

NURSING ECHOES.

On February 1st, the King and Queen, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth and the Princess Margaret, sailed from this island, with the good wishes of this nation for their successful tour, on their journey to South Africa, where a great welcome awaits them.

After riding tumultuous seas, the *Vanguard* has now reached calmer waters, and the Royal family has entered sunnier climes.

France and Portugal saluted the Royal Family as the *Vanguard* passed their shores.

During the absence of the King, the Queen and the Princess Elizabeth, the Counsellors of State appointed are the Duke of Gloucester, the Princess Royal and the Viscount Lascelles.

The Nursing Profession will rejoice to know that Her Majesty Queen Mary has now recovered from the chill which kept her to her room, and has resumed activities for which she is so well loved.

The War Office wish to correct an erroneous impression that there are no vacancies in the Army Nursing Service. State Registered Nurses who are desirous of joining the oldest Women's Service, Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, may apply to A.M.D.4(J), War Office.

We have heard from Miss Gladys Stephenson, who has been in England after internment by the Japanese in China, that she is leaving early in February to take Refresher Courses in New York and Boston, before proceeding to the International Congress of Nurses in the United States of America in May.

During her stay in this country she has travelled to take meetings in churches and sometimes in hospitals.

When the International Congress of Nurses is over, she is returning once more to take up her work as Matron of the Methodist Hospital in Hankow, Central China.

We wish this brave lady much success and happiness in the work to which she is returning.

We learn that Miss Helen Hanks, S.R.N., is to retire from the Matronship of St. George's Hospital, London, a post she has held for 17 years.

Not every nurse can become the head of her training school, but Miss Hanks successfully attained that goal, entering the hospital for training in 1910.

St. George's Hospital occupies one of the finest sites in London, overlooking, at it does, two Royal Parks, and lovely Constitution Hill.

We are sure Miss Hanks will miss her busy life.

St. George's Hospital has acquired a piece of land in Wandsworth, comprising some 30 acres, on which to erect a new building, which will contain 1,000 beds. If labour and materials can be obtained, the new building should be ready for occupation in 1952. It will be a Teaching Hospital complete with Medical School.

Miss Deirdre Wilkinson, S.R.N., taking the examination after a course on Tropical Medicine and Nursing, at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases, has gained the highest marks and has been awarded the Duncan Gold Medal.

Miss Wilkinson received her general training at Guy's Hospital, London.

We do not often hear of centenarians in the Nursing and Midwifery Professions, but the death was recently announced of Mrs. Jane Berriman of Byfleet at the advanced age of 102. During her younger days she was for twenty-five years the District Midwife.

Nurses are needed so badly for the Isolation Hospital at Biggleswade that the Joint Hospital Board has decided to offer bonuses of £20 each over the scale adopted by the Rushcliffe Committee in the hope of attracting staff to the hospital which has been closed for months.

It has been announced that six thousand more Baltic women from the displaced persons camp in the British zone of Germany are being transferred to work in British hospitals. After they have served a probationary term of three months, if they choose, they may apply for training as nurses and midwives.

The January issue of *The American Journal of Nursing* is just to hand full of very interesting information. Ninety leading nurses from China, Czechoslovakia, Italy and Poland, are taking refresher Courses of Study in the United States and trying to catch up with the latest developments in nursing, so that they may return to position of leadership in their own countries.

During the war years they were fully occupied with keeping their students, patients and themselves alive in the midst of actual war. Some struggled to keep their schools going in order to train nurses so vitally needed to care for military and civilian personnel; others worked in Army Hospitals, and some, captured by the enemy and placed in concentration camps, served as nurses for their fellow prisoners.

Lisa Boström, R.N., for many years laboratory nurse at Maria Hospital in Stockholm, has been accorded recognition for her scientific studies and discoveries in the generation of red and white blood corpuscles. On the recommendation of Greta Hammarsten, Medical Director of Soder Hospital Chemistry Laboratory, Miss Boström has received a grant from the Research Council, and the Stockholm Town Council has given her leave of absence, on salary, to continue her studies. For many years laboratory nurses in Sweden and neighbouring countries have had their training for laboratory work under Miss Boström.

MEDICAL VISITOR FROM CHINA

Dr. H. P. Chu, Dean of the National Medical College at Shanghai, and formerly Secretary of the Chinese Medical Association, has arrived on a three-month's visit to this country, arranged by the British Council. This is the first time he has visited Britain.

He is studying undergraduate and post-graduate medical education, the curricular of British medical schools and all forms of medical teaching, including the training of nurses. Arrangements have been made for him to have discussions with the appropriate authorities and to visit teaching hospitals and other institutions in London and the Provinces.

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