

mittee in their careful selection of efficient and suitable nurses. The Association was an entirely unofficial and unsubsidised body, and among its difficulties was the question of pensions; when nurses' moved from place to place; no one community was willing to undertake the payment. This point had been discussed at the Colonial Conference, and he hoped that as an outcome of their deliberations a scheme would be arranged which would be fair to every nurse, whether she served in one Colony continuously or moved from one to another.

Mr. George Verity, Chairman of Charing Cross Hospital, in an attractive and cogent pamphlet appealing for funds in support of the Hospital—which, by the way, has two points to commend it, namely, that it is out of debt, and the cost per bed is lower than that of any hospital in London—makes the following comments on the Hospital Insurance scheme:—

"A number of you will have heard that there is a pension scheme in process of formation for Hospital servants. Frankly, Charing Cross has not joined in this scheme, for I think it is wrong in principle and complicated in its working.

"Each case in my opinion should be treated on its merits, and this we do at Charing Cross, and there cannot be one finger of complaint pointed at us.

"Again, the scheme would cost our Hospital thousands of pounds which we are not justified in spending out of the money given us for the care of the sick. The public don't give their money for such purposes.

"I think the Government policy is pensions run mad, compulsory and voluntary. I am already a bitter critic of the Health Insurance Scheme, as I consider the contributors don't get their money's worth, and the scheme has not helped a bit in forwarding the national health.

"Nurses come to us to be trained, and leave in their youth. The staff constantly change as time goes on. But anybody who, through ill-health or old age, who ought to be pensioned, is and shall be pensioned as long as I am Chairman, and I am sure it will be continued by my successors, each case judged and treated on its merits, and that is the way to proceed, we will not indulge in any schemes that cost thousands of pounds, and give rise to complicated book-keeping and other difficulties, which will employ the staff instead of letting them do their jobs."

Mr. Verity also says:—"We are fortunate in our Hospital relations here between the lay staff and the professional staff as in any Hospital in the world.

"The same applies to the Matron and her staff, and the Lady Almoner and her staff. I must express publicly how happy and pleased I am with their work, and how grateful we at the Hospital all feel to them for the grand way they carry out their duties. Long may they be spared to carry on!"

The *May News Letter* of the Victoria Order of Nurses for Canada announces that this year the Canadian Public Health Association is holding a joint meeting with the Canadian Medical Association in Toronto during the week of June 14th.

Two years ago a Public Health Nursing Section of the C.P.H.A. was organised through the efforts of a group

of public health nurses in Montreal. The first sessions of the section were held at the annual meeting of the C.P.H.A. in Toronto a year ago, and owing to the enthusiasm of the first chairman, Miss Florence Emory, the meetings were most successful.

This year an unusually interesting programme has been prepared. Nurses, especially public health nurses who find it at all possible to be in Toronto at that time, cannot afford to miss the sessions.

#### PRIZE ESSAY.

A prize of two guineas is offered by Miss Isabel Macdonald for the best essay on "The Ethical Standards and Qualifications which a Patient has a right to expect in a Private Nurse." Papers are to be forwarded to the Editor, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, 39, Portland Place, W.1, not later than July 15th. Each paper should be enclosed in an envelope marked Prize Essay, and it should be signed with a *nom de plume*; in the envelope there should also be enclosed another envelope containing the name of the writer of the essay and the *nom de plume* she has used. The essay should comprise 1,250 words and, should no paper of sufficient merit be received, the prize may be withheld.

#### BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

The following names are amongst those which appear in the official list of honours conferred by the King on the occasion of his 62nd birthday, on June 3rd. :—

##### ROYAL RED CROSS. Second Class.

DE IA HOYDE, Miss Emily, Matron, Indian Temporary Nursing Service.

WAUGH, Miss Catherine Annie, Nursing Sister, Indian Temporary Nursing Service. In recognition of the special devotion and competency displayed by them in their nursing duties with the British Forces in Iraq.

##### ROYAL AIR FORCE. C.B.E. (Military Division).

CRUICKSHANK, Miss Joanna Margaret, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

##### ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE. O.B.E. (Military Division).

BLAKELY, Matron Miss Maud Mary, R.R.C., Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

##### CIVIL AWARDS.

##### G.B.E. (Civil Division).

LASCELLES, Her Royal Highness Princess Victoria Alexandra Alice Mary, Viscountess.

##### D.B.E. (Civil Division).

ANTROBUS, Edith Marion, Lady, Honorary Secretary of the Overseas Nursing Association.

##### O.B.E. (Civil Division).

MUSGROVE, Eliza Grace, Miss, Matron of the Devon County Mental Hospital.

##### M.B.E. (Civil Division).

COPBLAND, Bridie Maureen, Miss, Sister, Kent County Mental Hospital.

LOVELL, Sarah, Miss, Head Nurse, London County Mental Hospital, Claybury.

LOWE, Mildred Shirley, Miss, Superintendent Health Visitor and Inspector of Midwives in Warwickshire.

SEED, Mary Gaskell, Miss, Superintendent Health Visitor Manchester.

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