

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1924

TWENTY-SEVEN NURSES GRADUATE FROM GENERAL PUBLIC HOSPITAL

Needs of Hospital are Outlined by Speakers at Public Exercises.

That the General Public Hospital must have the financial aid of the monied people of the community if it was to continue its work of ministering to the sick and afflicted was the keynote of the address given by M. E. Agar, president of the Board of Hospital Commissioners, last evening, at the Nurses' Home, when the graduation of nurses took place. Dr. Thomas Walker and Dr. Walter W. White, past presidents; Hon. Dr. W. F. Roberts, Minister of Public Health, and Mrs. J. Verrier McLellan, commissioner of the Hospital, were on the platform with Mr. Agar. Miss Margaret Murdoch, superintendent of nurses, sat in the front line with her graduating class. His Worship Mayor Potts and Mrs. Potts were present. Commissioner R. W. Wigmore and Commissioner Harding were also among the guests.

The graduating class presented a charming appearance when they received their diplomas from Mr. Agar, their pins from Miss Murdoch and their lovely roses from Mrs. McLellan. The undergraduates served delicious refreshments at the close of the evening and dancing was enjoyed for an hour.

Express Congratulations.

The programme was enhanced by musical selections from an orchestra led by Miss Marion Hogan. The vocal solos of Mrs. Blake Ferris and Mr. E. C. Girvan were exceptionally rich and tuneful and they responded generously to insistent applause. Mrs. T. J. Gunt

and Mrs. Harold H. Macmillan were the accompanists.

Hon. Dr. Roberts, Dr. White, Dr. Walker, Mayor Potts, Commissioner Wigmore and Mrs. J. Boyle Travers, vice-president of the Women's Hospital Aid all spoke words of congratulation to the graduating class; praise to the president for his untiring faithfulness in carrying through such tremendous projects, congratulations upon the appointment of Mrs. McLellan as commissioner, who had accomplished things that otherwise could never have been done and joint praise to Mrs. McLellan and Alexander McMillan, D.S.O., for their work in preparing such an excellent programme.

Mr. Agar gave some statistics of the permanent improvements made in the hospital in the last eight years, which included the Nurses' Home, \$210,000; X-Ray department, \$5,000; epidemic hospital, \$85,000 and many other additions, amounting to \$417,000 in the eight years outlined. He said that the yearly expenditure for supplies had amounted to about \$100,000 and each year called for more expenditures, as the demands grew for those who could not pay, but who must be cared for. For this reason the people must see how necessary it was to give financial support.

Mr. Agar also said that it was not necessary for people to die to bestow their wealth upon this institution, but he hoped that some of those with means at their disposal would in the evening time of life enjoy the privilege of seeing their money wisely placed while able to see its results.

Dr. Roberts read an excellent address of advice to the graduating class, from one given in 1916. He urged cultivation of quietness in disposition and above all things tact. His motto was the keynote of the other address, "Wisdom to see with their eyes, to hear with their ears and to have no tongue to tell." Another point he said would be for nurses to be ready to take any case, without quibbling, especially when urgency called them to the doctor's aid.

Dr. White emphasized this last point with the text from Psalm 39, "I will offend not with my tongue and will keep a tribute upon my mouth." He paid a tribute to the work of the Women's Hospital Aid, which was begun by Mrs. A. C. Skelton, who noticed the needs of the hospital, when visiting her son, Thomas, who had appendicitis. A pain in a boy's stomach, brought about the needed change in the hospital, which showed how small things work for good.

Mayor Potts.

His Worship urged the nurses still in hospital to take as much care of the ward patients as of those in private rooms. He said that this spirit, inculcated while in training, would give them a basis of true understanding when they went out to their life work. That they had clung to their purpose and finished their training was proof that those who were graduating had chosen their born vocation. He said the sunlight of life to the sick was the trained nurse with the capabilities

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ties cited by Dr. Roberts and the other speakers.

Mrs. Travers said that the Canadian nurse always took first place in any country to which she went and she thought that New Brunswick nurses were among those in the forefront at all times. Commissioner Wigmore paid special tribute to the appointment of Mrs. McLellan and the work she had accomplished.

