

**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.**

The President of the International Council of Nurses has circulated around the world the following hope for peace and good will.

**CHRISTMAS, 1939.**

In every corner of the world, cathedral chimes and small village church-bells, gay carollers and vested choirs will once again be harmonising on the familiar Christmas anthem, "Silent Night, Holy Night." Families will gather about a table, and in many countries around a Christmas tree to celebrate the birth of Christ and dwell in spirit upon a common heritage. The bells will ring on, the voices grow spirited in the crisp December air. We hope that wherever you are and whatever you may be doing, you will hear in the carol our Christmas wish—peace on earth and good will toward men; the realisation of our Council's watch-

share each other's confidence and thus strengthen our relationships during this crucial period.

The last strains of "Silent Night, Holy Night" will fade away, and with them, if you listen carefully, perhaps you will hear our sincere desire—that we may all look forward even yet to the possibility of a Happy New Year—one of peace and good will.

Very faithfully yours,

EFFIE J. TAYLOR, *President.*

CALISTA F. BANWARTH, *Acting Executive Secretary.*

**REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT.**

Miss Effie Taylor, the President of the International Council of Nurses, in a detailed report from temporary Headquarters, 310, Cedar Street, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A., addressed to the Treasurer, a copy of which she has sent to the Presidents of member countries National Associations, gives interesting information as follows:—

"We are getting somewhat settled . . . we took an apartment near Miss Banwarth, at 179, Dwight Street, which is only about ten minutes walk from here. It is conveniently situated as far as business and general activities are concerned. . . . While the work of the Council will be carried on in the office, it seemed wise to keep the official mailing address at Headquarters, that of the President, 310 Cedar Street. . . . It cost a good deal to get everything transported from London to New York and thence to New Haven.

"The American Nurses' Association took a referendum vote from its Board, and agreed to advance us on voucher what we need to run the office until this Association deposits its dues for 1940 . . ."

**The Congress.**

"And now we must come to the Congress. The American Nurses' Association will have to make a decision at annual Board Meetings which are always held in January. In order to hold accommodations, and also to begin work in a programme and secure essential appropriations, they dare not delay. The question we must decide is whether or not we believe we could or should attempt a Congress in 1941. It is our opinion here that it seems altogether unlikely.

"It has therefore been suggested that we advance the date of the Congress to 1942. This change of date will give us another year of grace. The question will, of course, be taken up by the end of 1940. If conditions become settled within the coming year we might look forward with some hope to resuming our activities in 1942, but it would appear now to be somewhat unsafe to bank on 1941.

"I am placing this question before you, the Officers of the Council, immediately. May I ask for a prompt reply, either by air mail or cable? I will send to each of our



**DEAN EFFIE J. TAYLOR, R.N., PRESIDENT, I.C.N.  
MISS CALISTA BANWARTH, B.A., R.N., ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:  
HEADQUARTERS, NEW HAVEN, U.S.A.**

words, "Service," "Loyalty," "Concordia," and our constant friendship and our love in a common cause.

As the music softens we meditate upon the events which have taken place since last we met in London. We think of the suffering that has entered many homes and has imprinted its mark upon our lives and those whom we love. Due to calamity and distress, we International Nurses are bound more closely than ever before by ties of sisterhood and the dedication of our lives to the service of our fellow-men.

We hope the melodious refrain will carry you in thought to Temporary Headquarters. Perhaps the bells will assure you that in spite of the fact that we are set apart on the one side by the Atlantic and on the other by the Pacific, in spirit we are not separated by space, nor are we bound by any influence dominated by the will of man. We are working, implicitly believing that Divine Power will restore peace and happiness again to a troubled world. We are trusting for this with faith and vision. We are hoping to

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)