

ber 4th, 1928, it was unanimously decided to adopt the following resolutions, with a view to removing any obstacle that might prevent the development of the "Nationale Bond van Verplegenden" :—

That the Association, *Nosokomos*, be maintained :

That for an indefinite period, beginning January, 1929, its action be suspended ;

The Trained Nurses' Association of India.

The Trained Nurses' Association of India stands rigidly for the admission of fully trained nurses only to their general roll. As an association we are of opinion that three years should be the minimum training for a general nurse, and we have striven to enforce this rule.

Unfortunately, we find that many nurses who have taken only a two and a half years' course of training come to this country and are placed as nursing superintendents in important hospitals. They come chiefly from American schools of nursing which give certificates of efficiency after such a period.

While it is not in our power to disparage the standard of efficiency that might be lower owing to a shortened training, we do feel that it is a great hindrance to those who are striving to enforce in India a three years' training as the only standard for State Registration, if members are admitted to our roll who have received their certificates after a shorter period.

On the other hand, as these nurses had been registered on the general register of the State to which they belonged it was felt last year at our annual conference that we could no longer refuse to accept them as members of the T.N.A.I. As an Association, however, we do urge that this matter might be fully gone into and discussed at some Congress of the International Council of Nurses.

[A summary of the remaining reports will be published in our next issue].

EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIPS.

The first paper of the Congress was that presented by Miss Alicia Lloyd Still, C.B.E., R.R.C., Matron of St. Thomas's Hospital, and Superintendent of the Nightingale Training School for Nurses on Exchange Scholarships. She said :—

I have had the honour of being invited to present to you a paper on the subject of Exchange Scholarships. I am not covering familiar ground and therefore have had recourse to the established work of the Rockefeller Foundation, the data of which I owe to the kindness of Miss Crowell. I plead for your patience while I place before you, as I am bound to do, much that is still problematical.

Exchange scholarships, if understood as interchange of scholars on equal terms between the nursing schools of different countries, do not yet exist ; but for several years scholarships or fellowships have been granted to nurses by such educational bodies as the Rockefeller Foundation, the various Red Cross Societies under the auspices of the League of Red Cross Societies, aided by State Educational or Health Departments, and from time to time by an individual nursing school. These scholarships have usually been provided for extended study in public health, but some have been given for the purpose of studying nursing methods, so that advances may be made in those countries where the nursing service is still inadequate or that good knowledge and well-trained capacity may be enriched by a wider vision and a fresh outlook.

These scholarships have been more comprehensively developed by the Rockefeller Foundation than by the other bodies mentioned ; therefore I shall first sketch its aims and methods, so that I may put a clear issue before you.

The work of the Rockefeller Foundation is well known to all present. While its influence and financial aid have been devoted chiefly to the furtherance of medical education and of public health activities, it has not failed to realise

that nursing education frequently constitutes an important factor in the successful accomplishment of projects in these two fields.

Nursing education all over the world, and especially in Europe, has derived much benefit from the Foundation in the form of fellowships that give the Nurse Fellows opportunities of study in other countries. Their choice of field naturally depends upon the purpose for which the fellowship has been awarded.

The aim of such fellowships is largely two-fold :

1. To give fresh impetus and renewed vigour to those who have been long in harness and become worn out and stale, and to render them more sympathetic to the introduction of new modern methods by younger, specially trained assistants.

2. To supply post-graduate study and the best facilities for practical experience to those who desire to fit themselves for specialised work, e.g., dietetics, pediatric nursing, public health work.

In the first case, a suitable change of environment with the new contacts that result will bring the needed recreation, and the choice of a particular field is of secondary importance.

In the second case, the *best* field must be selected for the specialised study ; one that not only provides the experience, but will fully supply the necessary teaching on the subject and efficiently handle the educational problems involved.

The Nurse Fellow should remain long enough to acquire the technique in use by actual participation in the work.

The choice must also take account of the future position for which the candidate is being prepared, and the limitations imposed by language, temperament and racial psychology.

The Rockefeller Foundation have unique opportunities for seeking the possibilities and appraising the values of the fields of experience provided by the countries of the Old and New Worlds. England, France, Belgium and Austria are largely used to supply experience in bedside and ward nursing, midwifery, infant care, child welfare, and specialised public health nursing. America has been used for the type of experience essential to directors and teachers in schools of nursing and for those studying generalised public health services.

The policy of the Rockefeller Foundation is to prepare Nurse Fellows for definite posts which await the completion of their fellowship training.

Supervision of Foreign Fellows. That full advantage may be taken of these fellowships, it is advisable that some one who knows the two countries well should be available to interpret the student to the field and the field to the student.

Selection of Candidates. Certain qualities and qualifications must be possessed by the candidate.

1. She must be of good education, with powers of expression, in order to obtain the best value from the theoretical instruction.

2. She must have had sufficient experience in ward and administrative practice to supply a groundwork for a full appreciation of new material and its suitable adaptation ; also knowledge of general work conditions in her own country.

3. She must exercise selective judgment and be able to criticise constructively.

4. She must bring to her new outlook the best professional training her country has to offer and be familiar with training conditions at home.

Of similar nature but within a more defined range is the work of the League of Red Cross Societies, which, under the control of its Nursing Division, has organised courses of theoretical and practical instruction in public health

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