

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD

ETHEL GORDON FENWICK, S.R.N., HON. EDITOR 1888—1947.

No. 2183. Vol. 98.

JUNE, 1950.

Price Sevenpence.

Editorial.

Lest We Forget.

THERE ARE TIMES IN OUR LONG HISTORY, when a leader arose who, endowed with rare originality and vision, brought the realisation of creative ideals to the enduring benefit of mankind, and who in his destiny marked his generation in the evolution of civilisation.

It is fitting, therefore, that it be remembered that for some sixty years the Nursing Profession was blessed by such a leader in Ethel Gordon Fenwick, whose genius it was to inspire, amongst other world-wide activities, the great educational movement of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

In the confusion which appears at the present time to prevail concerning the true origin of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, we wonder how many of the younger generation of Nurses now enjoying the fruits of that wonderful pioneer work, realise its source. We think it is essential, therefore, that they should know of the remarkable leadership of the sower of the seed, which lay in the part she also played in its fruition, and the gratitude we owe to her, who did not escape the hard proverbial way of a prophet in his own country.

In looking back on those far-off days, we feel it is not yet sufficiently appreciated that Ethel Gordon Fenwick, in the founding of the great educational memorial to Florence Nightingale, so forcefully brought to the foundation, in amicable unity, those who had been her bitterest opponents in her many years' struggle for the higher education of Nurses, a masterly triumph which was not lost on the late Sir Arthur Stanley when he said he felt that but for Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the Florence Nightingale Memorial could not have been inaugurated.

Having in our last issue published in full the report of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation Council, which held its first meeting at the headquarters of the International Council of Nurses, on March 1st to 4th, we present for the benefit of our present and generations of Nurses to come details of the conception of this world-wide movement as at that time published in this Journal.

August, 1912.

A NURSES' INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL

"In the fifth resolution the Congress requested the International Council of Nurses to stimulate enquiries into the social condition of nurses in the affiliated countries. But the Congress will be chiefly memorable for the proposition made by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick at the Banquet, with which it concluded, that the nurses of the world should co-operate

then and there to found an Educational Memorial to Florence Nightingale, a proposition warmly seconded by Miss Nutting, Director of the Department of Nursing and Health at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, and supported by delegates of the various nationalities present. It is universally felt that the only International Memorial appropriate to so great a teacher is one which will emphasise her life's work as a teacher of sanitary science, of which nursing forms a part, and which would benefit the nurses of the world, and that it was fitting for such a Memorial to be established in England, the country where she lived and died, and where she has left her greatest memorial. This proposal the nurses of all nations assembled in Cologne agreed to further. The Executive Committee, when considering and endorsing the proposal, felt the desirability of a short statement which would briefly outline the nature of the scheme proposed, and Miss L. L. Dock, the indefatigable Hon. Secretary of the Council undertook to incorporate the scheme proposed in a leaflet, to be published in various languages, so that all nurses may become acquainted with it.

"It is hoped that as the soldiers after the Crimean War voluntarily gave up a day's pay in order to subscribe to the nation's personal gift to Miss Nightingale, so the legions of nurses who owe her homage will be willing to subscribe a small definite sum to found a suitable Memorial to the genius of the founder of Professional Nursing. Several of the delegates at the Banquet spoke with definite assurance, that such subscription would be forthcoming in their respective countries."

September, 1912.

Editorial.

AN INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL TO FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

"The proposal set forth at the Banquet given by the members of the Cologne Congress, to found, under the auspices and direction of the International Council of Nurses, a truly significant memorial to Florence Nightingale, may well appear some day in the far future to have been the most fruitful of all the ideas radiated forth endorsed by the unanimous approval of the members of the International Council of Nurses.

"From the first, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING has insisted that a memorial to Miss Nightingale should be commemorative of her great work for nursing education, and with the clear judgment, and professional self respect which always characterise its pronouncements, deprecated the proposal to make a world-wide appeal for financial aid for indigent British nurses, as undignified and unseemly in this connection. The view that the memorial should be of an educational nature found strong endorsement abroad, and it was almost inevitable that when the members of the International Council of Nurses met in Cologne, the question should be discussed informally, and that as a logical sequence it should be agreed that the Council should raise its own memorial to Miss Nightingale.

"It was fitting that the proposition should be made publicly by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Honorary President and Founder of that Council of Nurses which now encircles the

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