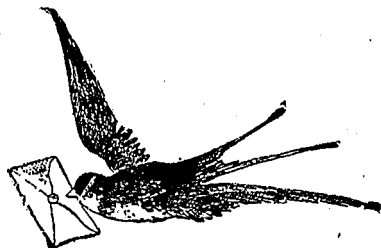


Our Foreign Letter.

FROM GERMANY.



DEAR EDITOR,
In a few days I shall leave Berlin for some months for my usual visit to our hospitals and branches, and on April 1st hope to be in

Switzerland once more to begin translating the second volume of the "History of Nursing." Before I leave the turmoil of work and sorrow I must tell you how wonderful I think the Masque was, and how I envy you this finest deed for our profession. I have translated the report in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, and the whole of Miss Mollett's splendid words, and they will appear in the next two issues of our Journal. Nothing could express better how we feel and suffer, and I can hardly wait for the time when the Pageant will be produced at Cologne. I wonder how many of those who took part in it in London will be able to come. It would be a pity not to have the same costumes. If you could let me know who will come in 1912 I would begin at once to interest the ladies of Cologne in our festival; they are fond of pageantry in that rich town, and will, I feel sure, welcome the idea.

The years 1911 and 1912 will be a grand time for German nursing. There will be a splendid historical survey of it in Dresden, at the International Exhibition of Hygiene. Did I tell you that we sent all the pictures from the two volumes of the "History of Nursing" in four large tables, and three tables of statistics and general information on nursing, our in and out-door uniforms, our badges, the "History of Nursing" (the first volume translated into German and the second in English), and all our literature, etc. Just before the end of the Exhibition (on the 6th and 7th October) we are to have a Nurses' Congress there. I shall be glad for British nurses to know this through the Journal, as we hope some of them will be able to attend.

The women of Germany are beginning to understand the needs of the German nurses, and they want talks on the question in all parts of the country. A large meeting in Berlin in February was a grand success. At least 500 people were present, and many of the daily papers devoted a good deal of space to the question, more than ever before.

In May, Sister Charlotte von Caemmerer, who presented one of our reports at the Paris Conference, is to address a meeting of Silesian women, and present a report, and Miss Charlotte Reichel also. Miss Reichel is a splendid woman. During a course of studies at the *Handelshochschule* (University of Technology), in Frankfort, she was asked to draw up a report on the condition of nurses. Of course, she knew nothing whatever about them, and so went straight to the Municipal Hospital. She

found that nurses are not allowed to talk of their conditions of life, and as she wanted to find out for herself the reasons for this she went as a probationer to three different nursing institutions. In the first she heard of our Association, joined us, and was sent to two other places. She hoped to stay and pass the State examination, but she felt that nursing was not her vocation; but her hospital experience has not been without results, as she has written an excellent treatise on the legal standing of the nurse, showing that our legislators know really little about her, and have often excluded her when they have at least tried to protect other women.

In September I am to speak to a women's meeting in Württemberg, and in October to a similar meeting in the East of Germany. In February and March, 1912, there is to be a large Women's Exhibition in Berlin, with a department for nursing, of which I am President. We began our work for it last week, and in two meetings our plans have been sufficiently developed for me to be able to leave details to my staff. Sister Charlotte von Caemmerer will be in charge of it, and all were ready to help. You will find the work of the Deaconesses (*Diaconie-Verein*) the Municipal Hospitals, the Victoria House, and, I hope, much of the work of the Catholic Orders represented in this department. Is not that a fine prelude to Cologne? We shall have a Women's Congress, with a day for nursing.

In August we shall have our International Congress at Cologne, and in October the biennial meeting of the German Federation of Women in another city, with one day devoted to nursing. Must we not get on when women are devoting so much time in their meetings to nursing? It is worth while to be tired with hard work to see our cause furthered. It would be splendid if you won the political franchise and got your Nurses' Registration Bill through before 1912. We must have a fine exhibition at our International Congress in Cologne; there will be splendid material for it. I think that probably the week beginning on Monday, August 12th, would be the most suitable, but we will decide about that later.

On January 11th, 1913, our Association will celebrate its tenth anniversary, and I shall try to have the Pageant reproduced in Berlin then. What do you think of that?

Our nurses have bought the first volume of the "History of Nursing," and many of the journals and daily papers discuss it a great deal. Many of them are very anxious for the second volume as soon as possible, so I hope the living history of your Pageant will teach them even better than the book what it all means.

With cordial greetings to you and all my British friends.

Yours ever sincerely,

AGNES KARLL,
President, International Council
of Nurses.

[There is no doubt the German nursing world is very much alive. We shall have to look to our laurels in this country.—Ed.]

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