

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES, GRAND COUNCIL.

REPORTS OF AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS.

MEETINGS OF THE GRAND COUNCIL.

The Seventh Regular Meeting of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses was held at the Salle Pleyel, Faubourg Saint-Honoré, Paris, on Friday, July 7th.

REPORTS OF AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS.

The fifth item on the Agenda was the Reports of National Representatives (Presidents of Affiliated Associations), always a most interesting and important part of the business before the Council.

It had the advantage of having the Reports of twenty of the twenty-three Affiliated Associations, before it in print, those of Germany, Brazil, and the Philippine Islands not having been received in time to be included.

We extract the most important points from these Reports.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

President, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.

At the Annual Meeting of the Grand Council in November, 1929, an Advisory Committee on International Affairs was appointed, consisting of the ex-officio Hon. Officers, with Miss A. M. Bushby, Miss M. S. Cochrane, Miss R. A. Cox-Davies, Miss A. Lloyd Still, Miss E. M. Musson, Miss M. Ritchie-Thomson (succeeded in 1931 by Miss R. E. Darbyshire). Throughout the Quadrennial Period this has been the most active of the Standing Committees.

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL.

At the Annual Meeting in November 1931, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick presented her Report on the action taken by the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses at its meeting in the previous June on the Report presented by her as Chairman of the Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee, and stated that the Board of Directors had appointed a Sub-Committee composed of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Mlle. Chaptal, Miss Alexander, Miss Musson, and Miss Reimann, to consider the evidence before it and to make Recommendations.

The Recommendations subsequently made by the Sub-Committee were agreed. Included in these were:

1. That the Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee be extended by the inclusion of the Presidents of all Member Associations

2. That the Report of the Memorial Committee submitted by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick be circulated with the invitation to serve.

The suggestion which most appealed to the Directors assembled in Geneva, was that the Memorial should take the form of an endowed Foundation for post graduate nursing education.

The project was advanced a step further at our Annual Meeting that year when Mrs. Fenwick, from the Chair, pointed out that already in London there was the nucleus of such a Foundation as was approved by the Board of Directors of the I.C.N., in the International Nursing Courses established at 15, Manchester Square, London, by the League of Red Cross Societies, but which might not continue to be carried on by the League unless the funds for its support were forthcoming. This situation had been notified to the competent authorities in London by the Secretary-General, from Paris.

Together with Miss Lloyd Still she had had an interview with Sir Arthur Stanley, Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, and Chairman of the British Red Cross Society, and pro-

posed that a small delegation from our National Council of Nurses—say three members—should meet three of the competent authorities of the British Red Cross Society, to discuss, without prejudice, the possibility of the organising in England of such a Central Committee with a view to making permanent the International Nursing Centre as the nucleus of the International Florence Nightingale Memorial.

Sir Arthur Stanley was quite prepared to meet representatives of the National Council of Nurses in consultation and to help to promote its wishes in this connection. She thought the Council would agree that the promoters of the scheme must have the imprimatur of the Nightingale School, and of St. Thomas's Hospital if they were to inspire confidence in their appeal for financial support in aid of the Nightingale Memorial in Great Britain, and throughout the world at large.

On the proposition of Miss Cox-Davies, seconded by Miss Cochrane, the recommendations of the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses were approved. The Council approved of a Consultation between equal numbers of its members and of the competent Red Cross authorities in London associated with the International Nursing Courses at Bedford College for Women, London, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (President), Miss Lloyd Still, and Miss Musson, were elected to represent the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain at the Consultation.

By the kind invitation of Sir Arthur Stanley, a Conference took place at the Treasurer's House, St. Thomas's Hospital, on January 14th, 1932, between the delegates of the National Council of Nurses, and Sir Arthur Stanley, Dame Sarah Swift, and Mrs. Maynard Carter, Chief of the Nursing Division of the League of Red Cross Societies, Paris, representing the Red Cross Societies.

At a meeting on February 4th, a Draft Scheme was unanimously approved:

1. That the Memorial should be called "The Florence Nightingale International Foundation."

2. That an International Appeal would be necessary.

3. That the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses and the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies be asked to approach each country represented on their respective Boards to appoint a representative to a Council which should meet once annually, to be called the Grand Council of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

4. That each country should set up a National Committee composed of members of the National Council of Nurses and the National Red Cross Society, with power to co-opt, to be entitled "The National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of (name of country)."

5. It was further agreed that the Grand Council should be responsible for the policy of the Foundation, and elect a Committee of Management to carry it out.

The next official step in this country was to re-assemble the small Committee which drafted the Scheme of the Foundation and proceed to form the "National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Great Britain."

In the meantime, on the suggestion of the President, our National Council organised a "Nightingale Week" in London in July 1932, to which the International President and Officers, and Presidents (or their representatives) of National Organisations, who had accepted office on the International Florence Nightingale Committee, were invited as guests, so that they might be personally interested in the Nightingale cult.

"Nightingale Week" was held in July 1932, and from first to last was highly successful. A number of Presidents of National Councils of Nurses affiliated to the International Council of Nurses, or their representatives, accepted the invitation. The one disappointment was the absence of the International President who, owing to an accident on

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