

There is every reason to hope that no such an emergency will ever arise, but that is no excuse for neglecting to study ways and means of dealing with it.

Expressing the hope and belief that such measures would never become necessary, Miss Johns stressed the value of close co-operation with international organizations such as the United Nations, U.N.E.S.C.O., and World Health Organization. Thus the International Council of Nurses, she said, will be able to function in an educational capacity as the interpreter and representative of organized nursing in all parts of the world.

"We are fortunate," she commented, "in being able to obtain, analyze, compare and assemble the information which the W.H.O. will want to receive. If we can prove at the outset that we are capable of participating in world affairs there can be no doubt that we shall be permitted to do so. No other group of women enjoy a similar opportunity.

"In resuming its peaceful tasks the I.C.N. will re-

the most powerful because the service which we alone can render is given in response to universal need. We have the high privilege of giving it to our enemies as well as to our friends."

Summarizing the educational responsibilities of the I.C.N., Miss Johns declared they were;

1. The establishment and maintenance of close and effective relationship with all international groups associated with the United Nations which are engaged in promoting the health and welfare of mankind.

2. The Maintenance and improvement of the standards already set in relation to the basic education of nurses.

3. The formulation of acceptable standards for post-graduate education and the encouragement of the interchange of nurses between the member countries for purposes of study and observation.

4. The development of strong and fearless leadership



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS, INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.  
Miss G. Hojer, Miss M. I. Lambie, Miss K. J. Densford, Miss G. Fairley, and Miss G. E. Davies.

examine educational standards. The work already begun by the Committee on Education in connection with basic education will be carried over into the post-graduate field. As a result there will be a rapidly increasing demand for opportunities to travel, study, and observe in all the member countries. Here the I.C.N. can render valuable assistance. International nursing education implies that nurses seek and find opportunities of learning something about nursing in other countries than their own, and that the countries in which these opportunities are sought must be willing and able to make them freely available. The urge to go far afield in search of knowledge has always been characteristic of nurses. Florence Nightingale herself set the pattern.

"Slowly but surely we are learning that international peace and unity do not depend only upon formal treaties drawn up by heads of governments but also on the determination of certain groups to keep their international solidarity intact. Among these, nursing is one of

which will ensure the preservation of the moral and spiritual values which are the very soul of nursing.

#### DISCUSSION

In the discussion which followed Miss G.V. HILLYERS O.B.E. (Great Britain) outlined the post-graduate nursing courses which were available at the Royal College of Nursing. Many of these courses were now sponsored by H.M. Government, *e.g.*, the Post Graduate Industrial Nursing Course.

MISS BERTHA HELGESTAD, (Norway), who opened the discussion, thought that post-graduate work should commence in one's own country, and that students should visit other countries. She thought that the International Council ought to consider setting up post-graduate schools and have "field areas" and a field secretary. Obviously finance would have to be seriously considered.

MISS E. PAULL (India) and MISS MILLER (Norway)

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)