

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

## THE INTERIM CONFERENCE.

## Introduction.

Geneva, lake of many moods, but beautiful in them all, lay smiling, sunlit, colourful, when in the last week of July nurses of thirty-four nations converged upon the city from which it takes its name, to attend the Interim Conference convened by the International Council of Nurses, and so remained during the whole of their stay.

The official purpose of the gathering was the meeting of the Board of Directors of the I.C.N., convened to transact important business which had arisen since the meeting of the Grand Council in Helsingfors in 1925; but the opportunity was taken to hold an Interim Conference during the same week, and was eagerly seized by over seven hundred nurses, the largest contingents being those from Great Britain and France.

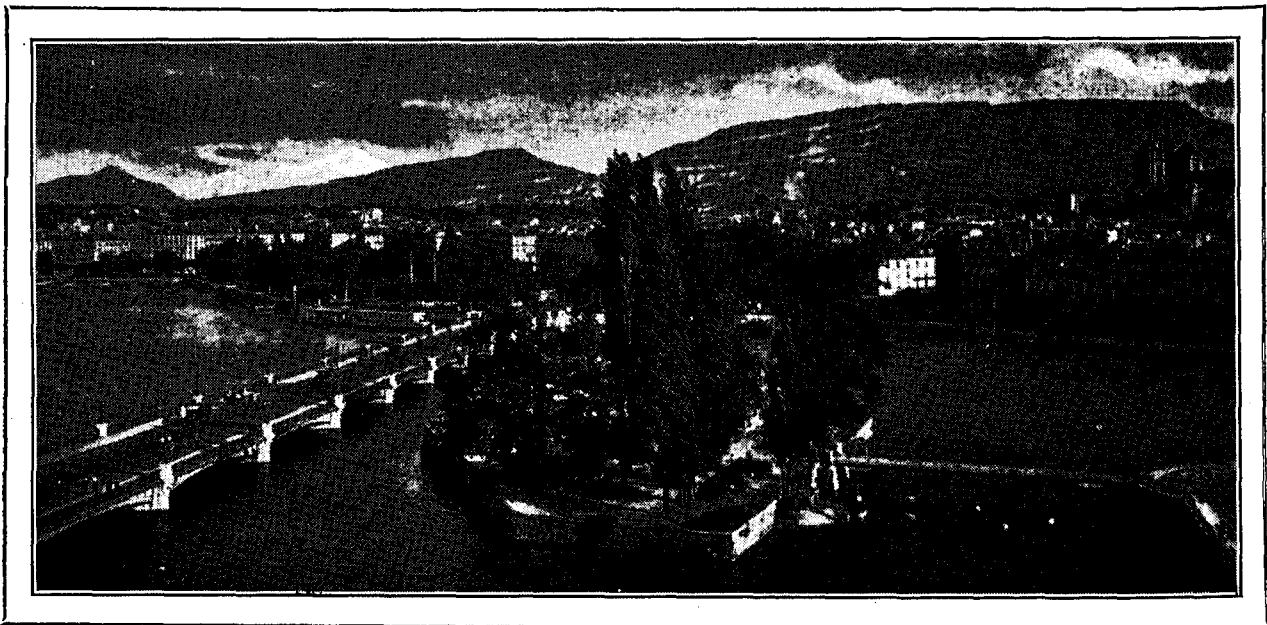
Mlle. Chaptal, President National Association of Trained Nurses of France.

Miss Reeves, President, National Council of Nurses, Irish Free State.

Miss Nagorska, President, National Council of Polish Professional Nurses.

As the meetings of the Board of Directors were in session twice daily during the first part of the week, and the opening session of the Conference took place on the Wednesday evening, ordinary members of the Conference were able to settle down into their respective quarters, to visit places of interest, and to see something of the Nursing Exhibit at the Salle Centrale, opportunities of which they fully availed themselves.

When Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder of the International Council of Nurses, arrived at Geneva she was greeted by the President of the Council, Miss Nina D. Gage, R.N., M.A., Miss Gladys Stephenson, formerly President of the Nurses Association of China, and the



A GLIMPSE OF GENEVA. MONT BLANC IN THE DISTANCE.

The members of the Board of Directors who attended the meetings in Geneva were :—

*Founder and Hon. President* : Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, National Council of Nurses, Great Britain.

*President* : Miss Nina D. Gage, China.

*First Vice-President* : Miss Clara D. Noyes, U.S.A.

*Treasurer* : Miss E. M. Musson, Great Britain.

*Secretary* : Miss Christiane Reimann, Denmark.

Miss Clayton, President, American Nurses' Association.

Frau Lübben, President, German Nurses' Association.

Miss Shaw, President, Canadian Nurses' Association.

Miss Funding, Denmark.

Mrs. Neuman-Rahn, Finland.

Miss Meta Kehrer, President, "Nosokomos," Holland.

Mlle. Parmentier, Secretary-General, National Federation of Belgian Nurses.

Miss Stephenson, Past-President, Nurses' Association of China.

Miss Moe, Norway.

Miss J. C. Child, South African Trained Nurses' Association.

Miss Pachedjiewa, President, Bulgarian Nurses' Association.

representative of its President on the Board of Directors in Geneva, and Miss I.e Geyt, Member of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, wearing the Badge of purple ribbon, inscribed with the name of the Council, which soon became so familiar a sign in the streets of Geneva, the "purple patches" of the Delegation from Great Britain being everywhere in evidence. At their hotel, she and Miss Breay, found lovely bouquets of roses and other flowers, the charming greeting of the Secretary of the Council, Miss Christiane Reimann, R.N., M.A.

A brief interval, and then a drive through the city and its environs, when we absorbed as much as possible of its interesting and turbulent history which dates back to the time of Julius Cæsar, who destroyed the bridge across the Rhone connecting Switzerland on the north bank with the Roman Province on the south, to prevent the latter from being invaded.

We passed through the town by the Russian Church, with its five golden cupolas, and the University, walking through the gardens where is the Wall of Remembrance, a bit of the old city wall now for the most part demolished, before which stand statues of the stalwart heroes of the

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