

able to arrange special meetings for prayer either on November 30th or the next day, which is Sunday.

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

The *Canadian Nurse* is presented for September in a Special Convention number, well worthy of file, containing, as it does, a vast amount of information of value to the profession at large. We specially enjoyed an article by Miss Grace M. Fairley, on "Agnes Mary Snively—The Woman."

Miss Snively, we read, was in every sense the Superintendent of the Victorian era. It was the era which produced the successors of the religious (Sisters of Mercy) in the nursing field, would that the training schools in these days encouraged their sublime virtues. All the reply received to the expression of this desire is—times change, and nursing changes with them.

Alas, if this be so one wonders if humanity is at fault. Is it in the mass less to be commiserated? We doubt it.

Miss Grace M. Fairley was re-elected, by acclamation, as President of the C.N.A. for a further term of two years' office for the years 1940–1942.

We are glad to see reported in *Una*, the journal of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing, that Miss Jane Bell's very fine services to the profession in Australia are to be recorded in a tangible and worthy manner in the new institution, now in process of erection, near the Melbourne University by the allotting of a two-bed ward to which her name is to be attached.

It is fitting that trainees who have passed through the hospital since the end of 1910 when Miss Bell was appointed lady superintendent, should know that her first act was to arrange a separate ward for nurses who fell sick during their work among the patients.

Her pupils and their grateful patients in every corner of Australia and abroad can join in making a worthy record of fine ungrudging service not only to the nursing profession, but to the health and betterment of the Commonwealth. There are many folk with a sense of justice who will welcome this chance to show gratitude for services to humanity.

We regret to learn that a hospital nurse has been sent to prison for flashing lights in black-out time, but considering the danger to life such a practice may be, punishment was necessary. The matron of the hospital advocated severity in support of national safety. This is not the first case of hospital nurses being called to account for such conduct, and it is to be hoped they will realise their responsibility for the future.

Whether it is true or not, so many hospitals and churches have been injured by our barbarous enemies, that it would appear God's House and the defenceless sick are especially anathema to the tigerish hate of Hitler.

We are pleased to note that the Government is beginning to realise the value of the special talents of women in politics, especially at the present time when women and children are in the front rank of national danger and defence.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson has been appointed an additional Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Home Security.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson's special function, it is gathered, will be to assist Mr. Herbert Morrison, Minister of Home Security, with the mass of work which has arisen owing to the air raids. A large number of problems with many of which Miss Wilkinson should be specially fitted to deal are arising. They include the improvement of public shelters by heating, provision of bunks, sanitation and safeguards against possible epidemics, rehousing the homeless, and utilisation of Tube stations during raids.

Miss Ellen Wilkinson has helped the right side of nursing affairs in the House on several occasions, so we feel sure any expert knowledge upon our part will be at her disposal should she require it.

The sanitation of air raid shelters is a matter of national importance, and those compelled to use them should be well instructed in safeguards.

Bombs are bad enough, but the sound of protecting guns shattering to nerves.

The ear-plugs which are to be distributed free by the million have been designed to protect people's ears "from the crash and concussion of explosions," but will not prevent the hearing of ordinary speech.

They are hollow and tapered, with a rim at one end, to which a piece of string several inches long is attached. The string is to enable them to be tied together so that one is not easily lost.

They should be moistened before use, and should be kept in tissue-paper or a rag.

Local authorities are to distribute them to every household. A boon and a blessing.

M.B.E. FOR NORWAY HEROINE.

Sister Nellie Goodwin, of the Territorial Army Nursing Service, has been awarded the M.B.E. for "gallant and distinguished service" in Norway. Miss Goodwin was in charge of the hospital at Harftad when the Germans bombed the hospital. She, with other members of the staff, moved 112 wounded soldiers to safety into the basement.

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES.

It has not been considered advisable to call Meetings, taking into consideration the difficulties of travel and danger of bombs, but the clerical work continues daily, and letters are promptly replied to.

Bombs have fallen close by Queen's Gate, and for safety a window has been removed at No. 19, as it had been loosened by shock. We live in hope of escape from further damage.

SYMPATHY FROM NEW ZEALAND.

British College of Nurses, Queen's Gate, London.

Extend sympathy to English colleagues in hardships being experienced and express admiration of courage.—New Zealand Registered Nurses' Association.

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