

REGULATIONS
FOR THE
STAFF OF NURSING SISTERS IN THE
ROYAL NAVAL HOSPITALS.

At the request of many of our readers we publish the following information and regulations respecting the above service, kindly supplied to us by the authorities.

AN organised system of Nursing in Naval Hospitals by trained Sisters having been established, the following regulations are to be observed at Haslar, Plymouth, Chatham, and Malta Hospitals.

I.—(1) Candidates for appointment either as Head Sisters or Sisters must produce certificates, or other satisfactory evidence, of training at a large civil Hospital in the United Kingdom. (2) All appointments, transfers, and dismissals will be arranged at the Admiralty, as well as the number of Sisters to be employed at each Hospital. (3) The ladies will be borne on the established list of the Civil Service, and will be eligible for pensions.

II.—The limits of age for appointment will be: for Head Sisters, between thirty and forty-eight; for Sister between twenty-five and forty; and they will not in any case be retained beyond the age of 60.

III.—The salaries and allowances will be as follows:—Head Sisters: at Haslar, £125 to £160; at Plymouth, £105 to £130; at Chatham, £40 to £60; by annual increments of £5. At Malta, none borne. Sisters: £30 to £50, by annual increments of £2. Each Head Sister and Sister at home will be allowed in addition, 1s. 6d. a day in lieu of provisions, and 1s. 6d. a week for the washing of her personal linen. At Malta each Sister will be allowed 3s. a day in lieu of board and washing.

IV.—(1) Furnished apartments will be provided for the staff. These will include a mess room, reading room, kitchen, and offices; a sitting room and bedroom for the Head Sister; and a separate bedroom for each Sister. Fuel and lights will be provided throughout the quarters. The mess, which it will be obligatory on all the members of the staff to join, will be furnished with the necessary requisites of plate, linen, glass, &c., and the mess accounts will be audited quarterly. (2) The Head Sister will be president of the mess, and she will be charged with the duty of maintaining due order and regularity, as also with the general duty of causing the rules and regulations of the Hospital to be strictly adhered to in the quarters. (3) Wines or other stimulants are not to be introduced into

the sleeping rooms except under medical order in cases of sickness. (4) The Sisters are to keep their sleeping rooms in a tidy and orderly condition, and stores belonging to the wards are not to be kept therein. (5) They are not to be absent from prayers or from meals except with the sanction of the Head Sister. (6) Visitors may be allowed at the discretion of the Principal Medical Officer and the Head Sister under proper precaution.

V.—Maid servants will be appointed for attendance on the staff at each Hospital. They will be borne on the hired list, and must be between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-five on entry. Their wages at home will be £16 a year, and they will be allowed 1s. 6d. a day in lieu of provisions (which will be paid to the Head Sister) and 1s. a week for the washing of their personal linen. At Malta the wages will be 2s. 3d. a day, without any allowance, board, or uniform. They will also be allowed annually (at home): two print dresses, six white aprons, six white caps, six white collars, which will be washed at the Hospital laundry. No uniform allowed abroad.

VI.—(1) Each Head Sister and Sister will be provided with the following articles of uniform annually:—Three Navy blue serge dresses, with scarlet cashmere cuffs, and Geneva badge above the right elbow, one cape to match dress, six muslin caps, twelve plain linen collars, twelve cuffs to match, twelve white aprons, two navy blue straw bonnets, with navy blue ribbons (These will be washed at the Hospital laundry). Bi-annually: One summer and one winter navy bluetweed cloak with sleeves. (2) Uniform is always to be worn when on duty within the precincts of the Hospital. (3) At Malta, in hot weather, white cotton blouses with the regulation cuffs and badges, instead of the blue body of the dress are to be worn. (4) Head Sisters and Sisters dismissed for misconduct, or resigning their appointments, must return all articles of uniform that have not been worn twelve months.

VII.—The Head Sister and Sisters are to be regarded as officers of the Hospital, taking a position immediately after the surgeons, and are at all times to receive the respect due to their position.

VIII.—The duties of Head Sisters and Sisters will be limited to the Hospitals to which they are attached, but they will be liable to be transferred to other Naval Hospitals at home, and in the event of war, to Naval Hospitals abroad, as well as, in exceptional cases, to Hospital Ships. First-class railway passes will be supplied to them when sent on duty by rail.

IX.—(1) The Head Sister will, in addition to the Nursing of her own cases and charge of her

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