

City Hospital, Nottingham.

Presentation Day.

Magnificent Calling, Duchess tells City Hospital Nurses.

FOR the first time for 12 years, prizes and certificates to nurses who have received training at Nottingham City Hospital were presented in the new Nurses' Home on November 9th, 1949.

The awards were presented by the Duchess of Portland, who mentioned that it was her first visit to that hospital.

"I have always been brought along the lines that, being endowed with very good health, anything one can do for people less fortunate and who suffer from ill-health is not only a duty but a tremendous privilege," said the Duchess. "Doctors and surgeons do their very best . . . but a doctor cannot complete his work without specialised attention of kind, intelligent and thoughtful nurses on whom he can rely. It is a magnificent vocation."

The shortage of nurses was of the deepest concern to the country today, she added.

The Matron of the hospital (Miss D. Annakin) said they heard much of the shortage of nurses and she thought it was being realised there would never be sufficient nurses to do all that was required. Therefore, their energies must be put into utilising the hands and staff available to the best advantage.

The Matron recalled that this was the hospital's 50th year, and said it was hoped that next year the Hospital Management Committee would give gold, silver and bronze medals.

Making comparisons, she revealed that 20 years ago 328 operations were performed at the hospital, compared with 3,395 last year.

"Little Things Count."

Miss Annakin thanked the staff for their help during the past three years. "It is the little things that really count when you are aspiring to the high standards of nursing," she told them.

Giving a report on the work of the nurses' training school at the hospital, the Senior Tutor, Miss I. M. Bohlmann, referred to war-time and immediate post-war difficulties, which did not allow much time for the added graces and dignities of life.

"We do cherish the hope that the future will allow us time to cultivate these to a larger extent than war-time strains and stresses allowed," she said. "We hope that we may be able to make the road to State Registration a really exciting adventure, rather than a dull plod or obstacle race."

Proposing thanks to the Duchess, Mrs. P. Bussens, Chairman of the Nursing Sub-Committee, said it was the committee's aim to do all in its power to help the Matron and her tutorial staff, and make the school into one of the very best. With the co-operation of the Hospital Management Committee, she was confident that they could make the Nursing Training School at the hospital second to none.

Staff Difficulties.

Dr. W. Morton, seconding, said that in 1937 the hospital treated 4,000 patients. This year, with two months to go, he had no doubt that they would top the 8,000 mark. Though at times the medical staff were unreasonable individuals, he said, in their more reasonable moments they realised the very great difficulties under which the nursing staff were working. "We sympathise with, and admire you, for running the hospital so smoothly with so few," he told the Matron.

Dr. Morton regretted that Miss Annakin was not herself entitled to wear the training school's new badge, but as a

memento of the occasion handed one to the Duchess of Portland, for presentation to the Matron in recognition of her help and co-operation.

"I am going to be as proud of this badge as I am of my own, which I earned 28 years ago," said Miss Annakin.

Thanks to the chairman, Mr. Robert Shaw, Chairman of the Hospital Management Committee, were voiced by Nurse E. Grain, winner of the first prize in the hospital final examination.

Awards.

MEDICINE.—1, Male Staff Nurse G. Simpson; 2, Staff Nurse E. Grain; 3, Nurse J. Walker.

SURGERY.—Male Staff Nurse G. Simpson; 2, Nurse E. Fox; 3, Staff Nurse V. Mayo.

THIRD YEAR HOSPITAL FINAL EXAMINATION.—1, Staff Nurse E. Grain and Nurse L. J. Hunt; 2, Charge Nurse H. Foster.

INTERMEDIATE HOSPITAL EXAMINATION.—1, Nurse S. Hatcher and V. Hunter; 2, Nurse G. Johnson.

Highest aggregate marks gained in preliminary training school examinations for the year.—1, Nurse M. Haugh; 2, Nurse D. M. Potter. Highest marks for Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene in the Preliminary Training School for the year.—1, Male Nurse K. Green; 2, Nurse K. Johnston.

National Health Service.

Hospital Directory.

IN response to requests for information about hospitals in the National Health Service in England and Wales, the Ministry of Health has prepared a small directory. This sets out the areas of the 14 Regional Hospital Boards, and gives the addresses and telephone numbers of the Boards, Boards of Governors and Hospital Management Committees and the names of the hospitals for which they are responsible. Just over 2,800 hospitals are listed.

Entitled "Hospitals' Directory, England and Wales," it is published by H.M. Stationery Office, price 3s.

British Plastic Surgeon to Lecture in Turkey.

PROFESSOR T. Pomfret Kilner, Nuffield Professor of Plastic Surgery in the University of Oxford, left London by air recently for a British Council sponsored lecture tour in Turkey, organised in conjunction with the Turkish Ministry of Health. He will speak in the universities of Ankara and Istanbul and at hospitals in Ankara and Izmir.

His subjects will be "Free skin grafts: their preparation and uses," "Free grafts, other than skin," "Skin flaps in reconstructive and reparative surgery," and "Cleft (hare) lip and cleft palate deformities: their surgical repair." All the lectures will be illustrated by slides, some of them depicting his own operations, and he will also take two or three films with him to show during the tour.

Interest in Professor Kilner's work has already been aroused in Turkish medical circles by his reconstructive surgery on a Turkish patient's nose and upper lip which had been badly disfigured by lupus.

Having previously visited Sweden, Denmark, Germany and the United States in connection with his work, he enjoys an international reputation. Appointed officer in charge of the Plastic Surgery Division of the Ministry of Pensions in 1939, he was awarded the C.B.E. in 1946 for his work in dealing with war casualties. He holds a number of hospital appointments as consulting plastic surgeon and is the author of several contributions to works on plastic surgery as well as numerous articles.

He is at present due to return on December 6th, but it is possible that his tour may be extended.

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