

INCOME TAX FOR NURSES.

By JOHN LYMESTER.

Taxation to meet the cost of the war is increasing and many more nurses are now required to pay income tax.

For the present fiscal year, that is, 1941-42, which runs from April 6th, 1941, to April 5th, 1942, the income tax payable will be deducted from the salaries of employees over the year from November, 1941, to October, 1942. All others have to pay their income tax in two instalments on January 1st and July 1st, 1942.

For the purposes of assessment the tax payable is based on the income of the preceding year. Thus, the present assessment, 1941-42, is based on the income of the year to April 5th, 1941. The income will include your wages, or salary, if in employment, or your profits if a free-lance, plus any other receipts from interest dividends and so on, and the annual value of any property you own and must also include any gifts you receive from patients.

Should you have started on your own, or the employment has only been recently commenced, the assessments are raised as follows:—

1st Income Tax Year.—The income from the date of commencement to the following April 5th.

2nd Income Tax Year.—The income of the first 12 months.

3rd Income Tax Year.—The income of the preceding year.

The taxpayer has, however, the right to adjust both the second and third years' assessments to the actual income of these years if it is to her advantage, but the adjustment must be made for both years and not one only.

Also, should the taxpayer cease to carry on her employment, or on her own account, the assessment for the last year will be adjusted to the actual income arising, but the Revenue have the right to adjust the next to last year to the actual income, if it is to their advantage.

A married woman's income, of course, is, for the purposes of assessment and collection, included with that of her husband, unless separate assessment is claimed.

From the remuneration assessed the employee is entitled to deduct all expenses incurred wholly, exclusively and necessarily in the performance of her duties. This will include the cost of uniform and so on, if not provided, but not the travelling expenses incurred to attend the place of employment. Payments to approved superannuation funds are allowable.

The free-lance can deduct all expenses incurred wholly and exclusively for the purposes of the profession. This will include the cost of uniforms, medicine, instruments, subscriptions to societies and part of the rent, rates, telephone and so on of the house from where the profession is carried on.

All taxpayers are also entitled to certain of the following allowances:—

Earned Income Relief.—This is one-tenth of all earned income with a maximum of £150. In the case of a married woman an additional allowance of nine-tenths of her earned income, with a maximum of £45, is allowed from the joint income of her husband and herself.

Personal Allowance.—A single person is entitled to an allowance of £80, but in the case of husband and wife the allowance is only £140.

Child Allowance.—An allowance of £50 is granted in respect of each child who is under 16 years of age, or if over that age is receiving full-time educational instruction, providing the child's income is less than £50 per annum.

Housekeeper.—A widow who employs a housekeeper is entitled to an allowance of £50, as also is an unmarried woman who does so to look after her younger brothers and sisters.

Dependent Relative.—Again, if a taxpayer maintains her widowed mother, or mother-in-law, or any other relative who, due to old age or infirmity, is incapable of earning a living, an allowance of £25 is granted.

Relief is also granted in respect of premiums on policies of insurance on your life, but this relief is subject to a number of restrictions.

Of the balance of taxable income the first £165 bears tax at 6s. 6d. in the £, and the balance tax at 10s. in the £.

For 1941-42 the earned income relief has been reduced from one-sixth to one-tenth and the personal allowances from £170 and £100 to £140 and £80. Any additional tax payable by reason of these reductions is to be treated as savings.

Finally, in the event of any difficulty, an interview should be arranged with the Inspector of Taxes.

COMMITTEE ON THE SALARIES OF STATE REGISTERED NURSES.

Lord Rushcliffe has been appointed Chairman of the Nurses Salaries Committee by the Minister of Health. He was former Chairman of the Unemployment Assistance Board.

Making this announcement in the House of Commons Mr. Brown said that the committee would "draw up as soon as possible agreed scales of salaries and emoluments for State registered nurses employed in England and Wales in hospitals and in the public health services, including the service of district nursing and for student nurses in hospitals approved as training schools by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales."

The committee will consist of two panels of equal numbers, one representing employers and the other employees.

At the request of the Minister the following organisations have agreed to nominate representatives to serve on these panels.

EMPLOYERS' PANEL.	No. of Representatives.
British Hospitals Association (in association with King Edward's Hospital Fund for London and the Nuffield Trust)	6
County Councils' Association	4
Association of Municipal Corporations ...	4
London County Council	3
Urban District Councils' Association ...	1
Rural District Councils' Association ...	1
Queen's Institute of District Nursing ...	1
	—
	20
EMPLOYEES' PANEL.	
Royal College of Nursing	9
Trades Union Congress	5
National Association of Local Government Officers	3
Royal British Nurses' Association ...	1
British College of Nurses	1
Association of Hospital Matrons ...	1
	—
	20

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)