council of Nurses has been invited to submit a memorandum of evidence, and the Secretary has sent out a questionnaire. Details of conditions prevalent in other countries may be useful for purposes of comparison, but as our National Council was refused representation on the Committee, which is so overwhelmingly composed of the laity, this questionnaire should be based on conditions in foreign countries, and not deal with English conditions concerning which our National Council has been excluded from expressing an opinion or weighing evidence. Numerous memoranda have been sent in to the Committee from all and sundry in England.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE SUB-COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Conference Sub-Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee at its recent meeting, was held at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on Friday, May 27th, at 5 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, was in the Chair, and there were present Miss M. S. Cochrane, R.R.C., Miss Helen Dey, O.B.E., R.R.C., Miss G. V. Hillyers, Miss M. F. Hughes, D.N., Miss M. B. Monk, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., and Miss S. A. Villiers, J.P., Hon. Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from Miss M. Breay, Miss I. Macdonald, Miss E. L. Macaulay, O.B.E., R.R.C., and Miss H. McLoughlin.

The meeting was called:—

To receive suggestions for holding a Conference to discuss present-day nursing problems, and for the purpose of making arrangements for the organisation of such a Conference as agreed at the meeting of the Executive Committee on May 4th, as provided under Article XI.

All members present agreed that a Conference of members to discuss nursing conditions would be most helpful.

Miss Helen Dey, together with Miss Musson, drafted the following resolution:—

"That a letter be written to the constituent Associations of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain informing them that a Conference of members will be held in November next to discuss matters of importance to the Nursing Profession.

"Each constituent Association is asked to suggest subjects for discussion for the consideration of the Conference Sub-Committee which has been appointed to arrange the Conference.

"Such suggestions to be sent to the Hon. Secretary, National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, on or before June 30th, 1938."

The resolution was proposed by Miss Dey, seconded by Miss Musson and carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Miss Monk and agreed that on this occasion only members of the National Council be eligible to attend the Conference.

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