

declared open by the Hon. Eije Mossberg. Guests were welcomed by the Acting-President of the Swedish Nurses Association. Miss Bridges gave a talk on "Outstanding Events in the History of the International Council of Nurses." We all felt very proud of the 50 years of active life of the I.C.N. we were there to celebrate. At the end of the session the Stockholm Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and Choir gave us Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony," always beautiful, but here also very suitable to the occasion.

During the Opening Session welcome was given to members and delegates attending from each country. The name of the country was called and members stood up. Thirty-two countries were represented, only those from behind the "Iron Curtain" being unable to attend. German nurses had a special welcome and I think we were all glad that they had been helped to come. I wish I could convey to readers the tremendous feeling of pride which we all felt in being able to come together with such goodwill and with a common aim. Great pride was also felt, because our own Mrs. Bedford Fenwick had the vision to see that this was possible.

During the afternoon Session, papers were presented on the subject, "The Medicine of To-morrow and the Position of the Nurse." These gave much food for thought. Space does not permit me to branch out into a résumé of these papers, they are best read in their printed form. In the evening we attended either the excellent chronicle play written by Miss Dillner, and given by the Swedish nurses in the National Theatre, or a boys' choir concert given in the National Museum. Both entertainments were very good indeed.

Tuesday morning opened at 9 a.m., with the general Session. Miss Densford, second Vice-President presided. More papers were presented on the subject, "Nursing Education—Methods of Clinical Instruction." These were very ably given and provoked some interesting discussion. After lunch in St. Erik's Hall, we all assembled for visits to various places of interest. Buses were used to convey us and some went to hospitals, some to welfare centres, factories, and many other places, all with an interest relating to the various branches of nursing. Coffee and tea parties were given in each place and, in one hospital anyway, the nurses gave an exhibition of Swedish folk-dancing which was very much appreciated.

I must pause to say a word here about the wonderful feeding arrangements provided for us. A large hall—St. Erik's Hall—built in a sunken area down the road from the Congress had been turned into a huge dining-room. Everyone had meal tickets for which we paid and on each was the number of one's group and the time of the meal. The food was cooked on field-kitchens and served to us by the Swedish equivalent of the W.V.S., and the A.T.S. The meals were delicious and served on the "help-yourself" system.

Wednesday was a day when we all went out on trips to various parts of the provinces. Special trains and buses took us and I was one of the party that visited Upsala. It was a day so full of interest that I feel a special article is needed to tell about it. In each instance wonderful entertainments were provided and many places of interest shown to us all.

Thursday brought the last general Session and the closing of the Conference. We spent the whole day in the Congress hall. In the morning more papers were presented on the subject, "Nursing Service—How to meet the Demand." The most interesting, to me at any rate, was the paper given by Miss MacNaughton, Matron of Stracathro Hospital, Angus, Scotland. It was full of sound commonsense, and I recommend readers to get copies and read them. The other papers were also interesting and much discussion ensued. Miss Marriott, Deputy-Treasurer, presided.

After lunch reports were given by the chairmen of the various committees, and one received a very clear idea of the work that is continually being done on an international level by the I.C.N. We learned also that the I.C.N. is in official relations with the World Health Organisation, and that a representative was attending the meeting being held in Italy. Nurses are truly taking their full share of the work in the community, not only in national spheres but in international spheres as well.

After votes of thanks were given by Mlle. M. Bihet, of Belgium, and Miss J. Sotejo of the Philippines, the President, Miss Höjer, declared the Conference closed. The invitation was then issued by Miss E. Fraenkel for the next Congress to be held in Brazil in 1953.

The day closed with an open-air entertainment on Skansen, one of the islands of Stockholm, which is like an open-air museum and entertainment ground. This was provided by the Swedish nurses who sang folk songs and gave us folk-dancing. It was, unfortunately, the one time we had any rain, which did rather spoil things. But everyone stayed to see it all, and spirits were so high that the rain seemed to matter not at all. Miss Höjer wished us all a final goodbye and we returned home.

On Friday, everyone prepared to leave with great sadness, for the time had passed so quickly. We all met many old friends and made many new ones. Everyone carried away great inspiration for the future and I heard expressed on many sides the desire to spread the news, and try to inspire those who were not fortunate enough to be there with the greatness of the work which is being done.

Sweden gave us a wonderful welcome and we shall not easily forget.

U. S.

The King's Birthday Honours

HIS Majesty The King has conferred many Birthday Honours upon his subjects at home and overseas, in which members of the Nursing Profession were included.

ROYAL RED CROSS.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS, A.R.R.C.

Acting Senior Sister Edith Joan McKay.

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

FIRST CLASS, R.R.C.

Principal Matron Evelyn May Rixon (retired).

Queen Alexandra's Army Nursing Corps.

FIRST CLASS, R.R.C.

Junior Commdr. Beatrice Milne Fitzpatrick.

Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

SECOND CLASS, A.R.R.C.

Acting Senior Sisters Eileen Mary Knox and Lucie Mary Wainwright.

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

O.B.E.

Miss Caroline H. Hall, Matron, Queen Victoria Hospital, East Grinstead; Miss H. C. Parsons, lately Director of Education Department, Royal College of Nursing; The Rev. Mother Mary C. C. Connery, Calvary Hospital, North Adelaide, Australia; Miss Agnes Morgan, Matron, Prince Henry's Hospital, Victoria, Australia; Miss I. N. Watkins, Principal Matron, Hongkong; Miss Margarita E. Anderson, Matron, Balclutha Hospital, New Zealand; Miss Elsie M. Haines, for services in connection with organisation and training of dental nurses, New Zealand.

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