

### NURSING ECHOES.

Her Majesty Queen Mary, on October 30th, journeyed to Plaistow to open the new Out-Patient Department of St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children, which was dedicated by the Bishop of Chelmsford.

St. Mary's is the one Hospital for Women and Children only to be found in the East End of London where Medical, Surgical, Gynæcological, Skin and Ophthalmic cases are treated.

The Hospital was founded as a Day Nursery in 1888 by the late Rev. T. Given Wilson, then Vicar of Plaistow. It soon became apparent that a Children's Hospital was an urgent necessity, and through the generosity of the late Rev. Henry Blissett, a new building was provided and officially opened in 1892, since which time the poor people of the East End of London have found healing and comfort within its portals.

The Out-Patient Department had become very dilapidated, and it is with a great sense of satisfaction that we learn of the opening of this new building.

It is hoped that this building will also house the domestic staff of the hospital, but lack of funds are holding up its completion, for which a sum of £15,000 is still required.

It is equipped to provide medical treatment for 7,000 out-patients annually, so it is hoped that the necessary funds may be found to ensure that the poor in the East End of this great city may receive the succour needed to lighten the burden which ill-health brings in its train.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 160 Nurses to be Queen's Nurses: 134 in England, 1 in Wales, 19 in Scotland and 6 in Northern Ireland.

On November 4th, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, the President, visited the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, to unveil an entablature and memorial stone to commemorate the work done for the Hospital by its late Chairman, Viscount Southwood, from early in 1939 until his death this year, and named the main Medical and Surgical Building: "The Southwood Building."

On the memorial stone the following words are inscribed: "This building is named in grateful memory of Viscount Southwood, Chairman in years of war and stress, lover of children, generous benefactor, most true friend."

The Princess Royal has special interest in this Hospital as she entered as a probationer in 1918, serving for two years.

During her visit Her Royal Highness also presented certificates and awards to nurses.

On October 23rd, the anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein was celebrated at the Albert Hall in London, when Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery and Mr. Winston Churchill were present and addressed some 5,000 Eighth Army men who were gathered together on this occasion. Fifty Nursing Sisters who so bravely attended the sick and wounded behind the front line of battle, in the Casualty Clearing Stations, were given front line seats at this re-union. They mostly wore their military uniforms and their medal ribbons, and we have

no doubt they were warmly welcomed by the men they had served so faithfully.

Nurses at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester, have endowed a bed in that institution, and the first patient to occupy it is Nurse B. Pearson. We wish her a successful convalescence.

On Thursday, October 31st, five Queen's Nurses from Ireland received a long-service medal from H.R.H. Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, in recognition of 21 years' service as district nurses.

The names of the nurses are Miss Robertson (Supt.) Londonderry; Miss Lappia, New Ross (Eire); Miss Cupples, Coleraine (Londonderry); Miss Johnston, Mt. Stewart and Gray Abbey; Miss Conaty, Glen Glevlin (Co. Cavan).

Once again the subject of child neglect in British institutions has been brought before the House of Commons. Mrs. G. Manning, M.P. (Epping), asked that the names of the institutions, in which the worst cases of child neglect had been found, might be published. To this request the Minister of Health replied that there were difficulties; he said that inspection is now proceeding much more vigorously and efficiently, and much protection is given to these children.

We are of the opinion that the greatest possible publicity should be given to cases of child neglect in this country of ours. Each little life is of the greatest importance, and no stone should be left unturned to stamp out for good and all any possibility of denying to these little ones the happiness and comfort that is their due.

We have been carefully studying the pamphlet prepared by *The American Journal of Nursing* on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the American Nurses' Association, and as the initiator of the International Council of Nurses, hope the English Council will prepare a pamphlet on much the same lines, at no distant date.

The Editor of this Journal is the only person, now alive, together with Miss Lavina L. Dock, who attended the initial Meetings in connection with the organisation of Nurses all over the world, at the Meetings held in Baltimore, in the year of the World's Fair in 1896.

We are exceedingly glad to hear that at last the genius of Miss Lavina L. Dock is to be recognised, as she was, without doubt, the chief organiser from America in the 'nineties who toured Europe in support of the inauguration of professional representation in the Nursing World.

#### THE LEAGUE OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL NURSES.

The General Meeting of the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses will be held on Saturday, December 7th, 1946.

A Service will be held in the Hospital Church of St. Bartholomew-the-Less, at 2.30 p.m., and the General Meeting will be held in the Class Room, Nurses' Home, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, at 3 p.m.

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