

were winning the fight. She concluded by expressing the hope that she would have the pleasure of welcoming all those present at the next meeting of the Council in Cologne in three years time.

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK said that the present was a proud moment when it was remembered that only one decade ago the International Council of Nurses was founded (unrecorded by the Press), but with the support of the woman who had shown more courage and kindness in relation to nursing organisation than any other Matron of a large training school in this country—Isla Stewart. Then it was a shadowy hope; now it was a link between nurses all over the world.

Mrs. Fenwick referred to the previous delightful gatherings which had taken place in Buffalo, Berlin, and Paris, leading up to the delightful meeting which at the end of ten years it was possible to have, at which the leaders of nursing of so many different countries were represented. They had during the Congress heard the echo of what British nurses who were endeavouring to organise their profession had had to bear. She did not think there was one person in the room who was impressed with the opposition, which was indeed a pitiable spectacle. The only feeling of British nurses was one of sorrow that the nurses of the world should have seen it, and that for one hour it should have been possible to imagine that this opposition represented the attitude of British men. They were thankful to their friend, Lord Ampthill, for his words; the real attitude of the British man to the British woman was to be seen that night. She could not tell those present what Lord Ampthill had been to British nurses. Women whose influence was only indirect were very helpless, and when a Bill for their Government was sprung upon British nurses by a noble Lord, and they realised that their acquaintance with members of the House of Lords was slight, she could not say what it meant to them when Lord Ampthill in the most noble and generous way came forward to help them. In thanking Lord Ampthill for including her name amongst those honoured in the toast, she thanked him also for the great and generous part which he had played. Those present had heard "one who shall be nameless" on the previous day; they had that night heard Lord Ampthill. She did not believe there was a doubt in the minds of any one present as to who was in the right.

Miss GOODRICH, in responding to the toast, said that sometimes her country had been a little jealous of Great Britain, but it had never ceased to love her. She assumingly referred to the demands made upon the trained nurse by describing the visit of a clergyman in search of a nurse to her office. This gentleman said he wanted a nurse of broad personality, who would help to raise the money to carry on the work, though, of course, the right kind of person would not consider money; who would put up drugs and prescribe simple ones; attend at the dispensary and visit in the homes of the poor; she must be willing to get the children ready for school, to do cooking if required, leave the houses clean, and perform the last offices when necessary. A year after the same clergyman called to say that the nurse had met every demand but one.

Her health was indifferent and she was breaking down.

Miss Goodrich concluded by saying that she wished she had words strong and eloquent enough to express all that the American Delegation felt about the Congress.

Miss SNIVELY said that as the representative of the largest and wealthiest of his Majesty's dominions, she would like to say that Canada had made three attempts to secure State Registration, so far unsuccessfully. She wished this country would send them Lord Ampthill, when perhaps the next attempt would result in success. The Canadian Delegation could never express all its gratitude for the hospitality and great kindness it had received. Canadians realised the honour of forming part of the British Empire, and knew how much they owed to the Motherland. Canada was the true and loyal daughter of the great and ever glorious British Empire. She heartily thanked Lord Ampthill for the way in which he had connected her name with the toast.

Miss C. J. TILANUS said she was not sufficiently acquainted with the English language to say much. She thanked Lord Ampthill sincerely for his kind words.

Mrs. TSCHERNING also expressed her thanks for Lord Ampthill's reference to her, of which she felt quite unworthy. The impulse had come to Denmark from Great Britain to form part of this great International Council, and if these impulses did not come from the large to the small countries she feared they would progress but little. She gratefully acknowledged the toast, not on her own behalf, but on that of the Danish Council of Nurses.

BARONESS MANNERHEIM said that a thrill of happiness passed through the nursing world of Finland at the prospect of affiliation with the International Council of Nurses, and she also felt great happiness at being present and amongst so many with whom she was in sympathy. She thanked Lord Ampthill sincerely for all his kindness.

Words fail us to convey to those not present at the banquet an adequate idea of the enthusiasm with which both Lord Ampthill's speech and those of the delegates were received. There was never a greater demonstration of the solidarity of the nursing profession, or of the friendliness and mutual appreciation which exists between nurses.

#### GREETINGS OF THE ASSISTANCE PUBLIQUE.

M. ANDRÉ MESUREUR, who was most cordially received, then rose to convey the greetings of the Assistance Publique of Paris to the International Council of Nurses. He said those present would readily understand the regret of his father, its Director, when he found it impossible to be present. To-day the bonds of friendship between the Assistance Publique and Great Britain were drawn closer because pupils from its nursing school were now obtaining an insight into English methods at St. Bartholomew's Hospital under Miss Isla Stewart. It was not without anxiety that the administration saw its pupils leave the Salpêtrière, but they had the comfort of knowing that they were amongst friends in a foreign country. He had now the honour to present to Miss Stewart and to Miss Beatrice Cutler, the Assistant Matron at

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)