

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

MEETING AT MONTREAL.

The long anticipated Meeting of the International Council and Congress of Nurses was held in Montreal in July, and the majority of the European delegations were taken aboard the good ships *Ascania* and *Alaunia* of the Cunard line, bound for Canada, where they arrived in due course, after an ideal run. Great was the satisfaction of the official delegates on board the *Ascania* when they learned that its captain had decided to take the northern route: firstly, because they knew that their aspiration to see icebergs was likely to be fulfilled, and so it proved later, indeed Miss Musson counted between twenty and thirty at one time, majestic and lovely; and, secondly, because we were aboard the first passenger boat to take the northern route this season, and it is the way of Britishers to feel it their due and their duty to be in the forefront.

The First Port of Call.

The first port of call was Quebec, and there the delegates had their first experience of a welcome from the Canadian Nurses' Association, of the perfect organisation which characterised the whole Congress, and of Canadian hospitality. Miss Breay relates hardly was the gangway down when there came on board to greet us Mrs. S. Barrow, Hon. President of the Associated Alumnae of Jeffrey Hale's Hospital, Quebec, formerly Matron of the Hospital, and now wife of the Managing Director in Canada of the Cunard Line; Miss E. Armour, President of the Association, and Matron of the Hospital; Miss H. A. Mackay, Mrs. Delaney, and other good friends, who carried us off at once to see a very human piece of work organized under the Department of Immigration by the Canadian Red Cross, and its Junior Branch, when the immigrants land at Quebec and other ports. Miss Violet Tremaine, R.R.C., the Canadian Sister who nursed the King after his accident in France during the war, is in charge, and was wearing a special ornament personally presented to her by His Majesty. The women, who are often depressed and lonely, are welcomed and cared for, their babies fed, and food made up for them for the journey in front of them, as much as possible like that to which they have been accustomed. Each woman is given a stamped postcard to return when she has reached her destination, so that she may keep in touch with the Department, may be helped, and may feel that she has found friends in the new land. The atmosphere of genuine friendliness and kindness must be very welcome to the immigrants, and for the children the arrangements and toys transform the immigration sheds into an ideal nursery. The Department looks after men also when necessary, but mostly it cares for the women and children.



ICEBERG SEEN FROM THE "ALAUNIA."

On our return to the boat our attention was demanded by the representatives of the *Montreal Gazette* and the *Montreal Star*, whose thirst for knowledge was insatiable, but who proved our very good friends throughout the Congress, giving excellent and sympathetic reports of our proceedings. Their press photographers also got busy, and intimated that it was as much as their jobs were worth if they returned without our photographs, individual and collective.

Immediately after lunch, we were taken by Mrs. Barrow, Dr. and Mrs. Delaney, and other kind friends, who had a number of cars in waiting, for a drive round Quebec, and after glimpsing the Heights of Abraham, the Monument to the immortal memory of General Wolfe, and the Marquis de Montcalm, the picturesque house occupied by the latter, and had looked down on the stately St. Lawrence, with the Laurentian Mountains beyond, we were finally brought to a lovely house where we were welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Ross, and served most expeditiously with

a delicious tea. Mr. Ross has for thirty years been President of the Jeffrey Hale's Hospital, and Mrs. Ross, our most charming hostess, is President of the Daughters of the Empire League. She expressed her pleasure at the opportunity of welcoming us as members of the noble profession of Nursing, and said how delighted the Daughters of the Empire would be that Quebec had been our first port of call, and that she had been privileged to entertain us. Then back with all speed to the ship, from which we had been absent just two hours, to find the

syrens hooting and the gangway about to be drawn up.

We left behind at Quebec Miss Villiers, Miss Davy, and Miss MacManus. The two former were invited by Miss Armour to the Jeffrey Hale's Hospital, and Miss MacManus was carried off to a country house, and so obtained her heart's desire to see something of rural life in Canada.

Laurels for Wolfe and Montcalm.

As the world knows the struggle for supremacy in Canada between the English and French was decided in 1759 with the storming of Quebec by General Wolfe, and the battle on the Plains of Abraham, where both General Wolfe and the French leader, the Marquis de Montcalm, fell mortally wounded.

To commemorate conjointly the valour of these two brave soldiers a Monument has been erected on the Plains of Abraham, and Miss I. M. G. Davy, F.B.C.N., was deputed by the President and Council of the British College of Nurses to place a wreath of laurels at its foot to their immortal memory.

Miss Davy, as we last month reported, took with her a letter of introduction to the Mayor of Quebec, from Mr.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)