

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

CONFERENCE AT COPENHAGEN.

The Conference convened in connection with the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Council of Nurses at Copenhagen met, by the kind permission of the Director and Governors, at the Kommune Hospital.

MONDAY, JULY 30TH.

9.30 a.m. Morning Session :

The President, BARONESS MANNERHEIM, presided at the Opening Session, and invited Mrs. Henny Tscherning, President of the Danish National Council of Nurses, to address those present.

ADDRESSES OF WELCOME.

Mrs. TSCHERNING, in a charming speech, bade the Executive Committee and the invited guests welcome to Denmark, in her own name, and in that of the Danish National Council of Nurses. The next meeting of the International Council of Nurses, to be held at Helsingfors, as they knew, had had to be put off till 1925, and it had been thought well to hold this meeting of the Executive and the Conference, to think of the ideas which all stood for, from a professional standpoint, so the mother's hand was extended to the children in the old home.

BARONESS MANNERHEIM, in her address of welcome as President of the International Council of Nurses, spoke of the pleasure of the meeting of the Grand Council in Copenhagen in 1922, after the long blank of dreary years and the elation of those present, who all felt like dear friends, but the joy of that meeting was only for a few. As Mrs. Tscherning had beautifully said, the mother's hand was extended to the children in the old home. Last year the faces of many present showed a nostalgia too deep for words, and they thought with a sinking of heart of the long time which would elapse before they met again. It was good to feel that they were back again in delightful Copenhagen, for which the International Council of Nurses was indebted to the Danish Council of Nurses, and its President, Mrs. Henny Tscherning.

Baroness Mannerheim said that when, after attending the meeting of the European Council for Nursing Education in Paris in the spring of this year, she realised that there was a problem to be cleared up, her thoughts turned to Mrs. Tscherning, and when she asked her if she would have a meeting of the Executive in Copenhagen this summer, Mrs. Tscherning had said "Naturally, we'll do it." Perhaps it was meant to remain a secret, but she would like to say that Mrs. Tscherning had cut short a recreation tour to Italy, to which she had been looking forward for years, because she wanted to extend the welcome of her country and of the Danish Council of Nurses to this meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Council of Nurses. She proposed that those present should show their appreciation of the hospitality of the Danish Council of Nurses

and their splendid President, and honour them by standing up.

Those present then accorded to their hostesses a rising vote of thanks.

REPORT OF THE HON. SECRETARY.

Miss C. REIMANN, Hon. Secretary I.C.N., then gave a brief report of her work in that capacity, and spoke of the large number of letters asking for information of all kinds which she received. She mentioned that letters had been received from Corea and from Uruguay, showing that the trained nurses in those countries were anxious to be received into membership of the International Council of Nurses in 1925.

STATEMENT BY SISTER AGNES KARLL.

SISTER AGNES KARLL (Germany) read a statement in the course of which she quoted a Resolution sent to the meeting of the International Council of Nurses at Copenhagen in May, 1922, giving the reasons why the German Nurses' Association declined to participate in that meeting and claiming an opportunity of refuting the accusation which she warmly repudiated that the German nurses had committed atrocities on wounded enemies, which accusation, the resolution stated, had been made against them by American nurses.

At the same meeting a letter was received from Miss Dock, stating that she had never believed that German nurses had been unfriendly to enemy sufferers. The Resolution sent by the German Nurses' Association was, therefore, considered as being finished with, and was not, she stated, brought to the knowledge of those present at the meeting of the International Council of Nurses, and the first part of the Resolution was lost sight of.

THE PRESIDENT said that she did not understand very much of Sister Karll's statement, but she gathered it was intended to make the Council understand the conditions prevailing amongst German nurses. All felt deeply these sad conditions.

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES IN RELATION TO THE NEWLY-FORMED EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR NURSING EDUCATION.

BARONESS MANNERHEIM said that, when in March of this year she was invited by the League of Red Cross Societies to attend a meeting convened in Paris, she had several reasons for accepting the invitation. She had read of the meeting held in Prague last year, and that it was stated that two years' training in nursing was, for the present, sufficient for European countries, and she was curious to see the programme for the meeting, and to find out what the European Council for Nursing Education was like. She found a group of earnest women who had organised schools of nursing in countries in the Near East. She found that they had turned to the League of Red Cross Societies for support, and that the meeting to which she had referred had thus been called. It was all very clear to her that active progressive work for raising the standard of nursing was going on in the countries concerned, though at

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