

"AVITA PRO INFIRMIS."

The first Annual Prizegiving and presentation of certificates and medals took place at the Ipswich Borough General Hospital on Thursday, July 15th, and the ceremony presided over by the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (His Worship the Mayor, Alderman O. D. Phillips) was a very pleasant one, not only for the Nurses but for their many guests, who included members of the Council, the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. W. Hunter and the Medical Staff of the Hospital.

The Chairman in the opening proceedings, indicated his pleasure in taking part in this first prizegiving and desired to thank, on behalf of the Public Health Committee, all the members of the staff and particularly the Sister Tutor, Miss M. B. Powell, who had been instrumental in training the Nurses to such a high degree of efficiency and usefulness. He hoped the teaching work would be greatly facilitated when the new Nurses' Training School in course of construction was completed in August.



GOVERNORS AND NURSING STAFF AT THE IPSWICH BOROUGH HOSPITAL.
"Avita Pro Infirmis."

The Mayoress presented the certificates and medals to the candidates who had completed their training and passed their Final State Examination, and the prizes for the years 1941, 1942 and 1943. The Mayoress was then presented with a bouquet of carnations by Nurse Brigid Crilley.

The Mayor reminded the company of Miss Dickinson's impending departure to take up the important post of Matron of Charing Cross Hospital, London. The Committee and Staff of the Hospital congratulated Miss Dickinson upon obtaining such an outstanding appointment in the Nursing profession, but at the same time very much regretted the loss the Borough General Hospital would sustain. Members of the Committee and Staff felt they would like Matron to take away some tangible reminder of her stay in Ipswich and called upon the Assistant Matron (Miss A. M. Davies) to hand to Miss Dickinson a very handsome set of silver dressing table brushes.

Miss Dickinson, in returning thanks, paid tribute to all who had made her stay at the Borough General Hospital so

pleasant, and congratulated the staff upon their team work without which no hospital can run successfully. She said how pleased she was to be taking part in the first prizegiving and told the nurses why she chose as the hospital motto *Avita pro infirmis* (Eager for the sick). She wished to train at the Borough General Hospital only those girls who were anxious to nurse because they desired to help sick people: girls who were keen and enthusiastic throughout their preliminary training school period and afterwards in the wards with their practical work, and who were always on the alert to do additional kindnesses for the comfort of the patients and their relatives. Miss Dickinson pointed out that the Nurses' Training School as a complete training school was only three years old this September, and therefore in its infancy, and every nurse must do her part in helping to build it on the highest standards. Miss Dickinson then stressed that in her opinion the great factors making for the good name and reputation of any hospital was skilled medical service, skilled nursing service, kindness, courtesy and human understanding on the part of the whole staff towards

every patient, relative and visitor who entered the hospital, and the creation of a happy atmosphere throughout the hospital. Miss Dickinson emphasised that much as we all liked modern hospital wards and the latest equipment, the most important thing was the spirit that pervaded the hospital, and this spirit the nursing staff could do so much to foster and maintain. Every patient who entered the hospital should be aware of the spirit of willing service and co-operation on the part of all the various staffs of the hospital in the interest of the patients and the welfare and good name of the hospital. Miss Dickinson said she hoped to hear it said of the Ipswich Borough General Hospital Nurses, that they were well

trained, keen and enthusiastic and that nothing was ever too much for them to do for their patients.

The company were then entertained to tea following a tour of the hospital and the Mayor had the pleasure of inaugurating the new hospital wireless and displaying his prowess as a broadcaster when he spoke to the patients on all the wards and said he hoped the new wireless would give them all very great pleasure and entertainment. The wireless has been provided partly by the generosity of private subscribers and the assistance of the Public Health Committee.

KING EDWARD'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR LONDON.

We regret that owing to lack of space we must defer an expression of appreciation of the year's work of the above Fund until our next issue. Over 1,800 of the candidates referred to Hospitals from the Recruitment Centre were accepted as Student Nurses.

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