

A POPULAR APPOINTMENT.

Miss Florence Horsbrugh, M.P., has been appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, and as her duties will bring her into intimate touch with the Nursing Profession should an amending Act be promoted to give legal status, and pensions to women, who may have been partially trained as nurses, and who it is proposed shall be associated with qualified, professional Registered Nurses, it will be very necessary for her to acquaint herself with the rights and wrongs of the "Assistant Nurse" controversy.

Miss Horsbrugh is the first woman to hold Ministerial office since 1931. Her only woman predecessor in the office of Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health was Miss Susan Lawrence, a brilliant woman who held office from 1929 to 1931.

Miss Horsbrugh has achieved the unusual distinction of seeing two Bills which she has promoted as a private Member passed into law in the present Parliament. One of them, which recently received the Royal Assent, was the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, based on the recommendations of a Departmental Committee of which she was chairman. In 1936 Miss Horsbrugh moved the Address in reply to the King's Speech in the House of Commons at the opening of the new session, and she was the first woman ever to have done this. For three years she has been one of the British official delegates to the League of Nations Assembly.

We look forward to a more intelligent conduct of nursing affairs for the future at the Ministry of Health.

As the woman's point of view is indispensable, if such a Ministry is to be of national value—and Miss Horsbrugh has proved her quality in politics—we shall be disappointed indeed if her intelligent and sympathetic interests in the value of high standards of nursing is found wanting.

SAFEGUARDS IN CHILD ADOPTION.

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, presiding recently at the annual meeting of the National Children Adoption Association at Kensington Palace, said that during the past year the association had found suitable homes for 420 children. The work of the hostels had gone on well during the year, and the nursing committees had done a great deal of important work.

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act will come into force next year.

THE MEDFORTH LAWN TENNIS CHALLENGE CUP, 1939.

The above competition was played off this year on Wednesday, July 12th, on the courts of the Officers' Club, Tidworth.

The Matron, Miss C. L. A. Robinson, and the Sisters, Q.A.I.M.N.S., Tidworth, were At Home to a large gathering of enthusiastic spectators, which included:

Lady Wavell; Mrs. Hastings Brook; Major-General and Mrs. Casement; Colonel and Mrs. Franklin; Colonel and Mrs. Walker; Miss Roy, Matron-in-Chief, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Miss Blair, Matron-in-Chief, P.M.R.A.F.N.S.; Miss K. H.

Jones, Principal Matron, Q.A.I.M.N.S.; Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. E. U. Russell; Miss Hodgins; and Miss Medforth, the donor of the Cup.

The 15 competitors were the winners from various stations in the United Kingdom, and the preliminary rounds were played off in the morning and produced some very close results.

The semi-finals began at 3 p.m. The game between Miss Clarke and Miss Kempson was a closely contested one, and the final result was a victory for Miss Kempson, 6-4, 7-5.

The other semi-final between Miss Steele and Miss Ewbank was a real marathon and lasted one hour and a half. It was a most exciting game, and some very steady and interesting tennis was displayed. Miss Steele eventually won 6-4, 11-9. During the second set, she suffered from severe cramp and, probably as a result of this, lost five match points when leading 6-5, and then lost the lead in the thirteenth game. However, by playing very steady tennis indeed and showing good court craft she managed to win by 11-9.

After a brief interval for an excellent tea, the final between Miss Steele and

Miss Kempson took place. This was a particularly interesting match, as the two players had entirely different styles. Miss Steele, left handed with a very good service and extremely safe off the ground, and Miss Kempson, right-handed, cutting her shots heavily. Here again we had a ding-dong struggle, each player winning her service to 4-4, when Miss Steele broke through her opponent's service, held her own and so won the first set 6-4. The second set was very similar, and Miss Steele won at 7-5. Miss Steele is to be congratulated, and undoubtedly deserved her victory.

After the final, Colonel Franklin asked Miss Medforth to present the cups to the winner and runner-up, who were naturally much gratified to receive them.



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