Three months after Sylvia's death, Maurice Macrae was back in the hospital where they had first met. This time a patient, seriously wounded and blind. Here it was that her Uncle Tom came to see him, whom the Sister told "his eyes are quite gone, his lungs are injured, and we are afraid of septic pneumonia, but so far that has not supervened.

To Maurice in his grief and hopelessness Uncle

Tom comes with a message of hope.

"Then," said Maurice, "your belief is that after death we shall find ourselves alive upon another

planet. Well, I hope it may be true."

"Why should it not be true?" said Dr. Graham. "There are men and women who are looking for a new revelation, a new teacher, but what I am hoping for is a new truth, and I am looking for it, not through any mystical revelation, but through scientific discovery. I believe the time is coming when we shall get wireless messages through from Mars and Jupiter, and shall learn from them that those who are living there are the men and women whom we have known upon earth, and that they are thinking our thoughts and speaking our language."

The dreaded pneumonia supervened, and it is with the life of Maurice and Sylvia beyond the

grave that the book is chiefly concerned.
"Maurice, waking from what seemed to have been a horrible nightmare, found that he could see. At first this seemed quite natural; he lay quietly, without moving. . . . Truly the light is sweet," he thought, and as the thought passed through his mind he remembered.

"Turning towards the window he saw a girl in . a white gown coming towards him, with outstretched arms, and swift eager steps. She had seen him move, she was coming to him, in her eyes a light of love such as mortal eyes had never known. And she was real, his own, his Sylvia; her arms were thrown round him, her kisses were on his lips. He had passed through death to the other side, he was with her again."

As "Uncle Tom" had surmised, they were on

Jupiter, and in answer to Maurice's question, "Why did I come straight to you?" Sylvia told him "That is how it always happens, darling. Everyone comes to his best beloved. As gravitation rules matter, so love rules the soul, and on its last dying thought of its dearest one the soul wings

its way to eternity."

In due course there also arrived Aunt Jessica, who died of a mortal disease, and Uncle Tom,

killed in an air-raid.

The third world is Mars, where those who have not profited by the lessons of this life learn sterner and harder ones before they are ready to pass to Jupiter. Among these was James Grant, Aunt Jessica's husband, who had taken his own life, but who eventually finds his way to Jupiter.

The book closes with the nearness of the Star which shone on Bethlehem, and the visit of the Master, with him being his twelve disciples. And with this central group, upon which all eyes were turned, was a little company of those whose days

in that world were completed, and who were now

ready to pass on to a yet higher life.
"They passed into the very heart of the brightness of the star, and it seemed as if a cloud of light received them there, hiding them from the eyes of those who gazed. Yet still they watched, holding their breath in a very ecstasy of wonder, while the light slowly paled and faded. Then they returned to their homes, rejoicing and not sorrowing for those who had gone before."

It matters not whether we accept all of Mrs. Griffiths' theories. The book is a careful, wellbalanced, reverent, study of a subject of consuming interest and profound importance. As such we commend it to our readers. P. G. Y.

NATIONAL COUNCIL NEWS.

We have to thank Miss Mabel F. Gray, Secretary of the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses for the list of the Officers and Councillors appointed at the annual meeting of the Association held in Edmonton, Alberta: Hon. President, Miss Agnes Sniveley, Toronto; President, Miss Jean Browne, Toronto; First Vice-President, Miss E. I. Johns, Vancouver; Second Vice-President, Miss K. Mathieson, Toronto; Treasurer, Miss Jean Wilson, Ottawa; Secretary, Miss Mabel F. Gray, Regina; Archivist, Miss M. Hersey, Montreal; Councillors were appointed for British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island.

Members of Leagues, Please Notice.

Members of Nurses' Leagues associated in the Members of Nurses Leagues associated in the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, please note that our National Council is federated with the International Council of Nurses; and that our International Office is at 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Every member of an associated League may write there to the Hon. Secretary Miss B. Cutler for information and for letters of introduction when proceeding to any of the King's Dominions overseas, excepting the Commonwealth of Australia, which has not yet entered through federation the International Council of Nurses.

R.A.F. NURSES WHO SAILED FOR IRAQ ON H.M.T.S. BRAEMAR CASTLE IN DECEMBER, 1922.

The following members of the Royal Air Force Nursing Service embarked on H.M.T.S. Braemar Castle on December 12th, 1922, en route for duty in the Royal Air Force Hospitals in Iraq:—

SISTERS.—Misses M. W. Campbell, C. E. Jenkins, G. Taylor, W. M. Coulthurst, N. G. Rees.

STAFF NURSES.—Misses G. P. Faulkner, G. E. M. Glubb, M. G. Wiseman, A. M. Cosgrove, M. A. MacVicar G. M. Rutledge, E. Spensley, E. L. M. Graham, E. Crozier, P. K. Pearce, A. M. Angus, G. R. Jones, C. C. Kirkpatrick. Kirkpatrick.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"Time was when men asked of every new omer: 'What are your credentials?' 'Of what fraternity or society are you a member?' But to-day we are asked: 'What have you done?' 'What are you doing?' and 'What are your aims?' These are the only credentials that count."—Dean Noit. previous page next page