

and inspiring in the presentation of ideals, possibilities and visions for the future of Nursing. To those who sat about the table all the smallnesses in life faded away and only the great things to be done through Nursing by nurses seemed to count. We were optimistic, for the time being at least, and the memory of that Commencement will help us over many of the dark days which inevitably come in our fight for better things.

It is said that "the outstanding feature of our life is conflict." Whether or not this is true in life as a whole it has had some truth in Nursing and it is not difficult to understand the reason. Sickness is an unwelcome guest and carries with it suffering, unhappiness and sorrow. Nursing is associated with these conflicting forces and must, because of its very nature, share this atmosphere and bear the brunt of these reactions, but Nursing has a constructive influence and has become a great social force, welding together these components of adversity. In the great campaign for health it is the most potent influence. The world is clamouring and sanitary science is loudly calling for women who are ably prepared to go out into the field and help to create a new thought in health which will dispel the old traditions, to the end that the outstanding idea will be harmony rather than conflict.

These are the fundamental ideals in the Yale University School of Nursing, to teach the student the principles of health and the methods by which sickness will be prevented, pointing the way to constructive and productive ideas rather than to palliative and ameliorative methods.

This building process is a living creative thing and in Nursing and Medical Science must go hand in hand with the curative process. Prevention and cure must be taught together, rather than separately and independently, and as the attitude of the mind and the point of view forecast the result, so the student will reflect in her work those ideals and appreciations which have been presented to her in the School of Nursing. The future for Nursing has a broad horizon. It will stretch into new and widening fields which will require a background and a foreground we are only beginning in a limited way to appreciate.

### IN MEMORIAM.

#### FLORA MADELINE SHAW, R.N.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Miss Flora Madeline Shaw, R.N., Director of the School for Graduate Nurses at McGill University, Montreal, and President of the Canadian Nurses' Association. The announcement will come with painful suddenness to many of those who met her at the recent Conference of the International Council of Nurses at Geneva, and whom she greatly attracted by her amiability, kindness, and charm.

Miss Shaw, who had been visiting this country since the Conference, travelled to Liverpool on August 23rd, intending to sail for Canada with Miss Smellie, Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses of Canada, on the following day, and to stay on Tuesday night with Miss M. Jones, Lady Superintendent of the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.

Her departure was deferred as she was found to be suffering from thrombosis, and she was warded in the Infirmary, but, even then, hoped to sail for Canada in a week or ten days' time, and on the Thursday and Friday felt much better, but on Saturday morning, August 27th, at 5 a.m., she died quite suddenly of pulmonary embolism.

Miss Shaw was a distinguished member of the Nursing Profession, held the Diploma of Teachers' College, Columbia University, and was an Instructor in Teaching in Schools of Nursing, she was also Local Superior in Montreal of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses.

On Sunday, August 28th, there was a short Memorial Service in the Infirmary Chapel for the Members of the Nursing Staff, when the Voluntary was "Oh Rest in the Lord" the hymns were "Nearer My God to Thee," and "For all the Saints who from their Labours Rest," and there was a short Address on the words "By Faith we live and not by Sight." On Monday, when the body was removed to be embalmed, Nurses of the Infirmary Staff formed a Guard of Honour right down to the waiting hearse.

On September 1st there was a very impressive Service in the Lady Chapel of the Liverpool Cathedral, conducted by Archdeacon Howson (who saw and talked with Miss Shaw in the Infirmary), when the coffin was covered with a very beautiful pall.

The hymns were "The King of Love my Shepherd is" and "Abide with Me," and the Archdeacon gave a short and sympathetic address on the beauty and dignity of service, exemplified in Miss Shaw's life. They were honoured, he said, that she should lie for a few moments in the Lady Chapel of Liverpool's Cathedral, which is dedicated to saintly women.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was represented at the Service by Miss E. J. Haswell, M.B.C.N., and the Royal British Nurses' Association by Mrs. Strong, F.B.C.N., a Vice-Chairman of the Association, both of whom had recently known Miss Shaw in Geneva. There were no flowers, but the cards of the many Nurses' Organisations wishing to send them were entrusted to a representative of the Cunard Company, who will attach them to flowers procured in Montreal, and sent to the service there. The card of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain bore the inscription, "In affectionate remembrance," and to it Miss Haswell attached the purple Conference Badge, bearing the name of the National Council in letters of silver. Miss Lloyd Still and Miss Cox Davies travelled down from London to be present at the service, and Miss Embry, Hon. Secretary of the Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League, was also amongst those present.

Grateful thanks in this country, and in Canada, are due to Miss Jones, Lady Superintendent of the Infirmary, who whole heartedly endeavoured to leave nothing undone which would honour Miss Shaw.

We offer the respectful and heartfelt sympathy of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to the relatives of Miss Shaw, and to the Canadian Nurses' Association, in their bereavement, and assure them that the name of Flora Madeline Shaw will always be held by the Council in honoured memory.

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