

EDITORIAL.

AN ATMOSPHERE OF ALTRUISTIC FORCE.

We have given prominence to a full report of "Nightingale Week" because it will be well to place its proceedings on record; the most salient reason being that we believe it demonstrates a new era in the progress of the International Council of Nurses in spheres hitherto unexplored.

We were warned it was a wild experiment, undeniably it has proved to have been the most marvellous success. Why? That is a difficult question to answer. There was throughout the assembly a sense of Spiritual Visitation. Those present appeared inspired by extraordinary altruistic force, everywhere creating an atmosphere of world-wide benevolence which thinketh no evil and is kind. A very luminous influence productive of serenity and joy. Mysterious beyond question but wholly congruous with the supreme mystery, the incarnation of God in man.

All through the six marvellous days no shadow of evil fell across our path. The object to be attained was to commemorate with honour the supreme genius of a woman whose undying glory has become the inheritance of the world's nurses.

Twenty years ago the desire to organize a living memorial to Florence Nightingale as an expression of esteem for superlative merit, found expression; but, alas! nothing so far has been done to focus the devotion of our profession in support of a concrete scheme.

During "Nightingale Week" we considered a scheme for post-graduate nursing education.

We took counsel with those who have for many years made the practical work a noted success. We met the organizers, the teachers, the students. We found the scheme worthy and those engaged in administering it generous and expert, and the students benefitting by their work, warmly appreciative of the privileges they enjoyed.

Under these circumstances let us waste no more time. Let us lay our Nightingale Bricks, and see that they are "well and truly laid."

NIGHTINGALE WEEK.

PROGRAMME.

MONDAY, JULY 4TH.

Conference on the "Florence Nightingale International Foundation," 39, Portland Place, W.1. (Headquarters, National Council of Nurses of Great Britain), Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, in the Chair.

Luncheon of Welcome to International Guests by the President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, The United Nursing Services Club, 34, Cavendish Square, W.1.

British College of Nurses, 39, Portland Place. Exhibition of Records of historical interest in connection with Miss Florence Nightingale. Tea by invitation of President and Members of the Council.

Association of Hospital Matrons. Dinner in honour of the International Guests. Miss A. Lloyd-Still, C.B.E., R.R.C., President, in the Chair. The Cowdray Club, 20, Cavendish Square, W.1.

Reception by the President, Miss M. E. Sparshott, C.B.E., R.R.C., and Council of the College of Nursing, of the International Guests, in the College Hall, 1, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

TUESDAY, JULY 5TH.

39, Portland Place, W.1. Motor Coach to East Wellow. Visit of homage to the grave of Miss Florence Nightingale by invitation of the President and Council of the British College of Nurses.

Visit to Embley Park and Tea by kind invitation of Mr. J. J. Crosfield (High Sheriff for Hampshire) and Mrs. Crosfield.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6TH.

Visit to No. 15, Manchester Square, W.1., the Residence of the International Students, by invitation of the League of Red Cross Societies.

St. Thomas's Hospital. Inaugural Meeting of the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain. The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., LL.D., in the Chair. The International Delegates invited to attend.

The Royal British Nurses' Association, 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7. Dinner in honour of the International Guests. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick in the Chair.

THURSDAY, JULY 7TH.

Visit to the College of Nursing, 1, Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square, W.1.

Visit to Headquarters of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, 20, Portland Place, W.1.

Bedford College for Women, University of London. Presentation of Certificates by Her Grace the Duchess of Atholl, D.B.E., M.P., to the Students who have completed the International Courses. By invitation of the Council of Bedford College and the League of Red Cross Societies.

The Old Internationals Association (League of Red Cross Societies) Annual Dinner. Cowdray Club, Cavendish Square, The Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E. C.B., LL.D. in the Chair. International Guests were invited to attend.

FRIDAY, JULY 8TH.

A Meeting of the Hon. Officers of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and the International Delegates, 39, Portland Place, W.1, to consider action to be taken on the "Florence Nightingale International Foundation."

Visit to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by invitation of the Matron, Miss Helen Dey, R.R.C., and the Sisters, to include the Memorial Library to the late Miss Isla Stewart, a Founder Councillor of the International Council of Nurses, 1899. Visit to the Tomb of Rahere in the Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Great. Historical address by Sir D'Arcy Power, K.B.E. Tea in the Great Hall.

Dinner, Nightingale Home, St. Thomas's Hospital. By invitation of Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., LL.D., Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, who presided.

SATURDAY, JULY 9TH.

Visits of Farewell, 39, Portland Place, W.1.

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