

At the meeting of the International Congress of Women in London in June, 1899, a section on trained nursing had been arranged at the suggestion of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, who was the Convener of the Professional Section.

The Nursing Section elicited much interest, and was well attended by English nurses, among whom were many who are now members of the Council. The meetings were presided over by Mrs. Sewall and Lady Aberdeen. There were present also Mrs. Grace Neill, who is Assistant Inspector of Hospitals in New Zealand; Miss M. H. Watkins, one of the first nurses to be registered in South Africa; Fru Norrie, of Denmark, who had given time and labour to nursing organisation in Denmark; and several nurses from the United States.

The interest aroused by the Nursing Section was such that Mrs. Fenwick suggested the formation of an International Council, to meet every five years at the times of the Congresses of Women. The idea was cordially received by all, and those who had taken part in the sessions formed themselves into a Provisional Committee to arrange the details of organisation.

Several meetings of an informal character were held, the most important one of which was at St. Bartholomew's, at the house of the Matron, Miss Stewart, where the British members were authorised to draw up a Draft Constitution.

This duty was accepted, and in due time the Constitution was circulated among the members and was adopted. Its main features were that it provided for membership to consist of National Organisations, whenever there were enough such bodies to unite together, and, for the time being, of the individuals who had founded it, and who were placed upon the Council or governing board, and for Hon. Vice-Presidents in countries unorganised.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, of England, was elected President; Miss Snively, of Canada, Treasurer; and Miss Dock, of the United States, Secretary. As there was only one country—viz., the United States—sufficiently well organised to be ready for membership, the individual members have carried on the Council until to-day, in the meantime doing all they could to stimulate organisation in other countries.

In 1901 there was a World's Fair held in Buffalo, U.S.A., and the Council, thinking this would be a good opportunity for bringing nurses together, arranged to hold a meeting at that time and place in order to celebrate the twentieth century, and suggested a Congress of Nurses at the same time. As the American nurses were all intending to hold meetings at that time, the proposal was warmly taken up, and in due time the Congress was held, and the International Council of Nurses held a special meeting at which reports were received from eight countries showing the condition of nursing and of nursing education. These reports were published with the transactions of the Congress, and some reprints were made, of which several are here to-day.

Some additions were made to membership, which, at the present day, consists of the following names:—

COUNCILLORS.

President:

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder of the International Council of Nurses; late Matron and Superintendent of Nursing St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. Hon. Associate of the Order of St.

John of Jerusalem, and holder of the Distinguished Order of the Greek Red Cross.

Hon. Secretary:

Miss L. L. Dock, late Hon. Secretary of the American Society of Superintendents of Training-Schools for Nurses.

Hon. Treasurer:

Miss M. Agnes Snively, Lady Superintendent General Hospital, Toronto.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Miss Isla Stewart, Matron and Superintendent of Nursing, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London; President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss M. Breay, late Matron of the Metropolitan Hospital, London, and of the English Hospital, Zanzibar; Hon. Secretary of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

Miss Cureton, late Lady Superintendent Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Miss G. Knight, Lady Superintendent General Hospital, Nottingham.

Miss M. Mollett, Matron Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital, Southampton.

Miss M. Huxley, late Lady Superintendent Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin.

Miss L. Bradshaw, Lady Superintendent Donnybrook Hospital, Dublin.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Miss A. Nutting, Superintendent of Nurses and Principal of Training-School for Nurses, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore.

Miss Brennan, Superintendent of Nurse-Training School, Memorial Hospital, Richmond, Va.

Mrs. Quintard, late Superintendent of Nurse-Training School, General Hospital, Puerto Principi, Cuba.

Miss Lucy Walker, Superintendent of Nurse-Training School, Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia.

Miss Hanna Kindbom, late Professor of Nursing in the University of Texas.

Miss I. Merritt, Superintendent of Nurse-Training School, The Hospital, Brooklyn.

Miss Maud Banfield, Superintendent Polyclinic Hospital, Philadelphia.

Miss Dolliver, Superintendent of Nurses Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston.

Miss Drown, Superintendent of Nurses Boston City Hospital, Boston.

Miss Palmer, Editor-in-Chief *American Journal of Nursing*, Rochester.

Miss Nevins, Superintendent of Nurses, Garfield Hospital, Washington.

Miss McMillan, Superintendent of Nurses Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago.

Miss Maxwell, Superintendent of Nurses Presbyterian Hospital, New York.

Miss McIsaac, Superintendent of Nurses Illinois Training-School, Chicago.

THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

Miss Murray, late Lady Superintendent Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Miss S. B. McGahey, late Lady Superintendent Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney.

Miss M. D. Farquharson, Lady Superintendent Bendigo Hospital, Victoria.

NEW ZEALAND.

Mrs. Grace Neill, Assistant Inspector of Hospitals, N.Z.

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