MARCH, 1948

SO MUCH BELOVED.

THE LATE MISS ELIZABETH MARTIN. An Early Portrait.

It is with profound sorrow that we record the sudden death, on February 17th, of Miss Elizabeth Martin, R.R.C., S.R.N., F.B.C.N., at the Wood Green and Southgate Hospital, of which for many years she, much loved and honoured, held the post of Matron.

Her sterling qualities endeared her to all with whom she come in contact, and one instinctively felt that confidence placed in her would be for ever respected.

Her love for her work as a member of the noble profession of nursing was paramount, and "Matron" was the rock upon which all the departments of the hospital leaned.

After her training, which she received at the Leeds General Infirmary, Miss Martin was appointed Sister at the Northern Counties Hospital, Bury; Night Sister and Assistant Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax ; and Ward Sister at the Leeds General Infirmary.

During the first world war, Miss Martin served her country at Leeds, Salonika and Italy, as Theatre Sister, Housekeeping Sister and Assistant Matron, for which she was awarded the Royal Red Cross.

In 1920 Miss Martin was appointed Matron of the Passmore Edward's Hospital, later known as the Wood Green and Southgate Hospital, where she passed away in full harness up to the hour of her death, as she would have wished, surrounded by those whom she loved so well.

Miss Martin gave her allegiance to the British College of Nurses upon its foundation in 1926, in which she took the greatest interest, and was ever ready to render assistance in any capacity at Headquarters. She served on its Council for several terms, and was a Vice-President at the time of her death.

Of fine stature, her broad vision kept her a keen advocate of educational progress and professional independence, and her generous and warm-hearted nature knew no limit to duty, where she felt duty called, and in her selfless devotion she was honoured and beloved by all with whom she come in contact.

We shall sadly miss her, but we know she has entered into the rest she has so richly deserved.

The cremation of Miss Martin's mortal remains took place at Golders Green on February 23rd, at which official representatives of the Hospital Council and Honorary Medical and Surgical Staff were present.

A Memorial Service has been arranged to take place at St. Michael's Church, Wood Green, on March 3rd, which her colleagues and friends will attend.

Death was full urgent with thee, Sister dear, And startling in his speed;

Brief pain, then languor till thy end came near Such was the path decreed, The hurried road

To lead thy soul from earth to thine own God's abode.

Death came unheralded—but it was well; For so thy Saviour bore

Kind witness, thou wast meet at once to dwell On His eternal shore.

All warning spared,

For none He gives where hearts are for prompt change prepared.

Joy of sad hearts, and light of downcast eyes ! Dearest, thou art enshrined

In all thy fragrance in our memories; For we must ever find Bare thought of thee

Freshen this weary life, while weary life shall be.

NEWMAN.





