

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS FOR NURSES.

At the Investitures on June 24th and 25th, amongst those who were included in the official list of honours conferred by the King on the occasion of his sixty-sixth birthday, the following were introduced at Buckingham Palace into the presence of the Sovereign, who invested them with the Insignia of the respective Divisions of the Orders into which they have been admitted:

Dame Joanna M. Cruickshank, late Matron-in-Chief Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, received the Insignia of the Order of Dame Commander (Military Division) of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

Miss Marguerite Medforth, Matron-in-Chief Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, received the Insignia of Commander (Military Division) of the Order of the British Empire.

His Majesty conferred the Decoration of the Royal Red Cross (Associate) on Miss Esther Hunter and Miss Dorothy Vincent Mansell, of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, in recognition of special devotion and competency displayed in the nursing and care of the sick in Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Hospital, Halton, during the recent outbreak of cerebro-spinal-meningitis.

The following were also included in the official list of honours conferred by the King:—

ROYAL RED CROSS (FIRST CLASS).

MODDREL, Miss Maggie, Matron Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service; in recognition of exceptional devotion and competency displayed in Royal Air Force Hospitals.

KAISAR-I-HIND MEDAL

BECKETT, Miss Gertrude, Chief Lady Superintendent of the Lady Minto Indian Nursing Association.

ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE, M.B.E. (CIVIL DIVISION).

BEGG, Miss Lucy Sarah, lately Matron of the Home for Incurables, Putney; previously Matron of the Cancer Wing, Middlesex Hospital.

MARTIN, Miss Maude Leslie, R.R.C., Matron Queen Alexandra Hospital (Ministry of Pensions), Cosham, Hampshire.

MORRIS, Miss Sarah Ellen, Superintendent of the Lincolnshire County Nursing Association, and Inspector of Midwives.

PLANT, Miss Frances Mary, Matron Dar-es-Salaam Hospital, Tanganyika Territory.

ROBERTS, Mrs. Martha Maria, Matron of the Walton Institution, Liverpool.

BRITISH EMPIRE MEDAL (CIVIL DIVISION).

For Meritorious Service.

WALWYN, Miss Marie Frederica, Nurse in the Alexandra Hospital, Nevis, Leeward Islands.

The King's Birthday Honours List was published just as we were going to press in June.

NURSING ECHOES.

The King, as Sovereign Head of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in the British Realm, held a special Investiture, on June 23rd, at Buckingham Palace, for the Order, to mark the centenary of the revival of its work in this kingdom. The ceremony was opened and closed by prayers read by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Prelate of the Order.

Amongst those invested by His Majesty with the Officers' (Sisters) Insignia was Miss Mary Smallwood Cochrane, R.R.C., President of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain, and Vice-President of the British College of Nurses.

We have pleasure in reproducing on page 175 a recent photograph of Dame Joanna Margaret Cruickshank, D.B.E., R.R.C.—late Matron-in-Chief of The Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service—who has had the honour of being created a Dame Commander of the British Empire, for her valuable and distinguished services to the State.

Dame Joanna was appointed Matron-in-Chief in November, 1918; to her was entrusted the organisation of the new Service, and the difficult years following the Great War rendered the task no easy one; her exceptional organising and administrative abilities inspired the warm sympathy and complete confidence of all with whom she came in contact, and won for her loyal wholehearted co-operation.

Dame Joanna's professional qualifications, practical and theoretical, as State Registered Nurse, Masseuse, and Midwife, together with her foresight in keeping abreast of the times on all questions relating to the nursing profession and hospital administration, peculiarly fitted her for the great work she so successfully accomplished.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing it was reported that an arrangement had been made with the Scottish and Irish branches of the Institute whereby Queen's nurses transferring from one country to another shall be given credit for their years' service on transference, and shall receive their pensions from the country from which they ultimately retire and at the rates of that country. This resolution will not apply to nurses who are at the time of the proposed transfer over 35 years of age, except by special authority of the governing body of the country to which the nurse proposes to transfer, and the agreement is to be made for five years, when it shall be subject to reconsideration if desired.

The names of 109 nurses have been placed on the Roll of Queen's Nurses, to date April 1st, 1931. During the last two months 11 new nursing associations have been affiliated to the Institute.

It was reported that during 1930, 66,003 midwifery cases were attended by 811 Queen's nurses and 2,926 village nurse-midwives—an increase of 2,872 on the number of 1929. The number of maternal deaths was 134, which gives a rate of two per 1,000 which compares favourably with the general rate, which is about 4.33 per 1,000.

The Committee regretted to hear that up to the present time no progress could be reported with regard

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