

It was Kate Douglas Wiggin who had said, "To cure is the voice of the past, to prevent the Divine whisper of to-day."

In conclusion, the Professor said he was sure that every one in the audience wished God-speed to the pupils who were graduating that day, and success to them in what they were going to do. He hoped they would go back to positions where they would train their countrywomen for Public Health appointments. Little odd pieces of work which they might personally undertake, however well done, would not be nearly so valuable. Every country was now talking of nursing; the iron was hot, it was for them to take up the hammer and shape it. It had been a privilege to speak to the members of the Graduating Class that day. He had said nothing which they did not know, but if he had helped to warm up idealism in them his object had been fulfilled, for that was what made work worth while.

MISS TUKE, in returning thanks to Princess Christian for presenting the certificates, referred to the interest taken by the Royal Family in Public Health work and nursing. This was the first occasion they had had the course at Bedford College, and they were very sensible of the honour conferred upon it by Her Royal Highness' presence that day. The students also would feel that their countries had been honoured in the fact that they had received their certificates from her hands.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN, whose words were received with applause, said she was proud to be there and to present the certificates. She had been associated with the first Society of Trained Nurses in this country since its foundation, and the first Health Society, so she was doubly glad to be present.

SIR ARTHUR STANLEY said, in conclusion, that all the students must have been struck with one thing during their residence here—the devotion of the whole inhabitants of the country to the Royal Family, and they would not be surprised at it after meeting Her Royal Highness that day.

He moved a vote of thanks to Professor Selscar M. Gunn, which was passed by acclamation, for his address. He had spoken words of wisdom which all should take to heart. Sir Arthur also said he would like to tell the students how much the authorities appreciated the way in which they had taken advantage of the Course. He hoped they would act as real centres of enlightenment in their respective countries.

That concluded the proceedings, and on the invitation of the authorities of Bedford College those present then adjourned for tea and music hospitably provided in another hall, where amongst the guests we noted Miss K. Olmsted (Chief of Division of Nursing, League of Red Cross Societies), Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (Founder of the International Council of Nurses), Miss Fay Lancaster (National Health Society), Miss Rosalind Paget (Central Midwives Board), and several members of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales.

M. B.

## IMPRESSIONS OF INTERNATIONAL MEETING AT COPENHAGEN.

My first experience of the International Council of Nurses was both interesting and instructive. It was also, to me, full of surprises.

The first shock I received when I landed in Denmark was when two separate individuals refused a tip offered for help received. I cannot ever remember such a thing happening to me before.

The second came at lunch on the day of my arrival. A lady sitting opposite me at a small table bent forward and said in very good English, "I sometimes see a letter from you in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING! We get it every week, and I read it from beginning to end." I found afterwards that she was not Danish, but a delegate from another country, and that the *B.J.N.* is widely read in Europe and greatly valued.

The third thing to surprise me was the status and treatment of Danish Nurses. They seem to be more free than any others I have met. Every trained nurse wears the badge of the Danish Council, which is affiliated to the International Council, and when visiting the Hospitals one noticed they were on an altogether different footing to those in England. I cannot imagine anybody suggesting a street collection, victory ball, or any little attention of that description for the Nursing Profession in Denmark, but, then, women there have always been in the van of progress.

The five things that stand out most clearly in my mind with regard to my visit are the solidarity of the profession and its sense of professional responsibility, the whole-hearted hospitality, the number of bicycles, the quality of the butter, and the beautiful beech trees.

I shall always have in my mind a very happy picture of my first—but I hope not my last—visit to Denmark.

MAUDE MAC CALLUM,

*Delegate.*

## PROFESSIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

At the Council Meeting of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, held on July 6th, two important matters came up for discussion.

The first was the Grading of Health Visitors (many of whom, besides being Registered Nurses, hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board and of the Royal Sanitary Institute) by the London Whitley Council, in a lower grade than that of the Sanitary Inspectors.

Much indignation was expressed, and the Secretary was instructed to forward the following resolution to the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of the London Whitley Council and to the Minister of Health:—

"That the Council of the Professional Union of Trained Nurses protests most vehemently against

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)