

Impressions of the Congress.

What I think of the Congress? That I enjoyed it immensely, and all our party with me.

Such charming hospitality, such wonderful women from all parts of the world, such order at the sessions, such business-like thoroughness in all things, and then graceful flowers, lovely music, and last, but not least, remarkable feminine magnanimity against absurd masculine opposition.

Why, how could we not think all that is best of this Congress?

ANNA HAMILTON,
*Docteur-en-Médecin, Vice-Présidente pour
la France, Conseil International des
Nurses.*

The Congress is over and we are all sorry.

I have wished all through that more of us could have had the opportunity of hearing the splendid papers and discussions, but, of course, that was impossible.

It has all been so interesting and instructive from beginning to end. I hope when we meet again many of the lessons we have learnt will have been put into practice. We ought all to go back to work with this object in view. The organisers may well feel proud of the result of their work, which must have been tremendous.

ALICE REEVES,
*Lady Superintendent, Royal Victoria
Hospital, Dublin.*

Probably the greatest benefit to be derived from the meetings of the International Congress of Nurses is the interchange of ideas upon methods of work, of nursing education and organisation and the ideals that inspire and keep alive amongst this large and representative body of earnest women from many nations the desire for the highest efficiency and intelligence in preparing women for the sacred duty of caring for the sick. We find that our problems are equally formidable, differing only in degree, but requiring of us exercise of the highest qualities of heart and brain, the broadest intelligence, and the deepest sympathy. It gives us courage to know that the lamp of learning is being carried to many nations, and that the sufferings of humanity are being lessened through the comfort and relief that intelligent nursing brings.

ANNA C. MAXWELL,
Delegate, American Federation of Nurses.

It certainly must be admitted that the promoters and organisers of the International Congress of Nurses have had their efforts crowned with success.

"Congress week" has been the means of banding together hundreds of women from all parts of the globe with one common human interest—the care of the sick and afflicted.

We have had the happiness of making new friendships and of learning much from one another to advance the work of the nurse.

The element of good fellowship which existed

all through at the various gatherings struck me very forcibly. Also the "commonsensical" type of face impressed me very much when I looked round upon the sea of faces at the daily sessions; aim and purpose was written in each.

I think the various clever, interesting, and instructive papers read by our English and foreign fellow-workers have given us food for thought.

The great question of State Registration is one which roused us all to enthusiasm during the Congress. I have much sympathy with those who, against opposition, have so bravely fought for the cause, and I shall watch with keen interest the progress of the Nurses' Registration Bill. I take this opportunity of wishing all who are concerned in the movement "Kia ora" [Maori for "Good-luck"].

N. MAY PALMER,
*Fraternal Delegate from Wellington,
New Zealand.*

DEAR PRESIDENT,—Home at last after the never-to-be forgotten days in London; I want, on behalf of the nurses from Finland and their President, to send you, dear Mrs. Fenwick, and all the ladies of your Committee, our warmest and most deeply felt thanks for the nearly overwhelming kindness and courtesy shown to us. I think no country could ever compete with the English in the way they received us nurses and made us all feel at home in their beautiful city of all cities in the world.

One can scarcely, to my mind, attach too much importance to meetings of this kind. After the Congress in Paris I had, coming back, a wonderful feeling of increased strength, which made work easy and very happy. Nothing that other countries had accomplished seemed any longer an impossibility. Even little Finland seemed bound to succeed where others had already succeeded. And yet that time I was alone. Now we have been eight, which means eight more warm supporters of the nursing ideals brought forward during that wonderful week.

And, as Miss Dock says, as we are now seven affiliated countries, our strength is also sevenfold increased. We ought all to feel and to work like young giants. Welcome then, dear work, and may the impulses received in London help us to carry you very high till, in three years' time, we all meet again.

With our best wishes for England, the mother country of all nursing, believe me,

Yours most sincerely,

SOPHIE MANNERHEIM,
*President, Finnish Nurses'
Association.*

DEAR MADAME,—I seize this occasion to thank you once more for the very courteous reception that you have given me. This Congress will certainly help us to raise the nursing standards in France.

Please receive my very sincere thanks, and believe me, yours truly,

T. CRESSE DE KERVEGUEN,
*Fraternal Delegate from the French
Red Cross Society.*

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