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THE NURSES INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL TO MISS NIGHTINGALE.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE CHAIR OF NURSING AND HEALTH.

For a perpetual and living memorial to the undying spirit and influence of Florence Nightingale it has been proposed in the circles of the International Council of Nurses that an educational foundation should arise in her name, which will make it possible for nurses in the future to prepare themselves most fitly to follow in her footsteps, and carry far her lamp of enlightenment by adding to their hospital training such higher, and specialised study, as shall be made necessary for the nurse by the ever-enlarging demands of medical and social science.

Miss Nightingale's most precious material asset for her incomparable work was, next to her character, which was inborn, her remarkable education, which was acquired. Without this liberal education it is doubtful if it had been possible for her to meet her extraordinary opportunities with success. She was by and through it, nurse, teacher, organiser, and foreteller, on lines connected with her life work, to a rare degree. Her influence has been felt around the world. No country, where modern nursing has been organised, but has felt this influence in more or less direct degree. The whole human race does homage to her, and nurses will always refer back to her for the great unchanging underlying principles of their professional labours.

To-day thousands of well-trained women are wearing the nurse's uniform, and in local, national, and international organisation are aspiring to build ever higher and more perfect the fair structure of their professional fame. New demands, unknown to Miss Nightingale's day, but foretold by her, crowd upon them, and in their response to these calls they face the problem of new facilities required, and new adjustments to be made.

The memorials so far credited to Miss Nightingale by public subscription have not been planned from this point of view. Perhaps none but nurses would vividly realise the value of a living, educational memorial, and so it has been left for nurses to bring it into being.

The International Memorial of Nurses to Miss Nightingale, which we propose should take the form of a Chair of Nursing and Health, should be placed in her own country, England, in one of its Universities, and should open to every woman the door to the rich opportunity of intellectual and technical development along the highest lines of modern nursing work.

To such an endowment nurses from all countries will gladly contribute, and toward it they may often be able to direct the educational benefactions of other people—the lay public, the medical fraternity, the members of other professions—for all the world has a personal interest in the efficiency of the nurse. The sum needed should not be less than £10,000, and it must be given, and so controlled, that it shall always be spent in the way most truly useful for enabling nurses to obtain, what their organised professional associations shall consider the ideal preparation for their high calling.

The organization of this work will be undertaken by the National Councils of Nurses in the various countries, or by individual nurses, with their special committees, and it is proposed each nurse shall contribute One Day's Pay.

(Signed)

ETHEL G. FENWICK, *Founder and Hon. President International Council of Nurses.*

AGNES KARLL, *Hon. President International Council of Nurses.*

ANNIE GOODRICH, *President International Council of Nurses.*

LAVINIA L. DOCK, *Hon. Secretary International Council of Nurses.*

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