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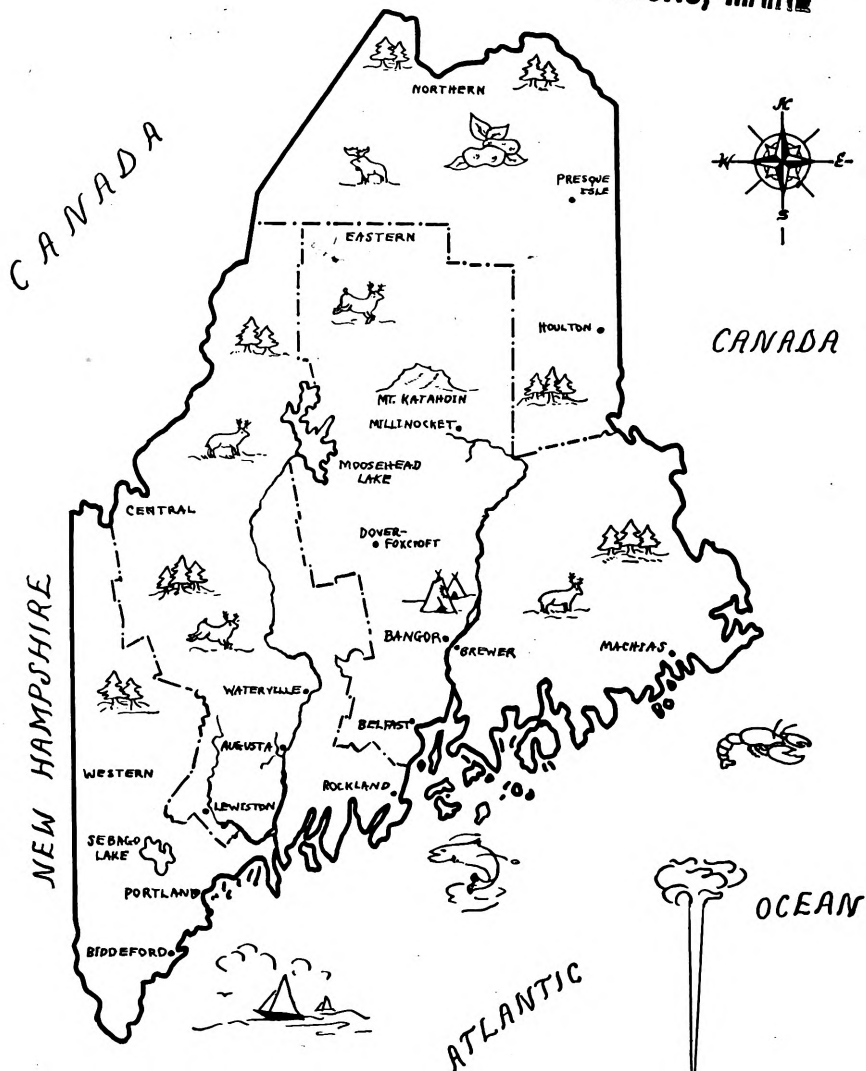
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THE MAINE R.N.

December, 1953



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ORONO, MAINE



Annual Report Issue

THE MAINE R. N.

Volume II

DECEMBER, 1953

Number 4

Published by the Maine State Nurses' Association

March, June, September, December

489 State St., Bangor, Maine

Mrs. Aubigne C. Smith, R.N., Editor

768 Union St., Bangor, Maine

Subscription price \$1.00 per year to members; \$1.25 per year to non-members.
Single copies .35.

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 Mrs. Madelyn C. Perkins, Augusta General Hospital,
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Alternates

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 Eleanor M. Irish, 30 West St., Portland 4
 Alternates
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 Mildred Richards, 489 State St., Bangor

The President's Page

Were you among those who attended the Annual Meeting of the Maine State Nurses' Association and the Maine League for Nursing in Bangor on October 8 and 9? If so, then I know you came away from this meeting stimulated and full of enthusiasm for the tasks ahead. Just the other night I remarked to our Executive Secretary, "Why do we work so hard to try to make our Association successful, when so few of the membership have any realization of the tremendous amount of behind the scenes planning that is necessary to carry on the Association's functions?" She replied by asking, "Isn't the overwhelming response of the membership to the Annual Meetings reward enough?" Of course it is, just thinking about those two days in October 1953 can give a warm feeling of the support and cooperation that has been given in the past and will continue to be given in the future.

The Executive Committee of the MSNA held its first meeting with the new officers and members on November 20th at Doctor's Library, Eastern Maine General Hospital, Bangor. The highlights of the decisions it made appear elsewhere in this issue. Our sincere thanks go to the Administrators of EMGH for their kind hospitality.

