

the full. The party of Congress delegates attracted quite a large amount of attention and the Captain of the boat paid us the compliment of flying the Union Jack, which we much appreciated. There was a little time to spare after we landed before we were due at the Rest House, so we climbed a hill near by, and were rewarded by a most glorious view over sea and land.

We were received at the Badhostellet by Sister Maja Astrom and Sister Karin Nilsson, the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Aberg, leaving a message of regret for us that important business had called him away. The hostellet receives guests for rest for both long and short periods and happy must be the lot of those who find themselves in such charming surroundings.

The party was delightfully entertained to lunch by the Sisters, and again the flower-bedecked tables, and the personal flower for each one made a lovely effect of colour which is an abiding remembrance.

A visit to some of the wards, the Massage, X-ray, and the bath departments were next made. The Massage department which is under the supervision of Baron Creutz, is very complete, and much interest and amusement was caused by the appliances simulating the movements of horses, camels and other animals.

We bade good-bye to our kind hostesses with reluctance, and returned to Stockholm by train, to reassemble shortly at the Restaurant at Skansen. Skansen is the famous open-air museum of Stockholm, presented to the city by one of its public spirited citizens. A lovely park forms a setting for cottages and farmyards, with furniture, tools and implements collected from different parts of the country, for the purpose of illustrating the living conditions of Sweden at various periods. A number of animals and birds, chiefly a species indigenous to the North, are also kept there.

Skansen, with its open-air restaurant, music and many attractions, is a very popular resort of the people of Stockholm, and here we were once more the guests of the Swedish Nurses' Association, meeting its members by this time as old friends.

During dinner, at which we were waited upon by girls and men in picturesque National costume, the following message, signed by everyone present, was sent to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick:

Sister Bertha Wellin, M.P., President of the Swedish Nurses Association, and its members entertaining the Delegates to the International Council and Congress, passing through Stockholm, at the Skansen Restaurant, send greetings and reverence to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder of the International Council of Nurses, and thanks for the inspiration which has resulted in mutual understanding between the trained nurses of the world, to the benefit and happiness of all.

We all miss you.

Speeches from Sister Bertha, Miss Huxley, and Miss Pearse, and then we made a move into the grounds to see a delightful exhibition of dancing by men and women in National costume. It was the prettiest sight, full of gaiety, verve, and the poetry of motion. We could have watched for long, but as the dancers had, I think, eleven other engagements that evening, all too soon they departed. We walked back though the beautiful grounds, admiring their arrangement and longing to peep into the houses, but time forbade. Some of the party stayed to climb a tower with a fine view, and to eat celebrated waffles made while you wait.

Next morning (Thursday, July 16th) we visited the City Hall, begun in 1911, and only recently completed. The beauty of its position, opposite the old city within the bridges, of its architecture, its decoration, its magnitude, and its art treasures, left one breathless. Whatever is seen or not

seen in Stockholm the City Hall should not be missed. This building of Ragner Ostberg is proof that we still have amongst us living architects whose work is worthy to rank with that of the greatest of olden times. It is a dream of beauty. In the Council Chamber we were shown the seat of Sister Bertha, for she is a member of the City Council as well as of Parliament. She told us that she always attends Sessions of Parliament, and meetings of the City Council in her nurse's uniform.

The British Delegates that day entertained their Swedish friends to lunch, and Miss Breay, who presided, seconded by Mrs. Chesney (Official Delegate Nurses Association of India) endeavoured to convey to them the gratitude of the party for the kindness and hospitality they had received during their stay in Sweden, to which Sister Bertha replied. We hoped to meet many members of the Swedish Nurses Association in Finland, but we met again before then, for dear Sister Elizabeth Lind, Secretary of the Association, Sister Elsie Steen, Treasurer, and other members were on the quay when we went aboard the boat for Abo, with flowers, chocolates, good wishes, songs, and finally, hurrahs as we moved off.

Beautiful Stockholm. We have brought away with us imperishable memories of your stately buildings, set by lovely lakes, and spacious parks, and most of all of your fine, hospitable, and charming people.

#### FROM STOCKHOLM TO ABO.

At Stockholm, which we left at 8 o'clock on the evening of Thursday, July 16th, we settled down on deck, for the scene was one of entrancing beauty, and we were unwilling to lose a moment of it. The setting sun on the city, the lovely sky, the sunlight on the sea, and the exquisite islands were so entrancing that some of the party remained on deck all night, and that journey down to Abo will be a golden memory with all who were privileged to share it.

#### FROM ABO TO HELSINGFORS.

The party entrained for its last united journey at Abo, and eagerly scanned the landscape through which we were passing, and of which fine trees, silver birches, lakes and pasture land were characteristic features.

Before we arrived at Helsingfors we had our first experience of the thoroughness and efficiency of the work of the Committee on Arrangements of the Finnish Nurses Association. At a station about halfway between Abo and Helsingfors, two Reception Sisters, Sister Larsson (engaged in Child Welfare work) and Sister Sandholm (Social Worker) came on the train with card indexes, and worked steadily through the carriages, verifying the members of the party from the cards which had been previously sent us, and giving each of us in return a card on which was inscribed her country, name, the place in which accommodation had been reserved for her, her telephone number, and other details. To this card also was attached a perforated address slip which could be detached and given to cab or taxi driver. By the time we reached Helsingfors the "grey ladies," whom we came to know and love so well, had all the information they wanted concerning us, and each of us was furnished with the address of her destination in typewriting.

On the platform I was warmly greeted by Mrs. Lingard (*née* Kelly) formerly a member of the Registered Nurses Society, London, with offers of any assistance during my stay in Helsingfors, and found lovely roses in my room at the hotel from the same kind friend.

So ended the first stage.

MARGARET BREAY, S.R.N.

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