

## THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF NURSES.

Tuesday, July 21st.

## GENERAL SESSION, 10—12.

All General Sessions of the International Congress of Nurses held at Helsingfors from July 20th—July 25th, were held in the National Theatre, and it was a stirring moment when Baroness Mannerheim, President of the International Council, rose to wish the members of the Congress welcome to her native land. Some of them (the National Associations of Nurses in fourteen countries) were already affiliated, some would be affiliated during the week, and others were awaiting eligibility.

She invited them to confer without prejudice, with open minds, and clear hearts, and then called on the nurses of thirty-three countries who were present to rise in their places as the name of their country was mentioned. In the theatre, which was filled to its utmost capacity, there then rose at the Roll Call the following participants in the Congress:—

## Participants in the Congress.

England, 22; Scotland, 8; Ireland, 2; Canada, 52; New Zealand, 5; South Africa, 5; India, 1; U.S.A., 203; Porto Rico, 1; Russia, 2; Russian Armenia, 2; Switzerland, 8; Czechoslovakia, 1; Germany, 27; Hungary, 2; Austria, 4; Belgium, 7; Bulgaria, 2; China, 6; Esthonia, 6; France, 8; Greece, 2; Holland, 35; Italy, 1; Japan, 2; Poland, 3; Sweden, 36; Latvia, 3; Norway, 31; Denmark, 36; Iceland, 2; Australia, 1; Finland, 524. In all 1,049 Nurses from 33 countries.

No more effective demonstration could have been given of the way in which the International Council of Nurses has gripped the imagination of organised nurses all over the world, and commended itself to them as a means whereby they can find self-expression, and confer with their colleagues on matters relating to the welfare of their patients and their profession.

## Report of Committee on Arrangements.

The Report of the Committee on Arrangements, presented by Baroness Mannerheim, who acted as Chairman with Miss Helmi Dahlström, Matron of the General Hospital, Wiborg (who had special leave for the purpose) as Secretary, and Miss Lily Brandt, Sanitas Hospital, Helsingfors, as Treasurer, showed the great amount of work which had been accomplished, resulting in the perfection of arrangements which all so greatly admired, and the results of

which they enjoyed. There were no less than ten sub-Committees, each with its own Chairman, namely, Entertainments, Miss Sonja Koreneff; Exhibition, Miss Aili Engelberg; Lodgings, Miss Emma Aström; Meals, Miss Hellin Saurio; Order, Miss Venny Snellman; Local Programme, Mrs. Olga Lackström; Propaganda, Miss Kyllikki Pohjala; Publication, Miss Helga Hartman; Sight-seeing, Miss Lyyli Hagan; Travelling, Miss Tyyne Luoma. The Hostesses whose names found place on the official programme, but who by no means exhausted the list, were Mrs. Relander, Presidential Residence; Mrs. Rennie, British Legation; Mrs. Elinqvist, Swedish Legation; Mme. de Coppée, Légation de France; Countess Armfelt, Arninne; Mrs. Lydecken, née Ahlström; Mrs. Georgina Leinberg, née Edwards, Finnish Red Cross; Mrs. Mary Lavonius, née Ramsay; and Mrs. Inez Elmgren, née Meurman, at Halila Sanatorium.

Baroness Mannerheim stated that the financial problem gave cause for considerable anxiety until the Committee on Arrangements received a grant of 150,000 marks from the Government of Finland, and 25,000 marks from the Municipality of Helsingfors, after which their financial stability was assured.

## Committee on Programme.

Miss Isabel Stewart, R.N., M.A., who presented the report of the Committee on Programme, said that the Programme was not entirely the work of that Committee. The Baroness Mannerheim and Miss Reimann had both assisted with it, and the Social and Recreational part was the work of the Baroness Mannerheim, and the Arrangements Committee. The Secretary wrote to all affiliated countries asking for subjects and names of speakers, and the Committee had tried to include all the subjects suggested in the Programme, if not in a General Session, then at a Round Table Conference.

The presentation of the Reports of the Committee on Eligibility and Revision were deferred and the Session then concluded.

## The Reports of the Hon. Officers.

The Reports of the Hon. Secretary, Miss Christiane Reimann, and of the Hon. Treasurer, Miss Margaret Breay, presented after that of the Committee on Arrangements, are held over until our next issue. The Report presented by the Hon. Secretary shows that the advice of the International Council of Nurses is being increasingly sought on professional matters; and that of the Hon. Treasurer, that by the enthusiasm and co-operation of its members the International Council has been able to accomplish a large amount of work on a self-supporting basis, during the last 26 years.



THE PLATFORM AND ROSTRUM, NATIONAL THEATRE, HELSINGFORS, DURING THE CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

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