

College for any of the benefits provided by the scheme in respect of matters occurring after the date of discontinuance.

8. The indemnity does not extend to any liability attaching in virtue of an agreement.

Election of Fellows and Members

Applications for membership of the College were received and all were elected.

Lectures.

It was unanimously decided to thank Mrs. Commissioner Dibden for her kind consent to speak at the College on the subject of "The latest information concerning the Mayflower and the Salvation Army activities," on Wednesday, November 11th, at 4.30 p.m.

Tea to be served at 4 p.m.

An At Home in Commemoration of Registration Day is arranged to be held at the British College of Nurses, Ltd., on Wednesday, December 2nd, at 4 p.m.

The meeting then terminated.

Notice to Fellows and Members

The Council would remind Fellows and Members of the College that there is an excellent library where they could come and peruse reference books, etc., between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. and also enjoy tea at 1s. 6d. per head in the club room.

Also for Fellows and Members coming to London, hospitality can be arranged for them provided that early notice is given to the Hon. Secretary, 19, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7, Telephone: WESTern 2234.

Cidade Maravilhosa.

For those of us who were privileged to take part in the Congress was the added stimulus of the visit to Brazil. Our focal points were Sao Paulo, an important urban centre on the uplands at the back of Santos, and Petropolis, a lovely mountain resort near Rio de Janeiro, one of the largest cities in Brazil. Rio is both rich and beautiful, an enchanting city which has earned from one of Brazil's finest writers the title of CIDADE MARAVILHOSA, meaning Marvellous City, a nickname which has stuck because so well deserved. It lies between the famous Guanabara Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, and its sprawling suburbs stretch out in long fingers between the lovely mountains which themselves pierce the very heart of the city, and in places from even the end of streets. Dominating the mountain scene is the Sugar Loaf which stands 1,200 feet high, a gracious lacework pattern of innumerable hillocks; this is a favourite attraction which travellers and tourists can reach by means of cable-car. As a contrast to the natural beauty of the Sugar Loaf is the man-conceived majesty in the colossal figure of Christ with hands outstretched, erected on the top of the Corcovada (Hunchback) Mountain which welcomes the stranger to Rio and sends out a message of everlasting reassurance and hope. Awesome as it appears from a distance, the full wonder of the figure is shown when viewed from the base, to which visitors can come by electric railway or by car. The whole statue is beautifully proportioned; the hands alone measure six feet across, and the face, with features carefully defined, bears the familiar expression of tenderness.

The streets of the city itself are flanked by tall white buildings of varied types of architecture; the highly individual style of the more modern ones is most arresting.

In the main streets which are built on the lower levels close to the shore, the road surfaces are wide and flat offering the thronging motorists an apparently irresistible opportunity for speeding, for the roads are in a constant bustle of fast moving traffic. However, when the visitor afoot is sufficiently acclimatised to the swirl of the cars to move about freely in the shopping areas, he is well rewarded by the gay display of attractive goods in the shop windows. These lure many

a tourist to spend his last few precious pieces of money, for in a foreign setting even homely wares look more attractive than they do in one's own country, whilst a crocodile bag, or ornament of precious stones, for example, seem very very desirable.

Brazil, as an immigrant country, has attracted people of widely varying backgrounds. Africans, Americans, Germans and Italians among many others have settled in this country, whose culture is predominantly Latin. In this fusion, Brazil is proud to be proving that people of different colour and race can mingle without strife and form equal citizens of any given country.

From the exciting background of Rio de Janeiro let us turn to consider the substance of our Congresses in general, and take a retrospective view of our latest one in particular.

We may well regard our four-yearly gatherings as stepping stones on the road of progress in nursing.

The I.C.N. like the Brazilian nation is made up of many peoples. Through the pooling of our knowledge and experience we hope to raise and maintain a high standard of nursing. Indeed in formulating an "Acceptable Standard of Nursing" and establishing an International Code of Ethics of Nursing, like Brazil, we have shown what can be achieved by the co-operation of people with different backgrounds of race, creed and culture. In the careful organisation and timeless effort made on our behalf whilst in Brazil, we may well draw inspiration for our own work. So, too, in deciding on the need of any future changes within our profession, should we do well to remember the Brazilian way of life, so strongly influenced by Latin culture, where broad human impulses are allowed a freer play.

It will be seen from the detailed reports of our 10th Congress already to hand, that as more and more countries are admitted to membership, health, economic and welfare programmes develop in the countries of those already established as members, the scope of nursing is growing on an ever widening plane. In her address our retiring president, Miss Gerda Höjer stressed that we must be prepared to shoulder the increasing responsibilities within our work, especially emphasising our responsibility one to another. Those who came from countries with strong traditions and a long history of nursing must at all times be ready to share their knowledge with those from newer member countries. At the same time, the youth and vigour of new member countries would greatly strengthen our efforts.

In point of Country Representation, this Congress was the biggest in history. By the miracle of modern transportation 1,300 representatives from 46 countries met at Brazil at the invitation of the President of the Brazilian Graduate Nurses' Association. Both in Sao Paulo, where the Board of Directors and Grand Council met, and in Petropolis, at the luxurious Quitandinha Hotel where the Congress was held, we were shown the full meaning of Miss Glete de Alcantara's message to the Congress Programme, in which she stated that for all their youth, Brazilian nurses were anxious to take their part in promoting national and international fellowship among nurses.

Happily the Congressional programme allowed ample opportunity for us to enjoy many social activities, to visit Hospitals, and to make at least a nodding acquaintance with the historical and geographical background of our hostess country. For me, memories of the Congress will be inextricably woven with those of Brazil, since it seemed that in some respects parallels could be drawn between the two.

The Council and Board of Directors in arranging the programme did not discount the influence of philosophers and creative thinkers on nursing, and papers presented gave concrete information on what were considered "Acceptable Standards of Nursing" in various fields, and furthermore the speakers in each instance were all active and successful Matrons or Administrators in their own sphere.

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