

pline; the giving of one's best for another, which is the highest of all woman's privileges; to emphasize the fact that sick nursing is one of the grandest ministries of the world; to show that beauty of service. An ideal like this will enlarge our methods, place us in a right attitude toward our patients, and shed a new light on our work and life."

After the speeches a pretty incident occurred, Miss Isla Stewart, the President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, stepped forward and expressed admiration for the manner in which Miss Isabel McIsaac had presided over the International Congress, and also for her brilliant record of professional work and high sense of professional duty. She congratulated the Matrons' Council on the fact that Miss McIsaac had consented to accept its honorary membership and pinned on the badge of the Society. During Miss McIsaac's graceful reply, she held Miss Stewart's hand, and modestly declared in accepting the honour that it was a tribute from the English nurse to the American nurse, and was thus the more significant of the international good-fellowship in the nursing sisterhood—a sentiment which elicited loud applause.

During the meeting selections of music were rendered by Brooke's magnificent Marine Band. Hundreds of nurses then flocked across the grounds to see the equipment of the Army Nursing Corps, and witness a most interesting display of the treatment and removal of the wounded on the field of battle, which the Corps presented in the most realistic fashion.

Later in the afternoon a reception was given from four to six o'clock at the Women's Administration Building by the Board of Women Managers of the Exposition, for the nurses. The guests were received by Mrs. John Miller Horton, Mrs. William Hamlin, assisted by Mrs. Trueman G. Avery, Mrs. George W. Bush, and Mrs. Elizabeth B. McGowan. Coffee was served in the quaint and artistic dining-room, which was decorated with pink asters. The reception-rooms were graced with vases of yellow dahlias, pink gladioli, ferns, and tinted grasses, and a delightful time was spent, after which the visitors had a real good time in inspecting the lovely gardens and buildings of the Exposition. Many paid a visit to the Indians' Camp, where thirty tribes are represented, and watched the unique electrical display which changed night into day, and turned into "Old Nuremberg", to dine to the sound of a full German Military Band, taking a peep in the Midway at the funniest sights in the world before driving home after a most remarkable and delightful day.

One and all agreed that Trained Nurses' Day had been a grand success.

## The International Council of Nurses Report on Nursing in France.

By Mlle. Dr. Anna Hamilton.

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For the last forty years French hospitals have been, as a rule, worked by Religious Orders devoid of all training, and also generally of instruction and education.

Gradually the rules of narrow-minded modesty and strict church attendance obliged these Orders to engage rough male and female servants to do what nursing work the nuns were prevented from doing in the wards.

Even as early as 1788 we see in a report drawn up for the King of France by the great Dr. Cenon on the state of the big Hotel-Dieu of Paris that there were 102 nuns in that hospital and 307 ward-helpers, besides 228 other hospital employés!

The want of proper training rendered nursing a most unpleasant work, the absence of education developed coarseness in it, and ignorance stopped its progress, thus nursing, left in the hands of those common ignorant helpers, could not be otherwise than looked down upon by all in France. It was supposed, and ever since believed, that nuns only, beings of a special nature, could possibly live in the hospitals without losing their morals.

When reform sprung up in protestant countries, it was not taken into consideration by the Religious Bodies who ruled the hospitals through the nuns, and these last, kept aloof from all that goes on in the world, went on exactly in their work as they were wont to do ages ago.

Private hospitals are very rare in France, they are all *civil* hospitals ruled over by:—

(a) *The Commission administrative des hôpitaux*, which members are elected half by the Municipal Council and the other half named by the *Préfet*. As chance and politics will have it, they may be a most ignorant set of men.

(b) *The Municipal Council*, who allows the necessary money from the town taxes, the *mayor* of the town being always president of the hospitals.

(c) *The Assistance Publique of France*, who send inspectors, and whose approval must be asked for heavy loans or purchases or plans of new hospitals. This last depends on the Ministry of Intérieur.

In the hospital we have a *director* (man), who lives in the hospital and is responsible for everything (except the nuns). He usually is a man

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