

## ROYAL RECOGNITION.

As we go to press we learn with sincere pleasure that Their Majesties, Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary, have graciously commanded the presence of the members of the Grand Council of the International Council of Nurses at Buckingham Palace on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 20th.

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

### THE FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE SCHOLARSHIP.

A Meeting of the Selection Committee of the Florence Nightingale Scholarship Fund was held on Wednesday, April 14th, at 39, Portland Place, W.1, at 2.30 p.m., when the Scholarship of £250 for the year 1937-1938 was unanimously awarded to Miss Olive Frances Griffith, S.R.N., under the Florence Nightingale International Foundation. Miss Griffith holds the certificates of Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital, Alton, and King's College Hospital, London; the Maudsley Hospital, London, and the Central Midwives Board.

Miss Griffith at present holds the post of Administrative Sister at the Claybury Mental Hospital, Essex, and is greatly interested in educational standards for mental nurses. She hopes to take the course for Nurse Administrators and Teachers in Schools of Nursing at Bedford College, when the new Collegiate Year opens.

## THE RED CROSS CLINIC FOR THE TREATMENT OF RHEUMATISM.

Sir Arthur Stanley, Chairman of the British Red Cross Society, points out in his foreword in the annual report of the Society's clinic for rheumatism that it shows a continued increase in the extent of its work.

Last year 95,622 attendances were made in the general patients' department, involving 143,103 treatments. Ninety approved, friendly, and benefit societies sent patients to the clinic under the scheme which provides for special terms of payment.

"This, in a way," he states, "is gratifying, since it testifies to the success of the effort inaugurated seven years ago to make available to professional and industrial workers modern approved methods of treatment for rheumatism. Unfortunately, however, the income of the clinic has not increased commensurately with its activity and expenditure, and the need for increased financial support is pressing."

The Medical Board states that the importance of research into the manifold problems of rheumatism is constantly borne in mind and a special committee for this purpose was formed during 1936. The clinic also constitutes, to an ever increasing degree, a training centre in the specialised forms of treatment for rheumatic diseases, both for members of the medical profession and for nurses, and massage and almoner students.

### PAY BEDS FOR THE MIDDLE CLASSES.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London has issued the 1937 edition of its list of pay beds for the professional and middle classes at Voluntary Hospitals in London. This shows an increase of 115 beds since last year, the total now being 2,112. The increase in the number of pay beds is, of course in addition to an extension of the accommodation for patients in the ordinary wards of the hospitals. The pamphlet gives the charges at each individual hospital.

## THE NURSE JOURNALIST.

We remember the time, half a century ago, when there were no nurses' journals, and now their name is legion, and so long as they are owned, controlled and edited by Registered Nurses, the more the merrier.

We have just received from South Africa a copy of a very sprightly little journal, the "Grey Staff Magazine," the official organ of the Greys Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, nursing staff.

The frontispiece presents a group of the nursing staff, with, no doubt, the medical superintendent in the centre, and nothing could be neater than this group of smiling nurses. The uniform is very trim: white gowns with capes, neat caps and collars, and white stockings and shoes. Some washing bill, no doubt!

The committee and officers of the magazine are apparently all student nurses together with Miss Ffoulkes Pritchard, the Sister Tutor.

The magazine contains good short articles and plenty of verse.

If "Progress, a Probationer's Dream," a one-act play, is from the life to be in A.D. 3,037, then let us hope a beneficent earthquake will sweep away all nurse training schools as thus depicted. To quote:—

*Matron's office of any hospital.*

Enter Matron. She is dressed in white silk tailored coat and slacks, no veil, and is smoking a cigarette in a long holder. She throws herself into armchair, crosses legs, hums a ragtime tune. Picks up letters from table and examines them casually one by one.

*Enter Student Nurse.* Dressed in low-necked sleeveless jumper and white shorts, toeless sandals. She comes in practising exaggerated dance steps, whistling dance tune.

*Matron:* Oh, Nurse—

*S.N.:* Just a sec., Matron, while I get this movement O.K. Ah, tum-tum, trumtrumtrum, etc. There, that's better. I shall die of shame if I go wrong at that floor-slither to-night. (Flings herself on to table in an abandoned attitude.) Phew, these new steps are exhausting.

*M.:* They look it, my dear. You'd better have a whisky and soda. (Rises and pours her out one and one for herself.)

*S.N.:* You know, I do think it is the giddy limit, our having to come in by 8.30 in the morning after an evening off, when we are not due on duty until ten o'clock. The way they tie us down in this service is disgusting.

*M.:* I know, my dear. I've done my best to get you more freedom, but you know what these old-fashioned boards are. They jib at every new step that might improve conditions for us. It took me ages to get rid of the last vestiges of hospital etiquette. What a bore it all was! And so on . . .

### A NURSE'S COCKTAIL.

Of the pure nursing spirit,

First pour in a dram,

Of true unselfishness

Add as much as you can.

Then pour in a little of friendship's Delights

And add if you must a few rather late nights.

Of the juice of a grumble,

Just squeeze in a spot,

But of sweetest good temper,

Always add quite a lot.

Then garnish with the will to

Help and to cheer,

And you have a nurse's life

All through the year.

M. S.

We feel sure the promoters of this little journal have thoroughly enjoyed compiling it, and we wish them all success in the future.

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