

Taylor then gave the address of Miss Annie Goodrich whilst the latter took the chair.

**Dame Ellen Musson**, Treasurer of the International Council, then addressed the Congress before finally handing over the accounts after 22 years of loyal and faithful stewardship.

At 1.30 p.m. the first session adjourned, and the huge assembly found their lunches in cool drug stores, snack-bars, hotel dining-rooms and soda-fountain counters, according to their tastes.

### INTERNATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS.

Miss Gerda Höjer, President of the Swedish Nurses' Association, was elected President of the International Council of Nurses in succession to Miss Effie J. Taylor, of America, who has held office for ten years.

The Tenth Quadrennial International Congress of Nurses, is to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, in June, 1949, in order that the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the International Council may be fittingly observed.

Miss Daisy Bridges, S.R.N., President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Mrs. Seymer, S.R.N., who gave the Nightingale Oration in the great assembly hall, were two of the finest speakers to be heard at the Congress. Miss Bridges, who gave an address of thanks at the Opening Ceremony on Monday, May 12th, spoke fluently, with ease and perfection, and her scholarly Address gave the greatest possible pleasure to her English listeners. Likewise, Mrs. Seymer. The Nightingale Oration was masterly, and delivered in perfect and beautiful English. It was plainly obvious to her spellbound audience that much hard research work had gone into the formation of such a glowing tribute to one aspect of the works of Florence Nightingale. Her British colleagues regretted that she was not the only star permitted to shine on that memorable night, although she only suffered slight eclipse from the truly great and vivacious personality of Miss Lavinia L. Dock.

Miss Lavinia L. Dock and Miss Annie W. Goodrich are the two greatest personalities now living in connection with the foundation of the International Council of Nurses. Both received very eloquent citations from their admiring American colleagues and both were duly acclaimed and confirmed by all Nurses of the world. They are truly international figures.

Dean Effie J. Taylor, International President had the misfortune to break her left forearm in two places the day before the Congress opened. Although she suffered a great deal of pain and on occasions, she appeared ill and weary, she carried out her tremendous and exacting programme in the finest Nursing traditions and thus received the admiration of all. We sincerely hope that she has now entirely recovered and is taking a well-earned rest.

We offer our congratulations and commiserations to Miss G. E. Davies, S.R.N., on her appointment as Treasurer of the International Council in succession to Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., S.R.N. Dame Ellen was a most successful and watchful Keeper

of the International Purse, and we wish her a happy and peaceful retirement from public office. Her work will be a lasting tribute to her memory.

It was regretfully noted that no solution for the world shortage of nurses was found at the Congress. It was apparent that most countries had done their utmost to improve salaries, conditions and the educational status of Nurses, yet the problem remains and is likely to be aggravated, as time goes on. This problem is fraught with the gravest danger and in itself could be a cause of inflation in any country, because it is manifestly evident that no nation can afford to pay much more for its nursing services. As necessity is the mother of invention, perhaps some means will shortly be found to cure this veritable cancer.

Two Nightingale Bricks were carried across the Atlantic from the British College of Nurses, Ltd., to find new homes and to stimulate new ideas in Nursing Schools in other lands. One was destined for a Chicago Hospital and was carried by our President, Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N. The other was taken by the Bedford Fenwick scholar for presentation to Mrs. Genara S. M. de Guzman, National President of the Filipino Nurses Association. Mrs. de Guzman, kindly arranged a private luncheon in honour of the occasion and many eminent visiting nurses were invited to be present. The Filipino nurses attended in National Costumes, and they were beautiful, glamorous and most decorative. They also were accomplished after-dinner speakers, and all spoke of the high ambitions they held for the future of nursing in their beautiful yet tragic islands. We thank Mrs. de Guzman for her generous hospitality and offer our sincere admiration for the great work she is engaged upon and which will surely meet with the success it so richly deserves.

The watchword, given by the retiring President, Miss Effie J. Taylor, is, "Faith," "faith in our purpose and objectives, faith in our colleagues and ourselves, and above all, faith that under God's guidance the world will be fair and all her peoples free, and that in the not too distant future it may be proven that under heaven is only one family."

The "Exhibits" which were assembled at the Convention Hall in Atlantic City, N.J., were most ambitious. \$1,000,000 worth of equipment was brought there by leading manufacturers and most interesting equipment and displays were on view for the benefit of the nurses. Many foreign Governments also participated so that information regarding their respective countries could be propagated far and wide. Canada, New Zealand, Belgium and the Belgian Congo, Czechoslovakia and the Republic of the Philippines and America were some of the displaying countries. We could not help wondering why Great Britain was one of the very few countries *not* represented, in spite of the fact that Great Britain had the largest foreign delegation to the Convention, and a large displaying area had been reserved for her!

The largest pipe organ in the world is in the Convention Hall, Atlantic City, where we held our Congress. It has seven manuals, 1,250 stops and can produce the greatest volume of music ever heard on a single instrument in Console No. 1. It has enough room in its main console alone, to admit 12 to 14 persons.

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