

opinion, and so must be owned and edited by trained nurses.

NEW ZEALAND.

MISS BICKNELL said that the Journal of the nurses in New Zealand was edited by Miss Hester Maclean, R.N. Assistant Inspector of Hospitals and Deputy Registrar—a very busy woman—in her spare time. She did not think the nurses had come to the fore in supporting her as they should. The Journal was carried on with little material help from them. She hoped it would be taken over by the Nurses' Association. Its name, *Kai Tiaki*, was a Maori name meaning "The Watcher," or "The Guardian." Miss Maclean, who was now retiring from active work, would continue to edit it, and she hoped it might be brought out every month. It was a monument to Miss Maclean's energy and zeal.

GERMANY.

SISTER KARLL did not speak from the chair on this subject, but handed in the subjoined statement as President of the German Nurses' Association :—

The idea of starting a special periodical for the International Council of Nurses was suggested in consequence of the increase in the number of affiliated organisations of nurses throughout the world. Even though the fourteen countries at present belonging to the Council were to exchange their Journals, yet it would be quite impossible for an individual satisfactorily to follow the contents of these Journals published in the various languages. If the International Council of Nurses obtains a medium of its own in the shape of a general periodical, that periodical would have to summarise essential matters of *universal* interest taken from the various papers, which is certainly an extremely difficult task.

It would be necessary to furnish a continual synopsis respecting the following matters :—

1. Concerning all *regulations by the authorities*, not word for word, but in a summary manner, dealing with examinations, right to pensions, insurance matters, provision in case of illness, &c.
2. Concerning *professional matters* : nature of training, new spheres of work, such as the extension of social work and the developments of science ; service organisation, working hours, holidays, salary arrangements, &c.
3. Concerning *matters of education in general* : all institutions with this object and useful information with respect to participation by foreigners ; everything of importance in professional literature, especially also contributions by nurses and physicians, including text-books.

These three provinces will always constitute the chief features of any professional paper for our calling. The secret of a periodical of the International Council of Nurses—that is, if it is to be successful—will be to put all these important matters sufficiently tersely to make possible a rapid review. In this way, the paper would be a highly valuable work of reference in all these departments. The most important question would

perhaps be as to whether anybody can be found to undertake the gigantic labour of continually keeping up with the contents of all the fourteen professional Journals and so procure the requisite linguistic assistance, as probably no person would be found with sufficient knowledge of all the languages concerned. The alternative would be that each country should undertake to send in their communications to the Head Office. Even this might overburden the persons in question and be no easy task ; in fact, it may be questioned whether it could be accomplished satisfactorily and quickly enough. It is true that conditions are not in all countries as varied and complicated as in the case of German nursing, and if so there might in some cases be fewer difficulties.

The professional Journals of the various countries have not only to deal with these objective and *practical* tasks, but have, in addition, a further aim—the promotion of social intercourse. The Journals should also have ideal aims and cultivate an *esprit de corps*. Whether a newspaper for the International Council of Nurses would in fact be able to cope with so large a province may be questioned, and it is equally questionable whether professional articles could be reproduced. Brief observations of value, found in the Journals of the various countries, could be utilised, as also short verbatim extracts. It would be valuable to have a summary statement of how personal relations are maintained in the various countries. In our German paper, for instance, we have a *fourth* group : new applications for membership, publication of retiring members and members whose addresses are not known, individual reminders of sending in statistics or contributions, and offers of posts. Similar information will be supplied in other countries, and much might be learnt by making comparisons. A *fifth* group consists of family news, enquiries from the Sisters' Circle, holidays, &c. In the case of a periodical of the International Council of Nurses one could only refer to leading personalities. It will no doubt be necessary to have an enquiry column, and if opportunities for recreation are open to foreigners they would also have to be taken into account. If foreign nurses took their holidays together with Germans and others, this would evidently very much promote the *esprit de corps* of the International Council of Nurses.

If all these matters could be contained in such a paper as the organ of the Council it would be of essential importance to the work of the Council.

BELGIUM.

THE COMTESSE D'URSEL said that an International Journal should be edited in several languages. There was no more direct way of establishing a link between the associations of nurses aiming at self-government, but it must not replace local papers. It would be a useful agent in the education of people in various countries on nursing questions. Such education was a slow process, but a paper which could be read by everyone was a useful means of propaganda.

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