

of those who have votes. It is an immense disadvantage to women workers to have no vote, and women's suffrage is thus a practical question to which nurses should give time and thought.

Mrs. Fawcett concluded by expressing the hope that when the resolution on the agenda dealing with the women's suffrage was discussed, it would be carried by a very large majority, and prove that nurses stand side by side with other professional women on this question.

#### AFFILIATION TO NATIONAL COUNCILS.

The next ceremony, and a very picturesque one, was the affiliation of the National Councils of Holland, Finland, Denmark, and Canada.

Mrs. BEDFORD FENWICK informed the meeting that the International Council was at present composed of three National Councils; it had now the pleasure of welcoming the Presidents of the above Councils and their full complement of delegates.

The vote having been taken, it was unanimously in favour of the affiliation of the four Councils, which were accordingly admitted to membership of the International Council.

The CHAIRMAN then invited the Presidents of these Councils to present short reports, and presented each to the meeting in turn.

MISS C. J. TILANUS, President of the Dutch Nurses' Association, spoke very briefly on behalf of "Nosokomos." She said that the Association was a progressive one, and that the Association welcomed affiliation with others with similar aspirations.

On behalf of the National Council, LADY HERMIONE BLACKWOOD, President of the Ulster Branch of the Irish Nurses' Association, welcomed Miss Tilanus into the International Council, and presented her with a beautiful bouquet of roses.

The Dutch National Anthem followed.

MISS TILANUS, in expressing the thanks of "Nosokomos" for election, said this affiliation was of great importance for the Association. She hoped that all together we should raise the standard of nursing.

BARONESS MANNERHEIM, on behalf of the Finnish Nurses' Association, said that since the Paris Conference the Association had progressed favourably. It had organised private nursing better, and this was very necessary, especially in the time of the cholera epidemic, with which Finnish nurses had had to contend.

MISS ROGERS, Matron of the Leicester Infirmary, then presented Baroness Mannerheim with a bouquet of roses on behalf of the National Council, and the Finnish National Anthem resounded through the hall.

In response, BARONESS MANNERHEIM said: "I accept with great humility the honour of affiliation for Finland. We feel deeply our responsibility, and will try to be worthy."

Mrs. TSCHERNING then said: "I consider it a great privilege to be present to-day as a representative of Danish nurses. We first want to express our thanks to the Committee for admitting

our Union to the International Council of Nurses. I hope that the following short report of our work will give you the impression that we are not quite unworthy to join the International Council of Nurses. The chief aim of the Danish Council of Nurses has been to improve the training of nurses.

Mrs. Tscherning then described in detail the work of the Association, and said that most of the members agreed in considering a homogenous training, with State Registration a necessity. She also spoke of the desire of Danish women for a share in political life. During the last election for Parliament, all the candidates were questioned by women as to their views on Women's Suffrage. By the Danish Council of Nurses they were questioned about State Registration for Nurses, and several of the candidates treated the matter with considerable interest.

The flowers given to Mrs. Tscherning were presented by Miss FORREST, who said:—

"To me has been given the honourable privilege of saying, 'Wellkommen to the representative from the country that has twice conquered us—once, in olden times, with long ships and brave warriors; once, in modern days, by a noble and beautiful woman whom we proudly call Queen Alexandra. Let us bid Fru Tscherning wellkommen in the words we know so well:—

'Saxon or Dane or Norman we,

Teuton or Celt, or whatever we be;

We are each all Dane in our welcome of thee.'

Jeg onsker eder wellkommen Fru Tscherning."

The Danish National Anthem was then played.

The last Association to be received was Canada.

MISS MARY A. SNIVELY said: "In presenting this meagre report of the status of nursing education in Canada it may be as well to say that these facts are gleaned from the reports of 70 schools, ranging in size from 10 to 100 pupils, and stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts.

"Although the nurse training schools in Canada are few compared with those of more densely populated countries, nevertheless, as most of the superintendents of the schools have received their nursing education either in the large hospitals in Canada or the United States, a large percentage are being conducted on modern lines. Many of the larger schools have provided substantial scholarships and prizes, and teaching by demonstration and bedside or clinical instruction obtains in most of the best schools.

"The school nurse has begun her beneficent work in Canada, the district nurse becomes more indispensable each year, social relief and tuberculosis work are actively carried on, Canada has its nursing journal, and there is a very progressive Canadian Nurses' Association.

"Canada has made three unsuccessful efforts to secure Registration of Trained Nurses. She is not discouraged, however, but hopes that the not too far distant future may bring this much desired good. 'The law of worthy life is fundamentally the law of strife. It is only through labour and painful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage, that we move on to better things.'

MISS HUXLEY, who offered the welcome of the

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)