

The German Nurses' Association.

A large assemblage of members of the German Nurses' Association was present at the yearly general meeting on March 30th, which was held in the new offices of the Association lately opened in Berlin. The Association now occupies the whole of an extensive flat, with large and commodious rooms for the bureau, a most convenient and quiet private office for Sister Karll, the President of the Association, living rooms for the sisters who conduct the secretarial and bureau work, and a large beautiful room for general meetings, reading room, and social purposes.

The yearly report showed most encouraging progress in all directions, and several important resolutions were adopted, among which was one to enter the International Council of Nurses, and another to formally join the National Council of Women of Germany; affiliation with the latter body having previously been of an informal character only.

In recognition of sympathy and friendly encouragement of the Association, which is establishing a new ideal for nursing standards in education and in conditions of living, honorary membership was conferred upon Frau Krukenberg, chairman of the Nursing section of the Berlin Congress, Mrs. Fenwick, first President of the International Council of Women, and Miss Dock, Secretary of the same. The President's report, not yet to hand, will show the varied work which is being carried on by the Association. L. L. D.

The Kingston Infirmary Nurses' League.

On Tuesday evening a very pleasant meeting was held in the Nurses' Lecture Room at the Kingston Union Infirmary, when Miss E. C. Barton, the President of the Chelsea Infirmary Nurses' League, and the Hon. Secretary of the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, read a paper on the desirability of affiliation with that body. She said:—"Science has more and more of late helped to bridge over the distances dividing different countries and peoples. The ease with which journeys are now undertaken, and messages sent from even the most distant parts, has done much to draw the ends of the earth together, and to foster the feeling of comradeship and good fellowship instead of the isolation and aloofness which has existed so much in the past."

The speaker then went on to describe the foundation of the International Council of Nurses through the affiliation of National Councils. Illness and pain, she said, are not confined to any party or country, and so the sisterhood of nursing should be universal without distinction of class, or degree or nationality.

Legal Matters.

MRS. PHILLIPS CONVICTED OF THEFT.

At Exeter Quarter Sessions, Mrs. L. M. Phillips, stated to be a nurse, and who for years has been acting in that capacity, was indicted for stealing various articles, including a watch, the property of a domestic servant, in a house where she was nursing.

The police inspector gave a lengthy list of goods of all descriptions which had been seized in the house of the prisoner, including 12 blankets, 27 purses, 33 umbrellas, 22 gold brooches, 127 silver and plated spoons, and other articles too numerous to mention.

After hearing the evidence, the Recorder said no one could doubt that the prisoner had been nursing for years; she had brought odium upon a noble band of women, and, he had not the least doubt, had also brought a great deal of suspicion upon perfectly innocent servants. This made the case more serious. She had been in prison for three months, and she would go back again for a further term of nine months, and as she seemed a delicate woman, and he did not want to do anything which might prevent her getting a living when she came out, she would be placed in the second division. He also directed that the prisoner should pay the costs of the prosecution.

We hope that when Mrs. Phillips has fulfilled the sentence which she richly deserved, that she will earn her living by some other method than that of private nursing. It must surely be manifest to all that there should be some method of placing outside the ranks of trained nurses a woman with such a record.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A NURSE.

A nurse has been charged at the Sunderland Police Court with having unlawfully concealed the birth of a child, and has been remanded without bail.

At the inquest on the body of the child a nurse said she was responsible for packing the belongings of the accused, who was leaving an institution in the town after an operation for appendicitis. The accused asked her to bring a square tin biscuit box from the box room. As this would not go into the larger box she opened it with the view of distributing its contents. She then saw the head and feet of a child.

The doctor who examined the body said it was too decomposed to determine the sex or to say if it had been born alive. It was probably not premature. The Coroner said there was no evidence to justify a verdict of child murder, and that the jury could only give a verdict that the dead body of a child had been found. The question of unlawful concealment could be left to the police.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the suggestion of the Coroner.

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