As we go forward into a new year I would like to appeal to each present member of MSNA to take it upon herself to be responsible for getting at least one new member to join our ranks. Come in and be an active member. It's stimulating. It's educational. It's fun.

MAINE LEAGUE FOR NURSING

President.....Miss Eleanor M. Melledy, R.N.
 Central Maine General, Lewiston
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 128 Wilmet St., Portland

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 Sister Annunciata, R.N., Mercy Hospital, Portland
 Miss Mildred I. Lenz, R.N., 363 Main St., Lewiston
 For one year:
 Miss Edith H. Doane, R.N., Maine Medical Center, Portland
 Miss Eleanor C. Meserve, R.N., Machias, Box 315
 Miss Alice R. Teague, R.N., V. A. Administration, Togus

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Chairman, Mrs. Velma P. Haley, R.N.
 187 Middle St., Portland

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR NURSING EDUCATION

Chairman, Miss Ruth Jean Kohl, R.N.
 Central Maine General Hospital, Lewiston

Compliments of

The Maine State
 Industrial Nurses'
 Association



YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Back row, left to right: Eleanore M. Irish, Chairman Public Health Section; Laura Austin, Chairman Private Duty Section; Alice M. Tremblay, 2nd Vice-President, MSNA; Edith W. Woodman, President Western District; Georgina J. Patterson, President Eastern District; Doris B. Greene, Secretary, MSNA; Honor Purvis, President Northern District; Mildred Richards, Chairman INSA Section.

Front row: Sister St. Jeanne Vianney, Director MSNA; Elizabeth Foyer, Acting President Central District; Pauline Ann Roy, Chairman General Duty Section; Dorothy Bourgoïn, 1st Vice-President, MSNA; Katherine Donley, President MSNA; Josephine C. Philbrick, Executive Secretary.

PRESIDENT

KATHERINE DONLEY, R.N., g. Madigan Memorial Hospital, Houlton; graduate study in Public Health, Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

Experience—Private duty; Operating Room Supervisor (Madigan Memorial, Houlton).

Present position—Staff Nurse, Division of Public Health Nursing, State of Maine Department of Health and Welfare.

Offices held—President (Madigan Memorial Alumnae Association); 1st Vice President (MSNA); Chairman, Public Health Section (MSNA).

Present offices—Board of Directors, New England Division.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. DOROTHY C. BOURGOIN, R.N., g. Central Maine General Hospital, Lewiston; graduate study at Simmons College, Boston.

Experience—Red Cross Public Health Nursing Service, Wolfeboro, N. H.; Staff Nurse and Supervisor, Biddeford Red Cross.

Present position—District Health Nursing Service, Lewiston.

Offices held—Secretary and Treasurer, Public Health Section (MSNA).

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

ALICE M. TREMBLAY, R.N., g. St. Barnabas Hospital, Portland; graduate study at New York University, Bellevue Center Hospital.

Experience—Private duty; Operating Room Staff Nurse and Assistant Supervisor (Maine General, Portland).

Present position—Operating Room Supervisor (Maine General, Portland).

Offices held—Treasurer and President (St. Barnabas Hospital Alumnae Association); Vice President and President, Western District (MSNA); Board of Directors (MSNA).

Present Offices—Board of Directors, New England Division.

SECRETARY

MRS. DORIS B. GREENE, R.N., g. Eastern Maine General Hospital, Bangor.

Experience—Staff Nurse, Eastern Maine General, Bangor.

Present field—Private duty.

Offices held—Chairman, Private Duty Section (MSNA); Vice President, Eastern District (MSNA).

TREASURER

MRS. INA G. BEAN, R.N. g. Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston; graduate study at Boston University.

Experience—Private duty, Boston.

Present position—Nursing Arts Instructor, Mercy Hospital, Portland.

Offices held—Treasurer, Western District (MSNA); Treasurer, Sentinel Service Associates, Inc., Portland (Nurses' Professional Registry).

Present Offices—Board of Directors, New England Division.

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SISTER ST. JEANNE VIANNEY (Beauregard), R.N., B.S., M.S., g. St. Joan of Arc, St. Hyacinthe, Province of Quebec. B.S. in Hospital Science, Youville College, Montreal; M.S., Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

Experience—Supervisor of Medical and Surgical Units, Obstetrics, Operating Room; Nursing Arts Instructor (St. Mary's General, Lewiston).

Present position—Director, School of Nursing and Nursing Service (St. Mary's General Hospital, Lewiston).

Offices filled—Steering Committee on Curriculum, MLN.

DIRECTOR

MRS. SUSAN P. McGRATH, R.N., g. New England Hospital for Women and Children, Boston.

Experience—Head Nurse; Supervisor of Blood Bank (New England Hospital for Women and Children); Staff Nurse (Eastern Maine General, Bangor).

