

THE BRITISH COLLEGE OF NURSES, LTD.

The President and Council of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., have received from Miss Pearl Morrison, F.B.C.N. of Toronto, Canada, a parcel containing garments in perfect condition to be distributed at the Council's discretion.

Needless to say, the Council is, indeed, touched by the very sincere sympathy of our colleague expressed in so generous and practical a way, and will be delighted to distribute these gifts to those who feel justified in accepting them.

This kind gesture from our colleague on the other side of the Atlantic will ever be remembered with gratitude.

These garments are small size—*i.e.*, length 37 inches, bust 31 inches: One blue spot dress, one grey and white jumper suit, one green jumper suit, one blue printed silk jumper suit, one summer coat.

A LOSS TO NURSING IN INDIA.

Colleagues in the British College of Nurses, Ltd., of which Miss Dora Chadwick, S.R.N., S.C.M., is an eminent Fellow, will wish to congratulate her upon receiving the Order of the British Empire (O.B.E.), in the recent honours conferred upon his subjects by His Majesty The King on the occasion of his Birthday, and to wish her happiness in her retirement.

Miss Chadwick was trained at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, 1907 to 1911, and in Midwifery at the Brighton and Hove Hospital for Women.

After holding posts at her Training School, at the Royal Albert Hospital, Devonport, and at the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, she became Matron-Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women and Children in Madras, South India, a post she held from 1926 to 1941, when she became Assistant (Nursing) to the Surgeon-General, Government of Madras.

This was a newly created post and its duties comprised: Control of the Nursing Staff, Training of Nurses and Midwives, Inspection of hospitals from the Nursing point of view. Other matters such as leave appointments, promotions, transfers, etc., for all Government hospitals in the Madras Presidency, Linen stocks, and Nurses' accommodation. She has been a member of the Madras Nurses' and Midwives' Council from 1931 to 1946, and Vice-President from 1933 to 1946, also Member of the Examining Board of the Christian Medical Association (Nurses Auxiliary for South India) for 10 years. Vice-President of the Trained Nurses' Association for India, and President from 1937 to 1941.

During the War as Lady District Superintendent, St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas No. 4 (Madras) district, she has been closely connected with the Auxiliary Nursing Service.

Honours: 1935, Silver Jubilee Medal; 1937, Kaisar-i-Hind Silver Medal for Public Service in India; 1939, Florence Nightingale Medal; 1940, Serving Sister of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem; 1942, Officer, Order of St. John of Jerusalem; 1944, Kaisar-i-Hind Gold Medal for Public Service in India; 1946, Order of British Empire, (O.B.E.)

RETIREMENT OF MISS F. R. ROBERTS, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.B.C.N.

Members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., will wish their colleague, Miss F. R. Roberts, peace and happiness in her coming retirement from the Matronship of the Mayday Hospital, Croydon, a post she has held with distinction since 1929.

Trained at the Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, in 1917, she served two years with the Territorial Army Nursing Service, did private nursing, and later returned to her training School holding posts as Ward Sister, Night Sister and Third Assistant Matron. She went as Assistant Matron to Great Barr Park Colony under the Walsall and West Bromwich Joint Hospital Board, and then to St. Andrew's Hospital, Bow, as Deputy Matron, a post she held until going to Croydon.

After a well-earned rest, we hope that Miss Roberts will again serve the profession she has made her own.

THE POWER OF SUGGESTION.

The President of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., has received the following inspiring letter from a friend who has recovered from a recent operation. She would like to pass on his message to the readers of this Journal.

DEAR MADAM,—It is necessary for one to be a patient in one of our hospitals in order to understand and appreciate a power which we all possess, but I fear, so often disregard and overlook. I refer to the power of suggestion, that wonderful gift which dates back to the time of man's creation, when he was endowed by God with the ability to have domination over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. In the recognised limitations of a magazine article, it is not possible to do adequate justice to this divine human gift. Divine, it is, because our Lord Himself exercised it, when healing the sick. As the reward of faith, He gave expression to that encouraging utterance: "Son, be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee," an utterance which encouraged the patient to respond to the invitation of the Divine Healer, and proved the value of suggestion as a paramount influence in healing the sick in mind and body, and prepared the mind, and the will of a paralytic to aspire to live a healthy life, and walk in its new experience. I have recently returned from one of our most efficient hospitals, cured after a successful operation, which 30 or 40 years ago might have terminated differently. What gave emphasis to the cure? The answer is a two-fold one, viz.: the efficiency and skill of the surgeons and nurses in the first place, and secondly, but by no means less important, the optimistic, and buoyantly happy disposition of the entire medical and nursing staff which was definitely infectious, forming in the mind a picture of positive cure.

Such an experience impels and compels the patient to anticipate the best results.

Arising out of this experience it has occurred to me to suggest that if every surgeon realised that behind the healing knife there exists the healing hand, and if every nurse realised the power he or she possesses to introduce the patient to the Good Physician, who created and consequently heals both body and soul, the result would be an appreciable step forward in the Ministry of Healing.

T. V. H. BARBER,

July 4th, 1946.

The Vicarage, London Colney,
St. Albans, Herts.

*The spirit world around this world of sense
Floats like an atmosphere, and everywhere
Wafts through these earthly mists and vapours dense
A vital breath of more ethereal air.* LONGFELLOW.

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