

## INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Although the International Council of Nurses only officially held its business meeting in San Francisco, the Congress which had been planned having, as our readers are aware, been abandoned on account of the war, yet at the eighteenth annual Convention of the American Nurses' Association—opened on Monday, June 21st, at the First Congregational Church, by its President, Miss Genevieve Cooke—Miss Cooke, after calling the meeting to order with a few words of cordial welcome to California, asked for a Report from the International Council of Nurses, saying:—"We are most fortunate in having with us two delegates who have been sent over from London, England, representing the International Council, and I should like to have the members of the International Council who are here come to the platform. We are to have a little report from each: Miss Goodrich, as President; Miss Hulme, from London; Miss Arstredes, from Holland; Miss Hunter, from Australia; and Miss Kent, from England." These reports are published verbatim in the *American Journal of Nursing*, the official organ of the International Council of Nurses in the United States of America.

## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

MISS GOODRICH, President of the International Council of Nurses, then presented the following report:—In the absence of Miss Dock, our International Secretary, I beg to present the following brief report for the International Council of Nurses. It is not necessary for me to voice our intense regret that we are unable to hold the Congress. Letter after letter has been received from various parts of the world, voicing the disappointment and grief of our members, not only that they cannot be present, but that it should be because of the terrible tragedy that is being enacted on the other side.

From Miss WRIGHT, President of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses:—I was sorry to learn definitely that the International Council of Nurses would not be able to hold their meeting in San Francisco, although I was sure this would be the case, as this terrible war would make it impossible to have anything like an international meeting. As the executive meeting is to be held the last of May, I feel that it will be impossible to be there. I expect to be in San Francisco in February and will see Miss Cooke and have a talk with her. As to the Canadians going to San Francisco the end of May, as yet I do not know how many will be able to go. We are seriously considering postponing our own national

meeting until the fall, or probably later, as I have felt that until this war is over the National Association should not spend money along any lines except as relief work, and the necessary entertainment and expense that goes with a national meeting should be abandoned if possible.

From MISS VAN LANSCHOT HUBRECHT, President of the Dutch nurses:—The Dutch Nurses' Association *Nosokomos* sends its heartiest greetings and sincerest wishes to the Nurses' Congress assembled at San Francisco, regretting infinitely that the dreadful calamity which has come over Europe and brought so much misery and sorrow even for the neutral countries, prevents any of its members from coming over officially in order to represent Holland at the Congress.

MR. RIMSEL, of the United States Legation in Peking, writes as follows:—In reply to your letter of November 22nd in regard to the forthcoming meeting of the International Council of Nurses and the improbability of the attendance of foreign delegates thereto, I beg to enclose herewith a copy of an informal letter received from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs with reference to the sending of Miss Chung as the Chinese delegate. In acknowledging receipt of your letter of yesterday in regard to the appointment of Miss Elsie Chung as a delegate to the International Council of Nurses, I am instructed by Minister Sun Pao-Chi to inform you that as it was stated in the Council's letter to you in reference to the European war, it seems not feasible to send Miss Chung as a delegate to the Council.

From Miss ANDERSON, writing on behalf of the Swedish nurses, and Miss Tamm, their President:—Miss Therese Tamm has asked me, her nurse, to write to you to explain her long silence in relation to the invitation to the International Congress of Nurses in San Francisco. She has been ill for two years and although she is lately getting better she still cannot leave her bed except for a comparatively short while every day. There is no saying when she will be able to recover, and of course there can be no thought of her travelling anywhere for ever so long. She begs to present through you her gratitude for the kind invitation and to express her regret at not being able to attend to the Congress. You will be sorry to hear that the Sophia Sister, Emy Lindhagen, who was the first president of the Swedish Nurses' Union, died in the Sophia Home after a very painful but bravely borne illness, on the 31st of March. She attended the International Congress of Nurses in Cologne.

We have the pleasure of having with us Miss Hunter, whom Miss Garner writes will represent the Australian nurses. As you will note by the following extract from Miss Garner's letter, the Australian Association has not yet been organized on a basis which will permit of actual representation in our International Congress. We hope, however, that at our next International Congress this difficulty will be overcome.

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