

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

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Report of the Committee of Management.

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1. Chairman's Report.
2. Treasurer's Report including Audited Accounts and Report of the Auditors.
3. Report on Florence Nightingale International House.
4. Report from Bedford College for Women on changes in the Curriculum and alteration of Certificate.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

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The Foundation has suffered severe loss in the death of three of its first Vice-Presidents. Miss Take Hagiwara, President of the Nurses' Association of the Japanese Empire died on May 26th. 1936: Mme. Marta Celmins, President of the Red Cross Nurses' Association of Latvia died suddenly in January last: and Mlle Chaptal, Presidente de l'Association des Infirmières Diplomees de l'Etat Francais in March of this year. These ladies were highly honoured members of the Nursing Profession, they had given considerable time and thought amidst their many other activities to this international memorial, and with their decease we have lost three valued and honoured supporters.

### 1. Changes in the Committee of Management.

In January, 1936. Mr. Ernest Swift resigned his position as Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies on his appointment as Vice President of the American Red Cross. We accepted his resignation from the Committee of Management with sincere regret, acknowledging with gratitude the invaluable work he has done both for the inauguration of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation and, as a member of the Committee of Management.

The place left vacant by Mr. Swift was filled by Mr. de Rouge on his appointment as Secretary General of the League of Red Cross Societies in October, 1936.

In December 1935. Dame Sarah Swift, CBE. resigned from the Committee of Management and Mrs. Rome, Matron in Chief British Red Cross Society was nominated by that Society to fill the vacancy. Dame Sarah had been concerned with the management of the students' residence since it was started in 1925. and had given devoted service for many years to the welfare of the students. The Committee of Management accepted her resignation with regret.

### 2. Staff Arrangements.

The Secretary, Miss Olive Baggallay, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation. She also holds a part time appointment on the staff of the Social Studies Department of Bedford College as Tutor to the Public Health Students. Her tutorial duties for the past two years have been abnormally light since there has been only a small group of nurses taking the Public Health Course. On the other hand the secretarial work is increasing in volume yearly and it may

be necessary before very long to make some alterations in this division of duties.

Miss Nan L. Dorsey continues to act as Warden of the Florence Nightingale International House. She is responsible to the House Committee for the discipline and general welfare of the students, for the household management and accounts, and for the care of the fabric. She acts in co-operation with the secretary, who is responsible for all dealings with education and administrative bodies concerned in the scheme.

Miss Dorsey has no assistance with these duties, but is relieved, when necessary, by the Secretary or her Assistant neither of whom are normally resident in the house.

The only other whole time officer employed by the Foundation is Miss Muriel Grace, Assistant Secretary.

By an arrangement with Bedford College, the Foundation has acquired the services of Miss Hester Parsons, Director in the Education Department of the College of Nursing as a part time tutor to the Hospital students. This arrangement assists the smooth collaboration of the College of Nursing in the scheme.

Miss Madge Barrett, F.I.A.A., A.C.L.S., continues to act as visiting accountant to the Foundation.

### 3. The International Nursing Courses.

#### A. Session 1935-36.

The following nineteen students were admitted to the Courses in October 1935:-

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|----|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Irene M. Abelgas      | Philippine Islands | - Scholar of the American Red Cross.        |
| 2. | Majorie W. Astley     | New Zealand.       |   |
| 3. | Kerstin Bratt         | Sweden             | - Scholar of the Swedish F.N.M.C.           |
| 4. | Sybil C. Bovill.      | England.           | - Scholar of the British Red Cross Society. |
| 5. | Elizabeth R. Bridges. | New Zealand.       | - Scholar of the New Zealand F.N.M.C.       |

