

THANKS OF THE I.C.N. TO MISS DOCK.

Mr. Henry W. Donald, the artist who designed and illuminated the Address sent by the International Council of Nurses to Miss Lavinia L. Dock, in recognition of its indebtedness to her for her great services to it since its foundation, has kindly given us the following information.

The design is based on the 15th century flower pattern of English style of illumination. In the centre of the top roses are Miss Dock's initials woven into a cipher. In the left-hand top corner a vignette of a prison window with broken bars, at the right-hand top corner the Badge of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain (of which Miss Dock is an Hon. Member).

In the centre of the bottom border is a terrestrial globe surrounded by a laurel wreath, encircled with a ribbon displaying the words International Council of Nurses. Interspersed with the foliage of the decoration in the border are the names of different institutions with which Miss Dock has been connected, the Henry Street Settlement, Teachers' College, Columbia University, Bellevue Hospital, New York, the League of Nursing Education, the Illinois Training School, the American Nurses' Association, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Musical instruments, for Miss Dock is a musician, and artist's implements, for she is talented with brush and pen, also find place in the scroll.

ADDRESS OF THANKS PRESENTED TO MISS LAVINIA LLOYD DOCK, R.N.

Hon. Secretary, International Council of Nurses,
1899-1922.

We your friends and co-workers, associated with you in the International Council of Nurses, desire to express to you, with affectionate regard, our deep admiration and grateful appreciation of your work in connection with the development of the Council.

Founded in London in 1899, on the proposition of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, at the Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, of which you are an Hon. Member, you then accepted the position of Hon. Secretary to the International Council, and from that time placed your brilliant gifts at its disposal, giving personal service without measure, and later, most generously, your royalties for the third and fourth volumes of "A History of Nursing" amounting annually to a considerable sum.

In collaboration with the Founder Members of the International Council of Nurses you worked so effectively for its development that when you resigned office in 1922 the National Councils of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, the United States of America, Germany, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Holland, India, New Zealand, Belgium, China, Italy, Norway, and South Africa, had been welded together in a great Federation of Nurses encircling the world, of which the essential idea is self-government of trained nurses in their National Associations, with the aim of raising ever higher the standards of education and professional ethics, public usefulness, and civic spirit in their members.

For the example you have given to the nurses of all Nations by your altruism, your courage, your fearlessness in combatting injustice, and for the sympathy, dignity, and harmony with which you have conducted the business of the Council, we thank you gratefully and sincerely.

Signed on behalf of the International Council of Nurses,
Copenhagen, HENNY TSCHERNING,
July, 1922. President.

Miss Dock writes of this "most lovely and prized piece of illuminated scroll":—"It is indeed a beautiful piece of colour, kind words, and exquisite artistry, and more praise than I ever merited. I have it in my own room."

THE CONGRESS.

EVENING SESSION

Wednesday, July 22nd.

(Continued from page 256.)

Under the chairmanship of Miss J. C. Child, S.R.N., the International Congress of Nurses at Helsingfors continued its deliberations on the evening of July 22nd, the second subject "The Aims of a Professional Journal," being introduced by Miss Margaret Breay, S.R.N., Hon. Treasurer of the International Council of Nurses, and Assistant Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, in the following paper.

The Aims of a Professional Journal.

If the standard of civilization of a country is estimated by the standard of its literature, then an important aim of a Professional Journal must be to obtain a recognised place in the literary world; to give to the profession of which it is the organ the best that profession can provide, a consistent policy, unaffected by expediency, an ethical standard which will inspire its readers to aim ever higher, also in appearance, in paper, printing, illustrations, and production to maintain a level of which its supporters may be proud. In the case of our own profession to provide for nurses trained and in training, a voice in the Press, far reaching, fearless and forceful.

Easy to set down on paper, but how difficult to achieve!

Yet of all the necessities of our profession, this voice in the Press is one of the most urgent. We may have the most wonderful ideas in the world, but, if we have no means of imparting them to others, there is little prospect of their becoming fruitful.

The supreme importance of an independent voice in the Press was recognised by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder of the International Council of Nurses, with the foresight which has always been one of her most strongly marked characteristics, and in 1893 when opportunity offered, she secured THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, then *The Nursing Record*, and thus, for the first time in the history of Nursing, gave a practical demonstration of the belief, she so strongly holds, that to be of real use to the Nursing Profession a journal should be owned, edited, and controlled by nurses.

It should be the aim of a professional nursing journal to bring to the notice of its readers the latest methods, appliances and discoveries in connection with their work; reports of the activities of the Nurses' Organisations in their country; matters arising in Parliament affecting their interests favourably or adversely, so that they may be supported or opposed before a decision is arrived at. It should also remind them from time to time of matters of historical importance relating to their profession, as memories of even most important events and personalities are short. For instance, the tale was told by the Chairman of the London Hospital, that when an appeal was made for a donation to a memorial to Miss Nightingale, the question was asked, "Who was Florence Nightingale, had she not something to do with a life-boat?"

We heard this morning that in the field of Nursing Education, the difficulty in the way of advance is always the financial one, and the same certainly holds good in regard to a journal run by nurses; it is necessary to aim at placing it on a sound financial basis, and for this it will need to be assured of capital, advertisements, circulation, sales, none of them very easy to attain in sufficiency in these days of keen competition. It is worth many sacrifices however in order to do so.

Nurses, as workers, have to face competition with organs in the Press, largely financed by Hospital Governors, who

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)