

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

DEATH OF MISS TAKE HAGIWARA.

With deep sorrow we have received from Tokio the following notification of the death of a most honoured and early member of the International Council of Nurses.

Notification.

"THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF MISS TAKE HAGIWARA, SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSES OF THE JAPANESE CENTRAL RED CROSS HOSPITAL IS NOW COMPELLED WITH GREAT SORROW TO CONVEY TO YOU THE SAD INTELLIGENCE, THE DEATH OF MISS TAKE HAGIWARA.

"It took place on the 27th and the last rites were performed on the 30th of May, 1936, at the Training School for Nurses in the compound of the Hospital."

Miss Hagiwara first became known to members of the International Council of Nurses at the London Congress in 1909, which she attended as a fraternal delegate from the Red Cross Society of Japan, and presented a paper, read by Miss Lavinia Dock. She was then Head Nurse at the Central Red Cross Hospital, and had been decorated with the Seventh Order of the Crown for her services in the Chino-Japanese War. She received war medals and a sum of money from the Government in recognition of her services in two wars, and the "Officier d'Academie" Decoration from France in recognition of her services during the Boxer trouble in China. At the close of the Congress she expressed herself delighted with her visit. She had never, she said, felt a stranger, but just amongst sisters.

In 1912 Miss Hagiwara attended the International Congress of Nurses in Cologne, and presented a paper in the section on "Organisation and State Registration"; and at the historic Banquet, when the foundation of an Educational Memorial to Florence Nightingale by the nurses of the world, was proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and seconded by Miss M. A. Nutting, Miss Hagiwara, in thanking Sister Agnes Karll, President of the I.C.N., who presided, said "Our soul and spirit have been refreshed by the unhymnable source of knowledge which draws us on, by a magic bond, far to the Star of Hope. I hardly know if I can find words or poetry that can suffice to thank our President, Sister Agnes Karll. To-day, dear Sister, we are striving to the same goal with united hearts, and may trees with sweet scented blossoms be covered later with the noblest of fruits."

After the Congress Miss Hagiwara, with Mrs. Watatani and Miss Yamamoto, accompanied by Mr. K.

Hiraiwa and Miss Margaret Breay made a pilgrimage to East Wellow to visit the grave of Miss Nightingale. Kneeling at the graveside Miss Hagiwara placed a lovely wreath of heather, Mary lilies and asparagus fern at the base of the Nightingale Tomb.

Before journeying to England also, at the time when memorial services were held in this country Miss Nightingale's memory was honoured in Japan, and, in the Red Cross Hospital in Tokio, Miss Hagiwara spoke the tribute in the presence of Princesses of the Blood Royal, Peeresses,

and other members of the aristocracy, and over 300 Red Cross Nurses.

Once again Miss Hagiwara attended a meeting of the International Council of Nurses, when she was present at its Congress in Montreal in 1929, and took part in its deliberations.

Long will be remembered, by those privileged to participate in it, the luncheon given by Miss Hagiwara, and the members of the Nurses' Association of Japan, during the Congress, at which she presided with the dignity and charm which always characterised her actions.

At the meeting of the International Council of Nurses in Paris in 1933, to the joy, not only of Miss Hagiwara, but of her many friends in the Council, who knew how staunchly she had supported it while acting as its Associate National Representative for Japan for six and twenty years, the Nursing Association of the Japanese Empire was admitted to full membership of the Council, and in her Report as President of that Association presented to the I.C.N., Miss Hagiwara was able to state that since her last Report in 1929 "the standard of nursing education in Japan had, on the whole, been substantially raised.

"The Association now has a membership of 1,500 and is becoming one of the most important institutions in Japan aiming at the improvement of the nurse's general standing, character, knowledge and technique. Its further purpose is to ensure closer friendship and co-operation among nurses, with a view to upholding the principle of service to humanity. We are, therefore, convinced that our organisation may make valuable contributions in the future to the development of nursing in Japan."

We shall miss her gentle, though forceful and picturesque presence at the International Congress of Nurses in London next year, where we had hoped to greet her again, and we shall honour her memory as one of those who helped to make the Council the success it has become, by her personal interest, support, and co-operation through over a quarter of a century.



The late MISS TAKE HAGIWARA
President of the Nurses' Association of the
Japanese Empire, affiliated to the I.C.N.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)