

### Nursing Echoes.

KNOWING THAT OUR READERS will like to learn of the sympathy expressed by their European colleagues upon the death of our beloved King George VI, the Executive Secretary of our National Council of Nurses has kindly sent us the following messages that have been received by the President and herself:—

#### The National Council of Nurses of Ireland.

DUBLIN.

February 7th, 1952.

Dear Miss Duff Grant,

The very sad news of the sudden death of His Majesty King George was received with deep sorrow in Ireland. Will you kindly convey to our English colleagues the very sincere sympathy of the National Council of Nurses of Ireland on the death of a great Sovereign, admired for his devotion to duty and example as head of the family.

With kind regards, Yours sincerely,

(Signed) MARY FRANCES CROWLEY, Hon. Secretary.

#### International Council of Nurses.

OSTERMALMSGATAN 33,

STOCKHOLM.

February 7th, 1952.

Dear Miss Duff Grant,

The International Council of Nurses sends you, through me, our great sympathy in connection with the death of King George VI. We want to express our admiration of him, of his work for his people during a time of exceptional difficulty of all kinds. He was a brave man.

In Parliament yesterday a tribute was paid to King George and also sympathy expressed to our own Royal Family, related as they are to the British Royal House.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) GERDA HOJER, President.

#### The Turkish Nurses Association.

ISTANBUL.

February 10th, 1952.

Dear Miss Rowe,

We are deeply sorrowed by the death of your beloved King, His Majesty King George VI. The nurses of Turkey heartily share this great sorrow that is keenly felt all over the world. May His Majesty be in peace in Heaven and may God help you all in bearing this grief and may your new Queen, Her Majesty Elizabeth II, long live, serve her People and World Peace happily, Amen!

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) ESMA DENIZ, President.

THE WAR OFFICE ANNOUNCES the appointment of Colonel H. S. Gillespie, M.B.E., R.R.C., Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, to be Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services War Office, in succession to Brigadier Dame Anne Thomson, D.B.E., R.R.C., K.H.N.S., who will retire in July, 1952, on completion of the tenure of her appointment.

Colonel Gillespie was born and educated in Edinburgh. Her professional training was at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

She joined Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in March, 1926, and in 1927 was sent to India for her first overseas tour.

Early in the late war she went to Palestine as an Assistant Matron, and throughout the war held administrative appointments at Headquarters of ALFSEA, 12th Army and Burma Command, and at War Office A.M.D.4.

Colonel Gillespie is at present Commandant of Q.A.R.A.N.C. Depot and Training Establishment, previous to which she held the appointment of D.D.A.N.S., B.A.O.R.

SIR ALLEN DALEY, the Medical Officer of Health, reached the age of 65 years on February 19th, and retired from office on that date in accordance with Standing Order 290.

Dr. Daley, after graduating at Liverpool University in 1909, followed his father in 1911 as Medical Officer of Health of the County Borough of Bootle, a position which he held for nine years. After holding similar appointments at Blackburn and Hull, he entered the service of the London County Council in 1929 as a principal medical officer.

He was called upon to take a prominent and leading part in the preparations for taking over from the former authorities some 76 hospitals and institutions with 40,000 beds and a staff approaching 20,000. He served as chairman of the departmental committees which were set up at that time to advise on the running of various services, such as the London ambulance service, the pathological services, the Council's tuberculosis scheme and the district medical service, and on hospital standards and staffing; and he subsequently continued to have general oversight of hospital staffing problems.

It soon became evident that the Council had in Sir Allen Daley an officer in whom brilliance of mind was coupled with outstanding vigour and an exceptional capacity for intense and unremitting application to the tasks before him, and in November, 1938, he was appointed to the newly-created post of deputy medical officer of health. A year later, when Sir Frederick Menzies retired, the Council looked no further for his successor.

Sir Allen Daley made a notable personal contribution to the successful establishment and development of the various new services; and the difficulties which he and his department had to overcome in the face of severe damage by bombing to many of the Council's hospitals should not go unrecorded. Between 1941, when the former mental hospitals department was absorbed in the public health department, and 1948, when the Council ceased to be a hospital authority, Sir Allen Daley, besides being school medical officer, was responsible to the Council for the administration of 98 hospitals and institutions with 72,000 beds—probably the largest hospital service in the world.

Shortly after the war, when much had to be undone and much replanned, it became necessary, under the National Health Service Act, 1946, to prepare for the transfer of the hospital service to the Regional Hospital Boards and for taking over the personal health services from the City Corporation and the Metropolitan Borough Councils. That this complicated task, which involved a complete reorganisation of the department, was so smoothly and successfully carried out is a marked tribute to Sir Allen Daley's high administrative ability.

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