

a terrible series of explosions from bombs that we all just waited for what we felt must be certain death. Our building was rocking, and no one ever could imagine the noise unless they have heard it, but we were all here kept safe by God that night, although five bombs dropped within 200 yards of us.

The humorous side amidst the confusion of that night still stands out: the kitchen was blown in, but it was the biggest meat-cover falling off the wall that caused the ventilator to open with a bang from the concussion!

Then an officer from the aircraft guns came in, very surprised to know there were patients here. When I remarked on the terrible noise it had been he informed me that they had been firing, too! As if we had been unaware of it! Seeing him in his thick coat made me realise our dressing-gowns and pigtails, so we withdrew into the dark to grope for our winter coats.

Since then we have had many nights of "scares," and often heard Zepps quite close, but it always makes us realise how much we were saved from on the most eventful night of the raid.

Mrs. Darley has been appointed Matron to the Saint Rambert Hospital at Lyons, one of the two Anglo-French Hospitals in France maintained by the Wounded Allies Relief Fund. Mrs. Darley was trained at the Poplar and Stepney General P.L. Infirmary, and has been Charge Sister at the South Western Fever Hospital. Since war broke out Mrs. Darley has organised several V.A.D. hospitals, of which she has been the Matron. She holds first-class testimonials from the various hospitals which have had the benefit of her services.

Lieut.-General Sir Percy Lake, on relinquishing the command of the Mesopotamian Forces at the end of August last, presented a despatch which was forwarded by the Commander-in-Chief in India to the Indian Government, and has now been published as a Supplement to the *London*

*Gazette*. In the course of this Sir Percy Lake writes:—"I am much indebted to Surgeon-General F. H. Treherne for the valuable assistance he has consistently rendered since his arrival in the country; also to Colonel W. H. Wilcox, consulting physician, whose high professional knowledge has always been at the service of the force. Much credit is due to the Nursing Sisters, who have carried out their duties with great devotion, and have shown untiring zeal and energy in alleviating the sufferings of those who have passed through their hands. By the untimely death of Colonel Sir V. Horsley, both the force and the medical profession sustained a severe loss."



MRS. HENNY TSCHERNING, PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES AND OF THE DANISH COUNCIL OF NURSES.

We regret that we have not space this week in which to criticise an editorial on "The Supply of Nurses Committee" in *The Red Cross*, in which it is to be regretted so many reactionary editorial opinions on nursing questions appear. The time has gone by when "two or three men of average intelligence" can arrogate to themselves sovereign powers of control over a highly skilled profession of 60,000 women without protest. That the protest has been more or less effectual should convince the editor of *The Red Cross* that he underestimates the convictions of the "agitators" who he owns have compelled "the War Office to give way to pressure," and place trained nurses on a Committee empowered to "suggest the most economical method of utilising their services for civil and military hospitals."

For the benefit of sick and wounded men, the nurses petitioned in the early days of the war that the resources of their skilled work should be ascertained and organized. Their patriotic suggestion was met with discourteous obstruction by the Army Medical Department, and the present disorganisation and shortage of nurses are the result.

Several English nurses were on board the Greek steamer *Sparti* which was sunk on November 20th, being, it is believed, torpedoed by a German submarine. All on board were happily saved.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)