

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

THE DEATH OF KING ALBERT OF THE BELGIANS.

No class of the community learned with deeper sorrow of the tragic death of King Albert of the Belgians on Saturday, February 17th, than the members of the Nursing Profession grouped in the International Council of Nurses, thousands of whom had so recently been the honoured guests of the Royal Family at his Palace of Laeken at Brussels, and who was the first Royal Ruler to recognise their world-wide International Council of Nurses by the bestowal of Honours. Our International President at once paid a visit of sympathy and respect to the Belgian Embassy, and also sent the following telegram to Her Majesty, the bereaved Queen Elisabeth.

Telegram to Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth.

St. Thomas's Hospital, London.

To Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians,
Laeken, Brussels.

On behalf of the International Council of Nurses and in the name of Nurses throughout the whole world I beg to offer to your Majesty our deepest sympathy in the sad loss you and your Country have sustained by the death of His Majesty King Albert.

The interest in Nurses and the Nursing Profession as shown by your Majesty on the occasion of your gracious reception of Nurses in 1933 will ever remain a cherished memory to those who had the honour and privilege of meeting your Majesty on that occasion. We feel that your sorrow is ours and our sympathy is deep and heartfelt.

A. LLOYD STILL,

Matron, St. Thomas's Hospital, London.
Superintendent, Nightingale Training School.
President, International Council of Nurses.

Letter from Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth.

Palais de Bruxelles.

MADAM,—The Queen is deeply moved by your participation in the overwhelming sorrow which has befallen the Royal Family and the Belgian people.

I am instructed by the Queen to convey to you and all members of the International Council of Nurses Her Majesty's warmest thanks.

I am, Madam,

Yours sincerely,

G. DE THEU.

March 9th, 1934.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN:

The President of our National Council of Nurses, on learning with real grief of the death of the King of the Belgians, realised that the members of our Council would wish to express their national sympathy with Belgium, the bereaved Queen Elisabeth, the Royal Family, the Belgian People, and their colleagues in the National Federation of Belgian Nurses, at once took action upon their behalf.

The following telegrams were at once despatched from London:—

To Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth of the Belgians,
Castle of Laeken,
Brussels.

The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain humbly

desire to convey to your Majesty their profound grief and sympathy on the death of your great and beloved husband, His Majesty King Albert, of Blessed Memory.

ETHEL G. FENWICK,
President.
(Chevalier de l'Ordre de Léopold.)

To which Her Majesty sent the following acknowledgment:

Brussels.

To Mrs. Fenwick,

President National Council of Nurses,
39, Portland Place, London.

I am instructed to convey to you Her Majesty's warmest thanks.

Lord Chamberlain.

To Mlle. Hellemans, President,
National Federation of Belgian Nurses,
Malines, Belgium.

Loving sympathy in National bereavement and irreparable loss of your heroic King.

FENWICK,
National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Telegram from Mlle. Hellemans, Malines, Belgium.

Heartfelt thanks for sympathy expressed at death of our beloved King.

Federation of Belgian Nurses,
President, HELLEMANS.

The President then paid a visit of ceremony to the Belgian Embassy and signed the Visitors' Book, and handed in a written expression of sympathy from the National Council of Nurses.

We have to thank the Belgian Ambassador for the following courteous acknowledgment.

Ambassade de Belgique.

103, Eaton Square, S.W.1.
March 6th, 1934.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick,
President, The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Madam,

I was profoundly touched by the expression of sympathy you conveyed to me, and through me to the Belgian Royal Family and the Belgian People, on behalf of the Members of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, on the sad occasion of the death of my beloved Sovereign, King Albert.

I have not failed to transmit your message of condolence to the Royal Palace, in Brussels.

In the name of my compatriots and on my own part I beg you to accept and to convey to the Members of your Council my heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation of their kind thought.

I am, Madam,

Yours very truly,

E. de Cartier,

Belgian Ambassador.

Letter to Mlle. Hellemans.

The following letter was later addressed to Mlle. Hellemans, President of the Federation of Belgian Nurses.

39, Portland Place,
London, W.1.
February 23rd, 1934.

Very Dear Mlle. Hellemans,

All these recent days our profound sympathy has been yours, at the grievous loss sustained by the tragic death of your noble King, so revered, so beloved.

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