

NURSING ECHOES.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of 108 Nurses to be Queen's Nurses: nine in England, one in Wales, twelve in Scotland, and four in Northern Ireland.

There were seven holders of the Royal Red Cross among the members of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem who received insignia of the Order of St. John at an investiture at the Mansion House on Thursday, February 19th.

The investiture was conducted in the presence of a distinguished company by the Sub-Prior of the Order of St. John, the Earl of Clarendon, in the absence overseas of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior.

The recipients were:—

Commander (Sister): Dame Louisa Wilkinson, D.B.E., R.R.C.

Officers (Sisters): Dame Kathrine Watt, D.B.E., R.R.C.; Dame Emily Blair, D.B.E., R.R.C.

Serving Sisters: Miss Doris L. Boyd, R.R.C.; Miss Grace E. M. Clubb, R.R.C.; Mrs. Olive S. Prentice, O.B.E., R.R.C.; Miss Gladys Taylor, R.R.C.

The Committee of the Army Sisters' Memorial Fund is happy to announce that General Beith (Ian Hay) has undertaken to write a history of Q.A.I.M.N.S. and the T.A.N.S., dedicated to those who lost their lives. Relevant historic photographs or information will be welcomed if sent to the Honorary Secretary. A Roll of Honour to perpetuate the names of the War Casualties is under consideration. It is hoped to grant awards to nursing officers, serving or retired, and to give financial help when needed to those who served in the late war.

The fund is still open and subscriptions may be sent to the Honorary Secretary, 38, Hyde Park Gate, S.W.7.

An invitation is extended to all Senior Nurses to attend a Post-graduate Course of Lectures in Neurological Nursing at the National Hospital, Queen Square, London, W.C.

Miss C. Morris, M.B.E., will speak on "Social Service in a Neurological Hospital" on March 15th, at 6 p.m.

Dr. Hugh Davies will give an Address on "Investigations of the Nervous System by X-rays" on March 22nd, at 6 p.m., and Miss Hamilton will speak on the same subject on March 29th, at 6 p.m.

Senor Peron, President of the Argentine Republic, has made a personal gift of honey to the children of England through the medium of the British Red Cross Society.

The honey (138 lb.) was presented by His Excellency Senor Don Ricardo de Labongle, Argentine Ambassador in London, to Lord Woolton, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the British Red Cross Society, on February 19th, who, in turn, presented it to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London.

Honey is of special value in the treatment of coeliac disease (chronic intestinal indigestion), of which there are many cases at the hospital.

We learn that Miss S. Hawkins has retired from the position of Assistant Matron at the Reedyford Memorial Hospital, Nelson, Lancs, a post she has held since 1920.

Miss Hawkins received her training at the London Hospital, Whitechapel, and served with Q.A.I.M.N.S. from 1914 to 1918.

We hope she will enjoy a deserved leisure.

It is interesting to note from the *Canadian Nurse* that Miss Alice Young, who received her training at Crumpsall Hospital, Manchester, has been appointed as Superintendent of Nurses at the Public General Hospital, Chatham, Ontario.

From 1929 to 1942 Miss Young served in various positions at the Mt. Sinai Hospital, Toronto, becoming Director of Nursing Education at the Collingwood General Hospital in 1943. She also holds a Certificate for Teaching in Schools of Nursing from the University of Toronto.

The *South African Nursing Journal* notes in comments on Nurse Training in America that:—

"One hospital only accepts students with a degree, and the training aims at turning out nurses fitted to be leaders and administrators in the profession. We doubt whether this is a satisfactory way of producing 'leaders.' It is reminiscent of the 'officer class' systems which prevailed in army organisations for generations, and which was scrapped in the recent war, when, with the exception of a few specialised units, there were few direct commissions, every one having to start as a private and 'go through the mill.' Such an experience is salutary and all to the advantage of the future leader. It would seem essential in such a calling as Nursing."

Many would like to endorse this opinion of the *South African journal*, especially in view of the fact that many "powers that be" to-day believe that the matron, a woman who has been "through the mill," should be replaced by a Lay Administrator.

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE.

The Officers of the International Council of Nurses announce with pleasure the appointment of Miss Daisy Caroline Bridges, R.R.C., S.R.N., S.C.M., as Executive Secretary of I.C.N., to become effective from April 1st.

Miss Bridges received her nurse's training at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, later attending the Radcliffe County Hospital, Oxford, for her midwifery training. In 1937-38 she studied Hospital Administration under the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, and in 1938-39 she studied in the United States and Canada under a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship.

Miss Bridges has had a broad professional experience and a distinguished Army record as Matron, Principal Matron and Command Matron. She has long been keenly interested and active in nursing affairs, currently serving as President, National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; Chairman, Nursing Service Committee, I.C.N.; Chairman, Study Advisory Committee, F.N.I.F. Since the war she has given valuable assistance to the Ministry of Health, England, on the Working Party to consider recruitment and training of nurses. This report was published in September, 1947.

Miss Bridges brings to the I.C.N. a breadth of vision, a wide experience, a keen interest in nursing and a charming personality.

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