

With my very kindest regards to you, and again my sincere thanks for your great assistance.

Very faithfully yours,

EFFIE J. TAYLOR,  
*President.*"

### PEOPLE WHO PASS IN THE LIGHT.

The following letter lately received from Miss Lavinia L. Dock, R.N., author, together with Miss M. Adelaide Nutting, R.N., of "The History of Nursing," is too precious to its recipient to be hidden in the archives of our History Section without publicity and a word of appreciation.

It refers to "People Who Pass in the Light—Little Robina," which was published in the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING in February last. We are indeed honoured that Miss Dock should consider this flash from the cells of memory worthy of preservation in the great "History."

We know that reformers are of no account in their own country, so those of us who dare to stand facing obstruction find sympathy sweet. If we had time, which we have not, it would be our pleasure to place on record many pen-pictures of those who have "Passed in the Light." We see Miss Lavinia Dock in quite a few.

#### LETTER FROM MISS DOCK.

DEAR MRS. FENWICK,

Your bit of reminiscence in the last BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is so precious and perfect that I am pasting it in the "History." There is no one like you—never was and perhaps never will be in the nursing world. May I comment, next, on the meaning of your word "humiliation"? There are many to whom it does not apply. *Remorse* rather than the other is what perhaps the majority feel. *Remorse* for sins of omission and commission. Never was a war so preventable as this, but prevention should have begun 20 years back. These horrible dictators have not "just growed" like Topsy. They were man-made like Frankenstein.

The lines that come to my mind, not literally, but as poetic prophecy, are those of the *Dies iræ* :

Liber scriptus proferetur  
In quo totum continetur  
Unde muntus iudicatur  
Judex ergo cum sedebit  
Quidquid latet, apparebit  
Nil insultum remanebit.

You also have this conclusion in your last lines, I see, the great problem is, how can brotherhood grow from hatred?

Ever your affectionate old-time  
Co-Worker and Friend,

L. L. D.

#### A TRANSLATION.

The Written Book shall then be brought,  
Wherein the Whole Account is caught,  
That's for the world with Judgment fraught.  
Before the Judge all's then unsealed,  
Whate'er's set down shall be revealed.  
Nothing shall remain concealed.

*Richard Fenwick.*

### THE GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL FOR ENGLAND AND WALES.

A meeting of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales was held at the offices of the Council, 23, Portland Place, London, W.1, on April 25th. Dame Ellen Musson, D.B.E., R.R.C., LL.D., presided.

#### Correspondence.

The General Nursing Council  
for England and Wales,  
23, Portland Place,  
London, W.1.

April 2, 1941.

SIR,—I am desired by the members of the General Nursing Council to address you on the subject of the Division of Nursing in the Ministry of Health which, according to the report of a speech by Miss Horsbrugh, M.P., in the Press, and also in Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, has already been set up.

As the Statutory Body charged with the duty of maintaining a Register of Nurses for the Sick and of controlling their education and examination, the Council is, of course, much interested in the announcement, but, while welcoming the establishment of such Division, regrets that it had no opportunity of considering the matter and expressing an opinion before it became an accomplished fact. The Council would be glad to receive information regarding this new Division, and ventures to hope that opportunity may be afforded for consultation with representative nurses before the details of its establishment are decided upon.

It is of the highest importance to all nurses that this Division should be of a professional character; that there should be at its head a Principal Nursing Officer of good standing as a nurse and with wide administrative and training school experience, and that she should be adequately supported by nurses with knowledge of different branches of nursing work in addition to administrative experience.

It is realised that all the many and varied branches of nursing could not be represented in a Division of the Ministry, but it is hoped that it may be found possible to allow for representatives of the chief branches to be available for consultation with the Chief Nursing Officer.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. M. MUSSON,  
*Chairman.*

The Rt. Hon. Ernest Brown, M.C., M.P.,  
The Minister of Health,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

Ministry of Health,  
Whitehall,  
London, S.W.1, R.A.

MADAM,—I am directed by the Minister of Health to refer to your letter of April 2 (EMM/MN) and to say that, as you no doubt already know, he has announced in Parliament, that the whole of the nursing work of his Department is to be grouped on its professional side under the general direction of a Chief Nursing Officer, Miss Katherine Watt, C.B.E., R.R.C., already Principal Matron of the Emergency Nursing Services, with two deputies, one of whom is to be a nurse with current knowledge of administration and training school experience, and the other a nurse with special experience of public health and domiciliary nursing services. The Minister is actively engaged in considering the appointment of these two deputies.

This reorganisation was made after careful consideration of representations that had been received from various

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)