

present they could not get beyond the two years' term of training. She thought the formation of another Council would be very apt to create confusion, and that the International Council of Nurses should join hands with these nurses in regard to professional training. We worked for the welfare of the Nursing Profession, but what had we done for its betterment? We had adopted the three years' standard of training, but our attitude had been a purely platonic one, a laying down of rules.

It would be more natural if these nurses turned to the International Council of Nurses. All this work meant money, but if one felt the work had to be done, money was the least consideration of all. She deprecated the establishment of another Council and of division instead of unity.

In 1909 the International Council of Nurses had formed a Committee on Nursing Education, but when the war came it put an end to such peaceful endeavours. The founders of the European Council were all nurses, why should they not join the International Council of Nurses? Let us do it with hands clasped.

Miss ENID NEWTON presented a picture of the conditions which led to the formation of the European Council for Nursing Education, and said that a number of American and English nurses were working in the Balkans in connection with the American Red Cross, and the League of Red Cross Societies.

In Serbia, where she was working, there were no trained nurses, not even religieuses. Nursing was taken up as a trade, and regarded as a lower occupation than that of domestic service. All of the foreign nurses working in the Balkan countries had their difficulties, both in regard to the establishment of standards of education and other matters, and the problem was how to manage these difficulties. Then, last year, they received an invitation to go to Prague. They had four hectic days during which they talked over their difficulties, and received sympathy in their trials, and they thought how helpful it would be if they could form some sort of Society through which they could confer, and determined to form a little Council, which they called European, because it included nurses working in Turkey, Bulgaria, Rumania, Serbia, Yugo-Slavia, Czecho-Slovakia, and possibly France. They agreed that the standard of training they must have was for three years, and she thought that would come.

Then, in the spring of this year, they were invited to meet in Paris, and the League of Red Cross Societies was good enough to help with the expense, but the interest shown was so great that the little European Council was overwhelmed by the mass of people eager to join.

They had gathered from what Baroness Mannerheim had said that the International Council of Nurses would consider some means by which they could be included, and had decided how this might be done, "but," said Miss Newton, "we are not going to ask you to help us until you know the worst." Their standards, she said, were of

the highest, there was no lowering of standard, but they were representing countries where at present they had only been able to establish courses of two years' training. She then described some of the difficulties which she and her colleagues had to meet.

Discussion.

MISS CLARA D. NOYES (U.S.A.) said that Miss Hay was really responsible for the establishment of the European Council, inasmuch as Miss Gardner, with Miss Hay, advanced the idea that the nurses working in the Near East might get together. A Conference was called at Prague, and the European League for Nursing Education formed. The name Council was gradually tacked on. It was not quite clear when the League got the name of European Council. She was under the impression that it was intended the standard of two years' training should apply to the whole of Europe, and thought there was some confusion.

A very important question which occupied the members of the newly-formed European Council was their relation to the International Council of Nurses. At present there might not be more than one training school in a country, but when graduates went out from the schools now established, and became heads of schools in their turn, groups of graduates might eventually be formed which could join together to form National Councils.

When the second meeting was called in Paris she thought the impression was given that the little group which convened it was promoted and organised by the League of Red Cross Societies. While the League was interested in this group, she hoped very much that it would be understood that the European Council for Nursing Education was not a development of the League. In Paris a different situation arose, and the impression she thought was created that the meeting was called by the League of Red Cross Societies and was a branch development of the League.

Miss Noyes emphasised the importance of having the Schools of Nursing established in the various countries in charge of the best graduate nurses of those countries who could be secured. The American Red Cross, when it withdrew, would leave a school in a weak position if it did not leave it under the direction of the best nurse of the nationality concerned, which it could select.

Miss NEWTON (Serbia) said it was obvious that the person selected should be a graduate with full training. In addition administrative ability and strength of character were also required.

Miss M. BREAY (Great Britain) said that while the International Council of Nurses had definitely adopted and proclaimed its adherence to the three years' standard of training in nursing, it had never made the attainment of this standard a condition of membership of the Council.

Miss H. L. PEARSE (Great Britain) said that in the International Council of Nurses was found a means for the encouragement of National effort. It welcomed at its Congresses any representative from any country, and its Constitution was so

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