Present position—Head Nurse in Medical Unit, Eastern Maine General, Bangor.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MRS. JOSEPHINE C. PHILBRICK, A.B., R.N., Russell Sage College, Troy, New York; St. Luke's Hospital New York City; graduate study at New York and Columbia Universities.

Experience—Private duty, Medical Secretary, Office Nurse (New York City), Red Cross First Aid and Home Nursing Instructor, Bangor; Supervisor and Instructor, Nurses' Aides (Eastern Maine General, Bangor).

Present position—Supervisor, Blood Bank Program, Eastern Maine General, Bangor.

Offices held—Nursing Vice Chairman, Disaster Relief, Penobscot County ARC; Nursing Director, Casualty Posts, World War II, Bangor; Eastern District Nurse Deputy, Civil Defense; New England Division Board of Directors; President Maine State Nurses' Association.

Present offices—Vice President, New England Division; ANA Committee on Promotion of Membership; ANA Subcommittee on Workshops; Vice-Chairman, Steering Committee, Division of Nursing Service, MLN.

PRESIDENTS OF DISTRICTS
WESTERN

MRS. EDITH W. WOODMAN, R.N., g. St. Barnabas Hospital, Portland.

Nursing fields—General duty; Private duty.

Present field—Private duty.

Offices held—President, St. Barnabas Alumnae Association, Portland; Chairman, Private Duty Section (MSNA); Chairman, Governing Board, Nurses' Central Professional Registry, Portland.

CENTRAL

ELIZABETH F. FOYER, R.N. (Acting) g. Eastern Maine General, Bangor.

Experience—General duty, Head Nurse, Night Supervisor (Eastern Maine General, Bangor).

Present position—Pediatric Head Nurse and Instructor (Central Maine General, Lewiston).

Offices held—Chairman, General Duty Section (MSNA); 2nd Vice President, (MSNA); 1st Vice President, Central District (MSNA).

EASTERN

GEORGINA J. PATTERSON, R.N., g. Central Maine General, Lewiston; graduate study at Simmons College, Boston, in Public Health Nursing.

Experience—Private duty; General duty; Head Nurse, Rumford Community Hospital.

Present position—Public Health Nurse, State Department of Health & Welfare.

Offices held—Secretary and Treasurer, Public Health Section (MSNA); Treasurer, Eastern District (MSNA).

NORTHERN

MRS. HONOR PURVIS, R.N., g. Aroostook General, Houlton; Aroostook State Normal School, Presque Isle.

Experience—Private duty; Head Nurse and Supervisor, Northern Maine Sanatorium, Presque Isle.

Offices held—Vice President, Northern District (MSNA).

CHAIRMEN OF SECTIONS
EACT

FRANCES V. O'BRIEN, R.N., B.S., M.S., g. Mercy Hospital, Portland; B.S. and M.S., Boston University, Boston.

Experience—Staff Nurse, Head Nurse, Supervisor in Bangor, Waterville, and Portland hospitals; Nursing Arts Instructor and Assistant Director of Nursing Service, Mercy Hospital, Portland; Anesthetist, Maine General and Mercy Hospitals, Portland.

Present position—Assistant Director, Educational Program, Maine Medical Center School of Nursing, Portland.

Offices held—Board of Directors, Western District (MSNA); Chairman, Registry Committee, Nurses' Central Professional Registry, Portland.

INSA

MILDRED RICHARDS, R.N., B.S., g. Johns Hopkins, Baltimore; B.S. in Nursing Ed., Boston University.

Experience—General duty, Johns Hopkins; Staff Nurse, Maryland State Department of Health; Head Nurse and Staff Nurse, Army Nurse Corps (Harrogate, England and Nurnberg, Germany); Staff Nurse in OBS. Surgery, Mary Hitchcock Hospital, Hanover, N. H.

Present position—Supervisor OBS, Eastern Maine General, Bangor.

Offices held—Treasurer, Eastern District (MSNA).

PUBLIC HEALTH

ELEANORE M. IRISH, R.N., B.S., M.S., g. Peter Bent Brigham, Boston; B.S. in Nursing, Teachers College, Columbia University; M.S. in Public Health, University of Michigan.

Experience—Staff Nurse, Peter Bent Brigham, Boston; Staff Nurse, State of Maine Department of Health & Welfare.

Present position—Supervisor, Division of Public Health Nursing, State of Maine Department of Health & Welfare.

Offices held—President, Northern District (MSNA); Vice Chairman, Public Health Section (MSNA).

PRIVATE DUTY

LAURA M. AUSTIN, R.N., g. State Street Hospital, Portland.

Experience—Head Nurse, Mercy Hospital, Portland.

Present field—Private duty.

Offices held—Secretary, Private Duty Section (MSNA); Governing Board, Nurses' Central Professional Registry, Portland.

