

MISS MABEL HERSEY VISITS HEADQUARTERS.

On Wednesday, December 11th, ult., Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, and many Officers of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain had the great pleasure of welcoming Miss Mabel F. Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association, who is now on a visit to this country, at 39, Portland Place, W., the Headquarters of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Tea, which is always a friendly and sociable meal at National Council gatherings, was served in the Office of the Registered Nurses' Association, and then those present adjourned to the Board Room which was looking most attractive with its decorations of beautiful china, and pink chrysanthemums. On the table were placed the exquisitely bound volumes of the *I.C.N.*, the property of the National Council, and a portrait of Miss Florence Nightingale, beautifully framed in a miniature case of mauve morocco and velvet. St. Joan of Arc—in shining armour—inspired the company from her niche on the bookcase.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, as President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain welcomed Miss Hersey very warmly in its name, particularly as President of the Canadian Nurses' Association which organised the wonderful Meeting and Congress of the International Council of Nurses in Montreal in July last. She herself was one of those unfortunate people who was unable to attend it, but she heard nothing but praise and admiration for the courtesy, kindness, and wonderful administration which characterised its organisation.

In the name of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain she offered to Miss Hersey, and the Canadian Nurses Association, its warm thanks for all the kindness its members who attended the Congress had received while in Canada.

It was now just thirty years ago since the International Council of Nurses was founded in London, on her proposition, at a Meeting at which Miss Isla Stewart, Matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, presided.

Its constituents were then individuals, for the most part the Hon. Members of the Matrons' Council, and it was not until the Meeting in Berlin in 1904 that National Associations of Nurses were affiliated, the first being those of Great Britain and Ireland, the United States of America, and Germany. From the foundation of the International Council of Nurses in 1899 to the day of her death in 1910, Miss Isla Stewart took the deepest interest in the Council attending its meetings in Buffalo, Berlin, London, and the Interim Conference in Paris.

The Mother Council looked with pride upon the steady growth of the International Council of Nurses. Its influence was world wide, and must act beneficently in the interests of Peace and Goodwill among the Nations.

Miss Hersey, who on rising to speak was received with much applause, said that she felt Canadian Nurses owed a great deal to Great Britain for Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was the inspiration of the National Council of Nurses of Canada. She was extremely pleased that the Montreal Congress was appreciated. What the Canadian Nurses Association desired was to please those colleagues who came to Canada as their guests, and apparently they had been able to do so. She was very glad to have the opportunity of meeting some of the representative members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and cordially thanked its President for the opportunity.

She also said that Canadian Nurses were hoping that an Interim Congress might be held in London, as it was so accessible.

During her visit to 39, Portland Place Miss Hersey saw and much admired the beautiful quarters of the British College of Nurses which is one of the Associations affiliated

to the National Council of Nurses, and the offices of the *BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* (the official organ of the National Council), wherein are filed copies of the Journal (originally the *NURSING RECORD*) for the last 40 years. In these are recorded the history of the development of Nursing and the national and international organisation of Nurses, not only in Great Britain but throughout the world.

So one more link was formed in the chain which unites the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, with those of the Great Dominion of Canada, for by personal contact more surely than by anything else are such friendships cemented.

We published last month a list of members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain who were elected to seats on various Standing Committees by the Board of Directors of the *I.C.N.* at Montreal; to these must be added the following:—*Education Committee*: Miss A. Lloyd-Still, C.B.E., R.R.C. *Committee on Nominations*: Miss H. L. Pearse, F.B.C.N.

Miss C. Reimann notifies us that replies have now been received from all those ladies, with one exception, who were invited to serve on the Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee, of which Mrs. Bedford Fenwick was elected Chair by the Board of Directors *I.C.N.* at Montreal; and all notify their consent to serve.

Our Advisory Committee on International Affairs will, we hope, at its first meeting seriously consider the important letter addressed by Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, R.N., M.A., to the President of the International Council, and we would invite our readers to study it carefully (pages 334 and 335 in our last issue) proposing a Nightingale Foundation.

Now that we have an influential group of "Nightingales" affiliated to our National Council through "The Nightingale Fellowship" we shall look hopefully forward to their practical interest and support for a Nurses' International Memorial of the great Founder of their School.

NURSES' ORGANIZATIONS.

LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

A General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses was held in the Lecture Room in the Nurses' Home, on December 14th, 1929.

Miss Helen Dey, R.R.C., the President, was in the Chair, supported by Miss Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., Vice-President, and the Hon. General Secretary, Miss Baines. There was a large gathering of members.

Revision of Constitution and Bye-Laws.

Considerable time was spent in the revision of the Constitution and Bye-Laws, which had become necessary owing to the growth and progress of the League founded in 1899. The principal additions were an increase of Sub-Committees. For the future there will be a Benevolent Fund Sub-Committee, a Journal Sub-Committee and an Isla Stewart Memorial Fund Sub-Committee. It was reported that the Trust Deed for the administration of the Gift of £700 presented for the benefit of the League by the Isla Stewart Memorial Fund Committee had been signed by Miss Helen Dey and Mrs. Hadfield as Joint Trustees, with the consent of the Executive Committee, and the certificates of investments transferred. It is provided that the interest only can be used for the purchase of educational books for the Memorial Library, or for educational benefits for members of the League.

Nomination of the President.

The chief alteration in the Constitution confers upon the members of the League the right to nominate the

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