

Britain has done, we will strive to do *well* what America can do, keeping in mind that to be truly successful we must always be ourselves.

Will you not go back to your homes and to your duties renewed in the spirit of our Watchword, and will you seek to discover from nurses in your own lands, how the International Council of Nurses can serve them best? We want to know what kind of a programme would be most useful to them, as we set about arranging the work for the next four years and for the next Quadrennial Congress. These gatherings are not alone for us who have the privilege of enjoying them, but for those at home, to whom we must carry back whatever we can. We want to plan a programme, not for American nurses, but a useful programme for nurses and Nursing throughout the whole world, and in this we bespeak your assistance.

Before closing my very simple address, may I have the honour of conveying my own and my colleagues' thanks to the nurses of Great Britain, one and all who have made this Congress unique in history through its programme, its arrangements and in its hospitality. Particularly I wish to thank our two great generals, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, our much-loved President, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Founder of this far-reaching International Council of Nurses. Words fail me to adequately express our feelings as we are about to part. In the name of the American Nurses' Association, we bid you welcome to the United States in 1941, and in the meantime—"May the Lord watch between thee and me while we are absent one from the other."

ADDRESSES OF FAREWELL.

The President then called on Miss Jean I. Gunn, O.B.E., Canada, first Vice-President, to give the Address of Farewell from the New World.

FAREWELL FROM AMERICA.

Miss Gunn spoke as follows:—

Madam Chairman, Members of the Congress:

The Session this morning, devoted to the introduction of our new President, Miss Taylor, the beginning of the work of the next quadrennial period, and to complete officially the term of office of our President, Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, is one of the occasions when in our hearts there is a strange intermingling of sadness and joy.

The International Council of Nurses is 38 years old. It is the privilege of very few organisations to have still in active service on its thirty-eighth birthday the one whose vision brought it into being and whose organising ability and wise judgment laid a foundation on which we are still building a world-wide relationship in our profession. We owe to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick and her colleagues, all of whom were outstanding figures in the history and development of nursing in their own countries, our homage and heartfelt thanks.

It is 28 years since this Congress was held in London 1909. When the Congress convened there were three member countries, and four were accepted into membership during the Congress, so that when farewell was said on that occasion there were seven countries represented in the membership. To-day, as we say farewell, there are 32 countries from all the five continents of the world.

My privilege and honour this morning is to say farewell on behalf of the nurses of America. We of America are now turning our faces towards the West and going home to those lands usually referred to as the younger countries. It is because we nurses of America come from those young countries that we have found a special joy in everything in England that is old, of historical interest and linked with tradition, of which we have so little. We are taking back with us many mind pictures of the beauty of the English countryside with its lovely gardens of flowers, its magnificent trees and its far-stretching green hedges. In this old city of London we have been drinking in all

the history and tradition of the centuries. Many places of historical interest, of which formerly we had read and studied, have now taken on new forms in our minds and have been stored away to be taken out and enjoyed in retrospect in the years to come.

This Congress has brought our colleagues from many lands, and when we return to our homes we will have memories which will last for ever of old friends we have met and of new friends we have made. The International Council of Nurses is a great organisation. This Congress has given all of us many new ideas and suggestions for the development of nursing education and nursing service. But, important as that may be, it is not of first importance. It is the friendship one with another that makes the International Council of Nurses a living thing and a force in the promotion of mutual respect, affection, and international understanding. This spirit of friendship has been fostered by our hostess country in this Congress when we have had so many delightful opportunities of being off duty and enjoying many hours of play.

We say farewell to old London and to the nurses of Great Britain with grateful hearts and with sincere appreciation of the individual and collective effort which has resulted in making this Congress such an outstanding success. In a few weeks each member will once more be resuming her individual responsibilities and routine tasks whatever they may be, and in whatever country she claims as home. I would like to ask each and every member that when she is meeting difficulties and experiencing discouragements in her daily task, to remember the words spoken by the Archbishop of Canterbury in his inspiring talk to us at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday last, when he said: "this organisation of nurses is a world-wide fellowship for service to humanity." It will encourage each of us to remember that she forms a link, and an important link, in that world-wide fellowship.

FAREWELL FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

Miss B. G. Alexander, R.R.C., of South Africa, second Vice-President, then said:

"In bidding farewell to the Congress I wish to add my thanks on behalf of South Africa, to Dame Alicia Lloyd Still, who has carried the burden of President for four years, and to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, which has organised this great Congress.

"I am standing here with the Constitution drawn up in 1900 in my hand, by which the nurses of all nations are bound in a confederation of workers to further the efficient care of the sick and to secure the honour and the interests of the Nursing Profession."

In conclusion the speaker emphasised the responsibility of the National Associations to the International Council of Nurses, the scope of which was, she said, so wide that it had no horizon.

FAREWELL FROM AUSTRALIA.

Miss J. Bell, Australian Nursing Federation then addressed the Congress:—

Madame President and Members of the Congress:

The name of Miss Bicknell of New Zealand is on the Programme to address this meeting, but she has kindly asked me as representative of the continent of Australia, to do this and to include New Zealand in my remarks, which I feel happy in doing, because we at the Antipodes regard ourselves as one, but I must yield the palm to New Zealand in having far outdistanced us in coming into the International Council of Nurses.

I am particularly glad of this opportunity to thank the Grand Council, on behalf of the Australian Nursing Federation, for their courtesy in allowing me to be present at their meeting and to speak when the question of our affiliation was before them, as more can be accomplished in five minutes of personal contact than in writing reams of paper.

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