GENERAL DUTY

PAULINE ANN ROY, R.N., g. St. Mary's General Hospital, Lewiston; degree study at Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., and Boston University.

Experience—Staff Nurse, St. Mary's General Hospital, Lewiston.

Present position—same.

Offices filled—1st Acting President, Maine State Student Nurses' Association.



PAULINE ANN ROY, R.N.

Staff Nurse at St. Mary's General Hospital, Lewiston—the youngest member of our Executive Board.

CONVENTION REPORTS

The President's Address

Members of the Maine State Nurses' Association, the Maine League for Nursing, and Guests:

We are sitting in General Assembly of the 39th Convention of the Maine State Nurses' Association this afternoon—a convention which will terminate my tour of duty as your president. It is only right and proper that I should give you an accounting of my stewardship during two years in office.

These have been monumental years, both from the impact of world events and the equally catastrophic upheaval within our own structure. Because time is always at a premium during a convention, and because of the ground we need to cover before we adjourn, I shall try to be as brief as possible in bringing into focus some of the highlights of the last two years. It is not always easy "to see the forest for the trees." I shall now attempt to see that forest, and hope that you will go along with me in a kaleidoscopic review of this biennial.

First of all, a word about the new structure! The change in structure followed eight years of intensive research and study, and an even longer period in consideration of the feasibility of breaking down the barriers of six separate organizations and melding them into two. I do not need to dwell on the consummation of this goal at the ANA Biennial in Atlantic City in June of 1952. Those of you who were fortunate enough to be in Convention Hall during this transition saw nursing history in the making as few nurses have been privileged to participate before.

The new structure predicted the formation of new sections. Before the organization of these, however, came the birth of our sister organization—the Maine League for Nursing. It will always be a bright star in the crown of the nursing history of Maine that we were the first state to form the new League for Nursing. This happened by virtue of the fact that we held our annual convention in this year earlier than any of the other states, and not by reason of premeditation or long-range planning.

The dissolution of the old structure and the shape and mechanics of the new have

been difficult to explain to those nurses who have not followed closely the large amount of detail which this shaping has involved. During this past year, we have given our first attention to the interpretation of the new structure, and made every effort to offer guidance and instruction to our membership, with the hope that a more complete understanding of the lines of demarcation between the MSNA and the MLN could be accomplished. Even with all this effort, however, I dare say there are nurses sitting in our midst at this assembly who still do not understand the difference between the old League for Nursing Education and the new League for Nursing.

One phase of the ANA program during this transition year were the Regional Section Workshops, held in Boston in April of 1953. The purpose of these workshops was to bring together nurses representing specific sections for study and interpretation of the boundaries and functions of each section. As all of you know, seven sections have developed a personality all their own, and with new boundaries we now deal in colors—Pink for Industrial, Green for Private Duty, Orange for General Duty, Blue for Institutional Nursing Administrators (referred to now as the INSA), Yellow for Public Health, Beige for Special Groups, and Gray Blue for Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers (in short, EACT). White is the color for Associate Members. Not only are the membership lists compiled on colored sheets in accordance with this formula, but also your own individual membership card, the specific color denoting the section to which you belong. Before the dissolution of the old regime, the MSNA had three sections: Public Health, Private Duty, and General Duty. At the summer session of this association last May, two new sections were partially organized—EACT and INSA. It is our plan to complete the mechanics of organization of these sections during this convention, bringing our total to five. This will enable us to send five delegates to the ANA Biennial in Chicago next April, plus our three members-at-large. This is not the maximum strength which we could attain, if our membership were larger and if we had sufficient representation of another sectional group, Special Groups, at the summer session. However, we are on our way.

During the past year, we have seen ANA working toward a closer and more personal relationship with the individual nurse through the circulation of a president's report and a newsletter, with the hope that

by services of this nature each ANA member will have the feeling that she is "part and parcel" of the national association—that the ANA is YOU and not some nebulous group of nurses drawing up rules and regulations way off at some distant geographical point. Over and over again, you will hear a nurse say, "Belong to ANA? I should say not. What does it do for me?" The folder, "Wherever You Are," and the two that preceded it, "2 plus 2 Equals 4," and "There is Security in Numbers," have been prepared by the Public Relations Committee of ANA with the one purpose of giving you a concise outline of what ANA does for you. The old adage, "You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink," is equally true with enlisting your support of ANA. You can talk, argue, explain to the point of exasperation what ANA does for the individual nurse, but until she is touched by a personal experience and sees the light, no amount of effort and spilling over of your adrenalin will bear results. It is with this in view that a large proportion of the ANA budget has been earmarked for the circulation of information to the individual nurse.

