

It was patently apparent to her hearers, that this was no ordinary oration and that much patient research work had gone into its preparation. It was delivered in perfect style and as well as being most instructive, it was most agreeable to the ear. It was unanimously declared to be a classic and we are hoping for the text so that it may be published in full.

Mrs. Seymer received enthusiastic applause when her oration was over and well she deserved it.

Miss Effie Taylor, International President, then took charge of the proceedings. The Adelaide Nutting Plaque was formally awarded to the International Council of Nurses in recognition of its leadership in matters of Nursing Education, by the President of the National League of Nursing Education, Miss Ruth Sleeper. Miss Taylor graciously received it on behalf of the International Council. It was placed in a prominent position on the platform and floodlit.

Then came the awards of two well-merited citations. Miss Effie Taylor herself read them, in honour of two of America's greatest and most honoured Nurses. The first was to Miss Annie W. Goodrich, Hon. President of the I.C.N., and who had adorned the office of President in the past with distinction. The citation spoke in glowing terms of Miss Goodrich's contribution to the I.C.N., and the affection and esteem in which she is held by the American Nurses, which is only equalled by the esteem she is held in by Nurses all over the world. Miss Goodrich then addressed the assembly and charmingly spoke her thanks.

The second citation was then offered to Miss Lavinia L. Dock, who had been I.C.N. Secretary for over 23 years!! Miss Effie Taylor brought Miss Dock, aged 90 years to the microphone, in a most affectionate manner, and there she read to Miss Dock, all the lovely and beautiful things the American Nurses knew about her. I must admit that the American Nurses unstintingly honour their great leaders, and pay them homage whilst they are still alive and can have the happiness of knowing that their great work for their country and Profession has not gone unrewarded. Miss Dock's witty interruptions delighted the audience and when she later addressed the assembly, she captured the imaginations and hearts of all present. She was lucid, humorous and pithy and she spoke in high praise and affection of our late Founder, Ethel Gordon Fenwick. She counselled us all to be sure to take as much money from the rich as we possibly could, and give it to the really poor!!

The applause which Miss Dock received when her Medal and Citation were presented to her, brought the house down, and she was acknowledged as the brightest star of the week.

After the meeting I had the tremendous honour of a short talk with this great Lady. Just as I was begging for the typescript notes of her famous address in order that they might be preserved in the History Section at the British College of Nurses Ltd., the American Nurses took her away. She looked frail, and flushed with the pleasure of her evening out. I was shattered by my failure to get the precious papers.

The last and most warmly welcomed item on the evening's programme was the announcement by Miss Effie Taylor of the setting up of a Fund in honour of

Miss Lavinia L. Dock, to facilitate the exchange of books, journals, reports, and other relevant matter in order to promote the interchange of ideas and friendly intercourse between the different countries. £3,000 had already been collected and handed over to the I.C.N. We sincerely hope that England will not be shy of subscribing to this very worthy Fund.

#### Thursday Evening, May 15th.

##### FRIENDSHIP DINNERS. 6 p.m.

Many of the Churches in Atlantic City arranged "Friendship dinners," and visiting nurses were allowed to choose their hosts for the dinner. As the number of guests expected was so great, church halls had to be used, and the dinners were a tremendous success. The tables were all beautifully decorated with the flags of the different nations, and the guests were truly international and quickly introduced themselves to one another and found much of common interest. We should like to place our thanks on record, for this great act of friendship and generosity from the pastors of the Free Churches of Atlantic City, and also to their charming lady workers who waited on the nurses at the tables and thus contributed to a wonderfully happy evening.

After the dinners, at 8.30 p.m., the nurses returned to the General Assembly Room in Convention Hall. Miss Pearl McIver, President of the Board of Directors of the *American Journal of Nursing* presided and introduced Mr. Owen Lattimore, Director of the Walter Hines Page School of International Relations, Johns Hopkins University. He addressed the Nurses on "The three worlds that make one world."

Dr. Lattimore's address was intensely interesting and inspiring, and we can only lightly touch upon it, for paper is still scarce!! Briefly, the three worlds of the present, he said, "were collectivist Russia, free enterprise America and thirdly those countries with pride in themselves, conditioned by not becoming subsidiary to another world. These three kinds of societies must continue in one world and work out their own future, so that, slowly becoming better and better, they will make a world more worth living in than any known yet."

As the *American Journal of Nursing* was hostess Miss McIver then introduced Miss Mary Roberts, Editor of this very excellent Journal. Miss McIver told us of Miss Roberts's great work for nurses, and quite obviously Miss Roberts was overwhelmed at the well-merited praise which she received. She spoke a few words of welcome to the nurses of other lands, and then introduced to us the members of the world famous Westminster Choir of Princetown, New Jersey.

It was a perfectly delightful musical evening, and we cannot sufficiently thank the directors and staff of the *American Journal of Nursing* for giving us such a wonderful, musical feast. The songs, Negro spirituals and choruses were beautifully rendered, and the singers received volumes of applause. Time and time again they delighted us with most enchanting encores, and it was with the greatest regret we finally allowed them to depart at almost 10.30 p.m.!!

The evening closed after Miss McIver thanked the Choir, and the whole assembly rose and sang "America, the Beautiful," before leaving the hall. G. M. H.

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