

Nursing in Sweden.

Although Sweden has not yet formed a National Council of Nurses and entered into affiliation with the International Council, the interest which it took in the meetings of the Council and Congress are shown by the large delegation of nurses which attended from that country, and the interesting report which was prepared by the Congress Committee in Sweden and distributed. The portrait of the Dowager Queen Sophia, who takes so warm an interest in nursing, appears as a frontispiece, and we print below the introduction to this interesting report:—

"In reply to the invitation that Sweden should take part in the International Nurses' Congress to be held in London from July 20th to the 23rd, 1909, a temporary Committee has been formed of representatives from the different nursing institutions, under the patronage of H.M. the Queen Dowager Sophia of Sweden.

"The Committee wish to take this opportunity of expressing their thanks for the invitation sent to Swedish nurses and persons interested in their work, which has been most gladly accepted.

"The nurses of Sweden are most grateful for the many good inspirations which have come to them from England and which have helped to develop the work in their country. They always look on Florence Nightingale and Dora Pattison as high examples of self-sacrifice in the service of love and mercy. The result of their life work is known throughout the civilised world and their names will always be mentioned with reverence.

"A well-organised body of nurses is of the highest public importance, because every nurse, provided her character corresponds with the object of her high calling—that of disinterested service—can

often, by reason of her position, play an important part in the solution of the social controversies of to-day.

"In the hope that the nursing profession may be advanced by means of thorough and systematic training, and also that the work may always be based upon and consecrated by the fear and love of God, the Swedish Committee send their hearty good wishes for the work of the Congress, and trust that its efforts will be crowned with success."

The following appreciation of the Congress has been received from the Swedish fraternal delegates:—

We, the Swedish nurses, are returning to our northern country with such happy impressions and vivid memories of the recent Congress as will infuse new vigour into our daily round of duties.

We have been struck with the splendid manner in which all arrangements were made and carried out in all details, and have admired greatly the very clever and forcible speeches delivered by the leading members.

The subjects discussed will give us food for serious thought on our return home, and we are sure that

much of what we have heard will prove of the greatest use to us.

The privilege of seeing the enthusiasm of so many noble women gathered together from all parts of the world cannot fail to have a stimulating effect on us in pursuing the work we all love.

Everybody has been exceedingly kind to us, whether it has been in patiently listening to, and answering our eager questions or in providing us with charming entertainments, and we take this opportunity of expressing our heartfelt thanks.

Our picture on this page and the one on page 151 of Mr. Haldane are from photographs by Half Tones, Ltd.



SOME OF THE SWEDISH FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

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