Here in our state, we have been keeping time with the march of events. We have tried many ways. We have seen some excellent results; some that are disheartening to an extreme. We may not be so young in our state association from the standpoint of calendar years, but we are very immature from the standpoint of meeting the challenge that is offered us in competing on a national level. Although we have made good progress in the last biennium, there is still a staggering amount of work ahead of us. And for that we need teamwork. One hears a great deal about teamwork today—teamwork on the wards, teamwork in the T.S.O., teamwork all the way down the line—we need it just as badly in the MSNA. Too few members of this association are willing to bear any part of the responsibility of the workload. It is not enough to say that you will serve on a committee, and then find yourself too busy or disinterested to contribute any part of your time and self to that committee's job. This means that the same diachards carry on the skeletal force year in and year out, not because they want to be in there punching—they like to knit and play canasta too—but because there is no one else to carry the ball. The "potential" of good material in this association is limitless, yet it is not easy to enlist the enthusiasm of new blood. I do not mean to point this up as peculiar to Maine, but I do mean to lay especial significance on it.

Let us now take a quick survey of the last two years:

Membership

Through the efforts of a few hardy members, we have upped our membership figures over those of last year. Still and all, they are miserably low. In a state which had a current registration in 1952 of over 8000, 829 members are still a small percentage of the nurse population. Why? One potent reason is attitude. Nurses in Maine, by and large, do not consider their professional association an integral part of their working equipment. Many of them would be hurt, even offended, if you told them that "no good nurse" would think of *Not* belonging to her professional association, any more than a physician who wished to remain in good standing on the hospital staff would think of not belonging to the AMA. In fact, no accredited hospital will allow a physician on the staff who is not a fellow of the AMA. We are too easy with our nurses in not taking a stand in like vein.

Finances

Our finances have a more healthy complexion today than two years ago. This is due in part to the flip that was given the budget by an increase in state dues in 1952: that is, recognizing that something had to be done to keep the association out of the red, and anticipating an increase in ANA dues following the next Biennial, the membership voted at the 1951 Fall Convention to raise the dues to \$5.00 a year ahead of the ANA boost. This increase gave the association's finances enough of a backlog to go forward with assurance in expanding its services to you, the members. Although the MSNA dues are still the lowest of any in the New England group, there has been no further increase in state (or district) dues in the past year. The Executive Board recognizes that a higher rate of dues, both on state and district levels, would allow for the expansion of many services that are now necessarily curtailed because of "not sufficient funds." However, it also recognizes that progress is slow, and that with the upheaval in the new structure, it would be better to move forward more cautiously and give the members a chance to absorb structural changes first.

Headquarters

During the first year I was in office, the state headquarters were moved from Augusta to Bangor, to facilitate greater expediency and efficiency in caring for "affairs d'état." After the resignation of Helen Townsend in June, 1952, there was a stretch of time without an Executive Secre-

tary. Then, following the annual convention last September, Aubigne Smith was persuaded to take on the job on a part-time basis. I cannot be grateful enough to her for the bulwark of strength and moral support she has been all the way along the line. With Aubigne's advent into the executive force of the MSNA, we had a working team. It is largely to this teamwork that any measure of accomplishment may be attributed.

Economic Security

These years have seen the realization of the 40-hour week for general duty across the board in the nursing ranks of hospitals in Maine. Those of you who work under this arrangement know what it means to have the extra hours away from duty for recreation, relaxation, and pursuit of your own destiny. In the Private Duty field, we have seen the minimum wage of \$10.00 for 8-hour duty become a reality in almost all hospitals and communities in Maine. I put this in generalities, for there are still a few hospitals where this wage scale is not in force. However, there have been compromises and bargaining in other ways (too detailed to go into at this assembly), all of them beneficial to the nursing practice. Altogether, we have seen personnel practices show a heartening progress in line with ANA recommendations. The financial status of nurses practicing in Maine has never been better than at this hour.

Group Insurance

During 1952, a special committee for the study of group insurance for MSNA members was appointed, and at the Summer Session of the association in May of 1953, the Continental Casualty Plan of Disability Income and Hospitalization Insurance was endorsed by the Executive Board and presented to the membership. The initial enrollment period was to have terminated by October 1st, but due to so many of our nurses having been away for the summer months, it has been decided to extend this period for another month. This insurance is another one of the services which your state association offers you with the feeling that here is one thing you cannot afford *not* to participate in. It offers you the security of an income if your pay envelope is not forthcoming because of extended illness. Because it is a group insurance plan, your individual policy cannot be terminated or waived because of some non-insurable disease or ailment which may be your lot in the future. It is too early at this assembly to give you a resume of the response of the membership to this service, but I cannot

emphasize too strongly the virtues of a Group Insurance Plan of this nature and what it will mean to you.

The "Maine R.N."