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|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 6. Virginia Dunbar.           | U.S.A.       | -Scholar of the American F.N.M.C.                                |
| 7. Mary E. Flambert.          | Gt. Britain. | -Scholar of the Nightingale Fund.                                |
| 8. Yvonne Hentsch.            | Switzerland  | -Scholar of the Swiss Red Cross.                                 |
| 9. Gladys Holden.             | Canada.      |  |
| 10. Kazimiera Laurinaviciute- | Lithuania    | - Scholar of the League of Red<br>Cross Societies.               |
| 11. Josephine Manuel.         | India.       | - Scholar of the Indian F.N.M.C.                                 |
| 12. Bogdana Michalska         | Bulgaria     | - Scholar of the American Red<br>Cross Society.                  |
| 13. Agnes C. Neill.           | Canada.      |  |
| 14. Irja Pohjala              | Finland.     | - Scholar of the Finnish F.N.M.C.                                |
| 15. Mabel Reynolds.           | England.     |  |
| 16. Kathleen Scrymgour.       | Australia    | - Scholar of the F.N. Committee<br>of South Australia.           |
| 17. Gladys J. Sharpe.         | Canada.      | - Scholar of the Canadian F.N.M.<br>C.                           |
| 18. Josephine G. Thompson.    | England.     | - Scholar of the British Red<br>Cross.                           |
| 19. Kathleen M. Whitsted.     | England.     | - Scholar of the National Council<br>of Nurses of Great Britain. |

Fourteen of these students completed the course for Hospital Administrators & Teachers in Schools of Nursing, and three the course in Public Health; receiving the Certificate of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation.

Miss Virginia Dunbar, by special arrangement, spent part of the year on a study of the early history of the training schools at Guy's Hospital and St. Thomas's Hospital. Her thesis entitled "The Origin and Early Development of Two Early English Training Schools for Nurses" was recognised by Bedford College who awarded Miss Dunbar a signed statement to that effect.

Miss Michalska retired from the course after the first term and spent the remainder of the year doing practical work in St. Thomas's Hospital.

B. Session 1936-37.

Owing to changes in the Curriculum, (see Report from Bedford College), there are now no set courses prescribed for the Foundation students, and each student takes a limited number of subjects from the wide selection offered. Her choice of subjects is made under guidance and is conditioned by her past experience and her future work.

The following eighteen students were admitted to the Course in October 1936:-

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|------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 1. B.M.K.Andrell.      | Sweden.           | - Scholar of the Swedish F.N.M.C.                                |
| 2. Katy Elageova       | Bulgaria          | - American Red Cross Society.                                    |
| 3. Daisy Bridges.      | England.          | - Scholar of the Nightingale Fund.                               |
| 4. Saman Bunyavit.     | Siam.             | - Scholar of the League of Red Cross Societies.                  |
| 5. Ludmilla Fantova.   | Czecho-slovakia.  | - Scholar of the Czeck.F.N.M.C. and of the F.N.I.Foundation.     |
| 6. M.E.Foget.          | Denmark.          |  |
| 7. K. S. Gadd.         | Finland.          | - Scholar of the Finnish F.N.M.C.                                |
| 8. Ingeborg Hantsch    | Austria.          | - Scholar of the Austrian Nurses' Assoc. & the F.N.I.Foundation. |
| 9. Edna N. Howey.      | Canada.           |  |
| 10. Audrey Irons.      | New Zealand.      |  |
| 11. Borghild Kessell.  | Norway.           | -Scholar of the Norwegian F.N.M.C. & the F.N.I.Foundation.       |
| 12. Emily H. de Klerk. | S. Africa         | -Scholar of the S.African F.N.M.C.                               |
| 13. K. M. Perkins      | England.          | - Scholar of the British Red Cross.                              |
| 14. C. F. Russell.     | Irish Free State. | - Scholar of the Nat.F.N.M.C.of the Irish Free State.            |
| 15. C.E.Sage.          | England.          | - Scholar of the Canadian F.N.M.C.                               |
| 16. M.P.Welch.         | England.          | - Scholar of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.    |

17. Sadie A. Williams           Canada.
18. Lulu Wolf.                   U.S.A.    Scholar of the American F.N.M.C.

Of these students five have selected Public Health Nursing, twelve have selected Hospital & Training School Administration, and one, Family Case work; as their special subject.

By special arrangement with Bedford College two of the students have been admitted, through the intercollegiate scheme, to a course of Psychotherapy & Mental Hygiene at the Institute of Medical Psychology.

#### 4. Collaboration with the League of Red Cross Societies.

The Foundation has continued to collaborate closely with the League of Red Cross Societies which has given the work its steady support and encouragement. Each year the League has given a scholarship thus enabling a nurse from Siam and one from the Philippine Islands to attend the Course. It has also been instrumental in obtaining scholarship money from National Red Cross Societies and has assisted in the formation of new National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees.

