

ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED NURSES IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

The Committee of the above Association have adopted the following recommendations, and sent them to the Ministry of Health.

Recommendations of the Association of Trained Nurses in Public Health Work as to the qualifications, future conditions of training and salaries of women engaged in such work.

QUALIFICATIONS.

Candidates for Public Health Work should in all cases be required to produce evidence of having undergone a three years' course of training in a General Hospital.

In addition to the above, candidates for *Infant Welfare Work* should hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board and should produce evidence of practical experience at an Infant Welfare Centre or in Infant Dietetic Wards.

Candidates for *Tuberculosis Work* should produce evidence of having had at least six months' experience in a Chest Hospital, Sanatorium or Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Candidates for *School Work* should produce evidence of having had training in a Children's Hospital or in a Skin or Fever Hospital.

SUGGESTED CONDITIONS OF TRAINING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS.

1. Arrangements should be made to enable nurses to qualify for the C.M.B. examination previous to severing connection with the Hospital at which they obtain their General Training, and General Hospitals and Midwifery Training Schools should co-operate with each other in order to facilitate such an arrangement.
2. Infant Welfare Centres and Tuberculosis Dispensaries should admit those students only who have undergone a course of three years' General Training in the wards of a Hospital.
3. Some scheme should be inaugurated to provide for a system of reciprocity to enable student nurses in Public Health Work to get a minimum course of experience of two months in a Tuberculosis Dispensary, two in an Infant Welfare Centre, and two at a School Clinic, such experience to include home visiting and the keeping of records. This is the more important in view of the desirability for arranging that, in the future, smaller areas should be served by Centres, so that one Health Visitor would be able to deal with each branch of visiting work, thus avoiding overlapping of visits.
4. Lectures should be given concurrently on Social Economics by a Visiting teacher possessing suitable qualifications.
5. Systematic home-visiting should be carried on from the centres.
6. Such centres should be under the superintendence of a fully-trained nurse who has additional administrative experience.

7. A salary should be paid to the nurse during her training.

SALARIES RECOMMENDED FOR TRAINED NURSES IN PUBLIC HEALTH WORK.

Minimum salary for fully-trained nurse, £200 a year.

Minimum salary for fully-trained nurse who has the C.M.B., £200 a year.

Salary for fully-trained nurses with one year's experience in Public Health Work, £220 a year.

An increase of £10 a year for every subsequent year's service.

Maximum salary, £300 a year.

Salary for administrative posts, £300 to £500 a year.

THE MEANING OF A LEAGUE.

In a very interesting article in a recent issue of the paper of the Victoria and Bournemouth Nurses' League, the President, Mrs. Balstone, gives an inspiring account of the visit which she paid to the House of Commons on the occasion of the second reading of the Nurses' Registration Bill:—

Our little band interested in the great question of the nursing world will like to hear of the visit paid by our ever-willing treasurer and myself to the House of Parliament the day before our Bill was down for the second reading.

Matron asked me to go up to let the powers that be know that away down here in Bournemouth there were loyal nurses on the V.B.N.L., who wish their voices to be heard concerning this just and good Bill, which was before the House, on State Registration for Nurses. But Matron went one better; thinking that I should be nervous, she sent Miss Clarke with me, paying all her expenses. Our League, of course, paid mine; because that is the meaning of a League, that we may unite and be heard, when we wish to express ourselves *re* our work or profession. So away Miss Clarke and I went by the first train. At 2 p.m. we were outside the House. We saw a very grand wedding just across the road. I wanted to go and have a look at them, but Miss Clarke would not go, or let me; she said we were not up for a wedding, but on much more serious business.

Soon nurses began to arrive, so we followed them in. At first there were only a very few. Soon our great leader, and one of the first pioneers of State registration arrived. I am very full of admiration for that lady (Mrs. Bedford Fenwick); she has borne the heat and burden of the day, and is by no means a worn-out general. Soon crowds of nurses began to arrive. I chummed up to one bright, chatty young nurse, and got her to tell me a few names of ladies whom I thought I ought to know. And I was glad, for among several names I knew well through THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, I saw face to face ladies who are as charming to look upon as their writings are a pleasure to read. One was Miss Beatrice Kent, and the other Miss Isabel Macdonald. Those ladies, among many others, carry the standard of our profession very high, and give all their energies and much financial help, so that those who come after them may reap the reward.

Well, there were crowds of serious, anxious nurses; and a great many very young ones, and our bit towards

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)