

TERRITORIAL ARMY NURSES.

LONG SERVICE PRIVILEGE.

Mr. Hore-Belisha, Secretary of State for War, made the announcement in the House of Commons on February 22nd, that in future as a token of recognition of long enrolled service, nurses of the Territorial Army Nursing Service who had served ten years or more continuously would be accorded the privilege of retaining their silver badges on resignation. This decision will give general satisfaction. Those of us who as members of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain made recommendations to the then Minister of War, the late Lord Haldane, on the organization of such a service, and who remember how the mobilization of the Territorial Nursing Service saved the nursing situation in the early days of the Great War, offer congratulations both to the present Minister for War and the members of this invaluable Service who will retain their silver badges.

THE NEW MATRON OF THE LONDON HOSPITAL.

Miss Mabel Reynolds, S.R.N., has been appointed Matron of the London Hospital, E. She was trained and certificated at the London from 1917-1919, and held the positions there of Ward-Sister, Sister-in-Charge of the Children's Out-Patient Department, and Sister in Matron's Office. Miss Reynolds has had a varied nursing career as Research Assistant, Medical Research Council, Birmingham, Dental Investigation; Northern Area Organiser, College of Nursing; Florence Nightingale International Student, 1935-1936, with Distinction in Hospital and Training School Administration Course and Certificate; and has recently been Matron at the London Clinic in Devonshire Place, W. The London Hospital, which contains 849 beds, is one of the most advanced hospitals in the world, with a great record of accomplishment in medicine and nursing, with a staff of close on 100 Sisters and a junior staff of many hundreds. The London Hospital League of Nurses is one of the most up-to-date organisations affiliated to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and issues an excellently edited "Review" on the Committee of which the new Matron has a seat. No League has shown greater power of self-government or generosity in support of professional aims. Under the Matronship of Miss May Littleboy, the spirit of self-government in the League has been generously fostered, and widely travelled, and with a knowledge of the world, we have every hope that Miss Reynolds will maintain the demand for right of conscience and self-expression so necessary for the higher development of the human atom.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

THE 1941 CONGRESS.

The following letter has been received by the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and as a reply is invited at an early date, and as the Executive Committee of the National Council is not due to meet until April, she will be obliged if members of that body

will communicate any suggestion they wish to express to Miss Susan A. Villiers, S.R.N., J.P., Hon. Secretary, at 39, Portland Place, London, W.1, by April 1st next.

51, Palace Street,
London, S.W.1.
February 21st, 1938.

To the Presidents of the Affiliated National Associations of the International Council of Nurses:—

DEAR PRESIDENT,—I have received a letter from Miss Effie J. Taylor, the President of the International Council of Nurses, asking me to find out your opinion and preference as to which part of the United States of America should be chosen for our 1941 Congress.

Climates and distances have to be considered as well as travelling facilities and expense. It is very hot on the East Coast during July and August, but delightful on the West Coast during these months. If held in the East (Washington, New York), to be comfortable the Congress should be in the spring or autumn. If in the West (San Francisco, Los Angeles, for instance), it could be held during the summer—June, July, August.

As we should like to take into consideration the wishes of our members, we want to get a general idea as to which part of the country you favour, and in relation to that, the time of year which would be most convenient for you. Some impressions, while they may not in themselves be decisive factors, will help the small committee selected to look into this matter in coming to a conclusion.

We shall be glad to have an early reply from you as the matter will be discussed at the April meeting of the American Nurses' Association.

Yours sincerely,

ANNA SCHWARZENBERG,
Executive Secretary.

The American Nurses' Association meets at Kansas City on April 25th, and it would appear that it is alone in a position to judge what is best for all concerned in organising the Congress for 1941. We feel sure Great Britain will realise that the wisest course will be adopted by the hostess country.

THE ELDERLY NURSES' NATIONAL HOME FUND.

At a meeting of the Elderly Nurses' National Home Fund recently held at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Bullinckut, at Mortimer House, Kensington, a further effort to assist nurses who, after a career of self-sacrificing work, are faced with financial distress was outlined.

Lady Malmesbury, who presided, said that the fund was begun about six years ago, when four cottages were utilised near Christchurch, Hampshire. The foundation stone of a permanent building had now been laid on a site near Bournemouth, and when this was completed 36 nurses would be accommodated in a two-storey building which would include self-contained flats as well as a common dining-room and recreation rooms. The fund had received many gifts, including one from Queen Mary, who had expressed her interest in the new building scheme. A sum of £6,000 was needed to finish the first part of the scheme.

Other speakers included the Bishop of London, Sir William Wilcox, and Dame Anne Louise McIlroy.

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