

NURSING EDUCATION.

VASSAR'S PREPARATORY NURSING COURSE.

Vassar College, U.S.A., states the *American Journal of Nursing*, is announcing a preparatory course in nursing for college graduates only. It will be remembered that already many of the leading training schools of the country have opened their doors to college women for a course of two years and three months. Vassar has in mind a patriotic contribution to national preparedness, in fitting a group of highly educated women to enter directly upon their practical training in nurse training schools, thereby relieving the hospitals of the burden of this preparatory instruction, and saving for these women the summer months, which otherwise would be lost to the service.

Beginning the middle of June, 1918, the Dean of the summer course will be Professor Mills, a member of the Vassar College Faculty who, it will be remembered, resigned from the Poughkeepsie School Board some years ago because an untrained woman was appointed as school nurse. She has the right ideals.

This course has been arranged under the general supervision of the Committee of Nursing of the Council of National Defence, but with the direct assistance of Elizabeth Burgess, Inspector of Nurse Training Schools, New York State; Anne H. Strong, Assistant Professor of Public Health Nursing, Simmons College, Boston; and Isabel M. Stewart, Assistant Professor of the Nursing and Health Department, Teachers' College, New York.

This course will be financed by the American Red Cross, from money given especially for this purpose. The Vassar Alumnæ have undertaken the work of recruiting for the course. The publicity campaign, which will extend over the whole country, is in charge of a committee which includes such well-known women as Mrs. Hadley, wife of President Hadley of Yale, Dr. Katherine B. Davis, and Miss Ada Thurston.

The schedule requires from six to eight hours of study daily, and includes courses in anatomy and physiology, chemistry, bacteriology, hygiene and sanitation, nutrition and cookery, elementary materia medica, elementary nursing, hospital economy, and the historical and social aspects of nursing. For those who may have covered some of these courses satisfactorily in their previous college work, elective courses in psychology, social economy, and possibly physiological chemistry will be offered.

An excellent reference library will be at hand, as well as every facility for the most advanced

laboratory work and class demonstration. Special lectures on interesting phases of nursing and social work will also be included.

Vassar College has arranged with a number of hospitals to admit these pupils at the end of this summer session, and all the students have pledged themselves to go directly into hospital service on the completion of the course.

In those States where the law for State registration requires three years' training in a hospital, some special adjustment will have to be made. Wisconsin already has such an amendment before the Legislature.

Nurses have been waiting for years for women's colleges to give recognition to nursing needs and standards. Vassar is now leading in the introduction of what we believe will become a generally accepted course in all such colleges. We can see that this is only one of the advantages which the war, despite all its sorrows and sacrifices, is going to bring to the nursing profession.

TRAINING OF MILITARY MASSEUSES.

REMEDIAL MASSAGE FOR TREATMENT OF CONVALESCENT SOLDIERS TAUGHT TO GIRL RECRUITS IN CANADA.

Remedial massage for the treatment of convalescent soldiers is claiming the attention of hospital authorities in Canada, says the *Modern Hospital*, and a regular course for training eighty girl recruits from all parts of the Dominion has been inaugurated at the University of Toronto.

The masseuses are enlisted in a military sense and are regarded on a par with their nursing sisters, for, with the latter, they were the only women entitled to vote in the last election (in which conscription was the issue) because of their war service. They have been admitted to the massage school only after being declared fit for service, and agreeing to serve the Dominion in the military convalescent hospitals for one year after graduation. The course takes six months, during which they are paid an allowance of \$25 a month. After finishing their training they will receive \$55 a month, with an additional subsistence allowance of 75 cents a day where quarters are not provided.

They undergo physical training to qualify them for their strenuous occupation, and a staff of highly qualified instructors teach them the various subjects required to make them competent masseuses. The university provides lecture rooms, study rooms, and rooms for the practice in which couch-like tables are provided.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)