

national Council to further them, and we come together from all parts of the world to confer on questions, not merely of imperial, but of human weight and consequence. Our highest aspiration is—to keep pure and sacred the physical fount of Life, and thus give liberty and solace to the Soul.

High aspirations indeed, but not beyond attainment, and high aspirations are the best incentive to high endeavours.

It is not enough, however, that we attend these great gatherings and enjoy communion. It should be the aspiration of each one of us to help to build up by personal service our National Organisations, from which internationalism derives its vitality and strength. That is one aspiration which I invite you to translate into accomplishment during the next triennial period. Do not let us allow the inspiration of our conference to evaporate in sentiment. We need to capture, concentrate, and utilize it as a compelling force in the upraising and resultant happiness of all things sentient.

Then to aspire to have all things in common—especially to be generous in sharing knowledge. That which one has acquired—after stress and toil—let her hasten to pass on, so that the more may benefit from the result of her labour, and we could have no more effective medium through which to teach than this world-wide confederation of nurses.

Also, whilst cherishing the entrancing vision of the ideal, a vision which guards monotony of work from becoming monotony of life, we should aspire to be eminently practical. Thus let us take counsel together of practical ways and means—of the happy Home life and humane Hospital life of the pupil—of a sound and thorough basis for our Educational Curriculum. Let us see that, when the worker is worthy of her hire, the hire shall be worthy of the work accomplished. Only thus can we fit ourselves for our high vocation, and make that vocation respond to the needs of the community. Let us aspire to the purest and most strenuous endeavour.

It has been written that "he is a profane person that performs holy duties lightly and superficially; all our duties ought to be warmed with zeal, winged with affection, and shot up to Heaven from the whole bent of the soul. Our whole hearts must go with them; and the strength and vigour of our spirits must diffuse themselves in every part of them. . . . Truly all our sacrifices must be offered up to God with fire; and that fire which alone can sanctify them must be darted down from Heaven; the celestial flame of zeal and love, which comes down from Heaven, and hath a natural tendency to ascend thither again, and to carry up our hearts and souls upon its wings."

Let Aspiration be our Watchword until our next meeting, assured that, if touched with the celestial flame, our hearts and souls may aspire to make altogether lovely the beneficent work to which the members of this great Federation of Nurses have the happiness to give their lives.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES, COPENHAGEN.

Meeting of the Grand Council.

MAY 22nd-24th, 1922.

MAY 22ND.—MORNING SESSION: *Y.W.C.A., St. Kannikestræde 19.*

9.30.—Address of Welcome by the President, MRS. HENNY TSCHERNING. I. Reading of reports from the countries that are going to be accepted. II. Election of an International President. III. Election of an International Secretary.

Lunch.

3.30.—Excursion to the Institution for Crippled.

EVENING SESSION: GENERAL MEETING. *Y.M.C.A., Gothersgade 115.*

8.15.—Formal reception of four countries: Belgium, China, Italy and Norway.

MAY 23RD.—MORNING SESSION: *Y.W.C.A., St. Kannikestræde 19.*

9.30.—I. What can be done to facilitate the reception of trained Nurses in the hospitals of different countries? Introductory speech by MISS INGER NORDENTOFT, Vice-President of "The Danish Council of Nurses." II. The Necessity for an International Standard of Nursing Education. Introductory speech by MISS HELEN PEARSE, Superintendent of School Nurses under the London County Council.

Lunch.

2.30.—Excursion to the "Rigshospital."

Excursion.

MAY 24TH.—MORNING SESSION: *Y.W.C.A., St. Kannikestræde 19.*

8.45.—Excursion to the "Finsen Hospital."

10.15.—Discussion on the point of view of "The International Council of Nurses" with respect to the eight hours day. Introductory speech by a Delegate from Holland.

Lunch.

2.30.—Excursion to "Bispebjerg Hospital."

7.0.—Banquet, Langelinies Pavillon.

NURSING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NURSES' UNEMPLOYMENT.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL COLVIN asked the Minister of Health whether members of county nursing associations, whose employment is permanent, and who have their own pension scheme, will be exempted from contributing to national unemployment insurance?

SIR M. BARLOW: I have been asked to reply. Persons employed as female professional nurses for the sick are, as from 1st July next, excluded from unemployment insurance by the Unemployment Insurance Act recently passed. As regards the effect of this provision in particular cases, I would suggest that full details of these cases should be submitted to the Department for consideration.

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