that the Committee on Housing had combed Montreal over and she really believed that it had secured "every

The Meetings of the Board of Directors, and most of those of the Grand Council, were held in the week preceding the Congress proper. Their members, together with the International Officers, were privileged to receive an invitation to spend the day in Ottawa—a golden day of happy memories. We were conveyed there, as the guests of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in a special train, and made the return journey as the guests of the Canadian Northern Railway. Into that day were crowded a visit to the noble Parliament Buildings, where the Carillon in the Peace Tower played the British National Anthem, and then those of other Nations on our arrival, and where in the beautiful centre lobby the Honble. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister, who had returned from his vacation for the purpose, speaking in the name of the Government of the Dominion, extended to the International Council of Nurses "a very, very hearty welcome." Miss Nina Gage, President of the I.C.N., expressed the appreciation of the Council of the Premier's presence and kind words, and then, together with Mr. Mackenzie King, those present passed on to the Hall of Fame, where Miss Margaret Breay, acting for Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President, placed at the base of the Nurses' Memorial a wreath of palms tied with a broad purple ribbon bearing in letters of gold the words "In honoured Remembrance from the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain."

From the Parliament Buildings we were taken to a country club where we were the guests at luncheon of the Victorian Order of Nurses, and were received by its President, the Right Honble. Senator George P. Graham, Mrs. Graham and others. Mention must be made of the lovely peonies which decorated the table—a feast of colour cream, pale pink, deep pink, rose. Indeed, though the Maple Leaf is the Canadian Emblem, it seemed to us that the peony is the National flower. After a drive round the beautiful city, and tea at the various Legations, we were entertained at a brilliant Banquet given by the Registered Nurses of Ottawa, at which Miss G. P. Garvin presided. Would that space permitted an adequate account of all the happenings of this "golden day."

At the opening Meeting of the Board of Directors a letter was read by the President from Mrs. Bedford Fenwick (Founder), expressing her disappointment at being unable to attend the Meeting of the I.C.N. in Montreal.

An interesting Report was presented by Miss Mabel Hersey, Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, in which it was stated that the Federal Government had contributed 5,000 dollars to the expenses of the Congress, and the Municipality of Montreal had also made a substantial contribution. In all, 9,000 dollars had been

The magnificent opening Meeting of the Congress in the Forum at Montreal was a truly inspiring occasion when the Hon. Ferdinand Rinfret, Secretary of State, read a message from the Governor-General, and tendered, on behalf of the Canadian Government, "the most cordial and enthusiastic welcome," which was followed by others.

The meeting on the following evening, when five new National Councils were received into membership, and at which the Founder's Watchword "Service" was read by Miss Breay, was described by one present as the loveliest

meeting she had ever attended.

The Forum, crowded to the roof, contained from 7,000 to 8,000 nurses. Professor A. W. Goodrich, D.Sc., an Hon. President of the I.C.N., presided, and the five National Associations of Nurses of Sweden, Greece, Jugo-Slavia, the Philippines and Brazil, were welcomed by Presidents of Councils already affiliated, with lovely flowers, beautiful music, amidst brilliant decorations of flags of all Nations.

"Welcome, I bid you hearty welcome," said Miss Wu (China) to Brazil, and Miss Larsson (Norway) greeted Sweden with a kiss, saying, "As a near neighbour and friend I have been longing for this for years.

The Congress, the Exhibition, the Social Functions were all just splendid; the half cannot be told. Especially reviving after hot Congress meetings were lovely parties in the cool grounds of country houses on the banks of the

shining St. Lawrence and at country clubs.

Mention must be made of the strong sympathy shown with the Council and its aims by Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Chief of the Division of Child Welfare in the Department of Pensions and National Health at Ottawa, who attended many of its meetings and social functions, and extended cordial friendship to its members.

It is fitting to record some words of Mlle. L. Chaptal, expressive of her feelings, after her election as President,

at the end of the Congress at Montreal.
"Life is made up of contrasts, is it not? And when we all came out of the big Hall, into the sweet Canadian night, I felt with deep relief and joy that I was just one nurse among thousands of other nurses, ready to work with all of them, hand in hand for four years, a fellow in the team, until the Paris Congress brings us together again for another loving contest and puts forward another President."

PARIS-BRUSSELS, 1933.

The Paris-Brussels International Congress of Nurses began for Congress Members on the morning of Sunday, July 9th, with High Mass at 11.15 a.m. at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Notre Dame under the Presidency of Sa. Grandeur Monseigneur Chaptal, brother of the President of the I.C.N. and Auxiliary Bishop to His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris. The Holy Mysteries were celebrated with the splendour and solemn dignity of ceremonial which are reverent accompaniments befitting the great central act of Christian worship—splendid vestments, exquisite music superbly rendered, symbolical incense, and altar lights. The last act in a memorable and magnificent service which will ever be enshrined in the hearts of the privileged participants as a holy and fragrant memory was the Pontifical Benediction given by Monseigneur Chaptal.

There was also an Anglican Service at the Eglise de l'Etoile

at 9 a.m.

Prior to the High Mass at Notre Dame a glorious wreath of red and white gladioli, blue cornflowers, and shasta daisies, surmounted with palms, bearing the inscription: "With Homage from the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain" on a purple ribbon printed in silver, was reverently placed beneath the Tablet in the nave bearing the words:

"To the Glory of God and to the memory of one Million Dead of the British Empire who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 and of whom the Greater Part rest in France." Beneath these words were engraved the Royal Arms of the

Empire.

A beautiful cushion composed of a profusion of lovely deep red roses had already been placed there by Mile. Chaptal, President of the International Council of Nurses.

AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AT THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE, PARIS.

At 2.30 p.m. on the same day nurses of Great Britain and her Dominions, the United States of America and other countries gathered together to express homage to the Unknown Soldier of France, and reverently laid on the Unknown Warrior's Tomb at the Arc de Triomphe—where "The Flame of Remembrance" is kept continually burning, symbolising the unceasing gratitude of France to her heroes who fell in the Great War—a wreath composed previous page next page