



Chief guests at the annual staff dinner for The Close, Bridge, were (left to right): Mr. Harry K. Urwin (Superintendent), Mrs. E. Palmer; Mr. E. Palmer (chairman, District House Committee), Mrs. Lucy Urwin (Matron), Cllr. Brian Raffety (chairman, Bridge-Blean Rural District Council), Mrs. E. J. Mount, Dr. J. Pritchard (Group Geriatric Consultant), Mr. E. J. Mount (chairman, Canterbury Group Hospital Management Committee) and Mrs. Raffety.

The Close staff dinner

About 100 people were at the Abbot's Barton Hotel, Canterbury, on Friday for the annual dinner given for the staff of The Close hospital.

Mr. H. K. Urwin, the hospital superintendent, acted as chairman and toastmaster and Mr. Edward Mount, chairman of the Canterbury Group Hospital Management Committee, welcoming the guests, also thanked the staff for their excellent work during the past year.

Cllr. B. Raffety, chairman of Bridge-Blean Rural District Council, spoke of his recent visit to The Close and said the improvements he had seen there showed that a silk purse could be made out of a sow's ear.

In an amusing speech Dr. John Pritchard, geriatric consultant to the Canterbury and Isle of Thanet hospital groups, said the thanks to the staff were "written on the residents' and patients' faces." Mr. Urwin replied.

The guests included Mr. H. Brown, deputy chief, Residential Services Division, and Miss Sage, Senior Homes Officer, of the County Council; Mr. E. Palmer, chairman, Canterbury Hospital House Committee; Mr. Alan Barson, the Hospital Group secretary; Canon Colin Perry, honorary chaplain at the Close; and Mr. G. Davies, headmaster, Sturry Secondary School.