

Colonel Armstrong (U.S. Army) used the aims of the I.C.N. as the basis for his speech; "To elevate the service to the sick, to promote the health of nations and to conserve the honour and interest of the Nursing Profession."

His Excellency Alfred E. Driscoe, Governor of New Jersey, gave a great welcome to "The servants of humanity from all over the world," to the historic town of Atlantic City. As it was known as "Convention City," it was to be found as near to Europe as possible.

Dr. Thomas Parran, Surgeon-General, U.S. Public Health Service, said that "in the field of health, nations are interdependent. The promotion of health in any nation is of value to all nations, just as low health standards and uncontrolled epidemics in any nation constitute a threat to other nations.

"As medical science expands, doctors and nurses will need greater knowledge and more skill. . . . As doctors of medicine have developed slowly from the barber surgeons of the past, so nursing has evolved gradually into its present status as a profession."

Dr. Louise Pearce, Chairman of the Committee of International Relations also greeted the Nurses on behalf of the American Association of University women.

Dr. Robin C. Buerki (American Hospitals Association) stated that nursing is at one of its historic crossroads. He thought there was a danger of the greatness of nursing toppling from its high pedestal, but seeing so great a gathering and the leadership of the United States, the future was bright indeed.

Dr. Edward L. Bortz (President Elect of the American Medical Association) remarked that doctors and nurses are members of the medical family allied in a great cause. Doctors of the nation experience a substantial satisfaction in your triumphs.

At the American Medical Association Convention to be held in Atlantic City in June the House of Delegates will be asked to appoint a committee to study nursing service. This committee will ask that a similar committee be appointed by the American Nurses' Association so that the two may meet in joint session to discuss such problems as lack of nurses, education of nurses.

Doctors and nurses work side by side, they must join hands and confer with each other regarding frequent points of common interest.

Doctors are concerned with over-emphasis on special-

isation: two-thirds of the doctors desire to specialise—leaving one-third for general practice. This order should be reversed if needs of the nation are to be met. This applies to nursing also, where similar tendency to want to specialise is being noted.

Doctors are ready to support recommendations made by the nursing profession which will improve positions of nurses in hospitals and in homes.

Doctors and nurses alike need satisfactory training in basic subjects related to medicine as it is developing and expanding to-day.

The American Medical Association has much important data bearing on problems confronting your noble profession that is available in the files of the A.M.A. for anyone who wishes to study it.

May your meeting be a great success and may you return to your homes refreshed in mind, spirit and body, for such is the wish of the doctors of our land to you noble ladies of a great profession.

Dr. G. Brook Chisholm (Executive Secretary, World Health Organisation) told us that we had an important rôle to play in world health. Although his organisation was still in the fetal stage and the United Nations are the obstetricians of the new baby, he hoped that we would make recommendations which would help and guide them in the broad international programme they were undertaking. He invited and solicited our co-operation. Dr. Brook Chisholm has had a remarkable public career and is a Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

Miss Daisy Bridges, S.R.N., President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland moved a very gracious vote of thanks. She said that she was conscious of the privilege and respon-

sibility which fell to her lot, in endeavouring to express adequately the thanks of the countries represented, to the very distinguished speakers who had bid us welcome. Her quiet charm and beautiful words did adequately thank the speakers.

Miss Vera Neil of China in seconding this vote of thanks thought that the idea of "one world" was being increasingly appreciated. The Congress would aid the cause of friendship and world peace.

The Business Meeting opened with the roll-call. As the names of the participating countries were called, all the members arose amid applause from the others. Great Britain had the largest foreign delegation. Miss



MISS EFFIE J. TAYLOR, R.N.,
President of the Ninth Quadrennial International
Congress of Nurses.

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