

NURSES OF NOTE.

MAKERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

Of all the makers of the International Council of Nurses, one name, that of its first Hon. Secretary, Miss Lavinia Lloyd Dock, stands out pre-eminent. It was a happy circumstance which brought her to London for the meeting of the International Council of Women in 1899, and thus secured her presence at the meeting of the Matrons' Council, of which she is an Hon. Member, at which the International Council of Nurses was founded. Her acceptance of office as Hon. Secretary of the Council put at its disposal just that help which it needed in those early days when the foundations were being laid, and it was given without measure.

Of charming personality, and rare genius, witty and versatile, an intensely human, lovable and inspiring writer and speaker, in several languages, with an almost superhuman capacity for work, loyal, straight, and fearless, had the Council searched the world over, it could not have secured an Hon. Secretary to present its objects so effectively, or to gather in from the nations of the world the groups of nurses in sympathy with the essential idea for which it stands, "self-government of nurses in their associations, with the aim of raising ever higher the standards of education and professional ethics, public usefulness, and civic spirit of their members." Her American colleagues wrote of her, in a Calendar of "Early Leaders of American Nursing," published in 1922, "Usually first-seeing, always far-seeing, Lavinia Dock in Nursing has meant inspiration, leadership, and guidance. An arresting speaker, eager attendant at meetings, secretary for several years of the Superintendents' Society, and otherwise burden-bearer for nurses, her mark rests upon the American Nurses' Association, the League of Nursing education, on every effort of ours to pitch Nursing standards loftily."

The same authorities tell us that "a painter with charming skill, L. L. D. is also a pianist of much ability. Language gifted, in order to make investigations abroad for her writings, or in furtherance of her work as Secretary, she pursued the study of French, German and Italian at Henry Street (the Nurses' Settlement), often going about its neighbourhood, her nurse's bag in one hand, a grammar in

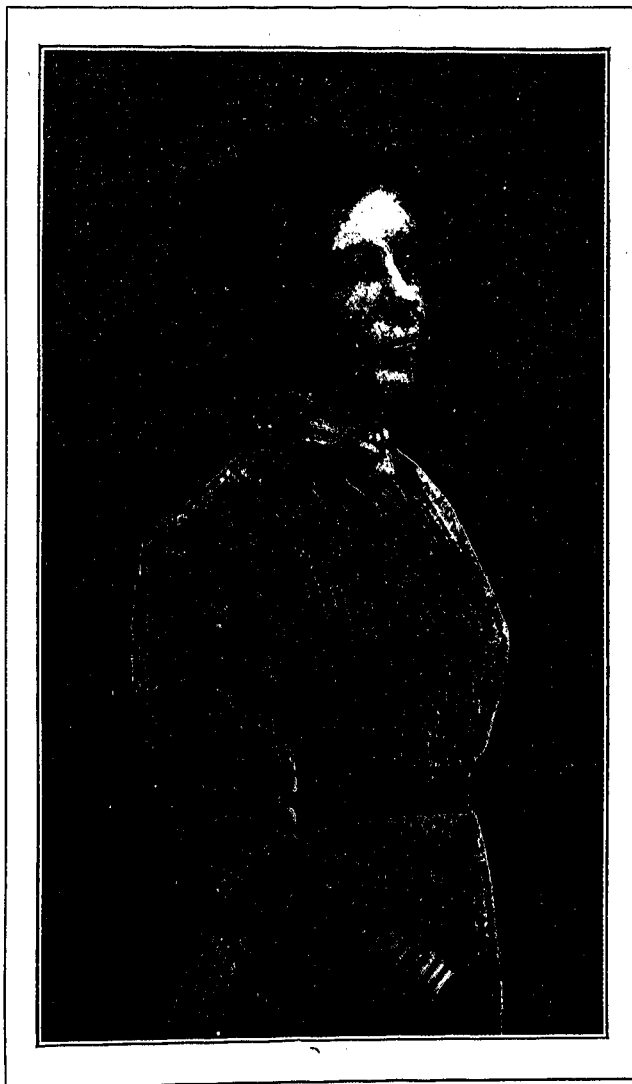
the other, deeply concentrated between tenement visitings on one or another language, but as keen for the patient's need whenever this contact came."

Miss Dock was trained at Bellevue Hospital, New York, graduating in 1887. Her brilliant pen has always been used in the service of her profession, and the breadth of her sympathies, pointed mind, and literary genius have made her a particularly forceful and charming writer.

She compiled, with Professor Adelaide Nutting, the first two volumes of "A History of Nursing," and the second two volumes, an especially laborious task, in which she

collaborated with members of the International Council of Nurses in many countries of the world, she compiled alone; crossing the Atlantic five times, between 1899 and 1912, in furtherance of this work, and also, once, at least, in part to give assistance to the work of her friends for the cause of Women's Suffrage. With characteristic generosity, Miss Dock has, from the first, given all the royalties on the last two volumes of the History, amounting to a substantial sum, to the Treasury of the International Council of Nurses.

An inspiring personality, leading, cheering, guiding, we thank God that our profession includes a woman so gifted, so fearless, so dear.



Miss LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

CONFERENCE OF PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

Continuing our Report published last month of the foundation of the International Council of Nurses, we now reprint that of the formation of the first Provisional Committee.

A meeting of the majority of the foreign nurses invited to act upon the Provisional Committee of the proposed International Council of Nurses met at the Matron's House, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by the kind invitation of Miss Isla Stewart on the afternoon of Sunday, July 2nd (1899).

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, after a short explanation of the present condition of nursing organization in this country stated that as the influential members of the nursing profession in many lands must be consulted as to the best constitution for governing an efficient International Council of Nurses, plenty of time must be given in which to interest these ladies in the Council, and also to obtain their advice. She therefore formally proposed several resolutions, which were unanimously agreed to.

1. "That the proposed International Council of Nurses should be formed of trained nurse delegates, appointed in such numbers and in such manner as may be hereafter arranged."

2. "That a Provisional International Committee be now

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