

## NURSING ECHOES.

The Harvest Festival held in St. Bartholomew's Church, Gray's Inn Road, London, was very picturesque. The nurses from the Royal Free Hospital collected gifts for the patients in the hospital, which appear of a very appetising quality to judge from the picture which appears on this page. We have no doubt these fruits of the earth were thoroughly enjoyed.

Queen Mary presented Long Service badges to superintendents and nurses of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing at Lincoln's Inn Hall on October 23rd. These badges are very artistic and are greatly valued by those to whom they are awarded, as they are a visible recognition of years of devoted service and the saving of suffering and life.

Miss Alicia Florence Dickson, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., a very devoted member of the Lancaster District Nursing Association, Lancaster, was naturally gratified after 23 years' service to receive this honourable recognition from Queen Mary, and was heartily congratulated by the President when she paid a recent visit to the British College of Nurses Ltd.



Photo :]

[Graphic Photo Union.

FRUITS OF THE EARTH FOR ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

The Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, presiding at a meeting of the Society of Physiotherapists held in London, said that by the early months of 1946 he would be presenting a Bill for a comprehensive health service.

"I think I shall find a great deal more readiness to co-operate in the medical profession than has been suggested," he added. "I do not anticipate the difficulties that some people are gleefully mentioning."

So far we have heard of no consultation between the Minister and representatives of the Nursing Profession on a comprehensive health service, such as has been accorded to the Medical Profession. Nursing and Midwifery form so important a part of any such service, that it cannot be ignored without loss to the whole community.

Mrs. Attlee, wife of the Prime Minister, has inaugurated a campaign to raise £300,000 for the completion of the war-time work of the Merchant Navy

Comforts Service, a fund which should have the sympathy of all those who realise the debt they owe to this invaluable Service.

The creation of a rheumatic fever committee to co-ordinate research was suggested by Dr. John Parkinson, of the London Hospital, when he delivered the Harveian Oration recently at the Royal College of Physicians.

Rheumatism associated often with old and uninteresting people might well arouse more sympathy than it does.

### THE NURSES' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

#### Come Out and Help Us.

At the Autumn gathering of the Nurses' Christian Movement on October 16th, the principal speaker was Sir Henry Holland, C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E., of Quetta. His great emphasis was on the urgent need for nurse recruits for mission hospitals. "We want you desperately," he said, "for we have reached starvation point." Sir Henry paid high tribute to the Sisters working at Quetta, and at other stations on the N.W. Frontier; but some had seen long service and were near retiring age, and they had not had a new recruit for 20 years. There were openings for all kinds of work: ordinary hospital work with special emphasis

on training Indian nurses, clinics, village work, preventive work. Sir Henry told of a recent All-India Commission on medical matters which had set the target of one million nurses in India in 25 years. Before this could be achieved there would have to be a radical change of attitude towards the nursing profession in India. The nurse's work was not popular, but much was being done to raise the status, especially through the work of the missionary training schools. Though urging the great need, Sir Henry emphasised that only those should come who felt called by God to the work. He, himself, could look back on 46 years of work as a missionary surgeon, and he could testify that they had been years of wonderful happiness and joy. It was not an easy life, however; there might be "blood, sweat and tears," and bitter disappointments, but our Lord had never promised His disciples an easy life. "Take up thy cross," He said, "and follow Me. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

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