

Prize-giving Day at Whipps Cross Hospital.

ON a radiant day of Autumn sunshine, Tuesday, October 4th, 1949, the distribution of medals and prizes to the nurses of Whipps Cross Hospital, Leytonstone, took place.

The ceremony was held in the Nurses' Home, where a large audience was assembled to witness the happy scene, and where many students and nurses, immaculate in uniform and proudly expectant of their well-won awards, had foregathered.

The Chairman of the Management Committee, A. R. Sherrell, Esq., in opening the proceedings, paid high tribute to the Matron and staff for the work achieved during the past year, and looked forward to the opening in the near future of a T.B. ward and the further development of the Training School.

The Chairman then expressed his great pleasure that his was the honour to introduce Lady E. C. Whitmore, wife of the Lord-Lieutenant of the county, who was kind enough to present the awards.

Lady Whitmore congratulated the winners of to-day and thought it would not be out of place to express her great appreciation of all the work the sister tutors had done; also she wished to give a word of encouragement to those who were not the lucky ones.

With much understanding, her Ladyship stressed the vital importance of a nurse's work, especially in the way and in the spirit employed by a good nurse.

Much had been heard of the shortage of nurses, but she believed in the young people of to-day and thought if a spade were called a spade, and the reward made worth while, they would get as many nurses as they wished.

Stating in conclusion how very much she was impressed with the high standard of Nursing at Whipps Cross Hospital, Lady Whitmore proceeded to present the awards.

LIST OF AWARDS.

Gold Medal : Lewis Jack Chandler.

Silver Medal : Joyce Kathleen Morgan.

Bronze Medal : Barbara Joan Archer.

Chairman's Prize, Efficiency and Good Conduct : Elsie May Yalden.

Medical Staff Prize for Medicine and Medical Nursing : Barbara Joan Archer, Marjorie Burn, Hannah Patricia Fitzgerald.

Prize for Surgery and Surgical Nursing : Lewis Jack Chandler.

Nurses' League Prize for Practical Nursing : Joyce Kathleen Morgan.

Medical Superintendent and Matron's Prize for Anatomy and Physiology : Virginia Avsejs, Alice Lydia Meekoms.

Preliminary Training School : June-September, 1948, Charles Joseph Nono; September-November, 1948, Mary Veronica McElwaine; November-February, 1949, Alice Lydia Meekoms; February-May, 1949, Ann Wilson.

HOSPITAL FINAL CERTIFICATES.

Lewis Jack Chandler, Joyce Kathleen Morgan, Barbara Joan Archer, Mary Teresa Hennigan, Mary Christina Mahon, Marjorie Burn, Rose Smith, Barbara Joan Berry, Henry Charles Jestico, Dolina Sutherland Henderson, Mary Teresa Allen, Bridget Mary Hartnett, Robert Arthur Tibbenham, Betty Joan Florence Morgan, Pamela Barbara Underwood, Bridget Anne Kennedy, John Fitzpatrick, Angela Rosaria Clohessy, Maureen Mary McAloren, Sydney Boswell, Hannah Patricia Fitzgerald, Sybil Rosemary Loton-Parry, Philomena Motherway, Joan Margaret Wright, Margaret Enis Pugh, Joyce Smith, Osita Aduba,

Ruth Gertrude Wilson, Michael Ernest Albert King, Kathleen Curley, Annie Teresa Gilheany, Josephine Emily Murphy, Harry Charles Williams, Isabel Mary Christine Turnbull, Elsie May Yalden, Edwin Anthony Thomas Hearl, Mary Anne Fitzgerald, Mary Murphy, Kate O'Connell, Elsie Gertrude Spencer, Leslie John Stanton Fenn, Arthur Bearder, Eileen Corry, Catherine O'Mahony, Alfred Edward Howlett, Joan Nancy Sylvia Brodie, Mary Catherine Coady, James Keane, Doreen Holmes, Margaret Cecelia O'Dea, Mary Sullivan, Marie Eugenie Stephens, Margaret Ethel Sexton, Joan Ada Smith, Sarah Dowling, Mary Pyne, Charles Robert Stanley, Elizabeth Manning, Patricia Mary Murphy, Grenville Lewis, Enid Alice Walker, Stanley John Rowbotham, Clare Marie Farrell, Carmel Maire Therese Murray, Joan Margaret Jenkins, Sybil Violet Pamela Jervois, Eleanor Patricia Higgins, Joan Marjorie Edwards, Monica Mary Josephine Connolly, Nora Teresa Meaney, Rosaline Teresa King.

How refreshingly evident was the keen enthusiasm of the winners as they swiftly returned with their prizes and their awards of the Final Certificate (the palm of achievement by the many). This was regarded as something very precious. It was tied in blue ribbon, with their training school badge bearing the motto—"Semper ad coelum"—always aim high.

The Address of the Matron.

I feel honoured and very humble when I am invited to speak on Prize-giving Day. This very pleasant annual celebration brings together our guests, committee members and staff, and it is my special pleasure to welcome all these friends I see around me.

To Lady Whitmore, our most honoured visitor, I give a very warm salutation for making time in her busy life to present prizes and awards to our nurses. We appreciate your Ladyship's kindness, and ask you to forgive us for making you, our chief guest, work so hard.

A hospital, as you know, is a lively health-giving community, and its members are a team working together to give a special form of social service. Prize-giving gives me an opportunity of thanking all who work in our community and who help in any way with the training of our nurses and the care of the sick, and I would like to pay tribute to these especially:—

Dr. Norman Jones, the Medical Superintendent, for his patience and friendly co-operation with me at all times, and his interest in the training school.

The medical staff, not only for their excellent lectures to the nurses, but for their forbearance with their shortcomings and encouragement in their difficulties.

The tutor sisters, for their deep and intelligent understanding of the young girls they help to mature overnight.

The departmental and ward sisters, under whose day and night supervision the nurses learn to adjust themselves to their new profession.

The deputy and assistant matrons and administrative sister, for their inestimable help to me, and for the shelter of their wings to the students in many a stormy passage.

The home sisters, for the patience and guidance they give to the nurses in off-duty periods when spirits run wild.

I have in mind, too, all the other members of our team—the steward, engineer, medical auxiliaries, catering department, and domestic staff—but can only find time here to thank them collectively.

Finally, I pay tribute and thanks to the patient, the main tie in the team, and in whose service we are, for no matter how sick he is, he always maintains a friendly interest in the progress and welfare of our nurses.

I do not think I can possibly let this auspicious occasion pass without a word of thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)