

POOR LAW INSTITUTIONS (NURSING) ORDER, 1913.

TO THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the several
Poor Law Unions for the time being in
ENGLAND AND WALES :—

AND TO ALL OTHERS WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

WHEREAS by various Orders both general and special issued from time to time by the Poor Law Commissioners, the Poor Law Board and the Local Government Board and herein-after referred to as "the recited Orders," it is required that Boards of Guardians shall appoint fit persons to hold the office of Nurse, and, by the Nursing in Workhouses Order, 1897, further provision is made with regard to the nursing of the sick poor in Workhouses ;

And whereas the Nursing in Workhouses Order, 1897, is rescinded by the Poor Law Institutions Order, 1913, which will come into operation from and after the Thirty-first day of March, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and it is expedient that such further provision as is herein-after contained be made :

NOW THEREFORE, We, the Local Government Board, do hereby Order that, from and after the date of the operation of this Order, the Regulations herein-after contained shall (except so far as We otherwise direct) apply and have effect in relation to the nursing of the sick poor in Poor Law Institutions :

ARTICLE 1.—In this Order :—

The expression "the Board" means the Local Government Board.

The expression "the Guardians" means a Board of Guardians elected under the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, and the Acts amending the same, and includes a Board of Guardians or other body of persons performing under a Local Act the like functions to a Board of Guardians under the Poor Law Amendment Act, 1834, and a Joint Committee of two or more Boards of Guardians.

ARTICLE 2.—For every institution provided by the Guardians and containing not less than one hundred beds for sick inmates, and in every other case in which the Board so direct or approve, the Guardians shall from time to time appoint a Superintendent Nurse under this Order.

ARTICLE 3.—For every institution provided by the Guardians to which Article 2 of this Order does not apply, but in which three or more persons are employed as Nurses, the Guardians shall appoint a person (who may be one of those already employed) to be Head Nurse.

ARTICLE 4.—If the staff of a Poor Law Institution does not include an officer who holds a certificate of having undergone for three years, at least, a course of instruction in the Medical and Surgical Wards of a Hospital or Infirmary being a Training School for Nurses and maintaining a

Resident Physician or House Surgeon, the Guardians shall, after obtaining the advice of the Medical Officer of the Institution, either appoint such an officer, or submit for the approval of the Board proposals whereby such skilled nursing attendance (including provision for cases of emergency) as may be likely to be required for the inmates of the institution will be available ; and, if the Board approve the proposals, shall take all steps necessary to give effect to the same.

ARTICLE 5.—(1) A person shall not be appointed to the office of Superintendent Nurse or Head Nurse unless—

- (a) she is holding the office of Superintendent Nurse at the date of the operation of this Order, or
- (b) she holds a certificate of having undergone for three years, at least, a course of instruction in the Medical and Surgical Wards of a Hospital or Infirmary being a Training School for Nurses and maintaining a Resident Physician or House Surgeon, and is also a midwife certified under the Midwives Act, 1902.

(2) A person shall not be appointed to hold the office of midwife or be permitted to perform the duties of a midwife, unless she is a midwife certified under the Midwives Act, 1902, who has passed an examination held by the Central Midwives Board or holds one of the certificates specified in Section 2 of that Act.

(3) A person shall not be appointed to the office of Nurse or be permitted to perform nursing duties unless he or she has had such training in nursing as may render him or her a fit and proper person to hold such office or perform such duties :

Provided that this sub-division shall not apply in the case of a female Assistant Nurse serving under a Superintendent Nurse or Head Nurse, or in the case of a Probationer Nurse.

ARTICLE 6.—(1) (a)—Except as is herein-after provided the provisions of the recited Orders with regard to the mode of appointment, remuneration and tenure of office of Nurses shall apply to a Superintendent Nurse or Head Nurse appointed under this Order.

(b) A Superintendent Nurse appointed under this Order shall not be dismissed without the consent of the Board.

(2) The provisions of the recited Orders with regard to the suspension of officers shall extend to an officer hereafter appointed to the office of Superintendent Nurse.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in the recited Orders, the Guardians may submit to the Board a statement of the total number of Nurses, exclusive of the Superintendent Nurse (if any) to be employed at an institution to which Article 2 or Article 3 of this Order applies, of the scales of salaries to be paid to those Nurses, and of the qualifications to be required of them before appointment, and in that case, if the statement is approved by the Board, it shall not be necessary, so long as the approval remains in force, for

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)