meeting of your National Council. I have requested the Exposition Company to forward to you at once a supply of pamphlets entitled to you at once a supply of pangarative The Exposition Fact Book," which will give much information regarding the trip to California, and I do hope it arrives in time for your meeting in order that delegates may all receive copies. Miss Dock, I believe, has written you as to proposed dates of our meeting. I expect the exact time will be settled during the Committee meetings of our National Boards in New York City in January, 1914, third week. I expect Mrs. Criswell to return from abroad in time to join us during that meeting, so she of course will bring us account of her conference with you. In any event, "Come one, come all," our Golden Gate swings wide to you and a warm, warm welcome awaits you.

With kindest remembrances and very best wishes,

I remain,

Faithfully yours, GENEVIEVE COOKE, President.

The Chairman reported that she had met Mrs. Criswell and consulted with her at length on the arrangements for the 1915 meeting. Mrs. Criswell brought the kindest greetings from the Californian Nurses, and was herself most enthusiastic concerning the Congress. They agreed on the following suggestions, which it was proposed should be brought before the National Boards in New York in January, 1914, for their consideration.

## SUGGESTIONS.

Time.—That it is advisable that the Opening Day of the International Meeting should preferably be June 2nd or the Monday of the last week in May.

Travel.—Owing to the shortness of leave, it would be well that the arrangements for the journey should be made by as short a route as possible. That the number from Europe would be too small to make special railway arrangements necessary, but it is hoped that delegates in the United States and Canada may be able to arrange for a special train service with a view to securing cheaper rates. This must be left to the officers to decide.

Where to hold the Congress.—The question of whether the Congress should be held within or without the Exhibition Grounds was discussed. We considered that as the visits of the European delegates would be so short, they would desire to see as much as possible of the Exposition, and we considered that if the Congress were held in a building far away this might militate against the attendance at the business meetings. We were consequently in favour of holding the Congress in the Exhibition grounds.

A Nurses' Building.—Mrs. Criswell reported that the Californian Nurses were so eager to make the Congress a huge success that there was a proposi-tion to have a Nurses' Building erected in the grounds, for which the Exposition Authorities were willing to grant a site, where for the nine months which the Exposition is to last it would be possible to offer hospitality to the nurses visiting San Francisco, and where there would be facilities for conference, rest rooms, and a fine Nursing Exhibit.

Failing the nurses having a building of their own, hospitality can be daily offered to nurses in the splendid Californian Building.

International Day.—It is suggested that the Delegates should assemble on Saturday and Sunday, that there may be a Reception of Delegates on Sunday evening, June 1st. That on Monday, June 2nd, which will be devoted to the business of the International Council, precedent with regard to the order of business, and in regard to the reception of delegates from new countries should follow that which has been so successful at former Congresses of the I.C.N. Mrs. Criswell highly approved of the usual ceremony of welcoming foreign countries and delegates into the International Confederation.

It was suggested that the Americans themselves should arrange some form of Pageant illustrative of their nursing history, such as have been arranged in London, Cologne and Dublin.

Congress.—It was suggested that the Congress proper should extend over Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday

Banquet.—That the Banquet should take place

on Thursday evening.

Social Functions.—That Friday and Saturday should be devoted to social functions.

Extent of Exhibition.—No Nursing Exhibition has yet been held in America worthy of the great progress made in recent years in nursing in the United States of America, as at the Chicago Exhibition in 1893 the British Section was the chief exposition of nursing. This therefore is an opportunity for the American Nurses to demonstrate their work which would be most invaluable to the foreign delegates, and a section in which such delegates would also take part.

Prizes.—That Prizes should be given for the

best exhibits.

These suggestions were approved, and it was agreed to appoint a sub-committee to carry out the arrangements in connection with an exhibit. Incidentally it was reported that the St. John's House Nurses' League were already at work on a maternity exhibit, and that Mrs. Criswell warmly approved the suggestion to exhibit the nurses' work in connection with a hospital mortuary. Such an exhibit would be very acceptable, as American nurses do not take charge of the mortuaries.

## THE LUNCHEON.

Between the morning and afternoon sessions, Mrs. Walter Spencer welcomed all the delegates to luncheon at 2, Portland Place, where she entertained them most hospitably-kindness which was sincerely appreciated, and previous page next page