

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES

The members of the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses met together at their new Headquarters, 19, Queen's Gate, London, from many parts of the world under the Chairmanship of Miss Gerda Höjer, President, and attended by Miss Daisy Bridges, R.R.C., Executive Secretary.

A very full programme had been arranged for the delegates. The meetings opened on Thursday, September 16th at 9.30 a.m., were continued on 18th and 20th, and were concluded on 21st, after which the delegates began to prepare for their departure, to report decisions taken in London to their own national councils. Final arrangements were made for the special International Congress of Nurses to be held in Stockholm next year, to celebrate the foundation of the International Council of Nurses in 1899, inspired by the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick.

On September 17th, a meeting took place at Riddell House, St. Thomas's Hospital, in collaboration with the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, and where, in the evening a very special ceremony was arranged—the presentation to the President of the American Nurses'

enjoyed their journey by road through some of the beautiful English countryside.

### An Informal Reception.

It was with sincere pleasure that the President and Council of the British College of Nurses Ltd., welcomed the members of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses to an informal gathering at 19, Queen's Gate, London, on Monday, September 20th.

The guests, who were introduced by Miss Daisy Bridges, R.R.C., their Executive Secretary, were received in the Nurses' Club Room (now restored to its peace-time charm) by the President, Miss H. McLoughlin, S.R.N., F.B.C.N.; Miss M. B. MacKellar, Vice-President; Mrs. Thomas Barber, D.N. (Lond.), Miss A. S. Bryson, Miss L. Clark, Miss F. R. Roberts, Miss M. E. Thurnham and Miss U. Spon, D.N. (Lond.), Members of Council.

As all were assembled, warm congratulations were expressed to the President of the International Council of Nurses, Miss Gerda Höjer on the news, just received, that she had been elected a member of Parliament in her own country—Sweden.

The presence of Dame Ellen Musson so long associated with the affairs of the International Council of Nurses



The camera snaps some of the International Guests taking Tea with the President and Council of the British College of Nurses Ltd.

Association, by Dame Ellen Musson, so long associated with the activities of the International Council of Nurses, of a Statuette of Florence Nightingale, together with a triptych containing the names of British subscribers who had enjoyed the hospitality of the members of the American Nurses' Association at the International Congress of Nurses last year. This happy thought was sponsored by the fact that the United States of America are celebrating the graduation, 75 years ago, of Linda Richards, America's first professional nurse. For this occasion, a special concert had been arranged, which was much enjoyed by all the guests present.

A pleasing tribute was paid by Miss Pearl McIver, President, in placing a wreath before the plaque of Florence Nightingale in the Chapel of St. Thomas's Hospital, in the name of the American Nurses' Association.

On September 18th, a Sherry Party was held for the Nurse visitors at Burleigh House, London, the residence provided by the Florence Nightingale International Foundation for International and British Nurses attending post-graduate courses.

On Sunday, September 19th, a visit was arranged for the delegates to attend a luncheon and reception at the King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst—they much

and the Treasurer Miss G. E. Davies, gave great pleasure.

What an inspiring hour it was to mingle with colleagues of thirty-six nations, and hear so many languages spoken. We much admired the fluent way in which our guests spoke our native tongue.

The members of The British College of Nurses Ltd., are profoundly happy that the first function to be held immediately after the restoration of their headquarters, was to entertain the distinguished representatives of their profession throughout the world.

That The International Council of Nurses (now preparing for the International Congress of Nurses to be held in Sweden in 1949) should have its Headquarters within the premises of the British College of Nurses Ltd., would, we feel, have rejoiced the heart of the Founder—the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick.

In the evening the delegates were entertained to a reception at the Ministry of Health, by invitation of Dame Kathrine Watt.

To conclude their stay in London, our honoured guests were invited to a Coffee Party by the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in collaboration with the Royal College of Nursing at Henrietta Place—a happy thought to speed our parting guests.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)