

### The Social Side.

#### THE ÉCOLE DES INFIRMIÈRES, PRIVÉES.

Important and valuable as the Sessions of the Conference were, not less important were the social functions, in which international friendships were formed and cemented, and in which many matters of professional interest were informally discussed. The members of the Conference are thus greatly indebted to their hospitable hosts and hostesses who not only entertained them in a most delightful manner, but afforded them the opportunity which they keenly appreciated of social intercourse with one another. We found that our common profession was an open sesame to topics of vital interest, and that the problems which confronted us were, all the world over, surprisingly alike.

The first of the receptions in connection with the Conference took place on the afternoon of Monday, June 17th, at the Ecole des Infirmières Privées, in the Rue Vercingetorix, when under the trees in the shady court-yard Mlle. Chaptal received the guests. On all sides one heard echoes of Berlin, showing that the International Council is binding nation to nation in the ever-increasing friendships which these meetings create.

How good it was to clasp hands with those we met three years ago, and also to meet and welcome others of whom we had heard.

M. Mesureur, Director of the Assistance Publique, was there to welcome us.

Baroness Mannerhaim, from Finland, that liberty-loving and progressive country, was there eager to know everything possible to report to the nurses of her country.

Norway, too, was represented by Miss Sylvia Kurtz Krag, who has come to Paris to work for awhile, old friends from the States were there, and many new ones. From Germany and Denmark came a strong contingent; but strongest of all, being so near, was that band from our own country. One felt the chain which binds us together in unity of purpose grows stronger year by year, and this growing force must bring us soon to the goal upon which so long our eyes have been fixed. The school, so ably organised by Mlle. Chaptal, evoked many exclamations of praise as did the exceedingly neat and pretty uniform of the probationers, and all present united in wishing unbounded success to the pioneers of skilled nursing in Paris.

The value of private initiative in establishing standards is well exemplified in this school.

### The 'Reception' at the Hotel de Ville by the Municipal Council of Paris.

The reception by the Municipal Council of Paris in the magnificent Hotel de Ville of the members of the Conference was justly esteemed by all a very signal honour for the International Council of Nurses, and "best bibs and tuckers to-day" was the *môt d'ordre*.

Soon after four o'clock the guests began to assemble, and very charming and bright they all looked in their pretty frocks and dainty uniforms, and nothing could exceed the courtesy and kindness of their reception by the following members of the Council:—M. Hénaffe, Vice-President (replacing the President, M. André Lefèvre, who was unavoidably prevented attending); M. M. Deslandres, J. Weber, secretaries; M. Ranson, Senator, President of the Conseil Général; M. Navarre, President of the Committee de l'Assistance Publique; M. M. Badini-Gourdin, Bertrou, Gent, Dr. Guibert, Happenheimer, Marchand, Marsoulan, Mossot, Pannelier, Henri Rosselle, Tantet, Municipal Councillors; M. Lucien Voilin, Councillor General; M. Piette, Director of the Cabinet of the Préfet of the Seine, representing M. de Selves; M. Yves Durand, Director of the Cabinet of the Préfet of Police, representing M. Lépine; M. G. Mesureur, Director of the General Administration of the Assistance Publique; M. Felix Voisin, President of the Conseil de Surveillance, and M. E. Thilloz, General Secretary.

Between three and four hundred foreign nurses attended this reception and greatly appreciated the recognition of their citizenship and profession by their eminent hosts. When all were assembled in the splendid salon, M. Felix Voisin introduced the following representative nurses from the various nations to M. Hénaffe, the representative of the President of the Municipal Council of Paris, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss L. L. Dock, Miss Breay, Miss Nutting, Fraulein Karrll, Miss Isla Stewart, Miss Amy Hughos, Dr. Anna Hamilton, Miss Elston, and Mlle. Chaptal. M. Voisin said:—

"I feel honoured, Monsieur le President, that it is my mission to present to you these ladies and their numerous colleagues, for I know what distinguished women they all are. I know their aspirations, their indefatigable devotion in their desire to relieve suffering, and I shall, therefore, not astonish you if I tell you that they have come in obedience to a natural impulse from all parts of the world—Europe, America, India. I say it will not astonish you, because we know how women of all nations are always ready to

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