

have now the nucleus of an organization ready and able to deal with the details. At a meeting which took place this morning, the Constitution of the International Council of Nurses (founded at a meeting of this Council last year) was formally adopted, and its Hon. Offices elected. Its Preamble runs as follows:—

"We, nurses of all nations, sincerely believing that the best good of our Profession will be advanced by greater unity of thought, sympathy and purpose, do hereby band ourselves in a confederation of workers to further the efficient care of the sick, and to secure the honour and the interests of the Nursing Profession."

And the objects of the International Council are:

1. To provide a means of communication between the nurses of all nations, and to afford facilities for the interchange of international hospitality, and

2. To provide opportunities for Nurses to meet together from all parts of the world, to confer upon questions relating to the welfare of their Patients and their Profession.

By an overwhelming number of votes, Miss Lavinia Dock, of the United States, has been elected Hon. Secretary, and Miss Agnes Snively, of Toronto, the Treasurer of the International Council of Nurses, and, by request, these ladies have been empowered to form a Committee of Arrangements to carry out the organization of the Twentieth Century Celebrations proposed to be held in Buffalo next year. The Buffalo Trained Nurses' Association are also participating in the arrangements and are acting as a Local Committee.

Now, I may be unduly suspicious, but did not someone whisper, "Buffalo—why Buffalo, and where is Buffalo?" No! But we do suffer from insular prejudices. Well! it is just because Buffalo is situated at the exact spot which it is, that Buffalo becomes, geographically, *the* spot on earth for the moment most suitable for international congress purposes. We all know our map of the Americas, a transverse line—to the north Canada, to the South the States, how they touch, and are again divided by the Great Lake. Well, in the extreme north of the State of New York, we find Buffalo on Lake Erie and on the borders of Canada. Here, through this lovely city, the great trunk lines from north and south, east and west, pass daily, and it is at this spot that the nurses from the vast continents of Canada and the United States, and Europe, can easily gather together. Did I say easily—not so, because two valuable things—time and money will be needed if European nurses are to take part in the Celebrations, and money, as we know, is difficult to get. But even money is obtainable

by co-operation, generosity and thrift, and it is just on the subject of finance that we shall have to take counsel together. At all events, the many flourishing Societies of Nurses in this country will each, doubtless, wish to be represented by a delegate to the International Celebration of the New Century of the profession to which they belong, and by beginning early I can see no difficulty in their case.

Place the expenses of each delegate at £50, and take this Matrons' Council. We have 100 members. If each member would subscribe 5s. this year, and again 5s. next, the £50 would be in hand to pay the expenses of our representative. So with the other Nurses' Co-operations and Nursing Schools, and I have no doubt that, if a Finance Committee was appointed by this Council, with power to add to its number, delegates from nursing societies and representative women, a scheme could soon be evolved which, in twelve months' time, would enable a large contingent of nurses to attend this great International gathering of Nurses, and the immense refreshment of spirit and delight which results from a visit to a new world, would be theirs, with its inspiring memories for the rest of their lives.

In closing this little sketch of a great event, I beg to propose that, "The Matrons' Council take steps to form a Sub-Committee, to facilitate the attendance of Nurses at the Twentieth Century Celebrations, to be held in the United States in 1901."

DISCUSSION ON MRS. FENWICK'S PAPER.

The Resolution proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was seconded by Miss Mollett, and carried unanimously.

MISS M. BREAY: I have listened with great pleasure to Mrs. Fenwick's paper. The scheme seems such a large one that if anybody else but Mrs. Fenwick had proposed it one would feel inclined to doubt if it could be accomplished, but we all know that when she takes a thing in hand she has a way of carrying it through, and therefore there is reason to hope that a goodly contingent of nurses from this country will find their way to Buffalo next year. Of this I am sure that there is not one of us who, when the time comes, will not wish to be there.

THE PRESIDENT: It is a *great* idea. America is very progressive, and although it may not have surpassed us with regard to practical details of nursing, it has got before us in nursing organization, for it has both its Superintendents' Society and also its Associations in which the graduate nurses are gathered up and organized. We in this country have the Matrons' Council, which answers to the Superintendent's Society, and we have a League which answers to an Alumnae Association in the United States; but as yet we have no centralizing Association answering to the National Associated Alumnae, although the Matrons' Council has a scheme under consideration. This

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