

the nursing curriculum, and decide upon the claims of each hospital to give the necessary instruction. It would hold examinations and appoint examiners to test the fitness of candidates for registration. My suggestion is that candidates from special hospitals who submitted a satisfactory certificate of training should be eligible for examination, and on satisfying the examiners be enrolled on the Nursing Register.

If the nursing staff in special hospitals had a stimulus such as this, how much better it would be for them and for the institution in which they were working! There are, no doubt, other ways of furthering the interests of the special nurse, but I will rest content to-day with the suggestions I have already brought forward.

I cannot conclude this paper without urging upon the nursing profession the great need for combination and for organising our forces. We, who believe in State Registration, and are convinced that it will promote the interest of the public no less than that of the nurses themselves, can do nothing singly. But if we combine, our victory is half-won—our union is strength.

The Progress of State Registration.

NEW JERSEY BILL TO LICENSE NURSES.

Introduced January 26th, 1903. Signed by the Governor April 7th, 1903.

AN ACT TO LICENSE GRADUATE NURSES IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF ITS PROVISIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Any graduate nurse desiring to practise the profession of a trained nurse must first obtain a license from the Clerk of the county in which such applicant resides, and the Clerk thereof is hereby authorised to issue such license, provided said applicant shall present to him a diploma, awarded by a training-school connected with a hospital of this State where at least two years' practical and theoretical training is required before its students are graduated as trained nurses; if the said diploma does not show the term required by the training-school awarding the same, then the applicant must file with the County Clerk an affidavit made by the secretary of said training-school, or the president of the faculty thereof, setting forth the term of practical and theoretical training required by said training-school of its students before they are graduated as trained nurses.

2. Any person heretofore awarded a diploma of a graduate nurse by training-schools of this State other than those mentioned in the preceding section may apply to the Clerk of the county in which

such applicant resides for the license provided by this Act, and such clerk is hereby authorised to issue same if the person making such application was awarded such diploma upon the completion of at least two years' practical and theoretical training in nursing.

3. Any graduate nurse holding a diploma of a trained nurse awarded by a training-school of another State may obtain a license to practise such profession in this State provided the training-school awarding such diploma shall require the same qualifications of its graduate nurses as are provided for applicants of this State; if the diploma of said non-resident applicant does not show the course of training required by the training school awarding the same, then the applicant shall file an affidavit of the secretary of the hospital connected with said training-school or the president thereof, setting forth the requirements of said training-school before diplomas are awarded to its students; graduate nurses residing out of the State and seeking the license herein provided may apply to the Clerk of any county in this State upon being identified by a resident thereof.

5. The said license shall be in form as follows:

"STATE OF NEW JERSEY, }
County of } ss.

"To whom it may concern, greeting:

"This is to certify that..... (giving place of residence) is authorised to practise the profession of a graduate nurse in the State of New Jersey in accordance with the laws thereof.

"In witness whereof I have hereto attached my name and official seal this.....day of, Anno Domini one thousand nine hundred and.....

[SEAL]

"Clerk of the County....."

6. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall for every offence forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars, to be used for and recovered by the Prosecutor of the Pleas for the use of the county in which such offence is committed. Provided, however, that this Act shall not apply to graduate nurses, residents of a foreign State, who shall have at least two years' practical and theoretical training, or have graduated from a training-school connected with a public hospital, who shall visit this State as a companion or nurse for a non-resident of this State sojourning within the State, or who shall be called in a case by any resident physician of this State. Provided, also, that nothing in this Act shall be held or construed as preventing or in any way interfering with any person or persons practising the profession or business of nurses or nursing without obtaining a license for that purpose if they do not advertise or hold themselves out as a graduate nurse.

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