

ceived the delegates at their schools. In the name of French nurses also she thanked the eminent nurses who had brought to France the support of their example, and their encouragement for the work of nursing reform in France.

The vote of thanks was enthusiastically carried, and this brought to a conclusion the most representative, influential, and brilliant International Conference on Nursing which has ever been held, and which will live in the memory of those privileged to be present as a real lovely time, in which kindness was Queen of the Revels.

FINIS.

Impressions of the Conference.

The Conference leaves us an impression of gratefulness to all the earnest and eager women who have come to Paris from all parts of the world, to work with us to the common cause. It leaves us an impression of joy, for it has been a success, and of encouragement.

For the solidarity and sympathy keenly felt during this memorable and instructive week will always help us in our task, and lead us to our aim.

Toujours mieux faire!

G. ALPHEN-SALVADOR, President-Founder,
Association for the Development of Nursing.

The recent Conference at Paris was the first one at which I have had the opportunity and privilege of attending, and it was a revelation to me in many respects. It was most refreshing to meet with so much enthusiasm for the nursing cause, and to find that delegates did not consider it too much trouble to travel great distances in order to be present at the Conference, and to learn all they could for the advancement of that cause in their own countries. Nurses eagerly compared notes with, and sought information from, one another; the opportunity for so doing, as afforded by an international nursing conference, being one which might occur but once in a lifetime. One listened to opinions and views upon every point of nursing from those who have practically devoted their lives to the profession, and the value of the information obtained through their experiences cannot be too highly estimated. The leaders and organisers of the Conference are deserving of the highest praise and gratitude, as it was in a great measure due to their enthusiasm and ability that the success of the meeting was ensured.

C. MACBETH,
New Zealand Registered Nurse.

The thing which most struck me in the Conference was to see that those attending it were essentially ladies in "active service," or who had spent years in that service.

In France, when a lady of a certain social status interests herself in good works in general, or in the sick in particular, she does it as Patroness,

President, Member of a Committee, and so on, but she never does active service in the work, which is carried on thanks to employées who scarcely ever appear.

It was, then, a continual surprise, during those memorable Conference days, to find that every one of the elegant ladies taking part was a veritable nurse, that in her time she had been a pupil learning to polish and keep fresh the wards of her hospital, and to change and wash the sick, until having risen by degrees to an important position, she is now engaged in developing the studies and guiding the career of her nurses, working all the time with them. To how many French people have I not explained this even to weariness. They could not believe that all these ladies so distinguished in bearing, beginning with the President of the Congress, were, or had been "nurses."

As for myself, how can I express my joy in finding that all those eminent trained nurses, coming from the United States, from Canada, New Zealand, England, Scotland, and Ireland (not to speak of other countries) held the same principles of nursing which, ever since 1900, I have been trying to make known and to put in practice in France.

How often have I felt alone in the struggle against administrative routine, against wrong methods in vogue in nursing organisations, and blindly sanctioned by incompetent authorities! What mocking smiles, what bitter criticism, what absurd condemnation one has had to endure from those who totally misconceived the essential conditions for the training of a true nurse.

The splendid reunion in Paris has been as healing balm to me, and I have been deeply gratified by the kind reception given by eminent nurses to our hospital nurses from Bordeaux, who are true French nurses, coming from the only schools in France which have adopted the real principles of nursing, and who are the result of years of struggle on my part.

I have good hope that this great international demonstration, bearing on the training and value of the true nurse, will lead to serious modifications—revolutions even—in the schools of nursing, and in the Hospital Administration of France.

ANNA HAMILTON,
Directrice Médecin Résident, Maison de
Santé Protestante, Bordeaux.

A Swiss Sister writes: "I was just delighted with that dear, beautiful, poetical, sentence in which you gave your impression of the Conference:

"'Roses, roses, all the way.'"

"It was very much *femme*, and that is what I like so well.

"It was my deepest impression in Paris, that amongst all those wonderful women, those strong and devoted women, there was not one of the disagreeable emancipated type. The woman a real woman, but without weakness and smallness."

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