The League has very kindly invited Red Cross students to Paris during their year and has planned interesting programmes for them while they have been their guests. Ten students in all, have enjoyed this hospitality for a week each.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies held in Paris in October 1936 the following resolution was passed:-

"The Board of Governors notes with satisfaction the progress made by the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, approves the continued co-operation of the League with the Foundation, and authorizes the Chairman to nominate in due course the representatives of the League on the Grand Council of the Foundation.

The Board is gratified to learn that National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees are now working in 21 countries with the active co-operation of the National Red Cross Societies.

The representatives of the League on the Grand Council are authorized to support such changes in the educational policy of the Foundation as may be recognized to be necessary, provided always that the special needs of Red Cross Societies

for educational facilities for their nurses should be kept in mind, and that the facilities provided shall be of the highest professional standard compatible therewith, and of the necessary broadly educational character."

#### 5. Collaboration with the International Council of Nurses.

The President of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation is also the President of the International Council of Nurses and this has made for a very close collaboration of the two bodies during these first years of the life of the Foundation.

It has been unfortunate that of the three representatives of the International Council of Nurses on the Committee of Management only one has been able to attend the meetings of that body. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick has, however, attended all meetings of the Committee of Management and has served on all sub-committees.

The following resolutions have been received from time to time from the International Council of Nurses:-

#### From the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses July 1935.

- I. "In adopting the Draft Scheme of the Florence Nightingale Memorial the International Council of Nurses expresses the desire that since the objective of the Memorial is to perpetuate the memory of Florence Nightingale and to promote the education of nurses, in the organisation of any permanent foundation the nursing profession be granted the majority of the membership on all committees, national and international."
- II. "That the existing Florence Nightingale Committee of the International Council of Nurses should be asked to make a study of all the matters involved and set up a comprehensive educational programme which will include research on nursing, for a Memorial, and that the study cover the following points:- direction, organisation, curricula, finances etc."

#### From the Board of Directors July 1935.

- III. "That the Board of Directors of the International Council of Nurses approve as the ultimate goal of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation the establishment of a faculty for nursing education, in some educational institution of University status."

In Australia, the position is entirely different. Four of the Five great Provinces of Australia are working actively for the Foundation and two Australian nurses have already been sent over to attend the course. It has not, however, so far been possible to form a National Committee because there is no National Nursing Association affiliated to the International Council of Nurses. We are only waiting for this link to be established before we urge the formation of a National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Australia.

4. In July 1936 the Nurses' Association of Luxembourg contributed £21. to the Endowment Fund of the Foundation, and was invited to form a National Committee. The matter is still in hand.

7. Registration of the Foundation as a Limited Company.

It is contemplated that eventually the Florence Nightingale International Foundation shall be registered as a limited company or be incorporated under Royal Charter in order that it may have a legal status and that the individual members of the governing body may be relieved of financial liability. The Committee of Management do not, however, recommend that this step be taken at present and have nothing, therefore, to add to their report on this subject made to this Council in 1935.

8. The Study of Facilities in London for Advanced Nursing Education.

The Committee of Management recommended to the Grand Council at its last meeting that no fundamental alteration in the International Courses or in the educational policy of the Foundation should be made until further information was obtained concerning the facilities available in London.

The Committee accordingly approached the Rockefeller Foundation in September 1935 for financial assistance to enable Miss Kathleen Russell, Director of the School of Nursing Toronto University, assisted by three English experts, to make "a study of the facilities in London for advanced nursing education both professional and academic."

The Rockefeller Foundation generously allocated a sum of \$1750 (£350) which has covered the total expenses of the study and of the publication of their report to date.

The Toronto University very generously granted Miss Russell leave of absence for the three months February, March and April 1936 and the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital and St. Thomas's Hospital also made special provisions to release Miss Day and Miss Hillyers respectively for this work.



Professor Beatrice Edgell, who was at the time living in retirement in Gloucestershire, travelled to London at frequent intervals during the three months in order to assist in the study. All the experts gave their services and were most generous with their time.

The terms of reference of the study committee, its mode of procedure and its final conclusions have been published in the form of a Report, which was circulated in December 1936.

