

RECRUITMENT OF AUSTRIAN AND GERMAN WOMEN FOR NURSING TRAINING.

In view of the increasing demand for nurses, the Ministry of Labour and National Service, with the concurrence of the National Advisory Council on Nurses and Midwives and with the co-operation of the Health Departments, is bringing over as an experiment 50 German women who have volunteered to train as nurses in this country. The women will be of good education; they will be carefully selected and subject to medical examination before leaving Germany.

The selected German volunteers were due to arrive on August 15th, 1948, and arrangements are made for them to have a three weeks' induction course at the Ministry's reception centre at Colwyn Bay before they are assigned to the hospitals which have agreed to co-operate in the scheme by accepting them as student nurses.

The terms and conditions of their employment will be the same as for British women training as nurses, and they will be landed in the first place for a period which will enable them to complete the full nursing training and take the examinations for State Registration as nurses. At the end of that time they will be free to return to Germany.

Arrangements are also being made, with the agreement of the Austrian Government, to bring over 100 well-educated Austrian women to train as nurses, and it is expected that after they have completed their training many of them will return to Austria to assist the Public Health Services in their own country. They will be arriving in September.

STREPTOMYCIN REGULATIONS.

Regulations (The Streptomycin Regulations, 1948) have been made by the Minister of Health, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Minister of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland, after consultation with the Medical Research Council, bringing streptomycin within the scope of the Penicillin Act, 1947.

The effect of these Regulations, which came into force on August 1st last, is that streptomycin and preparations containing streptomycin may be supplied to the public only by or in accordance with the directions of doctors, dentists or veterinary surgeons, or by registered pharmacists on the prescription of doctors, dentists or veterinary surgeons, and may be administered only by, or in accordance with, the directions of such qualified practitioners.

Though supplies of streptomycin have increased, it is still generally available only through the hospital service. The Regulations anticipate the time when its use may be extended.

As with penicillin and preparations containing penicillin, pharmacists and authorised sellers of poisons will be able normally to dispense a prescription for streptomycin and preparations containing streptomycin only once and not more than three months after the prescription was given; if, however, the prescription directs that it may be dispensed on a specified number of occasions or at specified intervals in a specified period, it may be dispensed in accordance with that direction.

WHAT TO READ.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY

"Leo Tolstoy." Ernest J. Simmons.

FICTION

"Master Mariner." Leo Walmsley.

"Attic and Area." Francesca Marton.

"Bel-Ami." Maupassant, translated by Eric Sutton.

"No Heart is Free." Barbara Cartland.

"Far Cry." George Beardmore.

"The Steeper Cliff." David Davidson.

INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION.

The first International Exhibition of Landscape Architecture to be held in England was opened by the Duke of Wellington, Lord Lieutenant of the County of London, at the County Hall, S.E.1, on Monday, August 9th, at 3 p.m. A conference of delegates from 14 nations represented in the exhibition was also held, in order than an interchange of ideas and discussion of technical problems could take place. Exhibition and conference have been organised by the Institute of Landscape Architects.

The exhibition gave some idea of the wide scope and complexity of the problems that the landscape architect is called upon to solve, and was designed to interest the public as well as the professional man. Apart from the introductory screens which illustrated the historical development of landscape in many countries, the exhibition was divided into sections, each of which illustrated the work of one of the countries taking part in the conference.

The exhibition from the American Society of Landscape Architects showed the spectacular growth of projects undertaken for housing schemes, park and parkway developments and other public works. In the U.S.A. the landscape architect is becoming increasingly important in the layout of tremendous projects, such as Stuyvesant Town, a slum clearance scheme to provide housing for 20,000 persons. The automobile has forced the pace of parkway and highway construction programmes, and the recreational needs of the people have brought the functional aspect of park planning to the fore.

Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland showed in their exhibits a wide appreciation of the importance of parks and gardens as factors in social welfare. Sweden had an interesting historical group dating from the monastery gardens of the 13th century. The Swiss are particularly clever in caring for the landscape; protection of their lakesides, historic sites and rural preservation was illustrated, as well as the co-operation of their landscape architects in all undertakings which modify the face of the land.

Of the war shattered countries, Poland's section was one of the most interesting, and illustrated the reconstruction of the natural landscape after war damage. The Greater Warsaw plan showed the enlargement of the important forest areas; while the wonderful Saxon Garden, with its long historical past, demonstrated how new design of details, necessary owing to war damage, conform to the general tradition.

Belgian landscape architecture could be seen as a meeting place between France and England. France, which has influenced so many other countries, showed that in gardens France is reverting to the formality of the 18th century; State recreation parks and sports fields illustrated the concern of France for social progress. The Italian tradition, too, has a wide effect on other countries; in this country the Department of Fine Arts is responsible for the preservation of beauty spots and historic gardens.

The British section mainly showed projects only recently undertaken and still being carried out, among them mining and factory surrounds, seashore parks, hospitals, forest villages, new towns, allotments, parks and gardens, and reconstruction after bombing, had their place.

The final session of the four-day conference (August 9th to 12th) was devoted to the education of the landscape architect. In the U.S.A. a university training has long been well organised, but in England the wide scope of the problems calling for the landscape architect's consideration makes it urgent that his training should be adequately provided for.

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