

THE EVENING MEETING, JULY 9TH.

In our last issue we gave an account of the General Session of the Congress on the evening of July 9th, when Mrs. Bedford Fenwick's Watchword was given, the newly affiliated National Associations were introduced, and received, as seen below, Miss Breay greeted the great audience as a Foundation Member, and Miss Nutting contributed a brilliant paper on "The Future."

We now print Miss Breay's Greeting.

GREETING FROM A PIONEER MEMBER.

MADAM PRESIDENT AND DEAR COLLEAGUES :

To you who are experiencing the joy of this great gathering of the members of the Affiliated Associations of the International Council of Nurses, and who felt the thrill of our magnificent meeting last night, when the nurses of 38 nations assembled at the bidding of your Canadian Nurses' Association, which has organised this great Congress, I do not need to emphasise the success and the power of this Confederation of Nurses. They are manifest to the world.

But there is another thrill—that of participating in the foundation of a great movement—and it is because I was privileged to be present at the Annual Meeting in London of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, in July, 1899, when our Founder, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, proposed, "That steps be taken to organise an International Council of Nurses," that the Programme Committee of this

Congress have honoured me by inviting me to give you Greeting as a "pioneer member."

The little company of nurses which undertook the responsibility of the preliminary organisation was composed mainly of the Hon. Officers and Hon. Members of the Matrons' Council in many countries, one of whom, dear Miss Lavinia Dock, who, we hoped, would have been present to-night, acted as its incomparable Hon. Secretary, and your own Miss Agnes Snively, who was its Hon. Treasurer from 1900 to 1904. The Council was at that time composed of individuals, and its funds were small, but the brains, the conscience, the personal service, of the leading nurses of the world organised it on a sure foundation, its membership was defined as consisting of National Councils of Nurses, and it has been our pride that our Council has consisted solely of nurses, and that we demonstrate to the world that, as a Confederation of workers, we stand on our own feet and can successfully manage our own affairs.

When we experience the delight of our International Meetings, let us remember that we owe it to the vision, the inspiration, the unsparing service given to nursing and nurses, by our Founder, and let our consciousness of the enrichment of our lives by contact with the leaders of the nursing profession, through its means, and by the boundless hospitality we have received in this and other countries we have visited, be the measure of our gratitude to the one through whom we have entered into this goodly heritage.

To those who know what Miss Dock did for the International Council of Nurses in its early days, I need not

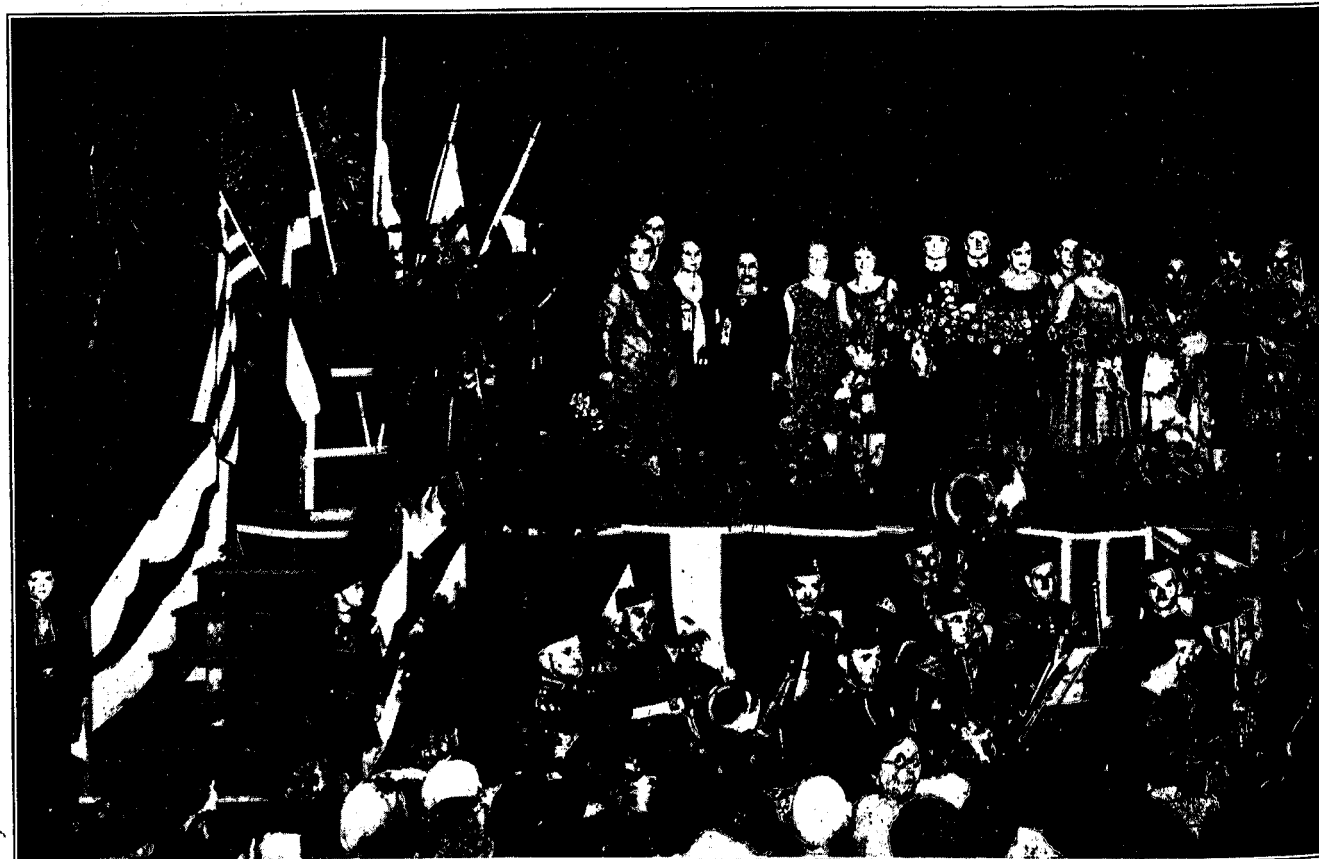


Photo. C. Rice, Montreal.]

Left to right.—Miss GUNN, Miss REIMANN, Mrs. BENNIE, Miss BRODZKA, Miss SERTON, Miss BOVOLINI, Miss E. LIND, Miss ASTROM, Miss FRAENKEL, Miss SLATER, Miss MESSOLORA, Miss MANONGDO, Miss L. WU, Mrs. STRONG.

THE RECEPTION OF THE NEW COUNTRIES IN THE FORUM, JULY 9th.

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