Time will not allow for even a brief analysis of all the committee work and the concrete results which have been attained in these last two years. However, I do want to make a point of your state association's bulletin, "The Maine R.N." One of the services which the MSNA has been able to foster in the last two years has been that of a bulletin of a more weighty format that had hitherto been possible on curtailed funds. In 1952, this bulletin was circulated three times; in 1953, the editorial staff launched a plan for quarterly publication. Aubigne Smith assumed the duties as editor-in-chief, and an enlarged staff of advertising personnel procured the "ads" to help finance the magazine. Plans for even more extensive scope and coverage are in the blueprint stage. The need to further enhance this bulletin by putting it on a basis where it can carry itself all the way financially is one of our paramount problems, and the only answer seems to be a subscription fee. At the present, the bulletin is circularized to all members at no additional fee, but it is recognized after two years under the new management that a definite fee would cut down on the work of the editorial board in soliciting funds, would give you a six to eight page greater spread in printing material that you should be having, and, above all, give each member a more equitable share in the magazine. In order to give the Board the security of sufficient funds for long-range planning, it is further recognized that the only recourse is to increase the State dues by \$1.00, thus making the membership dues all-inclusive of the fee for the bulletin. Without these monies, however, we have gone about as far as we can in what we can offer you in a magazine.

Civil Defense

The nursing division of Civil Defense state planning reached its peak in 1952. Under the direction of Margaret Hodgkins, State of Maine Deputy No. 3, the assignment of graduate nurses to key positions under the state plan was virtually completed. Prior to this, an endless chain of conferences and committee meetings on state, county, and local levels had been held to promote teamwork and to orient nurses in what would be expected of them in disaster. I should have stated that "the structure" has been completed, for the actual assignment of nurses to posts is continually

in a state of flux. As nurses move around from pillar to post, become entangled with other responsibilities, develop inertia from lack of sufficient stimuli, and find their interests changing with the progress of time, the turnover of personnel is perhaps the most considerable and difficult angle one has to deal with. The bookkeeping alone in trying to keep a file in workable condition with changes of residence, replacements, and the myriad details of the CD pattern, is no small task.

Now that Russia has the H-bomb, it is more imperative than ever that our Civil Defense organization be maintained at full staff, and that our nurses are kept posted with informative material on all the latest developments and procedures. There are many of you here today on whose loyalty and dependability we are counting heavily in the event of disaster. We would like to have suggestions from you as to what further briefing and preparation you would like to have. Do you want more workshops?—panel discussions?—dry runs? Do you feel ready for that emergency? We must never for a minute overlook the fact that when and if the need arises, it will be the nurses who will carry the basic load in caring for the shocked populace. Are you ready?

What lies ahead as we swing into another year of activity? What are our needs? To mention only a few:

We need to increase our membership enrollment.

We need an active PC&PS Committee on state and district levels.

We need an Economic Security Council that has teeth in it.

We need continuity of standing committees and a rotation or stagger system of membership in these committees.

We need more sections, to increase our strength in the House of Delegates of ANA.

We need compulsory licensure of "all nurse for hire."

We need to modernize our nurse practice act.

We need better Public Relations.

We need more research and compilation of statistics, in order to have the weapons with which to continue to progress.

We need to increase our circulation of news to you.

We need better personnel practices and standards.

Above all else, *we need teamwork*. I can only repeat when I say that nurses alone cannot do these things. "There is Security in Numbers."

In closing, I would like to thank the Executive Board for its support and cooperation all along the way. Your Executive Board is the very warp and woof of your structure. What its members think—what they support—may be likened to the coronary circulation of the heart. You are the life blood, without which there could be no mortality in your association, but the Executive Board controls the flow of your circulation. If a blocking occurs in the coronary circulation, you are stopped in your tracks, and until that blocking can be removed, your circulation is grossly impaired. Without this august body to fall back on, I know that many times I could not have continued in office with any heart.

I would like to add a word about the Convention Planning Committee. This group of nurses has been a source of imagination and inspiration from the first discussion of plans to the present evolution. They have manifested a zeal and interest which have been truly exceptional. They have shown what can be done when everybody gets behind the wheel and pushes. I hope that each one of you here today has made the most of this convention; that you will go away from here feeling refreshed and stimulated. In the knowledge that you have is thanks enough for all that this convention has entailed in effort, time, and headaches.

And now, to each of you, my sincere thanks for the honor of having been your state president. I shall always feel indebted to you for the inspiration and challenge you have given me. I have had to learn fast during these years, for many of the technicalities of office were new to me. However, I recommend it to any of you as the finest course in preparation for future responsibilities. It has not always been easy. There have been moments of frustration and exhaustion. The status of president has meant a dedication all the way, in order to encompass the vast amount of travel and work that is the lot of your president today. In the last analysis, nonetheless, I can say with the utmost sincerity that it has been worth the effort. Just as there have been moments of despair, there have also been moments of fulfillment and reward. For all this, I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Convention Summary

The 39th Annual Convention of the Maine State Nurses' Association has come and gone. In retrospect, there is generally the feeling of "the cat that ate the canary." The attendance was heart-warming; the enthusiasm of the group was good to see; the speakers were "tops." The "bon mots" which have been handed the Convention Planning Committee have been royal thanks for the large amount of work that went into the preparation for this annual event. For those of you who were not able to be on hand and for the record, we now give you a summary of the committee, district and section reports.

