

From all descriptions it is to be a marvellous show, but alas! the cost of a visit is not within the means of many nurses, and already we are glad to hear members of our profession are "saving up" in the hope of being present at the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in U.S.A. in 1941.

We learn from the *American Journal of Nursing* that nurses who visit the New York World's Fair and the Golden Gate International Exposition in San Francisco Bay this summer will find an endless variety of medical and health exhibits sponsored by medical and other professional organisations, public health organisations, philanthropic foundations, etc.

At both the San Francisco and New York Fairs, the American Red Cross will show what the Red Cross actually does in disaster relief and in its continuous services. In San Francisco, the Red Cross exhibit is housed in the Hall of Science. Large photo-murals illustrate every phase of Red Cross work. In New York, this exhibit is in the Medical and Public Health Building. The Red Cross will maintain an up-to-date first-aid station with a modern surgery, two wards, an ambulance entrance and physicians and enrolled Red Cross nurses on duty. The first-aid station will serve as a rest room for uninjured, but exhausted, Fair visitors.

The most novel aspect of the New York Fair exhibit will be a cleverly simulated tornado funnel in the act of striking, with photo-panels showing, step by step, how Red Cross relief forces act.

The Maternity Centre Association in its exhibit at the New York Fair (in the Hall of Medical Science) will stress the essential facts of maternity and child-birth; 20 life-size models will show the human embryo from the beginnings of pregnancy to birth. The models were made under the supervision of Dr. Robert L. Dickinson and Malvina Hoffman. There will be other exhibits of normal delivery, the effect of nutrition on the embryo, and the essentials of safe maternity care and how to get it.

The nursing exhibit of the Department of Hospitals, New York City, can be seen at the New York Fair in the City of New York Building. Large photo-murals have been made from photographs of nursing 50 years ago, in the wards of municipal hospitals which are now a part of the Department of Hospitals. In one picture nurses are carrying out "Lister's antiseptic surgical technic" at the end of a ward where no screens separate the "operating room" from the other patients, the windows are heavily curtained and radiators stand unprotected in the centre of the ward. Contrasted with these pictures of nursing a half century ago, are photo-transparencies of present nursing practice in the modern operating room, the care of the patient in the oxygen tent and in the respirator, and the nurse's part in the banking of blood for blood transfusions.

Extensive preparation has been made at both Fairs for taking care of visitors who become ill. There will be first-aid stations with doctors and nurses in attendance at all times. Dorothy M. O'Gara will be in charge of a staff of 30 nurses at the New York World's Fair.

WOMEN'S SERVICE TO THE STATE.

As none of the National Services through which Nurses are being recruited for National Service is under direct professional control and as many Registered Nurses are somewhat aggrieved by recruitment, supervision and control by the laity, we take the liberty of quoting what is being done, and who is doing it, from an article in *The Times*, as no class is more patriotic and eager to help their country in time of need than these women who comprise the profession of nursing, and who have valuable knowledge and skill to offer for the benefit of the community.

EAGER RECRUITS.

Thousands of women in all parts of the country have enrolled for service of all kinds, and are ready to play their part should the need arise. There is a very great difference in the position of women now to that in 1914. During the years that have elapsed there has been an enormous increase in the number of earning women, and judging by the response to recruiting schemes, there is a vast nucleus of women accustomed to working and to the discipline which work entails, who will be easier to organise than those of a quarter of a century ago.

The majority of the women who have enrolled have enrolled for paid work. Many of those already in employment but not in reserved occupations are ready to change into one of the various forms of national service should the need arise.

The A.T.S. (Auxiliary Territorial Service for Women) is one of the most important forms of national service, and recruiting for it proceeds steadily all over the country. Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan is Chief Commandant.

Most of the members are required to enrol for general service within the United Kingdom or oversea if necessary. Certain companies, however, are required only for local service which members can undertake while living at home. Applications should be made to any Territorial Army drill hall or to the county commandant, A.T.S. Volunteers have uniform issued to them, while officers receive a grant to buy their own. The chief difference between the uniform of the A.T.S. and the W.A.A.C.S. in the War is that the rank and file of the latter had a coat-frock issued to them, while the A.T.S. have a tunic and skirt.

NAVAL SERVICE.

The Women's Royal Naval Service is likely to be one of the most popular, though one of the smallest, of the Services. It will start recruiting as soon as the appointment of the four port superintendents (recently advertised) has been made. Mrs. Laughton Mathews, a former officer in the W.R.N.S., is the director of the Service and has an office at the Admiralty, but recruits will be enrolled locally at the ports—Portsmouth, Chatham, Plymouth, and Rosyth. Thousands of women have already applied; it is officially stated that only 1,500 will be required at first, but this number is likely to be increased quickly in the event of war.

The British Red Cross Society has only to ask for recruits for V.A.D. work and they roll up in their hundreds. There is something of the nurse in every

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)