

1925

A ceremony of no small significance was recorded in 1925 when Registered Nurses, in gratitude for great services rendered in the House of Commons, entertained Sir Richard Barnett to dinner, and our late Editor, surrounded by her supporters, presented him with a copy of the Register of Nurses.

1926

In May, 1926 this Journal was given instructions to inform members of the Nursing Profession that the British College of Nurses had been formed and endowed with a donation of upwards of £100,000 for the higher education, benevolence, and a nucleus for professional independence of Registered Nurses, and that it would be composed of Fellows and Members who would be women nurses only.

With this anticipation in mind, our late Editor presented a paper, on Trained Nurses' Day at the Buffalo Exposition, U.S.A., in 1901, entitled "A Plea for the Higher Education of Nurses."

1932

THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.

The conception and realisation of a Florence Nightingale Memorial, later to be known as "The Florence Nightingale International Foundation," is a page of Nursing History which fills us with wonder as we read of the genius to lead and organise displayed by the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick.

When the International Council of Nurses met in Cologne in 1912 those who were present well remember its splendour and glamour. So much soul and spirit, such entrancing music, such exquisite living pictures, such gay company, all combined to produce just the tone of colour and sound, inspiring in the highest degree.

It was at the banquet held in the splendid gold and white ballroom of the Hotel Disch on the evening of August 7th, 1912, that, after expressing her pleasure at the great success of the Congress, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick urged that all the splendid vitality characterising the members of the Congress must not be allowed to evaporate, but should be utilised for some practical purpose,

and that after consultation with Miss Nutting and others she had the honour to propose that at the Cologne Congress steps should be taken to institute an appropriate memorial to Miss Florence Nightingale. Miss Nightingale was above all nationality, and belonged to every age and every country. She was endowed with the genius to realise that nursing must follow scientific medicine as its handmaid.

To fulfil this great mission aright, those who practised it must be adequately equipped, and her proposition was that the nurses of the world should co-operate to

found an educational memorial in memory of Miss Nightingale which would not only benefit the nurses of the world, but the sick whom they served. It was peculiarly appropriate that the proposition, which she hoped would commend itself to those present, should be made at Cologne, near to Kaiserswerth, where Miss Nightingale came to learn the fundamental principles of the art which she afterwards practised and taught for the benefit of humanity.

Sister Karll, in thanking Mrs. Fenwick for her kind personal words, expressed on behalf of German nurses high approval of the proposal made by her.

Miss M. A. Nutting said that she had no hesitation in answering for American nurses—not any. No one for a day could withhold their support to a proposition for the endowment of an educational memorial in her honour—a real memorial to Florence Nightingale could take no other form—and it should be founded in the country where Florence

Nightingale lived her life, and where she left her greatest memorial.

Miss M. A. Snively, as one of the Foundation Members of the International Council of Nurses, and a past President of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses, expressed her complete sympathy with the proposition. "Pioneers pass, but leave behind them a world transformed out of the resemblance to that on which they opened their eyes."

Later Miss Nutting was nominated as chair of the Provisional Memorial Committee and Miss L. L. Dock



MISS ISLA STEWART, FIRST CHAIRMAN, MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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