

Shall We Join the Family?

HELEN K. MUSSALLEM, PH.D.

*Executive Director,
Canadian Nurses' Association*



Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nursing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial associations. Each of these associations — and its individual members — has some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress.

The convention offers the only opportunity for nurses from all provinces to meet, to listen, to criticize, to contribute. It offers the only opportunity to reconcile views, to formulate policy and express it as a coherent plan for the future. In particular, it offers the only opportunity to overcome the limitations of the profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change

wrapped Newfoundland to Pacific-bordered Victoria, the winds of change are sweeping over the nursing profession. Is this abnormal? Not in the least. It is occurring in every business and profession, not only in Canada but in the world. The nursing profession would be strange, indeed, if it were not reacting to the influence and forces which are abroad in our world today.

Is this restiveness bad? Certainly not. Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nursing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial associations. Each of these associations — and its individual members — has some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress. anxious to learn and to make progress.

The convention offers the only opportunity for nurses from all provinces to meet, to listen, to criticize, to contribute. It offers the only opportunity to reconcile views, to formulate policy and express it as a coherent plan for the future. In particular, it offers the attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a pro-

some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress. anxious to learn and to make progress.

The convention offers the only opportunity for nurses from all provinces to meet, to listen, to criticize, to contribute. It offers the only opportunity to reconcile views, to formulate policy and express it as a coherent plan for the future. In particular, it offers the provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial asso-

All across the nation, from Atlantic-wrapped Newfoundland to Pacific-bordered Victoria, the winds of change are sweeping over the nursing profession. Is this abnormal? Not in the least. It is occurring in every business and profession, not only in Canada but in the world. The nursing profession would be strange, indeed, if it were not reacting to the influence and forces which are abroad in our world today.

Is this restiveness bad? Certainly not. Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nursing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial asso-

ing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

The convention offers the only opportunity for nurses from all provinces to meet, to listen, to criticize, to contribute. It offers the only opportunity to reconcile views, to formulate policy and express it as a coherent plan for the future. In particular, it offers the only opportunity to overcome the limit-

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial associations. Each of these associations — and its individual members — has some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress.

The convention offers the only opportunity for nurses from all provinces to meet, to listen, to criticize, to contribute. It offers the only opportunity to reconcile views, to formulate policy and express it as a coherent plan for the future. In particular, it offers the only opportunity to overcome the limit-

reacting to the influence and forces which are abroad in our world today.

Is this restiveness bad? Certainly not. Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nurs-

wrapped Newfoundland to Pacific-bordered Victoria, the winds of change are sweeping over the nursing profession. Is this abnormal? Not in the least. It is occurring in every business and profession, not only in Canada but in the world. The nursing profession would be strange, indeed, if it were not reacting to the influence and forces which are abroad in our world today. Is this restiveness bad? Certainly not. Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nursing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial associations — and its individual members — has some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress.

All across the nation, from Atlantic-

wrapped Newfoundland to Pacific-bordered Victoria, the winds of change are sweeping over the nursing profession. Is this abnormal? Not in the least. It is occurring in every business and profession, not only in Canada but in the world. The nursing profession would be strange, indeed, if it were not reacting to the influence and forces which are abroad in our world today.

Is this restiveness bad? Certainly not. Since the days of Socrates it has been the right and the responsibility of the intelligent mind to ask questions. Nursing would not deserve its status as a profession if it did not seek constantly to improve its methods and its contribution to society. Having accepted this role, nursing is committed to a course of enquiry into and criticism of its functions as they affect the progress of the profession and its individual members. In a world where the winds of change have reached gale force — as they have in every aspect of life in the past few decades — it would be very melancholy if nurses remained mute at the council tables of change and progress.

What has all this to do with your attendance at our biennial convention? A great deal. Because health is a provincial matter, the organization of the Canadian Nurses' Association is, in fact, comprised of ten provincial associations — and its individual members — has some mutual problems with its sister units, some identical problems, some parallel situations and some situations peculiar to each province. The dominant fact is that there is a community of professional interests running through the entire profession. All are anxious to learn and to make progress.