

ARMY NURSING NOTES.

ARMY OF OCCUPATION BONUS TO NURSES.

Additional instructions have now been issued on the issue of Army of Occupation bonus to Nurses. This bonus is granted under Army Order 300 of 1919 to certain members of the Q.A.I.M.N.S.R., T.F.N.S., and to certain V.A.D. Nursing Members, special Military probationers, and assistant Nurses, and temporary nursing staffs of Military Families' Hospitals necessarily retained on Military Service. Until further notice, a bonus at the same rates as those approved for reserve and temporary staffs is granted to Members of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. and of the permanent nursing establishment of Military Families' Hospitals.

The bonus is based on the rank, acting or substantive for which pay is being drawn. Acting rank specially granted without pay and allowances of the rank will not entitle the holder to the higher rate for such rank. In cases other than those of the Q.A.I.M.N.S. and the permanent nursing establishment of the Military Families' Hospitals, the bonus is only issued subject to the Nurse having signed a contract to continue to serve until April 30th, 1920, or until her services are no longer required, whichever is the earlier date.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS.

To draw the bonus from February 1st, 1919, Nurses and V.A.D. Nursing Members serving at home must sign A.F.W. 5120 before November 1st next, and those serving overseas must complete A.F.W. 5120 within one month from the date on which A.C.I. 590 is received in the area in which they are serving.

Nurses and V.A.D. Nursing Members who sign the agreement after the dates above specified are eligible for the bonus only from the date of signing A.F.W. 5120.

Nurses and V.A.D. Nursing Members on sick leave should complete the form within one week of the date of rejoining for duty. They will then be eligible for the bonus from February 1st, 1919.

WEDDING BELLS.

Many friends of Miss Nelly Branch, of the Registered Nurses' Society, will wish to offer her their very hearty good wishes on her marriage with Mr. Henry Teasdale-Birks, of 4, Bedford Row, W.C., and 28A, Leinster Terrace, Hyde Park, W., which takes place on Thursday, October 30th, at 10.30 a.m., at Christ Church, Lancaster Gate.

Miss Branch was trained at the Great Northern Central Hospital, and the City Hospital, Coventry, and was for four years a member of the French Flag Nursing Corps. She was appointed Supervising Sister at the Jules Ferry Military Hospital at Lisieux, a position she held with great success, her work being greatly appreciated by the Service de Santé, and by the patients.

THE FUTURE OF V.A.D.s

A conference was held at St. James's Palace last week by permission of the King, to discuss the future constitution of Voluntary Aid Detachments. A scheme has been drawn up for using their services under the Ministries of Health and Pensions. It is proposed that the Voluntary Aid Detachments shall remain a part of the Technical Reserve of the Territorial Force but that the management of them shall be delegated by the War Office to a Joint Council, who shall set up a Central Joint V.A.D. Committee, of whom one member shall be nominated by the War Office, five by the Territorial Force Association, and 10 by the Joint Council.

Sir Arthur Stanley (Chairman of the Central Joint V.A.D. Committee, and the College of Nursing, Ltd.) presided, and he was supported by Dr. Addison, Minister of Health, and Colonel Webb (Director General Medical Service), representing the Ministry of Pensions.

A large number of titled women were present.

The chairman said they felt that there was just as great a field for voluntary effort in peace time as there was during war; and it was the ambition and the hope of the voluntary workers that they might be able to continue their work under the Ministries of Health and Pensions.

Dr. Addison said he was glad to find that this great organization, which had rendered such conspicuous and valuable service during the war, was prepared to extend its energies to the needs of peace. From the point of view of the Minister of Health he welcomed their assistance, and he was sure they would be able to work together for the common good. The Ministry would be glad as necessity occasioned to seek their assistance from time to time in promoting the health of the people in times of peace. There was no end to the opportunities for well-directed and considered effort with regard to health matters among the people. One of the things we had often lacked had been a sufficient opportunity for considering the right lines of activity for creating a practical policy, and of avoiding a needless duplication of well-meant effort, often with not very useful results. The fact that that great organization was prepared to enter the field would, he hoped, do a great deal to promote community of action among those voluntary organizations with which they were associated, and secure, in consultation with the Ministry of Health, that they worked on the right lines.

With regard to the domestic development of our health services, so far as the aid of properly trained nurses was concerned, there was a field as wide as humanity itself. One of the greatest services they could render to promote the health of the people was to spread common knowledge and to improve the methods and habits of daily life in their homes. They all knew that an incalculable amount of the sickness and disability from which people suffered arose from the lack of

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