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## EDITORIAL.

### THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONGRESS.

During the meetings of the International Council and Congress of Nurses at Cologne, several important resolutions were discussed and carried. The two offered by the Executive were those passed on the first morning: (1) dealing with the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and calling upon those Governments which have so far denied this just demand of nurses to reverse their attitude of inaction; and (2) declaring the adhesion of the Council to the principle of woman suffrage. The third declared the complete and unshakable adherence of the Congress to the principle laid down by Florence Nightingale, that the head of every nursing staff must have full charge of the teaching and discipline of the staff; and the fourth declared that "Whereas with the advance made by scientists in the study and comprehension of the human mechanism, and with the new knowledge regarding the nature and effects of fatigue upon the human capacities by overstrain, Resolved, that we earnestly beg hospital authorities to give the same consideration to the problem of overwork among nurses that industrial leaders are giving to the question of overwork among workers in industry, in order that the present needless and grievous destruction of the health of nurses may cease."

It was further agreed to send the resolution to the Secretary of State for the Home Department in countries in which a National Council of Nurses is affiliated to the International Council.

### A NURSES' INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL.

In the fifth resolution the Congress requested the International Council of Nurses to stimulate enquiries into the social condition of nurses in the affiliated countries.

But the Congress will be chiefly memorable for the proposition made by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick at the Banquet, with which it concluded, that the nurses of the world should co-operate then and there to found an Educational Memorial to Florence Nightingale, a proposition warmly seconded by Miss Nutting, Director of the Department of Nursing and Health at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, and supported by delegates of the various nationalities present. It is universally felt that the only International Memorial appropriate to so great a teacher is one which will emphasise her life's work as a teacher of sanitary science, of which nursing forms a part, and which would benefit the nurses of the world, and that it was fitting for such a Memorial to be established in England, the country where she lived and died, and where she has left her greatest memorial. This proposal the nurses of all nations assembled in Cologne agreed to further. The Executive Committee, when considering and endorsing the proposal, felt the desirability of a short statement, which would briefly outline the nature of the scheme proposed, and Miss L. L. Dock, the indefatigable Hon. Secretary of the Council undertook to incorporate the scheme proposed in a leaflet, to be published in various languages, so that all nurses may become acquainted with it.

It is hoped that as the soldiers after the Crimean War voluntarily gave up a day's pay in order to subscribe to the nation's personal gift to Miss Nightingale, so the legions of nurses who owe her homage will be willing to subscribe a small definite sum to found a suitable Memorial to the genius of the founder of Professional Nursing. Several of the delegates at the Banquet spoke with definite assurance, that such subscription would be forthcoming in their respective countries.

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*previous page*

*next page*