

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

During her visit to England in June last, our International President, Mlle. Chaptal, was engaged in important investigation as Commissioner for the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations, officially appointed by the French Government, and, in recognition of the importance of her mission, the British Government entertained her at an official Dinner at the Ritz Hotel, on June 9th, which was a very memorable occasion.

This function was presided over by the Right Honourable J. R. Clynes (Home Secretary), and there were present, among 25 honoured guests, Mrs. Clynes; the Right Honourable Sir Herbert Samuel, G.B.E., M.P.; the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Molony, Bt.; Mr. A. Short, M.P., and Mrs. Short; Mr. Alexander Maxwell, C.B.; Mr. S. W. Harris, C.B., C.V.O.; Mr. A. H. Norris, M.C., M.R.C.S., C.B.E., Children's Branch, Home Office; Mr. R. H. Crowley, M.D., Senior Medical Inspector, Board of Education; Dame Edith Lyttelton, G.B.E.; Dame Katharine Furse, G.B.E.; the Honourable Lady Lawrence; Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P.; Mrs. Barrow Cadbury, J.P., etc.

Mr. Clynes delivered a sympathetic speech and explained the progress made in Child Welfare by means of special laws and through the action of Children's Courts. He invited Mlle. Chaptal to speak about her international enquiry in seven different countries, to which request the distinguished guest replied with eloquence in perfect English.

Mlle. Chaptal told something of her experiences in Europe: Germany, Italy, and Denmark, and expressed her satisfaction in the work she had been allowed to do in Great Britain, thanks to the great kindness of the Home Office and of all concerned in Child Welfare and protective work among young people in England.

She said also that she had kept this visit to our country for the last and best of her foreign tours, and that she was glad to have witnessed with her own eyes the wonderful development of Child Welfare in this country since her first visit to London in 1904.

Sir Herbert Samuel spoke in answer to Mlle. Chaptal, and reminded the audience of this historical fact that the year 1904 was the "entente cordiale" date. He was glad to associate Mlle. Chaptal's visit to England with such a happy remembrance.

Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., in a few well-chosen words, said she had had the privilege to work in Geneva at the Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations, together with Mlle. Chaptal, and that she would always remember this occasion in her life as a particularly happy time.

The beautiful Menu Card of this very memorable occasion headed with the Royal Arms records that the Dinner was offered to Mlle. Chaptal by "His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland," at the Ritz Hotel, London, on Tuesday, June 9th, 1931. It is as far as we know the only occasion on which the British Government has honoured a distinguished Nurse by such recognition. We congratulate the League of Nations and the International Council of Nurses.

The Menu Card will be carefully preserved in the History of Nursing Section of the British College of Nurses with other treasures.

The collection of such cards now in the possession of the British College of Nurses forms a most interesting record, and many of them bear the signatures of the distinguished guests who attended them.

## THE AMERICAN NURSES' MEMORIAL TO THEIR COLLEAGUES WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR.

Those of us who have followed with admiration the splendid work of Dr. Anna Hamilton (of Bordeaux), in the training of nurses on Florence Nightingale lines, the establishment of a new hospital at Bagatelle made possible by a generous gift of land by Mlle. Bosc., and of a Nurses' Home by the American Nurses' Association to their French Sisters as a Memorial to their American colleagues who lost their lives in the Great War will rejoice that Dr. Hamilton has seen the fulfilment of her dreams by the opening last month of a new wing which completes the scheme of the Home. It is given to few to see so complete a realization of their life's work.

From the days when she came to England to study nursing, and made it the subject of the Thesis for her medical degree which she read at Montpellier in June, 1900, she had studied methods of nursing education, and later established a training school at the Maison de Santé Protestante, Bordeaux.

After the Great War, Dr. Hamilton visited the United States of America and brought her need of funds for building a new school to the attention of the Board of Directors of the American Nurses' Association, and they agreed that the Association would assume the responsibility for securing the necessary money for the building of the School if it might become a perpetual memorial to those nurses of America who gave their lives in the world war. A campaign for funds was initiated and successfully carried through so that one wing of the School was completed some years ago. Then the new hospital was built; and on June 25th of this year the second wing of the School, which finishes the building, was dedicated to the memory of the nurses of America who gave their lives in the cause of humanity during the late war, and to the education in nursing of those young women who may enter this Nightingale School of Nursing in Bagatelle.

It was expected that Miss Clara D. Noyes (the Chairman of the Committee of this Memorial School), would be present at these Memorial Services, but most unfortunately, and to the deep regret of all concerned, she was prevented by illness from attending, so that the Association was represented by its President (Miss Elnora E. Thomson), who read Miss Noyes' Address; and Miss E. Lawler (Superintendent of the Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing, Baltimore), who brought greetings from the Student Nurses of the United States to the Student Nurses of the Florence Nightingale School in Bagatelle.

The Trustees of the School had most graciously arranged to have the dedicatory services in English, and their President gave a beautiful tribute to the ideals for which it stood. Officials of the Province and of the city were present, and spoke with much feeling.

There was a beautifully thought-out address given by the Chaplain of the School and Pastor of their church on the subject, "Whose is This House?"; and the dedicatory prayer was said by the Rector of the Church of England in Bordeaux.

A chorus of the students of the School sang several songs very sweetly; and after the services tea was served for the large number of guests present, among whom were two members of the Memorial Committee of the American Nurses' Association who reside in France.

We learn from Miss Thomson that the Nurses' Registration Law in Oregon is the best of all in the United States, and that Registration is compulsory there.

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