

Florence Nightingale 284
Memorial folder

THE NURSING TIMES

No. 1473
VOL. XXIX

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE COLLEGE OF NURSING

SATURDAY
JULY 22, 1933

Edited by
HILARY M. HEATON.
(Mrs. W. W. BLAIR-FISH, S.R.N.)

Editorial and Publishing Offices—
MACMILLAN & CO., Ltd., ST. MARTIN'S STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

Editorial contributions, which should be clearly written, or typed, on one side of the paper only, to be sent to the Editor.
If return of MSS. is desired, a stamped addressed envelope must be enclosed.
Advertisements and Subscriptions should be sent to the Manager.

Subscription Rates (post free to any part of the world) are:—Twelve months, 13s. Six months, 6s. 6d.
Special Rate for College Members:—12 months, 8s. 8d. 6 months, 4s. 4d. 3 months, 2s. 2d.

Paris-Brussels

JUST what has the Paris-Brussels Conference meant to us? That depends on a number of factors—who we are, what we went for, and what we expected to find when we got there. Certainly the 2,080 members in Paris and the 2,550 in Brussels were more manageable than the 6,000 who flocked to Montreal in 1929, so that the sectional meetings were just able to retain the personal touch, and the specialist luncheons—a new feature—were altogether delightful, their only fault being that they were all too short, an hour and a half being barely long enough to eat your lunch, clinch an international friendship with your neighbours over a bottle of wine, and contribute your quota to the speeches.

* *

The main sessions, too, were perhaps more human than in the vast Forum at Montreal; for one thing, either all the continental microphones behaved as microphones should or we were more used to them, and if during the translations our attention strayed, as it usually and quite excusably did, our eyes could rest on the tall and stately grey and blue hangings, the grey and steel furnishings of the Salle Pleyel, or on the soft, oval lighting effects and classic pillars of the Palais des Beaux Arts—both buildings whose equivalents it will be difficult to find when the 1937 Congress comes to London.

But when that date comes, let us, for the sake of every nurse who comes to the Conference for professional inspiration, insist upon one improvement. That a group of intelligent women should spend a week in session not only reading, word by word, their main papers (which every member has already received and, we hope, digested in one of three languages in her book of Congress reports) but treating the opening discussions in the same way constitutes an ordeal which in our opinion no modern congress should be expected to endure, and which must, we think, have largely accounted

for the dwindling numbers towards the last days. Indeed such soporifics, added to the effects of comfortable chairs and a programme of late evening receptions, made quiet naps almost inevitable, and the outstanding success of spontaneous speeches such as that of Miss Darbyshire on the *Lancet* Commission or Mdlle. Chaptal's delightful addresses from the presidential chair came as oases in a parched land.

This was the more regrettable as the papers as such were excellent and made very profitable reading over one's *petit déjeuner* in preparation for the day's session, but thus predigested an intelligent audience craves for time for free discussion (always a threefold affair, it must be remembered, when one has to await two translations) and for the spontaneous "speaking to one's paper" which one associates with Congresses such as that of the Royal Sanitary Institute or indeed of any modern professional group.

* *

For the rest the Conference is too vast a subject to cover in one leading article. Even the most earnest nurse who attended could do no more than specialise on her particular subject, but for the College of Nursing the week had many happy and some very distinguished moments, notably the announcement of the election of Miss Lloyd Still, matron of St. Thomas's, as international president for the next four years, the re-election ("naturellement," as Mademoiselle Chaptal, the retiring president, remarked) of Miss Musson as treasurer, and the choice of Miss Alexander, president of the South African Nurses' Association and also a College member, as second vice-president. Then signal honour was done to the College in the final recommendation of the International Courses at Bedford College and the College of Nursing as the framework of the international nurse memorial to Florence Nightingale, with College representation on the Committee.

