

Nursing Associations, some of which in their turn are affiliated to Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses. These associations, however, cannot fully meet the need.

The Council express the opinion that nursing should be available for all illnesses, and all persons, when the doctor deems it necessary, and states that, with the approval of the Minister of Health, they propose to refer the further consideration of the Nursing and Midwifery Services under their Reference, to a special committee for more detailed consideration.

The Welsh Council have attempted to prepare estimates of what should be regarded as an adequate number of Medical Practitioners, Nurses, Health Visitors, and other persons engaged in the health services of the community, and to express views as to the respective duties, and as to their relations to one another in a properly co-ordinated organisation. In a further Report the Council hope to make recommendations as to the qualifications and training of the several persons engaged in medical and allied services, and to deal with the financial aspects of their recommendations. They recommend that one full time qualified Midwife should be available for every 100 births per annum in thickly populated centres; one for every 80 births per annum in small towns; and one for every 40 to 60 births in rural parts.

Also, that an adequate service of Registered Nurses, always acting under the instructions of the doctor, should be available for attendance upon the sick, and that apart from the nurses actually required, at any given time in the Institutions there should be one outdoor nurse for every 3,000 of the population.

MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The Council expresses the opinion that the whole scheme for Health Visitors, Home Helps, Midwives, Registered Nurses, Doctors, Dentists and Institutions will be dependent for its efficient administration upon a large systematic motor Transport Service. Such a Service would go some way to putting a patient in a rural district in no worse a position than a patient in an urban district.

TELEPHONE FACILITIES.

It is considered advisable in the interests of the health of the people in rural areas that telephone facilities should be greatly increased. Whilst motor cars have done a great deal to annihilate distance for the Practitioner, it is at present impossible for people living in a remote part of the country to get into touch with the Doctor rapidly enough when his services are urgently and suddenly required, *e.g.*, in cases of precipitate labour.

Wherever a Health Visitor, Home Help, or Registered Nurse is domiciled it is important that she should be in telephonic communication with the Doctors and the Institutions in the area, and also with those responsible for the provision of Motor Transport.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The Report for 1919-1920 of the National Union of Trained Nurses, lately issued, is a record of a great amount of work done during the past year, and contains much information useful to nurses. It shows that in the battle for State Registration of Nurses the Union played a honourable part, and helped materially to secure the final victory. It records the appointment of Miss Helen Pearse as President of the Union, in succession to Miss M. Heather-Bigg, and of Miss Farrant, as Hon-Secretary.

We note also that Miss Violetta Thurstan, M.M., member and late Secretary of the Union, has been placed by the Egyptian Government in charge of the Beduin Industries Refugee Camp at Behig in the Western Desert Province. There are about 500 Arab women and their belongings who live in tents, and weave beautiful carpets and other similar articles.

The Union is represented on a number of other societies thus keeping in touch with nurses' societies having similar interests, as well as with the National Council of Women, and the Professional Workers' Federation.

The Scattered Members' Branch is, we read, the most disinterested section of the Union. The material benefits its members derive are small, though many avail themselves of the Employment Centre, and when in town are always welcomed at the headquarters, and invited to any meetings of the London Branch, and it is hoped they will make good use of the bedrooms. The Report states that their financial help, and, even more, the consciousness that these loyal people, scattered through the United Kingdom and abroad, are backing the democratic principles for which the Union stands are of great service to it, and strengthen its numerous activities on behalf of the profession.

NURSES AND PEACE.

Nurses who are anxious to forward the ends of Peace are invited to join the League of Nations Pageant on Hampstead Heath on Bank Holiday. The Demonstration is arranged to inform and interest the throngs of people who spend their holiday on the Heath. The Committee wants a big contingent of nurses. It asks them to:—

Come in uniform and follow the "War" Car.

Fall in at *No. 1 Post*, at 2.30 p.m. at the point where Corringham Road joins Hampstead Way. This is about four minutes' walk from Golder's Green Station, up Rotherwick Road.

For any further information write to W. H. Close, M.C., Major R.E., Honorary Secretary of the Committee, 41, Corringham Road, N.W. 4.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)