

**SUPERINTENDENT SISTERS.**—Neither are the times at which the Superintendent Sisters should come on or go off duty specified, but the number of hours weekly they are on duty should be 54.

*Summary.*—The number of hours duty per week would then be as follows:—

	Hours.
Night Nurses (averaged over two weeks)	60½
Home Sisters ... ..	58
Superintendent Sisters ... ..	54
Ward Sisters (6×10)–3–3 ... ..	54
Staff Nurses, Senior Probationers, Probationers (second year), Assistant Nurses Cl. I, Assistant Nurses Cl. II (after their first year), and Assistant Nurses (after their first year) (6×11)–5–3 ...	58
Probationers (first year)	} (6×11)–3–7½ 55½
Assistant Nurses (first year) ... ..	
Assistant Nurses Cl. II (first year) ... ..	
Annual Leave.—To remain as at present.	

(e) REMUNERATION.

The Chief Medical Officers report further that as a compensation for the greater number of hours the nursing staff would have to work, some increases in the salaries paid would be expected, and they suggest certain additions to the salary and wages scale as suitable to the occasion. In recommending these additions they have, they state, been influenced by two considerations: first, the need for emphasising more strongly than is the case in the present scale the difference in value between the services rendered to the hospital by the more experienced grades, and those rendered by mere beginners; and second, the feeling, which has been very apparent of late, that trained nurses generally are underpaid. So far as nurses with experience are concerned, they are in agreement with this view.

The Board adopted an increase in basic salaries for their nursing staff other than those at Mental Hospitals, where the conditions are the subject of special agreement between the Board, the London County Council, and the Asylum Workers' Union.

What nurse could wish for a better tribute than the late Nurse Smith of Insh, Aberdeenshire, concerning whom a patient wrote:—

"I wonder if we who had grown accustomed to her frequent ministrations really realise what it means and what we have lost? She was a born nurse in every sense of the word, ever ready to help, advise, or sympathise. It mattered not whether she was called to the mansion or the home of the poorest. She was ever the same dignified, helpful, tactful nurse, beloved by young and old, and little children put themselves in her way to get her glad 'Good morning' as she passed. We would fain have kept her, but 'to live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die.'

"Truly, we are better men and women for having known the district nurse."

## NURSING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### GENERAL NURSING COUNCIL.

(SIR W. HERRINGHAM).

In the House of Commons on August 2nd:—

MR. MILLS asked the President of the Board of Education under what provision of the Nurses' Registration Act of 1919 he appointed Sir Wilmot Herringham to the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, considering the fact that the two nominees of the Board of Education, the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills and Miss Steele, are still members of the Council, and that, according to the Act, the Board are only entitled to make two nominations; and why, if changes have been made in the Board's nominees, the General Nursing Council have received no intimation of the fact?

MR. FISHER: The appointment was made under Section 2 of the Schedule to the Act. The Hon. member is under a misapprehension in supposing that Mrs. Hills is now a nominee of the Board; she occupies her seat on the Council on the nomination of the Privy Council. The failure to inform the General Nursing Council of the changes in the Board's nominations was due to a misunderstanding which I regret.

In the House of Commons, on August 4th:—

MR. WIGNALL asked the Minister of Health whether, in January, 1922, when Sir Wilmot Herringham was appointed to the General Nursing Council of England and Wales, there was only one vacancy on the council, that occasioned by the resignation of Mr. J. C. Priestley, K.C., the nominee of the Privy Council; whether the Board of Education appointed the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills to the General Nursing Council in May, 1920, and Miss Steele in October, 1921; whether he will state under what provision of the Nurses Registration Act of 1919 the Board of Education appointed Sir Wilmot Herringham in January, 1922, considering the fact that, according to the Schedule of the Act, they are only entitled to two nominations, and that the Hon. Mrs. Eustace Hills and Miss Steele are still members of the council; and why, if changes have been made in the nominees appointed by the different bodies, the council has never yet been notified of the fact?

MR. DUDLEY WARD (Vice-Chamberlain of the Household): I would refer the hon. Member to the reply given by my right hon. Friend the President of the Board of Education to a similar question by the hon. Member for Dartford on the 2nd August.

The point of Mr. Wignall's question appears to be why the General Nursing Council has never yet been notified of the changes made in the nominees appointed by the different nominating bodies, and to this he received no adequate reply.

We learn on good authority that the resignation of the late Chairman, Mr. J. C. Priestley, took effect only on January 25th, yet from Novem-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)