

NURSING ECHOES.

A reception was held at 6, Stanhope Gate, Park Lane, on Monday, July 5th, by the Matron-in-Chief of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service to meet her successor, Miss H. W. Cargill, R.R.C., S.R.N.

There was a very large attendance, among whom were many important people including Senior Matrons in the Service, the Under Secretary of State for Air, Senior Matrons of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service, and a Nursing Sister representing each station of the Service.

Best wishes were extended by all present to Miss Cargill for her success in her new appointment.

Afterwards, a delightful tea was served, during which many former friendships were renewed, and much reminiscing took place.

The award of the Royal Red Cross (First Class) to Acting Matron Miss Alice Mary Williamson, A.R.R.C., of the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, for distinguished service in Palestine was announced in the London Gazette for Tuesday, June 29th.

Miss Williamson, who received her general training at Manchester Royal Infirmary from 1924 to 1927, joined the P.M.R.A.F.N.S. in 1930 and went to Palestine in November, 1945. She is now at R.A.F. Uxbridge, and during the war served at a series of R.A.F. stations at home and in Takoradi, West Africa.

The Nurses' Annual Reunion and Prizegiving was held at the West London Hospital on July 3rd, and was preceded by a service in the Chapel, which was most impressive.

Dr. Shuter, the Chairman, opened the reunion by introducing Major Dan Mason, O.B.E., who very kindly presented the prizes, following this with an invigorating and interesting Address.

The fortunate prize winners were, Miss H. I. Webb, who was awarded the George F. Marshall Gold Medal and Miss M. A. McLeod, who received the Ladies' Association Silver Medal. The House Committee's Bronze Medal was presented to Miss I. B. Scott, and the Misses H. I. Webb and M. Peach tied for the Rosamond Fowler Book Prizes. The Misses M. T. Connolly and D. Pettman received the Anatomy and Physiology Prizes, and the Misses V. Rhodes and J. M. Ellingworth were the recipients of the prizes for the first year examination.

Mrs. Dampier Bennett then spoke on behalf of the Ladies' Association, and Mr. B. Sangster on behalf of the Medical Staff, both stressing the happy feeling which had existed in the hospital between the staff, patients, and its many helpers, and hoping that this would continue in the future, for the benefit of the hospital.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Miss D. M. Hopkins, Sister Tutor, to Major Mason, Dr. Shuter, and the Speakers, and this was seconded by Miss H. I. Webb, (Gold Medallist).

Afterwards, every one participated in a most enjoyable tea, and then paid a very interesting visit to the wards and departments.

Presentation to the President, Moorfields Eye Hospital, City Road, London.

The closing of the Voluntary Hospital era and the beginning of State control of hospitals must have been a sad time for many who have spent long years in hospital service. For those at Moorfields Eye Hospital, City Road, it was a particularly sad occasion, as it meant the relinquishment from office of the President, Mr. Theodore W. Luling, who had been a member of the Board of Management since 1913, and Chairman since 1923. During his time of office Mr. Luling had taken great interest in every branch of the work of the hospital, and particularly was he interested in the welfare and the comfort of the Nursing Staff.

To commemorate Mr. Luling's association with the hospital, the Board of Management and all branches of the Staff—Administrative, Nursing, Departmental, Porters, Domestic, Works and Engineering—contributed towards a presentation for him. On June 15th, 1948, Sir Harold Morris, M.B.E., K.C.—the senior member of the Board of Management—presented to Mr. Luling, "Churchill's War Speeches," a first edition of Somerset Maugham's "Peter Ibbotson," and a fountain pen. In making the presentation, Sir Harold recalled many important events in the work of Moorfields during Mr. Luling's tenure of office.

Moorfields, as a teaching hospital, is now under the control of a Board of Governors, and it is pleasing and encouraging to the members of the staff to know that Mr. Luling will still be a member of the House Committee, and thus his interest in the work of Moorfields will be maintained.

Medforth Lawn Tennis Challenge Cup.

Competition for the Medforth Lawn Tennis Challenge Cup, presented to the Q.A.I.M.N.S. in 1933 by Miss M. E. Medforth, C.B.E., R.R.C., when Matron-in-Chief, was resumed this year, and resulted in a keen final between Senior Sister J. E. Mellor, R.R.C., and Sister B. J. Rattee at the R.H. Hospital, Q.A.I.M.N.S. Mess on July 6th.

The winner, Sister Rattee, is at present serving at the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot.

Miss F. M. Hodgins, C.B.E., R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. from 1924 to 1928, presented the Cup with a replica.

P.M.R.A.F.N.S. Tennis Tournament.

At the kind invitation of the Matron-in-Chief, Matrons and Members of the Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, the writer was present at a Tennis Tournament at the R.A.F. Hospital, Halton, Bucks., on July 2nd., and the occasion was a very happy one.

Each year, members compete for a cup, first given by Dame Joanna Cruickshank, the first Matron-in-Chief of the Service in 1930.

This year's winner was Miss Buchanan of St. Athan's who met Miss Ashworth of Rocton Hall in the finals. We saw some first-class tennis by both players, and the match was one of continued excitement for the spectators. The other players who reached the semi-finals were Miss Brown of West Kirby, and Miss Love of Wroughton.

After the match, Dame Joanna presented the cup, and spoke a few words of good wishes to Miss Taylor, the retiring Matron-in-Chief, and to her successor. M.H.T.

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