

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD
EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,004.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1907.

Vol. XXXVIII.

Editorial.

THE PARIS CONFERENCE.

There is but one opinion expressed by all who have taken part in the International Nursing Conference at Paris. From first to last it has been a magnificent success. It must ever be remembered for the enthusiasm, the vitality, the unanimity which were such marked features throughout, and for the cordial reception accorded to it by those interested in the progress of nursing in France, chief amongst whom must be mentioned the Municipal Council of Paris, who received the Conference at the Hotel de Ville so delightfully; M. G. Mesureur, Director of the Assistance Publique, whose courtesy, kindness, hospitality, and interest have been so freely extended to it; Mme. Alphen Salvador, who entertained a party at luncheon at the Palais D'Orsay, invited all the members of the Conference to a reception at the Rue Amyot, and presided at one of the sessions, taking the greatest interest in the proceedings throughout; Mlle. Chaptal, who in the name of the Committee received the Conference at the Maison Ecole des Infirmières Privées in the Rue Vercingetorix; and last, but not least, the Baronne James de Rothschild, who entertained sixty members of the Conference to luncheon and afforded them an opportunity of seeing the beautiful Castle of Chantilly. The international character of the gathering was emphasised by the presence of such notable leaders of nursing as Miss Isla Stewart, President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, Mrs. Hampton Robb, representing the National Associated Alumnae of the United States, and the bearer of the cordial good wishes and affectionate greetings of its 8,000 members. Miss M. A. Nutting who said that as President of the American Federation of Nurses she had been com-

missioned to bring the greetings of that Society and of the Society of American Superintendents of Training Schools, which comprised in their ranks all the nurses in the United States not already included in the message delivered by Mrs. Hampton Robb, Sister Agnes Karll, President of the German Nurses' Association, with Sister Erna Weydemann, the delegate of the town of Dusseldorf, Miss Maxwell, the delegate of the Managers of the Presbyterian Hospital, New York, and Miss H. L. Pearse, Superintendent of School Nurses under the London County Council, sent by the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses.

No special effort was made to secure delegates for this Conference, and those appointed were therefore the more heartily welcome. It is quite impossible to mention by name the foreign nurses, over 300 in number, many of them most distinguished in the nursing world, who were present, but there was but one opinion expressed by all, whether the foreign visitors or their French colleagues. All felt the strong electric bond of sympathy, of unanimity of purpose, which inspired the meetings, that there was little for the benefit of the sick, and the improvement of nursing, which the energy concentrated in the Conference Hall could not accomplish, they felt also a thrill of pride that the profession to which they belong should be received with every mark of honour by the charming people of France.

Amongst the European countries represented outside France were Great Britain and Ireland, Germany, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Austria, Switzerland and Finland, and still further afield the United States of America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. With those who have taken part in the Conference there is one feeling uppermost, that of joy at having shared in so great and uplifting an occasion.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)