

## MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE.

### THE NURSES AND MIDWIVES (REGISTRATION FOR EMPLOYMENT) ORDER, 1943.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service recently announced that on Saturday, April 10, nurses and midwives as defined below must, unless special arrangements are made for them to register at a hospital, register at a Local Office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Registration takes place under the Nurses and Midwives (Registration for Employment) Order, 1943, made by the Minister of Labour and National Service under the powers conferred upon him by Regulation 58A of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1943.

Persons who must register are all British subjects of either sex (whatever their period of residence in this country) born after March 31st, 1883, and before April 1st, 1926, who fall within any of the classes or descriptions of persons classified below:—

1. All nurses whose names appear on the General or Supplementary State Registers of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and the General Nursing Council for Scotland.

2. Nurses not State Registered but who held a certificate of at least three years' training before June 30th, 1925, in a Training School approved by the General Nursing Council for England and Wales, or before September 30th, 1925, in a Training School approved by the General Nursing Council for Scotland.

3. State Certified midwives, whether practising or not, and women whose names have been but are no longer on the Roll of Midwives except—

(i) those who were compulsorily retired by the local supervising authority under Section 5 (2) of the Midwives Act, 1936, or by the Local Authority under Section 4 (2) of the Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937, on the ground of age or infirmity; and

(ii) those whose names have been removed from the Roll by direction of the Central Midwives Board, or the Central Midwives Board for Scotland under their Penal powers.

4. Student nurses and pupil midwives.

5. Persons who are or who have been nursing auxiliaries in the Civil Nursing Reserve, or who are or who have been V.A.D.s or nursing members of the British Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Brigade or St. Andrew's Ambulance Association who have had not less than six months' full-time experience in nursing duties, whether or not they are now actually engaged in such duties.

6. Nursery nurses who hold a nursery nursing certificate after training at—

(i) a Nursery Training College; or

(ii) a Nursery approved by the National Society of Children's Nurseries.

7. Other persons who have had at least one full year of experience in the nursing of sick persons in a hospital or similar institution.

8. All persons who, on March 30th, 1943, were employed in or engaged for the purpose of nursing sick or injured persons.

The main groups of persons exempted are members of the Armed Forces of the Crown, members of the W.R.N.S., A.T.S., W.A.A.F., or members of the Nursing Services of the Crown or any reserves of those Services.

*They should take with them their National Registration Identity Cards, their National Service Registration Certificates, and, in the case of State Registered Nurses, their*

*number on the State Register: and in the case of State Certified Midwives, their number on the Roll of Midwives.*

Persons who fail to register are liable on summary conviction to three months' imprisonment or to a £100 fine or both.

### THE CONSCRIPTION OF NURSES, MIDWIVES AND NURSERY MAIDS.

The above Order issued by Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labour, amounts to conscription of Nurses, Midwives and Nursery maids—(we hope the canny Assistant Nurse will also be caught in its toils).

We regret that such an Order has been found necessary, but are not surprised, as many trained and semi-trained nurses have failed to offer their services to the sick and wounded, preferring to do private nursing for high fees. For these unpatriotic women little sympathy can be felt. At the same time the dangerous lust for power in certain Ministries is arousing a deep sense of resentment and antagonism, of which the "Nurses Bill," now being rushed through Parliament is an odious example. On all sides the demand is growing that a General Election should be held at an early date. The sight of empty benches in the House of Commons when matters of life and death are under discussion so far as the efficient nursing of the sick is concerned, is evidence of political degeneracy of a very serious nature.

### POSTS FOR NURSERY NURSES.

We have received the following information. No work can be of greater value to the national effort in war. It is stated that before long there will be 1,450 war-time day nurseries in England and Wales, as 750 are open already and there are about 700 more in various stages of completion. This means that a large number of women and girls will be needed to take up staff posts as soon as these new nurseries are ready.

Some of these staff posts offer a grand opportunity for useful war-work to women with sufficient experience, such as a nursery college training or more than two years' work in charge of little children in a private nursery. Even if they come within the call-up ages of 19 and 31, the special qualifications these "Nannies" possess will enable them to choose nursery nursing instead of another form of war-work.

If a Nursery Nurse has had institutional experience and holds a training college certificate or the diploma of the National Society of Children's Nurseries, she can apply for a post at once as a Sister or deputy matron in a war-time nursery with a salary of £160 or £180 a year. If she holds a certificate or diploma, but has no institutional experience, she can become a nursery nurse or an assistant nurse with a salary of £135 to £150. If she has only done private nursery work, but for more than two years, she can earn £120 a year as a nursery assistant.

Owing to the need that is arising for women with sufficient professional knowledge to take the more responsible posts in the day—and also in the residential nurseries—as deputy matrons and Sisters, the Ministry of Health has arranged additional training for specially selected Nannies who possess a college certificate and have also worked in a private nursery.

These trainings are given free of charge at certain children's hospitals in London, Liverpool, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Sheffield. Each course lasts for three months and during this time the candidate will learn institutional methods and routine, and be given instruction in infant feeding, special diets, the avoidance of infection, the treatment of childish ailments and many other matters connected with the health and well-being of children under five.

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