

us by neighbours passing down the creek as crying for food. Among our smallest children, six years and under, 23 per cent. live in families that have no cow, no milk, and not always enough cornbread and potatoes. A little mountain girl cared for by Linda Neville put it like this: 'I haint been hungry once since I come to see you.' "

### PRINCESS MARY'S ROYAL AIR FORCE NURSING SERVICE.

Wednesday, July 9th, was a memorable day in the history of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, when their Royal President, Princess Mary Countess of Harewood, honoured the Matron-in-Chief and members with her presence at an "At Home" at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W.

The weather was very kind and left nothing to be desired.

The gathering was a very representative one, and included all branches with which the Nursing Service has been associated since its formation in 1918. The Service side included representatives of the three Fighting Services of the Crown and their Auxiliary Arms—Medical—Nursing—Ecclesiastical; the three branches which work in close co-operation for the well-being of the patients in Service Hospitals—General Duties—Members of Women's Royal Air Force—Old Comrades' Association, and Voluntary Aid Detachment Association; the Civil side, and leading members of the Nursing and Medical professions, including Dame Maud McCarthy, Dame Anne Beadsmore-Smith, Miss Medforth, Matron-in-Chief, Q.A.I.M.N.S., Miss A. Lloyd-Still and Miss R. E. Darbyshire.

It was with a feeling of very great pride that the Matron-in-Chief extended a very warm welcome to the many past members—to whom no small measure of success of the Service to-day can be attributed—many of whom had travelled long distances to be present.

The guests were received by the Matron-in-Chief Miss J. M. Cruickshank, C.B.E., R.R.C., who was supported by the Senior Home Establishment Matrons, Miss K. C. Watt, R.R.C., Miss M. Moddrel, and Miss E. M. Blair, and assembled in the Reception Room to await the arrival of Her Royal Highness Princess Mary.

Her Royal Highness, looking very charming in a picturesque gown of flowered ninon on golden brown ground, and a picture hat wreathed with flowers to tone with her dress, accompanied by Miss Dorothy York, arrived punctually at 4.15, and was received by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief-Marshal Sir John Salmond, the Honourable Lady Salmond, the Matron-in-Chief, members of the Air Council, the Lady Trenchard, Matrons past and present, the Director of Medical Services, Air Commodore McIntyre, the Chaplain-in-Chief, Air Vice-Marshal Sir David Munro (D.M.S. Retired), and Lady Munro.

Amongst those who were presented to Her Royal Highness were Matrons Miss Watt, Miss Moddrel, Miss Blair, and Mrs. Macpherson, Miss G. Nicholson,

R.R.C., and Miss M. W. Campbell, retired Matrons, Miss Monk, Member of the Advisory Board, Mrs. Webb-Bowen, Mrs. McIntyre, Mrs. V. Hanson, and Dame Helen Gwynne-Vaughan.

As Her Royal Highness entered the Reception Room where members of the Nursing Service and guests were assembled to welcome her, the Band of His Majesty's Royal Air Force played "God Save The King." Her Royal Highness was presented with a lovely bouquet of blue delphiniums tied with powder blue ribbon, to which was attached the distinctive badge worn by all members of the Royal Air Force Nursing Service; this was immediately observed by Her Royal Highness, and gave rise to an expression of special pleasure.

Members of the Nursing Service and guests were graciously received by the Princess Mary, an honour which was very greatly appreciated by every one.

A very dainty tea was served at small tables in the restaurant; the floral decorations on the Royal table were carried out in red, white and blue flowers.

During tea, the Band of His Majesty's Royal Air Force—by the kind permission of the Air Council—played selections of Old English, Scotch, Welsh and Irish airs.

After tea, senior members of the Nursing Service and medical officers and their wives were presented to their Royal President.

The departure of Her Royal Highness at 6 o'clock was a signal that what was proclaimed to be a most enjoyable afternoon was nearing its close.

Uniform was conspicuous by its absence, to the disappointment of many guests, who had looked forward to seeing the Nursing Staff in their smart and attractive uniform—instead, they were daintily and tastefully attired in afternoon dress, and wore on the left shoulder, as a distinguishing mark, a badge in crêpe de chine resembling a flower in the three Royal Air Force colours.

Regrets at inability to attend were received from the Secretary of State for Air, Lord Thomson, Lord Trenchard, Sir Mathew and Lady Fell, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, Miss Breay, Miss Wilcox, Miss MacManus, Miss A. M. Bushby and Miss Hughes.

### TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

The semi-final and final of the match were played off at the Officers' Mess Tennis Courts, Royal Air Force Depot, Uxbridge, on Thursday, July 10th.

Senior-Sister Gladys Taylor unfortunately met with an accident on arrival at Uxbridge; her place was taken by Sister Witts, who put up a good fight against Sister Cargill, the latter winning 6—0, 6—3.

The other semi-final match, between Sister Suddeby and Sister Duiguid, was won by Sister Duiguid 6—3, 3—6, 6—2.

The final between Sister Cargill and Sister Duiguid, was played after tea. The play was very good throughout, and the games interesting to watch. Miss Cargill from the third game showed that she was the steadier player. She won the match in two sets (6—3, 6—4), and had the distinction of winning the Cup for the first time for her unit, and becomes the possessor of the beautiful replica. A set of silver coffee spoons was presented to the runner-up, Miss Duiguid.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)