Dr. Walker spoke briefly and congratulated Mr. Agar upon his accomplishment. He was greeted with prolonged applause and sat down amid an ovation.

Of the 27 nurses who graduated six were absent, five being in Montreal and one in the epidemic hospital. The

absentees were Miss Bessie Leavitt, of St. George's; Miss Gertrude H. Bickerstaffe, of St. John; Miss Muriel Clark, of Dipper Harbor; Miss Leone J. Ward, of East St. John; Miss Edith White, of White's Landing, and Miss Frances W. Crowell, of Weymouth, N. S. The Misses Rhoda McGregor Keith and Beatrice Fear, were from Springhill, N. S.; the Misses Anna C. H. Pitman and Mary H. J. Witman from Yarmouth, N. S.; Miss Dorothy G. Till, Quispamsis; Miss Gladys M. Draper, York county; and the following from St. John: Misses Mabel K. Belyea, Vera Phillips, Christian Higgins, Elizabeth Donahoe, Allie E. Lake, Margaret Miles, Hazel G. Evans, Margaret M. Kerr, Effie P. Bonnell, Helen

J. Merritt, Bessie and Harriet McIntosh, Theima Swanton and Caroline A. Holly. Miss Annie M. Todd was from Carleton county.

WCTU CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Washington Co. Organization Holds Historic Gathering in Calais.

Calais, Me., May 12.—An international border conference in celebration of their fiftieth jubilee opened the thirty-first annual convention of the Washington County W. C. T. U. in the Congregational church, Calais, today. It will continue tomorrow. The first session opened at 2 p. m., Mrs. Althea Quimby, president of the Maine W. C. T. U., presiding. The address of welcome was given by Mrs. George Ames, president of Calais W. C. T. U. She spoke of the early work of the temperance crusaders 50 years ago and extended a cordial welcome to visiting members.

Mrs. Grace Adams, corresponding secretary, of Lubec, replied in a gracious manner to the address of welcome. Mrs. Adams in her report said that the Calais union had 50 members enrolled. Mrs. Bertha Lock, corresponding treasurer, gave an encouraging financial report. Two of the guests of honor, Mrs. James Geggie, president of the Provincial W. C. T. U. of Quebec, and Mrs. Ida B. Wise Smith, of Ohio, director of the department of Christian citizenship, National W. C. T. U., were introduced by Mrs. Quimby.

Mrs. Geggie conveyed greetings from

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the Quebec Union and displayed the Quebec banner of the W. C. T. U. and unfolded the Union Jack, which received a place of honor beside the Stars and Stripes which decorated the stage.

She paid a tribute to the customs of Calais in the strict performance of their duties. She said the Catholic priests were a great assistance in helping to enforce prohibition in the province of Quebec. She said evil was done by the liquor traffic and bootlegging from Quebec to Maine, but that it was diminishing. She said prohibition did prohibit when there was a law behind it.

Knowledge of coming weather changes shown by birds is attributed to the atmospheric pressure on their nerves.

The total stock of gold of the United States treasury is more than four billion dollars.

The first suggestion of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama was made by a Spanish engineer in 1530.

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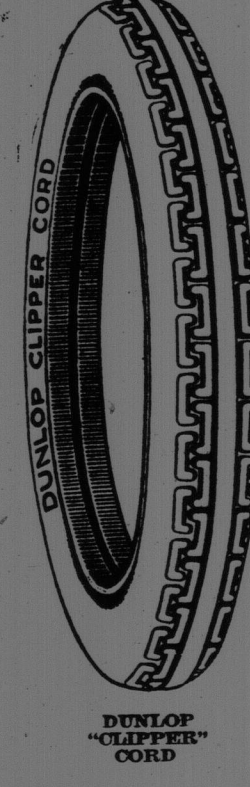
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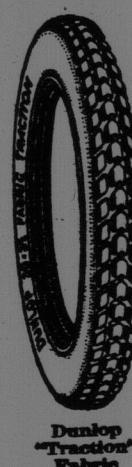
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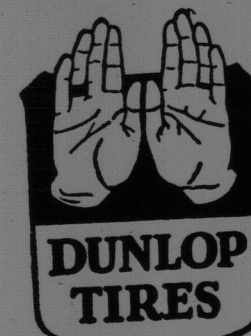
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