

The charming wards were then open to inspection, and for cheery comfort, cleanliness, and good order it would be hard to beat the Royal United Hospital, Bath.

The popular President and his charming wife, the able and indefatigable Matron, the most courteous Secretary, and a bevy of bright nurses appeared to unite in their efforts to make the hospital what it should be—a real home of healing and a model of efficiency in every department.

PROGRESS OF STATE REGISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

The following is the New York State Bill as finally presented to the Legislature in February:—

"A BILL FOR THE REGISTRATION OF NURSES OF NEW YORK STATE.

"SECTION 1. Any resident of the State of New York, being over the age of twenty-one years and of good moral character, holding a diploma from a training-school for nurses connected with a hospital giving a course of at least two years, and registered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York as maintaining in this and other respects proper standards, all of which shall be determined by the Regents of the University of the State of New York, and who shall have received from the Regents of the University of the State of New York a certificate of his or her qualifications to practise as a registered nurse, shall be styled and known as a registered nurse, and no other person shall assume such title, or use the abbreviation R. N. or any other words, letters, or figures to indicate that the person using the same is such a registered nurse.

"SEC. 2. The Regents of the University of the State of New York shall annually appoint a board of five examiners, which shall be selected from at least ten nominees of the New York State Nurses' Association, and with the advice of this Board of Examiners make rules for the examination of nurses applying for certification under this Act.

"The Regents of the University of the State of New York shall charge for examination and for certification such fee as may be necessary to meet the actual expenses, and they shall report annually their receipts and expenditures under the provisions of this Act to the State Comptroller, and pay the balance of receipts over expenditures to the State Treasurer.

"The Regents of the University of the State of New York may revoke any such certificate for sufficient cause after written notice to the holder thereof and hearing thereon.

"SEC. 3. Upon recommendation of the Board of Examiners the Regents of the University of the State of New York may, in their discretion, waive the examination of any persons possessing the qualifications mentioned in Section 1 who shall have been graduated before or who are in training at the time of the passage of this Act, and who shall apply in writing for such certificate within three years after the passage of this Act.

"SEC. 4. Any violation of this Act shall be a misdemeanour."

American Nursing World.

A NAVY NURSE CORPS.

A correspondent writes from Washington:—"Congress is within two days of adjournment, and no Navy Nurse Corps Bill has been passed. There is hardly a shadow of a chance for it now in this final rush of business, so it means a year of waiting. This is a pity, as at one time it seemed quite certain to get through."

The following is the short measure that it is feared must stand over:—

"A BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ORGANISATION OF A NURSE CORPS OF TRAINED WOMEN NURSES IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a Nurse Corps of trained women nurses is hereby established as a part of the medical department of the United States Navy, and shall consist of one superintendent, to be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy on the recommendation of the Surgeon-General; of at least fifty chief nurses and nurses, and of as many reserve nurses as may be needed. Reserve nurses may be assigned to active duty when the necessities of the Service demand, but shall receive no compensation except when on such duty: *Provided*, That the superintendent and all nurses in the Nurse Corps shall be citizens of the United States and graduates of training-schools which require not less than two years' residence in general hospitals, and shall have passed a satisfactory professional, moral, mental, and physical examination.

"Section 2.—That chief nurses, nurses, and reserve nurses shall be appointed by the Surgeon-General of the Navy, with the approval of the Secretary of the Navy, and that they shall be eligible for duty at naval hospitals and on board of hospital and ambulance ships, and for such special duty as may be deemed necessary by the Surgeon-General of the Navy.

"Section 3.—That nurses shall receive 40 dols. per month when on duty within the continental limits of the United States, and 50 dols. per month when without the continental limits of the United States, and that nurses on the reserve list when placed on active duty shall receive the above pay with ten per centum additional. Chief nurses shall receive such pay as may be authorised by the Secretary of the Navy, not to exceed 25 dols. a month more than that provided for nurses. The superintendent shall receive 1,800 dols. per annum. Chief nurses, nurses, and reserve nurses when on active duty shall be entitled to quarters, subsistence, and medical attendance during illness. Appointments of superintendents, chief nurses, and nurses shall be for three years, subject to discharge for cause, and with each re-appointment they shall receive an increase of five per centum in their pay. They shall receive transportation and necessary expenses when travelling under orders, and may be granted leave of absence for thirty days with pay for each calendar year, and if such leave cannot be granted, it may become cumulative."

It is to be regretted that, as the American Navy is now being so much increased, the Navy Nurse Corps has not yet been inaugurated.

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