130

Contents

	PAGE
PARIS-BRUSSELS	699
EDITORIAL NOTES	700
THE PRESENT ASPECT OF SMALLPOX PREVENTION	703
A MEDICAL CONFERENCE ON CONTRACEPTION	706
THE CONTRAST	707
PARIS-BRUSSELS PICTURES	708
QUEEN'S INSTITUTE OF DISTRICT NURSING	710
THREE BOOKS OF REFERENCE	710
COMING EVENTS	711
GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR SCOTLAND	711
NEWS IN BRIEF	712
CORRESPONDENCE	712
"THE NURSING TIMES" LAWN TENNIS CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION	714
TWO FATAL MIDWIFERY CASES IN INDIA	717
THE TRAINING OF NURSES	717
NATION'S FUND FOR NURSES	718
OBITUARY	718
APPOINTMENTS	718
CROSSWORD PUZZLE NUMBER 82	719
COLLEGE OF NURSING ANNOUNCEMENTS	720

Paris-Brussels—Contd.

Another happy moment was the award to Miss Musson of the silver, and to Miss Lloyd Still of the bronze, medal of the Assistance Publique of France for outstanding social work; another, the rallying in spite of overloaded Conference programmes of no less than 120 College members in the garden of the Hertford British Hospital—and this although the only intimation had been a chalked notice on one of the innumerable Conference blackboards or messages passed verbally to wearers (and they were everywhere) of the beloved blue College badge. Last we would mention the many excellent addresses and shorter speeches which College members out of their varied experience were able to contribute to the different sessions, and the splendid performance of Miss Hillyers, assistant matron at St. Thomas's and organiser of last year's College pageant, as announcer at the procession of the world's nurse pioneers at the Trocadéro—a model of what such announcements, so quickly and easily translatable into French and German, should be.

* *

For the rest we have received warm and heartfelt international greetings from two of Europe's most beautiful cities, we have been welcomed to cathedrals, palaces and civic halls, two countries have done honour to our leaders by conferring on them orders which are highly prized. Let us show our worthiness of such national expressions of appreciation and goodwill by our unswerving determination to serve with intelligence, devotion and singleness of heart this public which has done us so much honour, and which for the last few years has been passing through such troublous times. Is not this what the Paris-Brussels Conference should mean to us?

Editorial Notes

A Historic Combat

LET everyone who wants a thrill find herself a front seat among spectators at the final of the *Nursing Times* Lawn Tennis Challenge Cup Competition at St. Charles' Hospital, Marylebone, on July 27 at 2.45 p.m. Invitations to our friends in the London area have already been issued, but if anyone who has not received an invitation would like to come will she write to the Manager, *The Nursing Times*, St. Martin's Street, W.C.2, and a card will be sent to her. This year an untried competitor (from *The Nursing Times* Cup point of view) has appeared in the field—the Kingston and District Hospital—and has beaten down one opponent after another until at last it stands face to face with the other finalist, the Middlesex Hospital. We have always felt that we should be greatly intrigued to see a municipal hospital meet a voluntary one in mortal combat on this occasion and at last the time has come. We wish them *both* the best of luck! It has been a sad shock to hear that Miss Bannon, matron-in-chief, L.C.C. Hospital Nursing Service, has been unavoidably prevented from undertaking to present the Cup, but we were cheered at being so fortunate as to secure Miss Milne, principal matron in the above Service, to act in Miss Bannon's stead. Miss Milne, it will be remembered, was till recently matron at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and St. Mary's tennis stars will now be wishing even more heartily that they had won through to the finals. Next year, perhaps? (*Results and reports of semi-finals on page 714.*)

Shades of Nelson

ONE of the two houses which formed the original hospital provided for babies at Deptford is about 300 years old and is believed to have been rented by Nelson. Probably it was as countrified in his day as must have been the now shabby environs of Merton, where, on the banks of the Wandle, he used, so tradition says, to sit and fish. The new Albany Deptford Babies' Hospital, opened by H.R.H. the Duchess of York on July 11, is situated in the upper and healthier part of Deptford, in Breakspears Road, Brockley. It comprises three wards with eighteen beds, an isolation ward and one large room for mothers and babies. The out-patient department is in the garden but even so there is plenty of room for further extension if required. The entire equipment is modern and the rooms most attractive. The medical officer at this hospital is Dr. Proctor, who, as College members may know, is lecturer in hygiene to the public health and diploma students at the College of Nursing. Her sister, who is the Warden of Bedford College, provided the delicious tea on July 11; it must have been appreciated by the Duchess of York who made really long visit and saw every corner of the hospital.