

and adopted at Cologne by the representatives of 23 countries. The plan, instantly popular, was published at once with complete frankness, our hope of interesting Bedford College for Women, connected with the London University, being made known with equal frankness even before we had gone to them with our wish and hope. For three years the Memorial has been spoken of in the nursing journals and within the last year, in view of the meeting at San Francisco, active steps have been taken and duly proclaimed to gather funds and to approach Bedford College. The material from the Department of Nursing and Health at Teachers' College was sent over, and Bedford seemed inclined to show at least interest in what we wanted to do. Then suddenly, when all was in train, it was learned that St. Thomas' Hospital had approached King's College for Women with a proposal to found there a memorial to Miss Nightingale with the remainder of the original Nightingale Fund subscribed after the Crimean War, this memorial to take the form of scholarships for the courses of Domestic Science. It was further learned that King's College had agreed to this proposition. For this, of course, no one can feel anything but approval and satisfaction. It is a good thing to do—a step in the right direction. But, coming just when and in the way it has come, it has all the appearance of having been meant to weaken or even to sidetrack the international memorial. This may sound like an expression of pique, but it is not so. It is simply the conclusion that one's intelligence can hardly avoid when various facts are known. I shall mention some of these.

When the work of organizing for the Memorial had received influential encouragement Mrs. Fenwick, as head of the English branch of the International, called on the Matron of St. Thomas' Hospital, and invited her to go on the committee. The matron declined not too graciously. She intimated that St. Thomas' would have its own memorial, but gave no hint that the International proposal and scheme had been in part adopted. The Secretary of the International, who afterwards (in March of last year) called upon her to suggest that at least some of the St. Thomas' graduates might like to be included in the Procession at San Francisco when our gifts were to be brought for the memorial, also encountered a decidedly chilly demeanour. One remark made by the matron that struck the secretary especially was a suggestion that a University Chair, to be commendable, should be "under professional management." What, then, has been our surprise to learn that St. Thomas' also got from Teachers' College, New York, where American Nurses have established a Chair of Nursing, the printed materials needed for laying a plan before the authorities of King's College, and this surprise was deepened by learning that it secured this material through one whose scholarship at Teachers' College was given her by the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, who, as their intermediary, preserved the same silence as to the

proposed plans of St. Thomas', this silence having been, no doubt, required of her as confidential consultant.

However, we now must consider what effect this foundation at King's will have upon our hoped-for foundation at Bedford. As a matter of fact, the Domestic Science scholarships by no means constitute the Department of Nursing and Health which is our ideal. We shall therefore go on organising and after the War collecting money for this Department. Our goal is a Chair of Nursing and Health, nothing less. Meantime, the scholarships at King's will in all probability retard our reaching our goal. Indeed, the Trustees of Bedford College have already suggested that the obvious impropriety of "overlapping" the work of King's would come into the question now, if we pressed our petition. We may have to wait some time to bring it about, but we have not the smallest intention of abandoning our purpose. The proposed Nurses' International Memorial to Florence Nightingale, the creation of a Chair of Nursing and Health by Nurses, will be pursued unremittingly until it is finally in existence.

THE WHITE SHEET.

Miss S. Bulan, the foreign untrained Editor of the *Nursing Times*, presumes in its last issue to make a purposely misleading statement concerning the International Council of Nurses and its work, in which she says that the Nurses' International Memorial "is at a deadlock and the situation which has arisen is deplored by the *American Journal of Nursing*." We refer our readers to Miss L. L. Dock's statement, published in this issue, to show in what manner honourable American nurses "deplore" the action of the Nightingale Fund in this connection, and that far from there being "a deadlock," American nurses with their colleagues in other countries now contributing every penny they can spare to help mitigate the misery of war, intend after the war to continue to collect funds for an International Chair of Nursing, as they have a perfect right to do. Thus Miss Bulan's statement that "It will be remembered that this memorial was supported only by a small section of the nursing world in this country" is quite unwarrantable; as she has no access to the business records of this professional Council of Nurses, she has therefore no information of any kind upon which to form an opinion.

That the nursing profession in this country should be subjected to persistent misrepresentation in the shameless campaign of exploitation by untrained foreigners is by no means surprising. Their interests and ours are diametrically opposed. But what is surprising is that professional women should combine with them and not hesitate to cover untrained aliens in their jealous attacks upon professional Associations of Nurses. Such conduct is disloyal and subversive of professional discipline.

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