Murses of Mote.

SISTER AGNES KARLL,
President of the German Nurses' Association.

If any proof was required to demonstrate the spirit of sisterhood which animated the International Council of Nurses, nothing would be more convincing than the fact that it was in Paris, the capital of France, that a German lady was unanimously nominated as President elect for the Council.

That is just one of the little touches which proves the greatness of internationalism.

it was during this period of exhaustion, after some fourteen years' work, that Sister Karll's clear brain was set a thinking. Why this sacrifice of health, and often life itself, of hundreds of devoted women workers? Why no standards of training, no examination, no status and protection for skilled workers? The humane heart and fertile creative brain of Sister Karll prompted the reply. "Unite," they cried, "become strong, show what combined effort can accomplish." And unite they did. In the year 1903 the German Nurses' Association was founded by 30 trained nurses. In



ISISTER AGNES KARLL IN THE OFFICE OF THE GERMAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION, BERLIN.

Sister Agnes Karll, President of the German Nurses' Association, is the lady her colleagues have thus been pleased to honour, and it is well that British nurses should know a little of her life's work, and with what courage and singleness of purpose it has been accomplished. After training in a Red Cross Hospital, and also in a private hospital, Sister Karll worked for more than two years in the medical and surgical departments of the University of Goettingen, as head of the Ward; after which she spent ten arduous years in private nursing.

Then the physical strain began to tell, and

1907 it has a membership of over 1,400! This forceful organisation has its central office at Berlin, where Sister Karll, the President, works unceasingly superintending the energies of six skilled helpers, all too few to cope with the vast amount of business from all over the Empire, with which they have to deal. Sectarian nursing has had its day. In the future it is to the free Sisters to whom the sick must appeal, and if all Sister Karll's splendid dreams of perfection come true, for the higher education and more efficient training of German nurses, they will not appeal in vain.

E.G.F.

previous page next page