

The Banquet.

On Wednesday, July 10th, there took place in the two ballrooms of the Mount Royal Hotel the largest banquet ever held there, or ever organised on behalf of the International Council of Nurses. Over two thousand nurses dined together and quite as many were disappointed at being unable to obtain tickets.

Miss M. Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association, presided in one room, with Miss Gage on one hand and Miss Breay (representing Mrs. Bedford Fenwick) on the other. Miss M. K. Holt, President of the Provincial Association of Nurses and Joint Convener of the Committee on Entertainment, with Mlle. Chaptal on her right, presided in the second room, the tables in both rooms being most tastefully decorated.

The President (Mrs. Bedford Fenwick) and the Council of the British College of Nurses invited its Canadian Fellows and Members, present in Montreal, to the Banquet as its guests, and retained two tables for this purpose, with Miss S. A. Villiers, Vice President, presiding over one, and Miss E. J. Haswell Member of the Council, B.C.N. at the other.

In front of each guest was placed the portrait of the President with which they were greatly pleased. It was the fortune of war that some few of the Fellows and Members from Great Britain were directed to other tables, and their places were filled by some members of the Nurses' Association of Finland, but they proved delightful company and all Fellows and Members of the B.C.N., both Canadian and from Great Britain, met together later, so all was well.

The speeches were made in the two rooms alternately, and conveyed from one to the other by a loud-speaker. At the high table were the members of the Board of Directors and other distinguished guests. The toast of "His Majesty the King" was proposed by Miss Holt, and honoured with enthusiasm. Then followed speeches from Miss E. M. Musson (International Treasurer, Great Britain), Dean A. W. Goodrich (U.S.A.), Sister Bergliot Larsson (Norway), Mrs. W. G. Bennie (South Africa), Miss E. Smellie (Canada), Mlle. Chaptal (France), and Miss Mabel F. Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association. Lastly Miss Gage, as President of the International Council of Nurses, expressed the warm thanks of the Council for the delightful hospitality of the Canadian Nurses' Association.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and successful evening, but some of those present went away wondering if the membership of the International Council increased much more whether, at future Congresses, anything but the roof of heaven would be big enough to cover it.

The Luncheon of The National Council of Nurses of Great Britain.

Amongst the hospitality shewn during the Congress week, the first organised by visitors to Canada, was the luncheon of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, which took place in the Vice-Regal suite at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Thursday, July 11th. The British College of Nurses, the College of Nursing, the Association of Hospital Matrons, and the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland—Societies affiliated to the National Council—made the arrangements and were responsible for the luncheon, the Matrons' Council contributing the glorious blush pink peonies with which the tables were profusely decorated, and other details.

The guests were received by Miss M. Breay, F.B.C.N., representing Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, F.B.C.N., President of the National Council, Miss Lloyd-Still, C.B.E., R.R.C., and Miss S. A. Villiers, F.B.C.N., Vice-Presidents, and Miss

Cox Davies, C.B.E., R.R.C., President of the College of Nursing, Miss E. M. Musson, C.B.E., R.R.C., Treasurer I.C.N., Miss E. E. P. Macmanus and Miss E. F. Brownsdon, who, in addition to Miss Cox Davies and Miss Villiers, were the official delegates of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to the International Council, also helped to entertain the guests until luncheon was announced.

From Great Britain there were also present Mrs. Strong, Miss Peterkin, Miss Innes (Leeds) Miss M. Jones (Liverpool) and Miss M. S. Rundle.

When luncheon was announced, Miss Breay took the chair with Miss Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association on her right, and Miss Gage, President of the International Council of Nurses, on her left, with Miss Clara D. Noyes, first Vice-President, Miss Jean Gunn, second Vice-President, and Mlle. Chaptal near by. Gathered together as the guests of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain was surely one of the most distinguished and representative assemblies of nurses that has ever taken place. Those from Canada included, in addition to Miss M. Hersey and Miss Jean Gunn, Miss M. K. Holt, Miss Mabel Gray, Miss Panet-Raymond, Miss Upton, Miss Hurley, Miss J. Wilson, Miss Smellie, Miss Murdoch, Miss L. Dickson and Miss Harmer, all active members of various committees of the C.N.A. From the United States of America came Miss L. Clayton, Dean Goodrich, Miss Lawler, Miss M. Roberts, Miss Isabel Stewart, Miss Mary Beard, Miss Eldridge, Miss Gardner, Miss Major Julia Stimson, and Miss Effie Taylor. Presidents of National Councils, or their representatives and others, were Miss M. Petersen (Denmark), Miss Serton (Holland), Miss Astrom and Mrs. Newman Rahn (Finland), Miss C. F. Slater (India), Miss Jessie Bicknell (New Zealand), Miss J. Hellemans (Belgium), Miss Larsson (Norway), Miss N. Healy (Irish Free State), Mrs. Bennie (South Africa), Miss N. Sendova (Bulgaria), Miss Guevara (Cuba), Miss Romanowska (Poland), Miss Messolora (Greece), Miss Fraenkel (Brazil), Miss Manongdo (the Philippines), Miss E. Lind (Sweden) and Miss Take Hagiwara and Mrs. Fumi Yamozaki (Japan), Miss Eugénie Hibbard and Miss C. Reimann, Secretary, I.C.N.

The time for the enjoyment of this delightful re-union was all too brief, for the General Session of the Congress that afternoon began at 3 o'clock. The luncheon being a British one, Miss Breay therefore rose and proposed the toast of "The King," which was honoured by the nurses of all nations.

Miss Breay then said :—"To me has fallen the great honour, as representing Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, of bidding you thrice welcome in the name of our Council, and to associate especially with this welcome the names of Miss Gage, President of the International Council of Nurses, and Miss Mabel Hersey, President of the Canadian Nurses' Association.

Miss Lloyd-Still also spoke of the pleasure it was to the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain to have this opportunity of entertaining their colleagues and heartily bid them welcome.

There were no formal speeches but Mlle. Chaptal expressed the love of France for her British colleagues, and Miss Goodrich proposed a toast to Miss Nutting, which was honoured with enthusiasm.

Miss Gage proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Breay, and then reluctantly we separated. We are proud to know that the luncheon was voted one of the successes of the Congress, a fact largely due we believe to the perfection of the arrangements of the Ritz-Carlton, and the friendliness and informality of the proceedings.

previous page

next page