

BART.'S NURSES AT THE MANSION HOUSE. THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Trained nurses have, on various occasions, received the hospitality of the Mansion House of the City of London. During Sir George Wyatt Truscott's year of office, the late Lady Truscott entertained the International Council of Nurses in the genial and delightful way which endeared her to so many people, and on several occasions before the war, Territorial nurses, with their spurs yet to win, spent several most enjoyable evenings there. But the party given by Lady Baddeley, the present Lady Mayoress, on April 22nd, was a particularly friendly happy gathering, for, on her invitation, past and present nurses of St. Bartholomew's Hospital foregathered there, and there is probably no stronger bond than that which unites the nurses of the same Training School. Moreover, Bart.'s nurses are pleased and proud that one of their number should be reigning at the Mansion House, and greatly appreciated her invitation to be her guests there.

The League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital now numbers over 1,000 certificated nurses of the Hospital, and though many are abroad over 700 invitations were issued, and a large majority of those invited accepted the invitation.

The guests included Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Annie McIntosh, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Miss Beadsmore Smith, Matron-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, Miss H. L. Pearse, Superintendent of School Nurses under the London County Council, Miss Beatrice Cutler, late Assistant Matron, Miss H. T. Baines, now Assistant Matron, and many distinguished pupils of the School. They were received by the Lady Mayoress, who was accompanied by the wives of the Sheriffs, Mrs. de Courcy Moore and Mrs. Mills McKay, in the State Drawing-Rooms, and tea was served in the Egyptian Hall, laid on tables attractive with dainty linen and beautiful flowers, at which groups of friends foregathered, enjoyed the rare intercourse so much prized by busy people, and admired the gold plate for which the Mansion House is famous.

The delightful music was also greatly enjoyed, and it may be that the cold and blustering weather outside made the genial atmosphere, the brightness of the beautiful crystal chandeliers, the interest of the historic centre of the life of the City of London all the more attractive. At any rate Lady Baddeley's guests one and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

It was an added interest that the plans of the new Nurses' Home at St. Bartholomew's Hospital were exhibited and explained by the architect, Mr. H. E. Mathews, a brother of the Lady Mayoress, and one wondered how much the many convenient arrangements owed their inclusion to suggestions from the Lady Mayoress, who knows by personal experience how much they will add to the comfort and convenience of the nursing staff.

It has been decided that the Delegates of our National Council of Nurses, together with Miss J. C. Child, Delegate of the South African Trained Nurses' Association, will leave London on Thursday, May 18th, and travel via Harwich and Esbjerg to Copenhagen, where they hope to arrive on Saturday, May 20th, in time to present their official Papers to the President of the Danish Council of Nurses, before the opening of the Executive Meetings of the International Council to be held on May 22nd, 23rd, and 24th.

All five ladies will be the guests of the Danish Council of Nurses for the three days' Conference. During the Meetings there will be delightful social functions: Luncheon and a Formal Reception on May 22nd; Luncheon and Banquet on May 23rd; and Luncheon on the 24th. The Delegates will have special facilities for seeing the leading hospitals and scientific work in Copenhagen, and after the Meetings will no doubt take the opportunity of visiting the numerous interesting places in the neighbourhood, of which there are many of historic interest and great beauty.

Miss L. L. Dock, whose resignation as Hon. Secretary of the I. C. N. is so deeply deplored, regrets that Canada and New Zealand will not be represented at Copenhagen. Mrs. Henny Tscherning's resignation as President will also be regretted, as during her term of office the war interfered with the International Nursing Congress anticipated to be held in Denmark. A well-known American leader of Nursing, widely travelled in Europe and universally beloved, will, we hope, stand for election as President. Should she consent, nurses East and West will rejoice. An International Council of Nurses is unthinkable without an American Hon. Officer. To be associated with free American Nursing organizations is all-important to European nurses, so that we may have courage to follow in their footsteps and shed the miserable servitude under which our profession is at present degraded.

Miss S. Strahan asks us to explain that in our report of the meeting convened by the Registered Nurses' Parliamentary Council, held at 11, Chandos Street, on April 8th, the remark attributed to her was really the answer to a question put by her.

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