

Increases in Pay for Trained Nurses.

INCREASED salaries for ward sisters, charge nurses, staff nurses and enrolled assistant nurses employed in general hospitals—both men and women—were announced recently by the Nurses and Midwives Whitley Council. The increases come into force immediately, with retrospective effect to February 1st, 1949.

A review of the salaries of comparable grades in all other hospitals in the National Health Service, including mental nurses and midwives, will follow. It has already been announced that all increases will operate from the same date (*i.e.*, February 1st, 1949).

The new salaries will be on an inclusive basis and are therefore more in line with the modern practice of professional remuneration. The salaries are the same for resident and non-resident nurses. Resident nurses will therefore be called upon to make a payment for board and lodging, and income tax related to the inclusive salary.

The new rates are as follows (previous rates in England and Wales including the value of board and lodging are also shown).

WOMEN.

Previous rates.	Per annum.	New rates.
WARD SISTER		
Cash salary	£180-260	Gross salary : £375 rising by 7 annual increments of £15 and 1 increment of £20 to £500.
Value of emoluments	£120	
STAFF NURSE		
Cash salary	£140-200	Gross salary : £315 rising by 8 annual increments of £12 10s. to £415.
Value of emoluments	£100	
ENROLLED ASSISTANT NURSE		
Cash salary	£120-170	Gross salary ; £285 rising by 8 annual increments of £12 10s. to £385.
Value of emoluments	£100	

MEN.

Previous rates on non-resident rates.		New rates.
CHARGE NURSE	£312-380	£385 rising by 7 annual increments of £15 and 1 increment of £10 to £500.
STAFF NURSE	£260-312	£325 rising by 8 annual increments of £12 10s. to £425.
ENROLLED ASSISTANT NURSE	£239-291	£300 rising by 8 annual increments of £12 10s. to £400.

Nurses who are resident will pay £120 per annum (ward sisters and charge nurses £130) for board and lodging and other services provided by the hospital. Non-resident nurses will pay £20 per annum for meals on duty and the use and laundry of uniform.

The total number of nurses and midwives employed full time in the hospital service throughout England, Wales and Scotland is about 125,000. The Whitley Council has now dealt with the salaries of close on 100,000.

The rates for part-time nurses have not yet been determined.

What to Read.

MEMOIRS AND BIOGRAPHY.

"As Thoughts Survive." Dame Leslie Whateley, D.B.E., Director of the A.T.S., 1943-1946.

"Sarah Bernhardt, My Grandmother." Lysiane Bernhardt.

"Laughter in the Next Room." Sir Osbert Sitwell.

FICTION.

"A Lion Among Ladies." George Beardmore.

"A Little Light Music." Barbara Hunt.

"The Heat of Day." Elizabeth Bowen.

"Sun in Scorpio." Ronald Fraser.

"Samara." Norman Lewis.

EXCITEMENT.

"The Golden Salamander." Victor Canning.

"Sudden Fear." Edna Sherry.

"Proceed at Will." Burke Wilkinson.

"Crooked House." Agatha Christie.

The General Nursing Council for Scotland.

The General Nursing Council for Scotland met on Friday, May 27th, 1949.

It was agreed to extend the training facilities of Maryfield Hospital, Dundee, by permitting Student Nurses of the Hospital to spend a period in the Thoracic Surgical Unit at Ashludie Sanatorium.

Registration of Sister Tutors.

The Council agreed to recognise the Sister Tutor Diploma of the University of London under the Rules for Registration of Sister Tutors and the General Nursing Council for England and Wales has agreed to give similar recognition to the Sister Tutor Diploma of the University of Edinburgh.

Uniform for Registered Nurses and Enrolled Assistant Nurses.

It was reported that the Rules providing for revision of the Uniforms for Registered Nurses and Uniforms for Enrolled Assistant Nurses became operable on May 24th, 1949, and that copies of the Statutory Instruments (1949, No. 983 (S.62) and 1949, No. 984 (S.63)) were obtainable at His Majesty's Stationery Offices.

Registration under Reciprocity Agreements were granted to Nurses from Eire, Tasmania, Victoria (Australia), New Zealand and South Africa.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday, June 30th, 1949.

Town and Country Life in England.

A COURSE on "Town and country life in England," arranged by the British Council with the co-operation of local authorities, opened on May 24th, in Bradford, with representatives attending from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

They are studying city life and industry in Bradford until June 1st, when the course will transfer to the old country market town of Skipton for a further fortnight.

The Director of Education for Bradford will describe recent educational developments and the visitors will be able to see examples of both newly established schools and schools whose origins date back to the 15th century though their buildings are modern and well equipped.

Other lecture subjects will include local government in city and country, social welfare, police, factory conditions, farming and village life, and the leisure time occupations of the countryman, and a brief survey of the part which art, literature and music play in the life of the community.

Members will visit a Council meeting, youth clubs, a community centre, one of the woollen firms for which Bradford is famous, and sheep farms, village institutes, clubs and cottages in the hills and dales outside Skipton, as well as places of literary, historic, and scenic interest in the vicinity such as the home of the Brontë sisters at Haworth, the ancient city of York, Bolton Abbey and Wharfedale and the caves and waterfalls at Ingleton.

A feature of the course is that residents of Bradford and Skipton are offering hospitality to members in their own homes.

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