Registration

MSNA members, 195; Students, 19; Guests, 6.

Legislation

Mary Catherine Ragan, Chairman of the Committee on Legislation, summarized legislation on a State and Federal level.

State Legislation

Bill .499—Resolve, Providing Funds for Nursing Attendant Education.

Nursing attendant education; appropriation for. Resolved: That there be, and hereby is, appropriated in favor of the department of education the sum of \$39,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954, and the sum of \$39,500 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955, for the purpose of providing nursing attendant education; said sum to be taken from the general fund of the state.

Due to the untimely death of Morris P. Cates, Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Education on Vocational Education, the implementation of the nursing attendant program was temporarily delayed. The Maine League for Nursing, Committee on Nursing Attendant Education, has been working with the Maine Board of Registration for Nurses in the preparation of a curriculum for Nursing Attendant schools.

Federal Legislation

Bolton Bill—H.R. 3850. This bill is identical in substance with the Cadet Nurse Corps Act of 1943, with the exception that

the Board of Registration will administer the funds.

S. 967. This bill, to extend the Hospital Survey and Construction Act for two years, was passed by both houses of Congress and sent to the president for his signature in July.

Legislation re. Income Tax Deductions. There are two phases to this. One has to do with deductions for household coverage necessitated by nurses who are employed: i.e. housekeepers, baby-sitters, etc. The other phase has to do with deduction of expenses incurred attending conventions. In respect to the latter, reference is made to a memorandum from Ella Best, R.N., Executive Secretary of ANA, July 15, 1953:

The interpretation, quoted below, of a ruling received by Mr. William Scott, ANA attorney, from the Bureau of Internal Revenue with respect to deduction of nurses' traveling expenses incurred in attending conventions will be of interest to you and your members. We are enclosing a copy of the ruling from the Bureau of Internal Revenue for your attorney.

"The ruling as to private duty nurses, and other nurses who have an independent contractor status, holds that convention expenses, including not only travel and lodging, but also fees and other expenses, are deductible in arriving at 'adjusted gross income,' which means that the standard deduction is available in addition. With respect to nurses who have the status of an 'employee,' the portion of convention expenses which represent travel, hotel, etc., may generally be deducted in arriving at adjusted gross income, while the remaining portion may be deducted if the standard deduction is not taken. However, a nurse who is an employee must be prepared to show that the convention expense was an 'ordinary and necessary business expense,' which means, in non-technical language, that it must be reasonably related to her job. On this particular point, factual situations may give rise to some controversy with local offices of the Internal Revenue Service."

It is our intention to publish in the official organs, closer to tax time, several items on tax information of particular interest to nurses.

In the meantime, however, nurses should be aware of this tax deduction so they may keep records of their expenses and the substantiating evidence necessary to support their claim.

Membership

The following figures were submitted by the secretary:

Overall membership836

(This is an increase of 84 over 1952.)

Section Strength

	Regular	Associate
Private Duty	208	9
General Duty	203	6
Public Health	91	4
INSA	125	9
EACT	46
Industrial	18
Special Groups	88	12
Not indicated	17
	779	57

From Your Editor:

Where's that news?

What are the students doing?

Who had refresher courses?

Who married whom—when?

