

## THE FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE IN KENTUCKY.

The following information for enquirers regarding positions on the Staff of the Frontier Nursing Service, Kentucky, under the direction of Mrs. Mary Breckinridge, has been received, which we give for the information of trained Nurse-midwives who desire to apply for employment with this Service.

The work of the Frontier Nursing Service is carried forward on horseback, from centres built and kept up by the organisation and equipped with dispensary, waiting room, living room, kitchen, bedrooms, bath, storage space and barns. A centre is in the heart of a radius of approximately five miles. Such an area covers over seventy square miles, but the nurses living at the centre are at no time more than five miles from the farthest patient. The country is rugged, mountainous and isolated, but extremely beautiful. The people are of the old American colonial stock, most friendly and helpful. The leading citizens in each area covered serve on a District Nursing Committee, which advises with the nurses once a month.

The nurses live, two or more, at these centres and make their own housekeeping arrangements.

### Terms.

The terms offered by the Frontier Nursing Service are a salary of \$150.00 a month with residence at one of the centres, but no other maintenance. A horse and its upkeep are furnished and dispensary laundry. The salary is increased to \$160.00 a month after a year of service. One month's vacation a year is allowed with salary, and an additional week in the spring and autumn to cover overtime. The schedule of service is based on a 44-hour week.

The Frontier Nursing Service will pay the expenses of the nurse from the point at which it engages her to the point of service. If this includes an ocean voyage, the allowance is for cabin fare, and the head tax is paid for entrance to the United States. The allowance for train service includes Pullmans and all incidental expenses.

The Service pays half salary only, namely, \$75.00 a month, for the first month the nurse is on duty, if the travel expenses paid are within a three-day travel limit. If the travel expenses paid are beyond that limit, the organisation pays half salary for the first two months. Owing to the fact that the country and people are all new to the nurse, she is not expected for several weeks to assume full responsibility at her post.

### Equipment.

The Frontier Nursing Service provides two pair of saddle bags for each nurse, one for midwifery and one for generalised nursing, with complete equipment, and the rubber aprons, operating gowns, white uniforms, and V.A.D. caps worn in the homes and dispensaries. The nurses are expected to provide the outdoor uniform of the organisation, which is a cadet grey riding costume of heavy woollen in the winter and sleeveless linen coats and knickers with white blouses in the summer. These are made to measure, and measurement blanks will be sent an applicant, to be filled in, upon the acceptance of her application.

An applicant is not required to be familiar with horseback riding, but she is requested to take a few riding lessons before coming if she has never ridden, just to gain a seat in the saddle and know how to handle the reins. She is given a very steady, quiet, sure-footed mountain horse for the beginning of her service.

### Requirements.

An applicant for a position with the Frontier Nursing Service must be a general trained nurse in good standing, registered in one of the American States or in another

country with equivalent standards, who has had either training or experience in public health or district work. She must in addition hold the certificate of the Central Midwives Board of England, Scotland or Ireland, or an equivalent training in midwifery.

She must forward, with her application, copies (not the originals) of her credentials and an outline of her training and experience, with names of superintendents, places and dates. She is requested to give her age, religious affiliation, if any, and a medical statement as to her health.

If the applicant is not a resident of the United States she is advised that it may take several months to get her name on the quota. It is therefore suggested that, at the time of mailing her application to the Frontier Nursing Service, she makes application, through the nearest American Consulate, to come over on the earliest quota vacancy. She can withdraw from the quota later if she does not join the Service. Full directions for reaching her station in the Service will be sent the applicant before she leaves her point of engagement, and a draft to cover her expenses. It is understood that the engagement is for not less than a year.

Printed matter regarding the work of the Frontier Nursing Service is sent the enquirer under separate cover. Should the enquirer wish to make application she is requested to send the required papers to—

MRS. MARY BRECKINRIDGE, Director.

Wendover above Hyden,  
Leslie County, Kentucky, U.S.A.

## LEGAL MATTERS.

### NOT A REGISTERED NURSE.

May Sheedy (26), a nurse, who was stated to be the daughter of a Durham miner, and to have been adopted by a Leeds doctor, was, as reported in the *Daily Mail*, charged at Stratford police court with stealing, as bailee, furniture valued at £139. Her address was given as St. Alban's Road, Woodford Green.

Detective-Inspector Copley said that there were other charges against Sheedy of thefts in the North of England and the Midlands, but the prosecution did not want to go on with them. The girl was born in Durham, he stated. Her father was a miner. She was adopted by a Dr. Sheedy, of Leeds, who on his death left her his practice, which for a time she carried on with the aid of a doctor she employed. She had used the name of "Dr. Mack." It was understood that she had changed her name by deed poll.

Sheedy: My name was properly changed to Sheedy.

It was stated that Sheedy in April went to a shop at High Road, Leytonstone, and ordered furniture to the value of £100. She gave the name of "Dr. Mack," and an address at Hermon Hill, Wanstead. She paid a deposit of 10s., and later, by instalments, £8 10s. When her payments stopped a visit was paid to the address she had given, and the furniture was gone.

In June she went to a shop at Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, and bought a gramophone and furniture. When she ceased to pay the instalments she left the neighbourhood. She had sold the gramophone to a dealer.

Sheedy pleaded guilty, and said that she would like other charges against her taken into account.

Mr. L. H. Walden, the Clerk, read out a list of additional charges.

The Magistrate: It is a pity to see a woman of your position and education in such a plight. You will go to gaol for 12 months with hard labour.

That a woman with such a history should be able to pose as a Nurse should engage the attention of the Minister of Health and the General Nursing Council. It is certainly an argument for compulsory Registration of Nurses.

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