

of the German Nurses' Association, presented its report, showing that in Germany, up till 1871, nursing was in the hands of religious bodies only, and even at this time in Germany there are about 20,000 Sisters of Catholic Orders, over 13,000 Protestant Deaconesses, and not more than 7,000 professional nurses. The Red Cross Mother Houses, the Diacomé-Verein, the Sisterhoods of the Municipal Hospitals, all mean a step forward in the way of self-management, but the German Nurses' Association is the only institution in Germany founded and managed entirely by nurses. Sister Karll then gave the history of the German Nurses' Association, and said that since State Registration of Nurses came into force in 1907 the training is much better in most hospitals, and the Association hopes that in a few years it will be raised to a much higher level.

The United States of America.—Miss A. W. Goodrich, R.N., President of the American Federation of Nurses, presented its report, and said that it was chiefly a record of work done along the lines of advancing and protecting standards of training and education. Just ten years ago, the campaign was opened to obtain State Registration, and now Registration Acts are in force in twenty-four States, and though some of these are elementary, leaving much to be worked for in future, yet they are a beginning, and a number of States have gained a very satisfactory and effective minimum standard as a working basis.

The influence on the training schools is satisfactory throughout, and this is the end sought for in State Registration. It is a bulwark to educational standards; it also makes it possible for unfit women to be excluded, for its penal clause confers a power which training schools do not possess. An encouraging step is that taken by the University of Minnesota in establishing a training school on advanced lines, and giving the pupils the standing of University students.

AN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

Miss Goodrich then saw the nurses united in the American Federation are not unmindful of the great work going on in other countries, and directly addressing Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and Miss Isla Stewart: "American nurses are not entirely ignorant of the struggle of the British nurses, and to show their sympathy the American Federation passed a resolution at its recent meeting at Minneapolis which I have to make known here. You, Mrs. Fenwick, and Miss Stewart, for twenty-two years and more have stood shoulder to shoulder in all the long campaign waged against the continuous advance of the nursing profession. You have been to the forefront always in the work of organising the nursing profession. You have met the largest amount of opposition in so doing, but ignoring it all you have steadily pushed forward the cause of registration by the State and have steadily affirmed the right of nurses themselves to elect their representatives on a cen-

tral governing body. In recognition of the stimulus you have given to other countries, and the courageous part you have taken here, of the power and influence of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, which has been independent and fearless, and of the help given by the Matron of the premier hospital of England, the American Federation of Nurses begs you both to accept Hon. Membership of its body."

Miss Goodrich then presented to Mrs. Fenwick and Miss Stewart beautiful bouquets of roses.

In accepting the honour, Mrs. Fenwick said there was no need to beg her to accept membership in the largest and most progressive Nursing Association in the whole world. It was the one thing in the nursing profession she had always longed for.

Miss Stewart said that Mrs. Fenwick, as usual, had left her little to say, but with Mrs. Fenwick she could say that membership of the American Federation was an honour she had always coveted. In the name of the National Council of Nurses of this country, Miss Stewart then presented a bouquet to Miss Goodrich, who, in accepting it, said that she should treasure it as a memorial of one of the happiest days in her life.

The whole audience then rose and remained standing while "The Star-Spangled Banner" and the British National Anthem resounded through the Hall.

GREETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE ALLIANCE.

Mrs. Garrett Fawcett, who was obliged to leave to fulfil another engagement, was here called upon by the Chairman to address the meeting. She said:—

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and ladies, I consider it a great honour and pleasure to present to you the cordial greetings of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance. I believe, and the conviction is strengthened after listening to the thrilling reports which we have heard, that your aim is included in our aim, for you desire the elevation of the status of nurses—the best training and professional status; and what are we aiming at but at elevating the status of the whole of womankind throughout the world? To use a Stock Exchange expression, we are seeking to raise the stock of women to par. Here at present the stock is often below par, and we wish to raise it to par and even to a premium. When women workers have to appeal to the Government to enact legislation on their behalf, they find their lack of political influence and helplessness. For instance, your President has devoted a large amount of time and talent to the question of the Registration of Nurses, but so far you have not been successful in attaining it. It took 12½ years to obtain the registration of midwives, because the House of Commons was taken up with the business.

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