

St Charles Hospital
Ladbroke Grove
North Kensington
W10

Dearest Mummie and Daddie,

They are going to keep me. They've x-rayed, pricked, thumped and prodded me and I'm all O.K. The ward I am working on is called B2. It's a surgical ward, women, all operations. It's ever so interesting. There are 28 patients in each ward and 24 wards. The Sister in charge of B.2. is not so good but that will do no harm.

My uniform for the first 6 mths is a plain white thing. With pleats down the front short sleeves white belt and buttons down the back. The hat part is sweet. It's a starched oblong creased somehow to stand out in pleated wings at the back. It suits me awfully well.

Everybody here is nice. There are 100 people at each meal we make an awful din.

Menu for today Tues.

Breakfast

Scrambled eggs on toast

Brown or white bread & butter

Marmalade & tea.

Dinner

Chop & sausages

Rashers of bacon

Stewed apple (& custard)

Fresh fruit and tea

Tea

Sardines on toast

cut cake

Bread & butter

Supper baked beans baked potatoes fruit tart lemonade

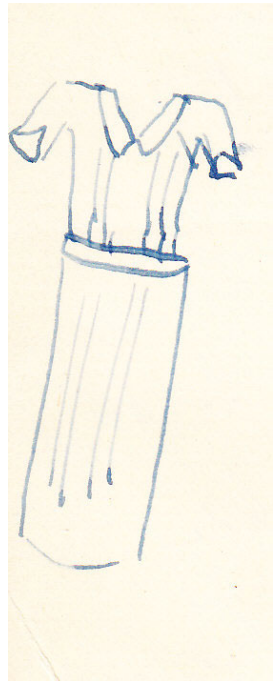
The work is very hard but I like it. Today has been terribly tiring. I start at 7.15am tomorrow and leave off at 8.30pm. But the time goes quickly.

The Matron saw me for about an hour this afternoon. She really is a dear. She was most kind to me at least she meant to be. She put me in the busiest ward because she thinks work cures everything. She says that when we feel we long for our work to be over we must think of the patients they have to go on all night and all day as well.

There is a swimming club here. They deduct the subscription from our wages. We are also allowed a free ticket to any London Theatre quite free mark you. You just have to tell a Sister the day before.

Sometime in July there is an exam that I will have to go in for. It's the new rule of the Medical Nursing Council. You are allowed 2 times if you don't pass in all the subjects. We shall be given a little coaching. Thank you lots for letting me come here. I really will do well. I don't yet know when my day off is but I'll let you know. I'm dying to see you two dear creatures. I never realised I could love anyone as much as I do you.

Lovingly Joy xxx



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Joy