

## The Passing of Lavinia L. Dock, R.N.

WE WERE DEEPLY GRIEVED to learn the sad news of the death of Lavinia L. Dock, in Pennsylvania, U.S.A., the first Hon. Secretary of the International Council of Nurses.

Lavinia L. Dock was deeply loved and admired by the loyal followers of the late Ethel Gordon Fenwick; these two ladies shared in the foundation of the International Council of Nurses in 1899, which they guided and cherished through the first years.

Lavinia Dock often corresponded with this office, and we treasure some of her letters.

Was it coincidence that both these pioneers should die from the same cause—a fractured femur?

We hope, through the love they bore each other and the principles they so ardently shared, that they may meet again.

Farewell, Lavinia Dock, your name will be honoured in the Annals of the Nursing Profession.

## Opening of National Spastics Society Centre

Prested Hall, Witham, Essex.

May 16, 1956.

MISS PAT HORNSBY-SMITH, M.P., the Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Health, who with a silver key formally opened Prested Hall, the National Spastics Society's first residential centre for adults, stressed that the strength of the Health Services lies not only in what the State can do but in the warmth and generosity of the public in co-operation with it. Wherever she went she was told money was wanted, and very often there was not enough to go round. She therefore warmly commended what the National Spastics Society had done of its own initiative.

The new home, for 30 spastics between the ages of 25 and 45, said Miss Hornsby-Smith, was unique. It aimed not only to help spastics, many of whom had been deprived of remedial treatment in their childhood, but to widen knowledge of the best methods in the care of spastics.

Miss Mary Ruck, R.R.C., Chairman of the Management Committee said that the National Spastics Society had taken a big risk in taking spastics from their homes, in which they had been the focal point, and welding them into a community. Now they could say that the organisers had been extremely fortunate. One resident was now walking for the first time in his 33 years of life.

## Nursing Echoes.

THE WAR OFFICE announces the appointment of Colonel C. M. Johnson, 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 Helen S. Gillespie, D.B.E., R.R.C., Q.H.N.S., who will retire in July, 1956, on completion of the tenure of her appointment.

Colonel Johnson was born and educated in London. Her professional training was at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

She joined the Army Nursing Services in November, 1925, and in 1929 was sent to India for her first overseas tour.

During the war she served in France and in the Middle East. Since the war she has held appointments in the War Office, India and South-East Asia, Middle East Land Forces and Far East Land Forces.

Colonel Johnson is at present Assistant Director of Army Nursing Services, Headquarters, Eastern Command.

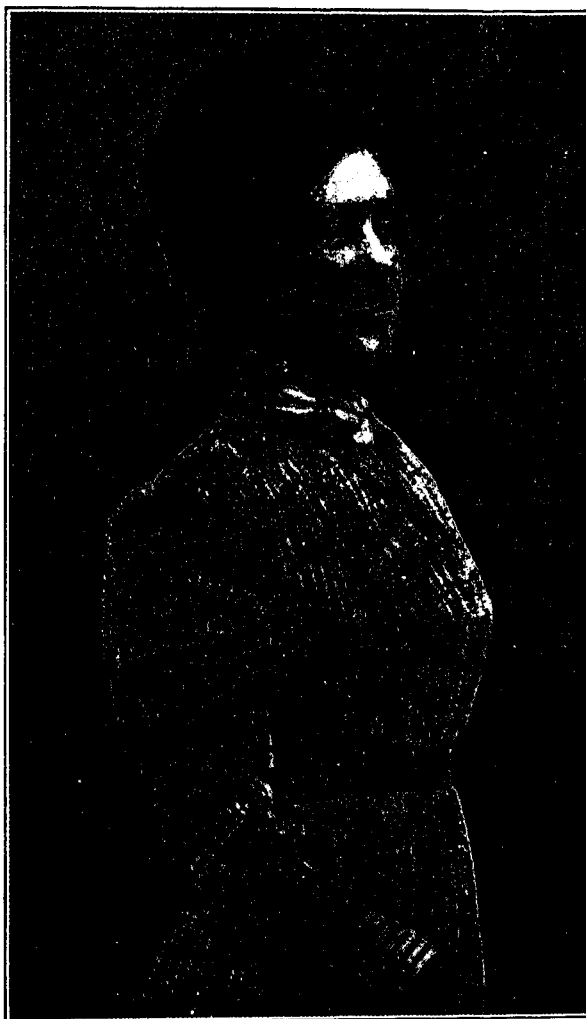
THE NAPT Sister Tutor Course Scholarship of £100 has this year, for the first time, been divided between two candidates, who will each receive £50 towards their fees for the Course.

Mr. Ralph Howd, S.R.N., R.M.N., who also holds the B.T.A. Certificate and the Diploma in Nursing of the University of London, is at present employed as a Charge Nurse at the King George V Hospital, Godalming. He trained at the Newcastle General Hospital, and took a postgraduate course in nervous diseases at the Holloway Sanatorium, Virginia Water, before going to King George V Hospital. He proposes to take the Sister Tutor Course at

the Royal College of Nursing, commencing in September, 1956.

Mr. Edward Smith, S.R.N., B.T.A. Certificate, is a Charge Nurse at Preston Hall Hospital, Maidstone, who trained at Farnborough Hospital, and took a postgraduate course in tuberculosis nursing at Harefield Hospital, before going to Preston Hall in 1953. He will take the Sister Tutor Course at Battersea Polytechnic.

At the completion of the Course Mr. Howd and Mr. Smith will return to tuberculosis hospital as Tutors,



Lavinia L. Dock, from an early portrait.  
First Hon. Secretary of the International Council  
of Nurses.

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