

hundreds of Nurses grouped along the main Corridor of the Palace—through which they passed into the world-renowned Rose Garden of Laeken.

A Garden of Roses.

The inimitable grace of Queen Elisabeth is proverbial—and as she floated along she smilingly acknowledged the curtsies and acclamations of "*la Reine, la Reine,*" which greeted her on either side as she led the procession of nurses into fairyland. Roses, roses everywhere, growing and blowing and scenting the air. Trees and shrubs, gorgeous flowers and emerald lawns added to the beauty of the garden no doubt, but it will be the bowers of roses and their perfume of which we shall dream when we recall the Garden of Laeken. And to pass through it in company with its charming *châtelaine*, whose conversation ranged over so many scientific subjects—on all of which she was so extraordinarily well-informed—recalled, of course, that she was the daughter of the Duke Karl Theodore of Bavaria, himself an expert in medical science, of which in her girlhood she had also made a study. This environment had evidently inspired a keen interest in modern scientific nursing, for which the International Council of Nurses stands throughout the world.

Thus we realised that the Queen of the Belgians was with us heart and soul, and had been aptly acclaimed "*La Reine Infirmière de notre temps.*"

Still another favour.

How sweet to receive a lovely pink rose from her gentle hand. Passing a supremely exquisite bloom we admired it, and instantly she gathered it and bestowed it upon us.

Passing groups of nurses in the grounds, the Queen stopped constantly and spoke with many.

Time passed far too fast.

We made our curtsies and expressed sincere thanks for all the courtesy extended to us.

A day of days!

THE CLOSING OF THE CONGRESS.

The Closing Meeting of the Congress took place on Saturday, July 15th, at 5 p.m., in the Great Hall of the Palais des Beaux-Arts, at which the newly elected President, Miss A. Lloyd Still, C.B.E., R.R.C., presided. On the platform were His Excellency M. Paul Hymans, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Dr. Malvoz, Professor of the University of Liège; Mlle. Hellemans; Mlle. Chaptal, the retiring President; Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Noyes, Miss Alexander, Miss Musson, and Miss Reimann,

together with the Presidents of the Affiliated National Associations, and those ladies selected to give the Addresses of Farewell from the five Continents.

The meeting opened with an address by Dr. Malvoz on "Public Health and its Legislative Measures," who endeavoured to show, taking Belgium for an example, that the intervention of the State can exercise a beneficial influence in the realm of public hygiene without taking the form of coercion or politics.

M. Hymans, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, interpreted Belgian public opinion in expressing his wishes of sympathy and admiration for the women who devote themselves to the service of suffering.

There existed in the world, said the Minister, 200,000 diplomaed Nurses, joined in the same ideal which united science and charity. "This is consolation in these times of difficulty. I have helped," he said, "at many economic conferences; I have returned from them, and it is with feeling that I declare that here is manifested no rivalry save that for the good of the community."

THE ORDER OF LEOPOLD AWARDED BY THE KING.

To the loud applause of the audience, M. Hymans announced that the King of the Belgians had awarded "The Ruban de Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold" to Mlle. Chaptal, the retiring President, and to Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Founder of the International Council



Mlle. Chaptal. The Queen of the Belgians. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick.
Miss C. D. Noyes. Mlle. J. Hellemans.

In the Garden at Laeken.

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