

night it was neither ghost nor burglar, but simply the astronomer of the Settlement Home about her usual business in the night.

But astronomy has its problems, even to the most diligent, and one day Mrs. Carr found herself up against one which failed to offer any solution in spite of industrious research. So she wrote and placed her difficulty before Professor Ball (then still alive) and waited patiently and confidently for his reply. It soon came—he sent her a map of the heavens relevant to what she wanted to know, but “It was all wrong and I had to make one myself,” said she! This judgment was stated quite ingenuously. We will not join her in condemning the great Astronomer Royal; but even if wrong, as it must have been, her own map had its value calling forth, as it did, her powers of imagination and thought, and the deductions arrived at by her own effort and originality, as she and the telescope kept watch together, at the window over the Settlement garden, with their gaze directed to the stars. She was a fine intelligent character, this old nurse, and she, too, might have been one of the lonely ones had she so willed. After she had left the Home, we heard of her death and that her small savings “went to the Crown,” indicating that she had no relatives. But she had her memories, all brought to her by wonder, which Wordsworth said is the beginning of all knowledge.

And so, when we received the news of the death of Sister Kinsey, we realised that those two had woven memories into the story of our Settlement Home that tend to ennoble it and to let us realise that, in those days, when nursing was one continuous round of sacrifice and what to-day would be regarded as the greatest drudgery, there were people like those two who could always escape and experience joys of existence that others knew not of. To the last, neither knew loneliness, for they had their memories. Once we remember offering Mrs. Carr a drive in a motor car, thinking to give her a real treat; we got the answer, and it somehow did not seem to savour of rudeness—“I drive in a motor car! That is nothing to me. I rode in Lord Dalhousie’s carriage in my youth.” Her most precious possession, next to the telescope, was a muff that had decidedly seen better days, but which was once a gift, long years ago, from some Lady Dalhousie. And if they knew not loneliness neither did they know fear, those two. Only the other day, in going through an old file, we came across a letter from Sister Kinsey telling us of the devastation wrought by a bomb that fell in a street close to the Home. “God,” she said, “had sent an angel to deflect it from the Settlement Home,” and she expressed the hope that the Almighty would show similar grace to the house in Orchard Street, which was our headquarters at that time. Indeed, those two, one with her love of beauty and the other with her gift of wonder, found the world alive with interest to the last, found “God in everything.”

194, Queen’s Gate,  
London, S.W.7.

ISABEL MACDONALD,  
*Secretary to the Corporation.*

#### CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

We are informed that from 200 to 300 fully trained nurses are joining the Civil Nursing Reserve every day. Trained nurses and assistant nurses in the Reserve alone now number nearly 15,000. More are wanted especially for whole time work in time of war.

There are now nearly 60,000 nursing auxiliaries in the Reserve in addition to many thousand V.A.Ds. who have been released by the War Office and are joining the Reserve. More are still needed to make up “the first 100,000.” Apply to the Central Emergency Committee for Nursing, or the Medical Officer of Health of your County or County Borough, or the nearest branch of the Order of St. John, the British Red Cross Society, or Women’s Voluntary Services.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES.

After the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the I.C.N. in London, the President, Miss Effie Taylor, took the opportunity to visit several European countries together with Miss Schwarzenberg, Executive Secretary. They travelled by air to Italy; made a flying visit to Spain and realised the terrible destruction, and noted all women were in black, and where everyone forcibly expressed the opinion that England should not be involved in war, as in the end all wars were useless.

On returning to England, Miss Effie Taylor paid two visits to the British College of Nurses, where in the absence of Mrs. Bedford Fenwick she was received by Miss Bryson and shown over the College, and having been entertained at luncheon by Miss Bushby she paid a second visit where for several hours she was shown the numerous objects of great interest in the History Section, over which Miss Bushby presides, and was deeply interested in Nightingalia and in the Royal Mementoes.

Having expressed a wish for a “Nightingale Brick” to take back with her to U.S.A., with the President’s consent one was packed and tied with our national colours, Miss Bushby was able to deliver it at St. Thomas’ Hospital on the following day. Ultimately, no doubt, the “Brick” will find a place of honour at the University School of Nursing at Yale University.

Dean Effie Taylor left England for U.S.A. on August 19th, after a very strenuous visit to Europe in her capacity of President of the International Council of Nurses, expressing the hope that she would welcome many colleagues from Europe at Atlantic City, U.S.A., at the International Congress in 1941.

Let us hope this may be possible, but alas! no plans can be made for many a day.

The Executive Secretary has left for South Africa where she plans to make a tour of inspection and attend the Commemoration Ceremonies of the founding, a quarter of a century ago, of The South African Trained Nurses’ Association. She planned to visit India before returning to England.

## THE NURSES’ ORGANISATIONS.

There has been a hurried removal of many nursing organisations from London into the country.

### THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The address of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain is as before, 19, Queen’s Gate, London, S.W.7, and any communications sent there c/o Miss S. A. Villiers, Hon. Secretary, will in due course receive attention.

It is announced in the press that the letters to the International Council of Nurses should no longer be addressed to its official Headquarters, 51, Palace Street, London, S.W.1, but c/o Dr. Schlossmann, South Acre, 8, Latham Road, Cambridge.

No official information to this effect has been received at the Office of our National Council, presumably the Assistant Executive Secretary will, in the absence of Miss Schwarzenberg, inform the constituent National Associations of action taken in consequence of War—presumably by the Hon. Officers and Headquarters Committee. In the meanwhile we shall await information necessary for the conduct of business.

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