

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

It was extremely pleasant to welcome a lady who had done so much to raise the status of nurses in Germany as the President of the International Council of Nurses. Sister Agnes Karll had devoted herself, her energy, her brains, and her worldly wealth to the service of the nursing profession; she recognised the evils of lack of organisation, inadequate standards, and all those things with which we are so familiar, and set herself the task of remedying them. She was the friend and guardian of those who were cast adrift in the change from the religious to the secular system of nursing in Germany. The great and statesmanlike work of which hers had been the directing mind had been the formation of the powerful organisation which had secured from the Government valuable privileges for the nursing profession. He proposed the health of Sister Agnes Karll and her continued success in the noble endeavours to which she was devoting her life. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, their national chorus being sung by the German nurses.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Founder of the International Council of Nurses, Lord Ampthill said he could tell those present a great deal, for he had had the privilege and great pleasure of working with and for her. He might describe her characteristics as clear thinking and steadfast courage.

Nothing had excited his admiration more than what he had seen of these qualities. She had persisted in her uphill work in spite of insults and slander, from which a lady in her position should have been exempt.

Few public men would have held on under similar circumstances without for a moment finching or faltering. That Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had done for twenty years. Like all who take the lead in public affairs, she had had to fight vested interests, and had met opposition in an extraordinary degree. They were there to wish her success, and he, for one, most earnestly hoped to see Mrs. Bedford Fenwick triumphant.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF NURSES.

Miss Goodrich, representing our American kinsfolk, was most particularly welcome. There have been times when they have not regarded us with whole-hearted affection, but he could assure Miss Goodrich that at the present time there could not be greater cordiality in our sentiments. We have always felt proud of the great and growing nation of America, and he believed that America felt pride in its connection with this country.

Miss Goodrich brought a message of encouragement. In America the Registration battle was won, and Registration was in full swing in twenty-four States. It was encouraging to us that the system commended itself to a progressive people like the Americans.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

We did not need that Miss Snively should tell us of the bond of union which exists between Canada and the Mother Country. Miss Snively had twenty-five years as Superintendent of a training school to her credit, and, Lord Ampthill said, he would be surprised if any one said she was not representative in Canada.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE DUTCH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Nothing could be more instructive and valuable to us than to know of the difficulties that exist in other countries. They afforded convincing proof that our own grievances are not imaginary. Miss Tilanus had been working in difficult circumstances, and we were obliged to her for paying us the compliment of a visit.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE DANISH COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Mrs. Henny Tscherning had built up a splendidly helpful Association in Denmark. The Danes recognised the advantage to be gained by organisation and co-operation, and by affiliation with the International Council of Nurses.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINNISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Baroness Mannerheim, who represented Finland, was trained at St. Thomas's Hospital, so her courteous and friendly return to this country was particularly welcome. Lord Ampthill concluded by saying that he had only very briefly referred to the work of these distinguished ladies. He might say he had presented it in tabloid form, but they were more welcome than his feeble words were able to express. We thanked them for the compliment they had paid us in travelling such long distances to be present, and were grateful to them for doing so.

Lord Ampthill's speech was received with loud and prolonged applause.

THE RESPONSE.

Sister Agnes Karll and the Presidents of the affiliated National Councils then replied.

SISTER KARLL expressed her warm thanks to Lord Ampthill for his kind words, and the way in which he had associated her name with the toast. In electing her President of the International Council of Nurses, she knew that the greatest possible honour had been conferred upon her. She wished all success to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and the British nurses in their struggle for organisation; they

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