On receipt of the Report of the Study in September 1936 the Committee of Management consulted the Councils of Bedford College for Women and of the College of Nursing in order to ascertain whether they would be likely to be able to co-operate in certain proposals of the Report. The Committee were happy to be able to include in their memorandum commenting on the Report the encouraging replies which had been received from these Colleges.

It has been the policy of the Committee of Management to restrict the publication of the Report of the Study Committee until it has been submitted to the Grand Council for full discussion. It will be for the Grand Council to decide as to the subsequent release of this Report to the nursing press. Under item 10 of the Agenda the subject of the future educational policy of the Foundation will come up for discussion and the Committee of Management have placed certain resolutions on the agenda in their name thus indicating the line of procedure which they consider would be advisable at this stage.

#### 9. The Library.

The League of Red Cross Societies handed over to the Foundation with the furnishings of the Florence Nightingale International House a library of 473 books. The range of the books covers the subjects of the curriculum and for the greater part are publications recommended by the lecturers. A section of the library is given to nursing education and to publications concerning nursing, but this section is not yet fully equipped although we have recently had generous gifts from the American League of Nursing Education and from one or two individual authors.

About 74 new books have been purchased since the Library was taken over and in addition we have been given 11 others. There is a large collection also of valuable pamphlets and of nursing periodicals.

In order to keep this library up to date and to enlarge it, we need gifts of money and of books. We should also be grateful for gifts of nursing journals from the Nurses' Associations.

We acknowledge with gratitude gifts from the following:-

- Professor Adelaide Nutting - two gifts of £10 to the Library.  
 The American League of Nursing Education for their publications  
 to date.  
 The American Red Cross for the "Red Cross Courier".  
 The British Red Cross for the "Red Cross Quarterly Review" and  
 the "Junior Red Cross Journal".  
 The Canadian Red Cross for the "Red Cross Junior".  
 Miss N. L. Dorsey for the "Life of William Osler".  
 The Filipino Nurses' Association for the "Filipino Nurse".  
 The German Red Cross for their "Unfere Arbeit" and the  
 "Jugendrotkreuz Zeitschrift".  
 The John Hopkins Nurses' Alumnae for their Magazine.  
 The Latvian Nurses' Association for "Zelsirdiga Masa".  
 The League of Red Cross Societies for their Bulletin and other  
 publications.  
 The New Zealand Registered Nurses' Association for their  
 journal.  
 The Polish Nurses' Association for "Pielejniarka".  
 The Royal Victorian College of Nursing for "Una".  
 The Rockefeller Foundation for 2 copies of "Methods & Problems  
 of Medical Education Series 23."  
 Mrs. Lucy Seymer for a copy of the German Edition of  
 "A General History of Nursing."

In order to comply with the wishes of the International Council of Nurses as expressed in resolution I.- the terms of the Trust Deed were amended and the phrase, "one at least of whom shall be a trained nurse" was added to page 6. Paragraph 4:1: line 7 giving each National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee two representatives on the Grand Council. National Units are given wide discretion in the formation of their Committees but in nearly every case the nursing representation is in the majority.

The Committee of Management would welcome any findings of the study proposed in resolution II; and especially would it welcome more information as to the specific requirements of those countries likely to send students to the course.

The resolution III. received from the Board of Directors was referred to the Study Committee and has been fully considered in that Report.

#### 6. Formation of National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees.

In July 1935 there were nineteen National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committees fully affiliated to the International Foundation.

Since that date two other countries have established National Committees making a total of 21. at the present date.

1. Canada has had an active Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of the Canadian Nurses' Association since the inauguration of the Foundation. In July 1936 this committee was reconstituted as a joint Committee of the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Nurses' Association. Three representatives of the Canadian Red Cross and four of the Canadian Nurses' Association now form the National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee of Canada of which Miss G.M. Fairley is Chairman.

2. Japan formed its National Florence Nightingale Memorial Committee in July 1936. The Committee is very honoured in having as Chairman H.R.H. Princess Hiroko Tokugawa. It is a large Committee mainly composed of Red Cross officers and we understand that there are nursing representatives also serving.

3. Correspondence is being carried on with China and Australia with the object of inaugurating committees in these countries.

In China there is much interest in the objects of the Memorial but the financial situation is too precarious for the Nurses' Association of China or the Red Cross to undertake any more commitments at the present time.