

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Glasgow Royal Mental Hospital, Glasgow.—Miss Annie Cameron Shirra, has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and at the Gartloch Mental Hospital, and has been Assistant Matron at the Edinburgh Royal Mental Hospital. Miss Shirra has served with the 23rd Scottish General Hospital, and is at present with No. 16 British General Hospital, Middle East Forces.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham.—Miss E. Gall, R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Burgh Hospital, Motherwell, at the Royal Infirmary, Stirling, and at the Maternity Hospital, Glasgow, where she was later Staff Nurse. Miss Gall has also been Ward Sister and Night Sister at Seacroft Hospital, Leeds; Ward Sister at the Isolation Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent; Home Sister at the Isolation Hospital, Derby; and Assistant Matron at Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy. Miss Gall did Housekeeping at the Maternity Hospital, Leeds.

ASSISTANT SISTER TUTOR.

Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester.—Miss Margaret W. Commerford, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Assistant Sister Tutor. She received her general training at Farnborough Hospital, Kent; her fever training at the Brook Hospital, Woolwich, and holds the Sister Tutor's Certificate of Battersea Polytechnic. Miss Commerford has been Staff Nurse at Whipps Cross Hospital, Leytonstone; Deputy Sister at St. Andrew's Hospital, Bow; Ward Sister at Redruth Hospital, Cornwall; Ward Sister at Warren Road Hospital, Guildford; and Assistant Sister Tutor and Relief Administrative Sister at the Mayday Hospital, Croydon.

SISTER TUTOR.

Aberdeen Royal Infirmary.—Miss Harriet B. Caie, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister Tutor. She received her General Training at King's College Hospital, London; Fever Training at the City Hospital, Aberdeen, and Maternity Training at the Royal Maternity Hospital, Glasgow. Miss Caie has been Staff Nurse, Assistant Night Sister, Ward Sister and Assistant Sister Tutor at King's College Hospital, London; and in charge of the Teaching Department at Leatherhead Emergency Hospital, Surrey.

THE PASSING BELL.

MISS H. Y. RICHARDSON.

The death of Miss H. Y. Richardson, on November 8, will bring a sense of deep personal loss to a number of our readers. During the years when she was general secretary of the Nurses' Missionary League (1907-1939), she came into touch with a great many nurses, and to them she became a trusted friend and wise counsellor, one ever ready to give help and encouragement. Many a nurse will remember with gratitude talks in Miss Richardson's room, or contacts at meetings, or the letters that brought personal messages and cheer. She was deeply interested in the work overseas, and there are many nurses in mission hospitals to-day who owe their first call to her influence. She brought to the League great powers of organisation, and under her leadership it grew from tiny beginnings to a strong fellowship with branches throughout Great Britain and members throughout the world. During the past five years, although she has been a constant invalid, she has maintained a keen interest in all the developments of the League (now called the Nurses' Christian Movement), and has kept in touch with a number of her nurse friends. The secret of Miss Richardson's power was her close touch with Jesus Christ, and none can ever know how much was owed to her continued intercession. Her friends can but rejoice for her that she has now gone to be with the God Whom she loved and served so well.—J. M.

THE WAR.

"When perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep?
No—here's to the pilot that weathered the storm!"

GEO. CANNING

On November 30th, our great Prime Minister, and Minister of Defence, attained his 70th birthday in buoyant mental and physical health. Snowed under with congratulations, he enjoyed the great day.

Hundreds of nurses will have wished him well, and the following telegram was sent from the Headquarters of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., in Queen's Gate:—

"To the Right Hon. Winston Spencer Churchill, Prime Minister, First Lord of the Treasury, and Minister of Defence:—

When perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep?
No—here's to the pilot that weathered the storm!"

The Prime Minister has been deeply moved by the sincerity and affection of these messages and he wishes that he had time and opportunity to reply personally to them all.

Mr. Churchill would like all those who have written to know how touched he is at their remembering him on this day.

Scots Matron in Charge of Wounded Chindits.

The Chindits, formed in the Far East and led by General Wingate, who was killed in an air crash, are the most hotch-potch army in the world, according to Major-General W. D. A. Lentaigne, who succeeded General Wingate.

He said, at a Press conference in London, according to the *Glasgow Herald*, that on one occasion when they checked up they found that there were no fewer than 51 different nationalities in the force. One of the heroines of the force was Matron MacGeary, of Mossend, Lanarkshire, who looked after wounded Chindits at Imphal.

In the Chindits there were American negroes, Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians, South Africans, English, Irish, Scots, a contingent of Chinese, various kinds of Burmese troops, Gurkhas, and West Africans. There were also American-born Japanese, who were used as interpreters.

They were not supermen, said General Lentaigne, but men who underwent a rigid medical examination and were all "A.1 plus." On top of that they had the finest spirit of any men in the world.

He told how General Wingate's brigade marched 450 miles through the most appalling country that any force had ever marched through. There were no tracks, but absolute virgin jungle, and sometimes they had to climb 7,000 ft. to 8,000 ft. hills, while at others they were 400 ft. below sea level.

General Lentaigne declared that Wingate's plan, although delayed, had succeeded, and that it had put an end to the Japanese drive on India.

One development in the Chindits' tactics was to establish strongholds garrisoned by stronghold battalions. Two were established in the Katha area, and were known as "Broadway" and "Aberdeen." Planes could land and take in reinforcements, wounded could be evacuated, while men could be brought out to be re-equipped and given rest.

General Lentaigne said that he had seen the new clothing and equipment at the War Office which was to be provided for the men in the Far East. It was better than that used by the Americans, and that was the highest praise one could give.

"When our army goes to finish off the Japanese their arms and equipment will be the finest that the human brain and skilled hands can produce."

Of Matron MacGeary, he said: "She nursed General Wingate, and when the wounded came out of the jungle to Imphal the matron was there waiting for them. All our

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