

NURSING ECHOES.

KEEPING GUARD.

In a few weeks' time, our King and Queen and their two daughters will have sailed away from the Motherland for the Great Dominion of South Africa, and until we welcome them home again, glorious old England, bonnie Scotland (the most beautiful country in the world) and loyal Northern Ireland clasped hand in hand will keep guard of the homeland with one eye open to the stars.

The nurses are certain to offer the royal guests a very warm welcome, and to be recognised as invaluable citizens from coast to coast.

We have experienced great kindness and hospitality from colleagues in South Africa during the War, and parcels of excellent garments have been greatly appreciated by those in Great Britain.

We shall hope to hear from the South African leaders of nursing when they have played their honourable part in the royal reception.

The charming picture we have pleasure in publishing on this page was issued on December 11th, the tenth anniversary of the accession of His Majesty King George VI to the throne.

A Reunion of past and present officers of the Q.A.I.M.N.S., Q.A.I.M.N.S.R., and T.A.N.S., will be held at "Chez Auguste," 47, Frith Street, Soho, W.1, on January 23rd, 1947, from 4.0—7.0 p.m. Tickets 5s. 0d. each, are obtainable from Principal Matrons, Medical Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury; Northern Command, York; Western Command, Chester; Eastern Command, Hounslow; Scottish Command, Edinburgh, or from Secretary "Reunion," A.M.D.4, War Office, S.W.1.

We learn that while hospitals are finding great difficulty in recruiting nurses, applications greatly in excess of vacancies are being received by the nursing services of the Royal Navy, Army and R.A.F. All these nurses are granted officer status. Travel and distinctive uniforms are further attractions.

Only 109 of the 455 nurses applying can be accepted by Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, as the Service is being reduced from the peak war-time figure of 12,000 to its normal complement of 624. For 11 vacancies in Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service nearly 60 nurses are competitors.

A trust fund set up nearly two years ago to provide a prize for the best student nurse each year at the Blackburn Corporation hospital is to be refunded at the request of its donor, Mr. E. Pyle, of Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

He petitioned for its return because he was apprehensive of the effect of the new National Health Insurance Act upon it.

The gift was made in memory of his wife who was a staff nurse at the hospital.

We are gratified to learn that new rules for the boarding out of children to the care of local authorities have been framed by the Home Office and Ministry of Health, and come into operation immediately.

Among the provisions in the rules, local authorities must appoint a sub-committee, with not less than three women members, to meet at least once in every three months, arrange for a visitor to visit and see the foster child within a month of his

being placed, and afterwards at intervals of not more than six weeks. Written reports are to be furnished to the local authority after each visit to a child.

A doctor will be appointed by the local authority; he will examine the child within one month of being boarded out, and at least once a year after that.

We hope these rules will be a means of minimising the misery caused to these children.

The Council of the British Medical Association has recently taken a plebiscite, and the result of the voting was against entering into discussion with the Minister of Health on the regulations authorised by the National Health Service Act, because of the divergence between the principles of the Medical Profession and the provisions of the Act.



THE KING AND QUEEN WITH THEIR DAUGHTERS.

Photo]

[Dorothy Wilding

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