

When we think of the festival days of Cologne after returning to our own work it must be with a feeling of joy and repose that we all remember the strong and warm sympathy which the nurses have met with in Germany, and we must feel, that a strong link has once again been forged in the chain, which—as we hope—will in time make nurses all the world over a united sisterhood. It cannot be doubted that such an international meeting has its great value, not only as to its earnest work in practical affairs, but also because it calls forth in us the spirit and incites us to keep the ideals, which we all cherish, and which made us choose that work—these ideals, which we sometimes lose sight of during the everyday work, with its inevitable troublesomeness, which can tire us out in soul and body and make us faint-hearted. And we can not sufficiently thank the women who spend time and strength for the sake of nurses. This feeling gives us new spirit to continue each in one's little place.

MARTHE LUND,  
*Member of the Danish National  
Council of Nurses.*

This great Congress, to which we have all looked forward so much, has come to a close, and it is hard to find words wherewith to express the joy it has brought to us. For while many of us have lost a great deal owing to our lack of knowledge of the German language, we have learned very many things from our sisters in all branches of our profession, and we shall, I feel sure, go back to our different posts strengthened and refreshed for the work that lies before us. The whole Congress has been most inspiring, and the excellent way in which it has been managed for us is beyond praise.

With the Watchword given us by Mrs. Fenwick and the high ideals set before us by Sister Agnes Karll, in her address, we shall find strength and courage to go forward, and will endeavour to place before our different Associations the benefits which we have enjoyed and which it has been their misfortune not to have heard. We shall also have much to tell them of the great kindnesses which our German sisters have heaped upon us. We can never thank them sufficiently for all the trouble they have taken in our behalf and which has ensured to the Congress such unbounded success.

May we all aim high to make our work fruitful, and to be able by so doing to help those in need!

HELEN A DES BRISAY,  
*Delegate National Association  
of Trained Nurses of Canada.*

Nurse - Internationalism practically illustrated. India and New Zealand affiliated to the International Council of Nurses in the old and historic city of Cologne. We have been welcomed and accepted in two languages, which were originally one, by a President whose name is known to all nurses who keep up with the women of their times. We knew of her, now we know her.

My impressions of this Congress are:—

I. The breadth of the outlook of the International Council of Nurses on the problem of life, Countries and individuals are almost non-existent; it is the world and humanity. The country and the individual only exist to make the world such that prevention will do away with the necessity for cure—both physical and moral. It looks at things broadly and kindly.

II. Nothing could have been more inspiring than this week in Cologne. To meet the representatives of so many different nationalities, and to compare impressions with sometimes the very slightest knowledge of the language, and having to depend often on gesticulation and visual illustration tested one's wits to the utmost, and was another illustration of the necessity for a nurse to be international. We are extremely national in our speech, and it was very nice to see how truly international Miss Mollett, Miss Kent and Miss Dock, as well as others who spoke German fluently, were. The latter were often to be seen surrounded by Germany, Holland, Belgium and representatives of other countries, all talking and laughing. Note—learn another language.

III. The last, and the one that I am sure is ultra-international, if there is such a thing, our delightful impression of the hospitality of the ladies of Cologne.

I think our William of Avon is international enough for me to quote here:

"I am not rich in thanks, but I thank you."  
Auf wiedersehen till San Francisco.

C. A. HOLGATE,  
*Delegate from the New Zealand  
Trained Nurses' Association.*

I would call our Congress a Peace Congress. All about us, among European nations, are the mutterings of political unrest. Not only Europe, but indeed the whole world is full of the threats of conflict, and men watch the signs of sharpening discord with fearful hearts, not knowing whether to expect peace or war. And there together sat we, representatives of twenty-three nationalities, united as *one people*. One in our aspiration toward high ideals, one in the desire to help mutually, one in the hope of a better and worthier humanity, one in comprehension of the great tasks and duties for which we women realise ourselves responsible, and last, not least, one in our trust of one another and our respect for one another.

While we nurses, in time of war, feel it our highest duty to serve our Fatherland, so in time of peace do we feel it our first duty to work for the well-being of its citizens, to serve its sick, to protect the most insignificant, to save the poorest of the poor.

A joyous banquet closed our graver proceedings. Under the same flag sat our members from twenty-three lands, possessed by the fine inspiration of our purpose—all for one, and its counterpart, one for all.

EMMY OSER,  
*Delegate of the Swiss Nurses' Association.*

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