

Nursing Echoes.

THE QUEEN HAS approved the appointment of Lord Percy of Newcastle, President of the Royal Sanitary Institute, as Chairman of the Royal Commission which is to be set up to inquire into the certification and detention of mental patients.

Lord Percy was one of the original members of the Royal Commission on Lunacy and Mental Disorder which was appointed in 1924, but resigned on his appointment as President of the Board of Education.

HIS HOLINESS THE POPE is grievously ill. Pius XII has established an historic place among the prelates of Western Christianity; a man of personal saintliness and benignity, he has been famed above all as a great diplomat and statesman of the Church.

As Pope for the last 15 years, he has been the apostle of peace in war, and in so-called peace the untiring leader of Roman Catholic churches at war with Communism and oppression.

It is not only respect for this man who is an outstanding figure of our time that makes Christians everywhere, Protestants as well as Papists, sad and anxious at the news of the Pope's serious illness.

We are aware of the grave menace to Christianity all round the world from that atheist and materialistic philosophy which shows its grossest form in Soviet absolutism, and which appears in many shapes in modern life.

At this time should differences be bridged between Churches and sects, and with one accord should we offer up prayer and supplication for a great Christian.

BRIGADIER H. S. GILLESPIE, M.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., Matron-in-Chief and Director of Army Nursing Services left London by Air on February 2nd, 1954, for an extensive tour of the Middle East and Malta.

She proposes to visit all Military Hospitals in the Canal Zone, Cyprus, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania and Malta and to meet all Q.A.R.A.N.C. officers and other ranks serving in these areas. She will be accompanied by Colonel F. M. Smith, R.R.C., Deputy Director of Army Nursing Services, Middle East Land Forces, during the tour with the exception of Malta when she will be accompanied by the Senior Q.A.R.A.N.C. officer of that Command, Major E. W. R. Warner, A.R.R.C.

Brigadier Gillespie will be away until early in March.

DR. VICTOR L. BROWD, Adjunct Professor of Otolaryngology at the New York Polyclinic Medical School and Hospital, has arrived in London. Dr. Browd is famous for his method of "re-educating" the auditory faculty of deaf people without resort to hearing aids or surgery, a method which he evolved from experience gained in New York, Vienna, Budapest, Berlin, Stuttgart. The great majority of deaf people, he says, are not nearly so deaf as they think they are. He has made appointments to treat 154 deaf people who wrote to him after reading his book "The New Way to Better Hearing"; his clinic has opened at the Auditory Training Unit at 21, Wigmore Street, London, W. During his stay he will give a series of demonstrations to Physicians-Otologists interested in the special techniques he has devised for improving hearing.

INTEREST IN THE THEATRE is growing rapidly in Nigeria but there are few people with experience of drama production. Mrs. Olga Adnnyi-Jonos, who is an amateur actress and producer in Lagos arrived in the United Kingdom on January 7th on a three months' British Council bursary to train as an instructor in amateur drama. She will attend the British Drama League's full-time course for instructors from January 11th to March 19th. On her return to Nigeria she intends to conduct local courses for the benefit of schools and clubs.

Apart from her interest in drama, Mrs. Adnnyi-Jonos is a trained nurse who studied at the Leeds School of Radiography from 1942-44. She is the wife of the Lagos Medical Officer of Health.

Members of Royal Commission.

THE QUEEN HAS BEEN pleased to approve that the following persons be appointed Members of the Royal Commission to inquire into the certification and detention of mental patients, of which Lord Percy of Newcastle will be Chairman:—

Mrs. EDGAR ADRIAN.

C. BARTLETT, Esq.

Mrs. Braddock, J.P., M.P.

Sir RUSSELL BRAIN, D.M., P.R.C.P.

H. B. H. HYLTON-FOSTER, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

R. M. JACKSON, Esq., LL.D.

Sir CECIL OAKES, C.B.E.

T. P. REES, Esq., O.B.E., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.M.

D. H. H. THOMAS, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.

J. GREENWOOD WILSON, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.

The Secretary of the Commission will be Miss H. M. Hedley and correspondence should be addressed to her at the Ministry of Health, 23, Savile Row, London, W.1.

Brief Notes on the Members of the Commission.

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| Mrs. ADRIAN | Wife of the Master of Trinity. Has had some experience of hospital work and Children's Courts. |
| Mr. BARTLETT | President, Confederation of Health Service Employees. Member of the Committee on Financial and Economic Problems arising from the provision for Old Age. |
| Mrs. BRADDOCK | Has had experience of mental health work of a large local authority. Member for Liverpool Exchange since 1945. |
| Sir RUSSELL BRAIN | Member of the Royal Commission on Divorce. President of the Royal College of Physicians. |
| Mr. HYLTON-FOSTER | Member for York since 1950. Recorder of Hull. |
| Mr. JACKSON | Reader of Public Law, Cambridge University. |
| Sir CECIL OAKES | Formerly Clerk of the County Council of East Suffolk. Member of the Central Health Services Council. Was Member of Royal Commission on J.P.s. |
| Dr. REES | Medical Superintendent of the Warlingham Park Hospital. |
| Dr. THOMAS | Medical Superintendent of the Cell Barnes Hospital, St. Albans. |
| Dr. GREENWOOD WILSON | Medical Officer of Health, Cardiff, |

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