

Prominence was given to standards of the British Legion and of the Belgian, French, Italian and American ex-Service men's organisations.

Before the Mass the *Chorale* in B minor by César Franck was played on the organ. The celebrant was Bishop Myers, the assistant priest Mgr. Carton de Wiart. At the end of the requiem the clergy, all carrying burning candles, left the Sanctuary and surrounded the catafalque, where they were joined by the Cardinal's Procession. Cardinal Bourne then pronounced the Absolution, and when he had said the final prayer the congregation remained standing while the Belgian National Anthem was played on the organ.

The whole scene was of magnificent brilliance. Twenty-six representatives of the Diplomatic Corps were present. Charges d'Affaires from Embassies and Legations, Counsellors, High Commissioners, Ministers or their representatives. Officers of the Naval, Military and Air Force Services, and representatives of numerous organisations. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, President of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, and Chevalier of the Order of Léopold, attended to represent the Council.

A report of this most spiritual and impressive Requiem was sent with a copy of the "Mass for the Dead and The Burial Service" used in the Cathedral to Mlle. Hellemans, with the assurance that so sincere was the reverence of the congregation that every note of the service could be heard throughout the magnificent edifice.

From "The Passing of Arthur."

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils Himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world. . . .
If thou shouldst never see my face again,
Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of."

Tennyson.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION.

THE WORK OF THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.

The Provisional Committee of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation has now almost completed its arduous work and the Agenda will soon be issued for the inaugural meeting of the Foundation, to be held in London in the first week of July, at which will be considered the Trust Deed, and the Rules and Regulations, and when Trustees, President, and Honorary Officers, and a Committee of Management will be appointed.

When one realises that the co-operation of the International Council of Nurses, and the League of Red Cross Societies which operate all over the world, has in so short a time been made possible, all concerned are to be congratulated.

The International Council of Nurses will be happy to have its decision to inaugurate an International Memorial to Miss Nightingale in 1912, take definite form, and the League of Red Cross Societies which for so many years has had in operation an international educational scheme for nurses in London, will rejoice that it is to continue and form the basis of the Florence Nightingale Foundation. Ultimately the harmonious co-operation of these two powerful organisations will, we have no doubt, demonstrate to the world at large the value of the teaching of Florence Nightingale as the law-giver of Hygiene and Health. Already National Committees have been formed in Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Holland, India, Irish Free State, Latvia, Poland, South Africa, and the United States.

THE NURSES' ORGANISATIONS.

THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The Annual Meeting of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain was held at 194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7., on Saturday, February 10th, 1934, at 3 p.m. The President, Miss Cochrane, R.R.C., was in the chair.

The Secretary presented the Report, in which reference was made to the death of Miss Helen L. Pearse, a former President of the Council.

A vote of sympathy with Miss Pearse's relatives was passed, the members standing in silence.

The Treasurer's Report was also presented.

The Hon. Officers were elected for the ensuing year.

Miss Villiers was re-elected as Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Breay and Miss Elma Smith as Vice-Presidents in the place of three who retired in rotation. Miss Cochrane referred to the very narrow majority by which a resolution not to divide the Preliminary State Examination had been passed by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, and said she thought it behoved all interested in the training of nurses to be on their guard as attempts would doubtless be made to reverse this decision.

Mrs. Fenwick spoke very impressively on the same subject, and urged the younger members of the profession to organise their forces in order to maintain the educational privileges they now possessed under the Nurses' Registration Act, and so maintain professional selection of probationers and control of professional education by the Heads of the Nurse Training Schools, instead of by lay members of the teaching profession, who were not qualified for the responsibility they were attempting to assume.

Tea was served at the end of the meeting, and Miss Macdonald received a warm welcome after recovery from her recent illness.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

Miss R. Cox-Davies, acting as Chairman of the Annie, Viscountess Cowdray Memorial Committee, has been busy appealing for funds from members of the College, and through them "to influential and wealthy people."

It is proposed that the Memorial shall take the form of the endowment of the Directorship of the Education Department, and to establish a small Bursary Fund. It is announced that Her Majesty the Queen has consented to visit the College of Nursing in the Spring, and that she will receive purses towards the establishment of the Memorial.

THE NIGHTINGALE FELLOWSHIP.

The Nightingale Fellowship when sending their annual subscription to the National Council of Nurses, and the per capita contribution to the I.C.N., very generously sent a further cheque for £5 as a gift towards the expenses of the National Council of Nurses for the current year.

THE LONDON HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF NURSES.

A General Meeting of The London Hospital League of Nurses was held at the Hospital on Saturday, February 3rd, 1934, in the Library of the Medical College, by kind permission of the Dean.

Miss Monk, C.B.E., R.R.C., presided and about 260 members were present.

Following the business meeting Miss Littleboy, A.R.R.C., opened a discussion on the Resolution adopted by the International Council of Nurses in Paris-Brussels, July, 1933:—

"To keep before Member Organisations of the Inter-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)