

emphasis upon national traditions and ideas. The international points of view should be kept in mind.

The regular report of progress from each member association will be awaited with keen anticipation.

An agenda for the Board Meeting will be forwarded to each president shortly after Miss Schwarzenberg, the Executive Secretary, returns from Europe.

We are looking forward to having every member of the Board on hand at this very important meeting.

Very faithfully yours,

EFFIE J. TAYLOR, *President*.

1819 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

ELECTION OF HONORARY OFFICERS.

The following communication has been issued by Miss Effie Taylor, President of the International Council of Nurses, and it is to be hoped that nurses of public spirit will be nominated for office.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

April 1, 1946.

Founder and Honorary President,
International Council of Nurses.

DEAR PRESIDENT.—The meeting of the Grand Council of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, to be convened in London, September 11, 12, 13, 1946, provides opportunity for its member bodies to present resolutions or recommendations, relating to changes or modifications in the structure, administration, function, or individual policy in the F.N.I.F., which it believes would enhance its usefulness, or more nearly meet the needs of to-day.

During the past few years you have had the privilege of reviewing the purpose of the memorial created in honour of Miss Nightingale, we trust with far-sighted vision. You have had the opportunity, also, to evaluate the achievements of the foundation as it is now established.

At this time when its work is being revived, and when the world educational, health and economic institutions are in process of readjustment, it is appropriate and expedient that the International professional organisation of nurses should express its views, and if it deems wise, make recommendations for the future.

It is necessary that all recommendations be in the hands of the secretary of the Foundation by July 11, 60 days before the Grand Council Meeting to be convened in London on September 11, 1946.

To make this possible each national association, if it has resolutions or recommendations to make, should present them in writing, duly signed, to Miss Anna Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary, at the Headquarters Office of the International Council of Nurses, 1819 Broadway, New York 23, N.Y., by May 12.

The recommendations can then be compiled and if approved by the I.C.N. forwarded to the Secretary of the Foundation. As the time is short may we ask you to lose no time in forwarding your replies to the Executive Office in New York, U.S.A.—Very faithfully yours,

EFFIE J. TAYLOR, *President*.

OFFICERS NOW SERVING.

Officers now serving are :—

President : Miss B. G. Alexander, S.R.N., South Africa.

Treasurer : Sir Arthur Stanley, G.B.E., C.B., LL.D., Great Britain.

Vice-Presidents : Miss Mary Beard, U.S.A. ; Mrs. Kinnicut Draper, U.S.A. ; Mlle. Hellemens, Belgium ; Sister Bergliot

Larsson, Norway ; Miss Alice Masaryk, Czechoslovakia ; Mrs. McClean, Sweden ; Mlle. Odier, International Red Cross Committee ; Miss Snellman, Finland ; Marchesa Di Targiani Giunti, Italy.

COLOGNE IN 1912.

The memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale was proposed by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick ; seconded by Professor Adelaide Nutting, at the meeting of the I.C.N. held in Cologne in 1912 ; together with the League of Red Cross Societies—it did much good work before the war.

Now is the time for energetic organisation.

AIDS TO DISEASES OF THE SPIRIT FOR NURSES.

There is always something in "Nurses Near and Far," the news-letter of the "Nurses' Christian Movement," and this month it will be well that the article "Aids to Diseases of the Spirit for Nurses" should be widely read by them.

Apathy.

Headlessness—inertia—indifference (in a Christian).

Cause.

A gradual infiltration of self into a life dedicated to Christ.

Signs and Symptoms.

1. Insidious onset, Q.T.s become an effort and unreal, leading to a gradual neglect of same.

2. Spiritual devitalisation, loss of any incentive to active evangelism.

3. Nausea at any manifestation of the joy of "Life in Christ" in others.

4. Flaccid paralysis—loss of ability to witness.

5. Slackening off in attendance at Church and N.C.M. meetings.

6. No deep fellowship with other Christians.

7. Lowering of our standards, probably unconsciously, from those of Christ to those of our contemporaries.

8. Anæsthesia—loss of sensibility to the Guidance of God and the needs of our fellows.

Results.

1. Life loses its meaning—in moments of honesty (which become less and less frequent) a consciousness of utter dissatisfaction.

2. More time spent in seeking pleasure, but less happiness found.

3. 101 things, hitherto unnoticed, crop up to cause grumbles and irritability.

4. Forced gaiety alternating with fits of depression.

Prognosis.

Without treatment : rapid spiritual degeneration, hopelessness at time of crisis, deepening despair and dissatisfaction which may progress to atrophy of the Spiritual Life.

Treatment.

Direct contact with the vitality of Christ ; a full and new surrender to Him who understands and cares for each of us far more than we can ever realise. Glorious results from treatment at any stage.

Preventive.

A continual surrender of one's whole self to Christ ; that it may be "not I, but Christ in me." "I am the Resurrection and the Life ; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." (St. John xi. 25.)

BETTY LEWIS.

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