

of this field could make a successful head of this department.

*Research and Library.*—These departments I merely mention in passing; other departments, as said before, can be added. It is obvious that additional expert personnel is essential.

*Regional Offices.*—Regional offices subsidiary to Headquarters and similar in administrative form and functions will be needed. Each regional office should be directed by a field secretary, a nurse who is well acquainted with her region and has spent some time at Central Headquarters so as to be familiar with the working methods. The work and the way it is carried on will have to be adapted to the region, its customs and needs.

This is, in brief, a rough outline of the organisation. The personnel must be carefully chosen, well-qualified for their jobs and great emphasis must be put on their professional standing, their concept of the nursing profession, their capacity for making good contacts with people and their knowledge of languages. There are many other qualifications that are helpful, but the above-mentioned are indispensable.

May I add in conclusion that if any such plan is considered by the Board of Directors, that I should like to emphasise my belief that a field secretary for Europe is one of the most essential appointments to be decided upon now. The nurses of Europe need help and encouragement. Through a liaison officer, such as a field secretary, they will gain the feeling that they are in constant contact with the world.

I fully realise that my presentation is only a sketch which will have to be re-modelled, re-drafted, thought over, pulled apart again and again, and re-shaped until it will fit the needs. However, I feel that a basis, faulty though it may be, is needed primarily to start co-ordinated discussion, and I pray that the Board accept this plan for what it is meant to be—preliminary step towards reorganisation.

(Signed) ANNA SCHWARZENBERG,  
Executive Secretary, International Council of Nurses.

#### STATEMENT FROM HEADQUARTERS.

The following statement has been received from the Headquarters of the International Council of Nurses in New York :—

For the first time since 1937, the Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses will be held in Atlantic City, N.J., May 11th to May 16th, 1947, inclusive.

Previous to the Congress in Atlantic City, the Board of Directors and the Grand Council of the I.C.N. will meet in Washington, D.C., May 4th to May 10th, 1947. The Board of Directors will meet May 5th and 6th, and will be purely a business meeting. Each member country is entitled to send the President of the National Association to that meeting. Also, it is quite possible that the Executive Secretary of all National Organisations will be asked to attend, pending the decision made at the Board of Directors' meeting held in London, September, 1946. The President, Treasurer, Executive-Secretary and Chairmen of all committees will make their Reports at this meeting. Resolutions from National Organisations should be placed on the Agenda

and, after the approval by the Board of Directors, will be transmitted to the Grand Council for adoption.

The Grand Council will meet May 7th, 8th and 9th. At this meeting, the election of International Officers will take place—one President, three Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer. Reports from the Board of Directors will be presented. General policies and work for the next quadrennial period will be outlined. All National Organisations will be asked to present Reports on their activities, which should be at the Headquarters of the I.C.N., 1819, Broadway, New York 23, N.Y., not later than January 1st, 1947, as they must be translated and printed to be at the disposal of the delegates.

The Grand Council consists of International Officers, National Presidents and four official delegates from each member country, and one delegate from associate national representatives. On May 10th, all official delegates will leave Washington, D.C., for Atlantic City N.J.

The Quadrennial Congress will take place in Atlantic City, starting Sunday, May 11th, and will be opened by two Church Services—one Catholic, one Protestant. The rest of Sunday will be used for Registration. The Congress will begin with a General Meeting on Monday, May 12th. More details about the programme will be available at a later date from the American Nurses' Association, which is hostess to the International Congress.

On Saturday, May 17th, the new Board of Directors, presided over by the newly elected President, will have its first Meeting.

The Swedish Nurses' Association has sent an invitation to the International Council of Nurses to hold its next meeting (following the Congress in 1947) in Stockholm.

All Registered Nurses are cordially invited to attend the Meetings of the International Congress. Identification cards as Registered Nurses\* will be the only documents necessary to register for the Congress and to participate in all activities. The number of Registered Nurses will not be limited. Student nurses are also invited. However, their number must be limited to one representative from each School of Nursing. In addition to student nurses, who will be welcomed as special guests, a certain number of other special guests are invited, such as doctors, those in allied professions and those especially interested in the Nursing Profession.

#### THE PASSING BELL

We regret to announce the death, on November 8th, 1946, at Ash House, Broughton-in-Furness, of Mary, widow of the Honourable W. F. Cross, at the age of 91.

When the Royal British Nurses' Association petitioned the Privy Council for incorporation in 1892, the Hon. W. F. Cross, son of Lord Cross, was Assistant Counsel. Alas! he was stricken with enteric fever during the Petition and died leaving a widow, the lady whose death we record, and five children.

The Report of the two days' Petition is an historic document which is in print *verbatim*, and should be studied by every Registered Nurse.

We desire to convey to Lord Cross and to his four sisters our sympathy at the loss of their beloved mother.

\* Or proof of Membership in a National Organisation.

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