

interesting paper of Fraulein Agnes Karll were very instructive to me.

I end by thanking the organisers of the Congress, not only for their kind hospitality, but also for all the good things I have listened to, and I go back to France with a greater admiration and respect for the profession of nursing, that has led to the evolution of such highly cultivated minds as those of the women I was happy to meet and to listen to.

Truly yours,

R. FLOURENS,

*Fraternal Delegate of the Red Cross Union
des Femmes de France.*

I was much impressed by the earnest tone of the whole meeting, and feel sure the Congress will be of the greatest use to all who attend. It is such an advantage to see the wider side of our profession; we are, as a body, so apt to lose sight of the large interests in the great rush of our work.

KATHLEEN L. BURLEIGH,

Treasurer, Scottish Nurses' Association.

Our London meeting deserves to rank among the wonders of the nursing world, I think. It was a high water mark such as, in its entirety, we shall hardly reach again for some time—this partly by reason of the glorious environment, historically and socially speaking, which London offered, and the rich associations with nursing history and progress. Also, what added greatly, to my mind, to the unique zest of this meeting, was the thrilling psychological atmosphere emanating from the present phase of the woman movement, of which our own efforts for improved conditions are a part and a very important part. Then, there was a dramatic element about it all, and especially about the two first days, which was in the highest degree stimulating, and made the Americans think with chagrin of the eminently prosaic and uneventful character of their home meetings. Never have I seen an expression of such frank and happy enjoyment on the face of the Editor of the *American Journal of Nursing* as was there when she said to me, "I would have come across the water just for this one day."

One of the great features to admire was the large and lavish scale on which the British nurses had planned all the setting of the meetings, beginning with the Inaugural Luncheon, and ending with Windsor. To me, the evening in St. Bartholomew's Great Hall was the most never-to-be-forgotten of all this social setting. There was every sort of charm and even a sort of enchantment about that evening—the stately hall, the suggestions of antiquity, the medley of people, the variety of garb, from evening dress to nursing uniform, the genial spirit and lavish hospitality of Miss Stewart. It was a golden evening. Then another very striking impression made upon me was the consummate ability of Mrs. Fenwick in the leadership of large public meetings. Not only is she a master hand at conducting the programme successfully, and without flagging, but her parliamentarianism is flawless and her opening address reached sublimity in its presentation of ideas.

No less remarkable, in its different way, was the

work of Miss Breay with the *BRITISH JOURNAL*, and the fidelity and accuracy with which from day to day all the proceedings were transcribed to its pages while yet the days and evenings were filled with functions.

Then again, what could have been more perfectly done than Mrs. Spencer's management of the many intricate details of the varied social events which framed and linked our meetings in such a brilliant setting? It requires a special talent to carry through successfully so many details on so large a scale, and so smoothly and apparently so easily did all the machinery move that no one, perhaps, seeing Mrs. Spencer's unruffled and gracious demeanour as she moved hither and thither would have supposed that hers was the guiding hand of the wonderfully arranged social side of the Congress, which gave such pleasure and will leave so many happy memories.

A truly delightful feature was the arousing of the different countries to interest. The arrival of the Cuban nurses was a joy, and a testimonial to "Home Rule," for, while the American army officer ruled in Havana invitations to Congresses went into the waste paper basket. Then what could be more satisfactory than to have laid the foundations of friendly relations with our valiant sisters of Japan? The Italian workers, too, have never before shown more than a languid interest—they are wide awake and enthusiastic now.

I hope that in years to come we may have nurses from every race and country in the world, and I believe we will. Meantime, in work, I think we shall maintain the high level indicated in London, and expect to see every future meeting more fruitful of good results.

LAVINIA L. DOCK.

Finis.

Holidays for Nurses in India.

The news of the unfortunate outbreak of cholera amongst the nursing staff at the Presidency General Hospital, Calcutta, by which several lost their lives, has aroused sorrow at home, and all over India. The Sisters of the Clewer Society, directly in charge of the nurses' quarters, who were unremitting in their attention to their sufferers, have received telegrams and letters of sympathy from all parts of India and England.

A subscription has been started with the object of forming a fund for the purpose of providing the nurses with a holiday in turn annually, and although the fund has only been open a few days a large sum has already been subscribed. Perhaps some of the readers of this journal may wish to subscribe to so laudable an object. If so, money sent to the "Empire" (Limited), 12a, Mission Row, Calcutta, will be duly acknowledged. The appeal is being made by Mr. H. C. Begg, the President of the Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institution.

The Clewer Sisterhood is a very devoted community, and needs all the help it can get to carry on its nursing work in India, where nurses require more leisure for rest and recreation than they do at home, and where holidays in the hills are expensive.

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