

## Mary M. Roberts, R.N., Receives Mary Adelaide Nutting Nursing Award.

THE Mary Adelaide Nutting award, given by the National League of Nursing Education for outstanding contributions to the advancement of nursing, both in this country and abroad, was received recently in Cleveland by Mary M. Roberts, who had just retired after 18 years as editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Nursing. It was presented at the first general session of the fifty-third convention of the National League of Nursing Education.

Miss Roberts, internationally known figure in the field of nursing and journalism, is the third person to receive the award, and the only non-educator. The fourth, Annie W. Goodrich, received it *in absentia* at the same meeting.

The award was first given in 1944 to Mary Adelaide Nutting in whose honour it was established. Miss Nutting was one of the founders of the National League of Nursing Education and of the original course for graduate nurses at Teachers College, Columbia University, which was inaugurated in 1899. Miss Nutting died October 3, 1948, at 90 years of age.

The second award was given in 1946 to Isabel Stewart, who for 22 years was head of the Division of Nursing Education at Teachers College. She is now professor emerita of that department.

The International Council of Nurses, only organisation awarded the medal thus far, was presented with it in 1947 at the Congress of the Council in Atlantic City.

Purpose of the Nutting award is to recognise and encourage leadership in all fields of nursing, and to stimulate scholarly investigation and research in nursing education. This may be demonstrated through achievements in administration, planning, research, teaching, counselling, writing, journalism, public and professional relations, both individuals and organisations, either in or out of the nursing profession.

The award is a silver medallion for individuals and a bronze plaque for groups. They carry the same design. On one side is a laurel wreath and lamp, the name of the donor organisation, the National League of Nursing Education, the name of the recipient, and the citation, "For leadership." On the other side is the profile of Miss Nutting as a young superintendent of nurses, and the inscription, "The Mary Adelaide Nutting Award." It was designed by Malvania Hoffman, noted New York sculptor.

This is the only award in nursing which is given regularly.

## New Zealand Director of Nursing urges International Pacific Nursing Group.

MISS M. I. LAMBIE, Director of Nursing in the Department of Health, speaking at the annual conference of the New Zealand Registered Nurses' Association, urged New Zealand to take the lead in the establishment of an international nursing group in the South Pacific. Miss Lambie said that one Malayan nurse was already in New Zealand on a New Zealand Government bursary offered for nurses from the Far East to undertake post-graduate training in New Zealand, and nurses from the Pacific Islands were already arriving in the Dominion for training. Nurses from India and China were now being trained in New Zealand and nurses from other foreign countries were filtering in as members of the International Nurses' Association.

"It is necessary to hold out the hand of friendship and welcome them," said Miss Lambie. "Anglo-Indians and Anglo-Burmans have applied to come to New Zealand to take up nursing careers, and if we do not offer the hand of friendship we are not doing our international job."

## Review.

### YOUR HOSPITAL HERITAGE AND FUTURE.\*

By A. R. J. Wise.

THIS is a very stimulating book and could be read, with advantage, by every individual connected with hospitals in any and every sense of the word.

A short history of the Voluntary and Municipal Hospitals is given, with their origin; and shows how the necessities of war brought about a unified and co-ordinated service.

Extracts from the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust Report show that there was no general pooling of facilities in any area for the maximum advantage of the population.

Too often a course of action was decided on because of the importance of an individual hospital.

The author shows how, though it may take years to accomplish, the National Health Service does make a unified hospital service possible.

In a book of 232 pages with 17 chapters dealing with all the administrative, professional, technical and other workers including also patients, visitors and the general public, the part dealing with any one particular section is necessarily short.

He considers midwifery training should be primarily for those intending to practise in that profession and not as a means to a higher position where the knowledge is not put to practical use, an opinion with which we thoroughly agree.

In the chapter on The Nursing Profession, the Report of the Working Party on Recruitment and Training is mentioned and the opinion expressed that the strongest and most effective argument is for a two-year basic training on regional lines (many of us will profoundly disagree with this opinion), giving the recommendation of the Working Party.

The comments of the "Ten Group" in this Report are mentioned. After commenting on the wastage of nurses during and after training, attention is drawn to the fact that it may be physically impossible still further to increase the number of nurses. The number of girls reaching the age of eighteen in 1950 being only 314,000, whereas in 1939 it was 411,000.

I was pleased to see the comment in regard to administration, that the unwieldiness of hospitals with a 1,000 beds tends to counterbalance the technical advantages, even American experts are now holding this opinion.

Whilst the structural fabric of the hospital system under the National Health Service will take a long time to emerge the author shows how the network of the human relationship can begin now. He considers the test of every branch of hospital administration is the extent to which it helps the clinical services to operate, so that those who serve the food and keep the various rooms clean are, indirectly, helping the patients. The idea of co-operation is shown throughout the book as being of paramount importance if the hospitals are to give of their best.

This co-operation must exist not only between the Administrators, to the Radiologists, Surgeons, Medical Specialists, but through them to the Nurses, Physiotherapists, Technicians and all groups of workers, extending outside the buildings to the General Practitioners, ex-patients, visitors and the general public.

After showing how a good hospital service can be built up, the final chapter "Where do we go from Here," starts by giving us a feeling like a damp squib.

The author tells us, what is certainly true, that, owing to an inadequate supply of staff of all kinds, and also accommodation, we shall have to reconcile ourselves to its shortcomings owing to these deficiencies. Yet these shortages, and the cost of the service, may eventually enforce a change in the whole aspect of the Medical Service; training and practice of necessity changing to the more positive lines of promoting the health of the people.

N.D., S.R.N., M.B.C.N.

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