

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONGRESS, CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER.

A VERY MEMORABLE OCCASION.

Of course the sun was shining bright on Monday, July 19th, when, quite early, we came to the Central Hall, Westminster, to attend the Opening Ceremony by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, of the great Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses, for which our National Council of Nurses had for a year past worked so strenuously. An hour before the opening ceremony the hall was filling rapidly. Within a charming picture was revealed, lovely plants and flowers surrounded the

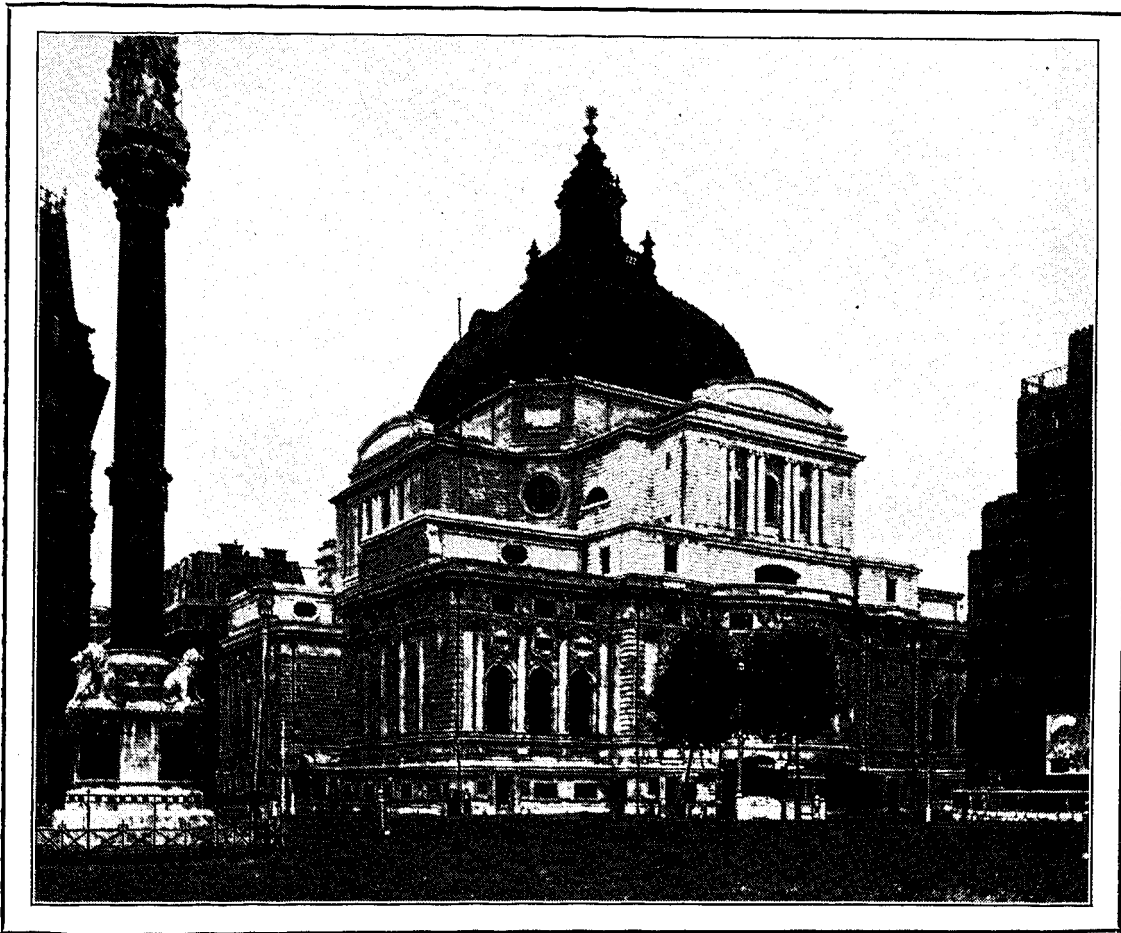
Vice-Presidents of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, the hostess country.

A procession was formed, and as it proceeded on the platform the National Anthem announced the coming of the Princess, who was acclaimed with cheers by the whole audience as they rose to greet her.

OPENING OF THE CONGRESS BY THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

The Princess Royal, who looked charming in a lovely lace dress, graciously accepted a spray of purple orchids from the President. She then performed the opening ceremony. Her Royal Highness said:

"I fully appreciate how important it is that the International Council of Nurses should meet for discussions



THE CENTRAL HALL, WESTMINSTER, LONDON,
Where the International Congress of Nurses was held, July 19th to 24th, 1937.

platform, the flags of all the nations grouped in the International were hung around the gallery with gay effect.

From 9 o'clock Mr. Arthur L. Harris, A.R.C.O., gave an inspiring organ recital and the Presidents and members of some 30 affiliated associations of nurses took their seats on the platform, all of which were filled when the National Anthem announced the arrival of the Princess.

Her Royal Highness was received by the Right Worshipful the Mayor of the City of Westminster, the Honble. Arthur Howard, J.P., and Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, President of the International Council of Nurses. In the ante-room presentations were made to the Princess of the Speakers, the Hon. Officers of the I.C.N., and the Presidents of the French and German Nurses, and the three

of mutual interest and I desire to extend a warm welcome to that large representative body. In these days when far-reaching medical and surgical researches are being made it is more than ever necessary that nursing should maintain a very high standard. In the words of Florence Nightingale: 'Nursing is something in which progress must be made every year.'

Her Royal Highness then declared the Congress open. The Mayor of Westminster, in thanking the Princess for coming to open the Congress, assured her that no one could have been more cordially welcome. Her Royal Highness's deep interest in nursing was well known. He welcomed the presence on the platform of the Presidents of the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons.

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