

NURSES' ANNUAL CONCERT.

On January 2nd, the Nursing Staff of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital (Moorfields) gave their annual concert in the Out-patients' Department, to their colleagues, doctors, patients and friends.

They must have given up a great deal of their off-duty time in preparation for the event, and much talent was evident upon this occasion.

Sketches, songs, dancing and music were performed for the entertainment of the guests, and the following poem, written by the Acting-Matron of the Hospital, Mrs. M. B. Carmichael, in honour of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., of which she is an ardent Fellow, read by one of the Sisters, received much applause from an appreciative audience.

MOORFIELDS, WESTMINSTER AND CENTRAL EYE HOSPITAL.

British are we, proud of our race and kin,
Righteous our cause and right the day must win,
Inspired by high ideas, and His command to heal
The sick, the suffering, in our land.
Inspired by motives, too, sincere and pure ;
Self laid aside to succour and endure,
How great such calling, such a sphere.

Conquering foul disease and sickness drear ;
Our Voluntary Hospitals renowned,
Long may their generous ministries abound ;
Let us retain and strengthen day by day
Each fine tradition that has led the way.
Giving, as Florence Nightingale once gave,
Ever the best, to comfort, heal and save.

Oh, may her standard, selfless, noble, kind,
Forever be upheld in heart and mind.

Nurses of this great order in our land,
Union is strength, united take your stand,
Retain through loyalty and courage bold
Standards our Hospitals were given to hold.
Every day to freely heal and give
Strength to our patients and the power to live.

God bless our Hospital and all for which it stands,
The greatest of its kind throughout our land.

NURSING APPOINTMENTS.**Palestine.**

Miss M. E. Stuart-Ritson, of Westbrook, Kent, has been appointed to the Colonial Service as a Nursing Sister in Palestine.

Miss Stuart-Ritson, who was born in Grays, Essex, is a State Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife.

She was trained at the London Hospital, where she has since been employed as Staff Nurse and Theatre Staff Nurse.

Tanganyika.

Miss A. M. McHardy, London, S.W.9, has been appointed to the Colonial Nursing Service as a Sister Tutor in Tanganyika.

Miss McHardy, who was born in Aberdeen, qualified as a State Registered Fever Nurse at Fazakerley City Hospital, Liverpool ; and State Registered General Nurse at Herefordshire General Hospital.

Her qualifications include the Tuberculosis Association Certificate, Sanitary Certificate, Housekeeping Certificate, and Sister Tutor's Certificate.

From 1939 to 1945 Miss McHardy served as an Army Nursing Sister.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

We have received, with great pleasure, a copy of the Annual Report of the National Institute for the Blind, which tells of success in many ways, and a continued struggle to recover lost ground and to put into effect plans already made when war broke out ; this has been no easy task.

Because of shortage of labour and materials, plans for new extensions to buildings have had to be abandoned, which has a serious effect upon a good many of the Institute's activities.

The Sunshine Homes For Blind Babies.

One of the most satisfying departments of the National Institute for the Blind is concerned with the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies, where these little ones, despite lack of sight, are as active, happy and full of fun as any other group of infants.

It is only at the Sunshine Home at Leamington, reserved for mentally retarded blind children, that the picture is less happy ; but even here, by untiring patient perseverance day after day, the abnormal blind infant can be transformed into a normal blind infant.

Secondary Schools for Boys and Girls.

As usual, examination successes at both the Chorley Wood College for Girls and the Worcester College for Boys have been good ; also good news is received of the progress of old pupils in various walks of life.

Of the boys who have left Worcester College this year, one is reading English Literature at Oxford, and in the coming year two or three boys, one of whom was considered for an open Exhibition at Balliol College, will be proceeding to the University.

Blind Physiotherapists.

Many pupils from Worcester and Chorley Wood have passed on to the School of Physiotherapy.

Physiotherapy has long been recognised as a suitable profession for the blind, and the report of the National Institute, which has been largely responsible for the provision of training opportunities, tells of a successful year at its school and clinics.

Careful selection of the right type of student and a high standard of qualification have certainly helped to establish the present reputation of the blind practitioner, who, besides enjoying the prospect of a fine career, has the satisfaction of being able to serve the public with his or her skill.

During the war the call for that skill, coupled with an influx of students, showed the National Institute for the Blind that extension of its school would be an urgent post-war duty. Accordingly, during the past year the premises have been enlarged, more teachers appointed and the electrical department re-equipped, and a unit has been installed for rehabilitation, re-education and remedial exercises.

All the 36 students presented in the period for the examinations of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy were successful. A feature of the training is the practical clinical experience offered at the Institute's own clinic, the Middlesex Hospital and the Hampstead General Hospital. At the National Institute clinic alone, 12,976 treatments were given during the year.

Negotiations have recently taken place with the Chartered Society for the preparation of candidates from the school for the Conjoint examination. Training, which will extend to three years, has already started.

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