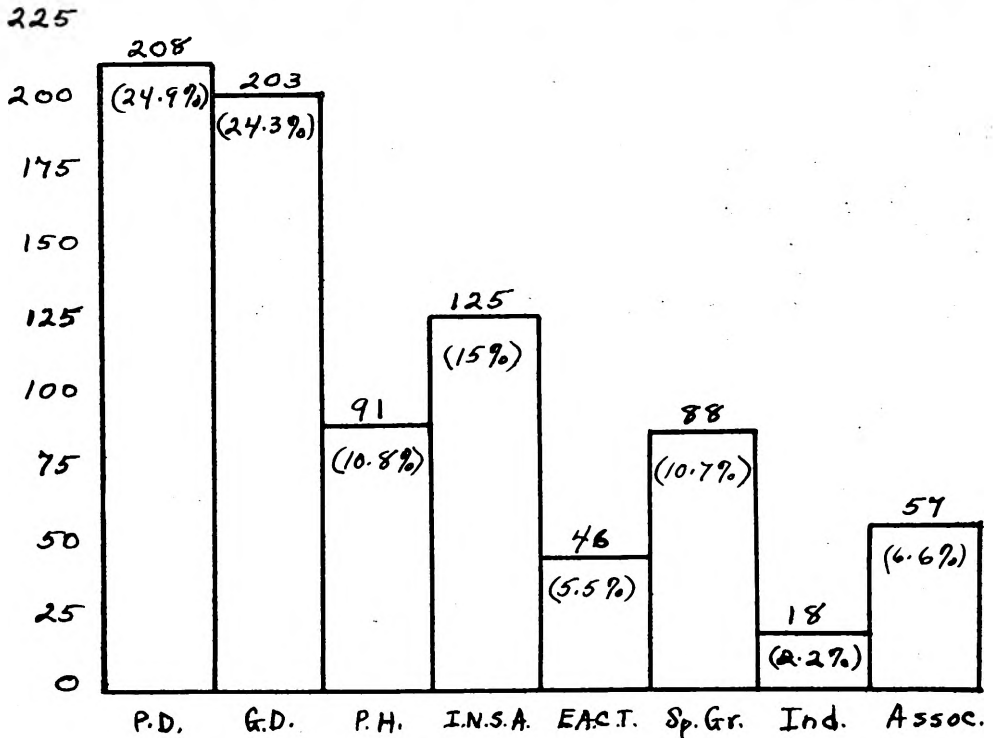
What are you folks doing in Northern, Eastern, Central and Western?

Did you forget to mail that "Letter to the Editor"?

NEWS, please, from you, and you, and YOU!

And—Season's Greetings to you all!

(Deadline for March issue—Feb. 20)

Occupational Fields—MSNA Membership—1953

Nominations

The nominating committee were unable to submit a full panel of nominees for all offices, and nominations were called for from the floor to fill the vacancies. The following slate was prepared and presented to the House of Delegates for vote:

President:

*Katherine Donley—Northern District
Mary Urquhart—Northern District

1st Vice-President:

*Mrs. Dorothy Bourgoïn—Central District
Mrs. Nellie D. Norell—Eastern District

2nd Vice-President:

*Alice M. Tremblay—Western District
Mrs. Edith W. Woodman—Western District

Secretary:

*Mrs. Doris B. Greene—Eastern District
Mrs. Susan P. McGrath—Eastern District

Treasurer:

Esther Andrews—Eastern District
*Mrs. Ina G. Bean—Western District

Directors:

Mrs. Mary-Anne Furbish—Western District
*Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick—Eastern District
Eleanor D. Shaw—
*Sister St. Jeanne Vianney—Central District

*—indicates those elected.

Tellers appointed were:

Mrs. Marjorie Boucher, Chairman
Mrs. Mary Graffam
Eleanor C. Meserve
Barbara J. Rogers

Nursing Information and Publicity

Louise D. Lambert reported that this committee has not met during the year, but has carried on its activities through correspondence. Publicity on meetings of districts and committees has been promoted through the newspapers. Clippings of these reportings have been snipped for the association's scrapbook.

The Maine R.N.

Mrs. Aubigne C. Smith, editor of "The Maine R.N." reported that the estimated cost of four issues during 1953 was \$1000, and the income from "ads" to date was \$795. She made the following recommendations:

A. Format to remain basically as is.

B. Subscriptions:

1. Rate of \$1.00 per year to MSNA members, this to be collected with annual dues.
2. Rate of \$12.5 per year to non-members (as at present).
3. Rate of 50¢ per year to students in groups of 5.

C. Advertising Policy—that we eliminate the unprofessional solicitation of funds, and thereby make more equitable the distribution of labor involved in publishing the bulletin. "Many of our advertisers have told us frankly that their 'ad' in the bulletin is of no value to them but they hate not to help us out."

D. Suggested Publication Policies—without the solicitation of "ads," the following would seem logical:

1. Three issues at a cost of approximately \$700, plus one newsletter at a cost of around \$28.00—total under \$750.00.
2. Publication dates: March, June, September, and a December newsletter.

"We hope the 'R.N.' is proving of value to you all, and that you will want to see it continue to grow and improve in scope and quality. We feel sure that you all must realize, however, that a small handful of individuals have so far carried the entire load—in some cases, only one person in an entire district."

American Journal of Nursing

In the absence of Sister St. Jeanne Vianney, the report was read by Lorna Dill. The members of this committee held a meeting at St. Mary's Home on August 3, 1953. The possibility of increasing subscriptions to the AJN was discussed. It was decided to send circular letters to the Presidents of the Alumnae of the Schools of Nursing throughout the state and to the Directors of Nursing Service in hospitals where graduate nurses are employed, with a leaflet explaining the advantages of club subscriptions. (N.B. At St. Mary's General Hospital, ten new subscriptions had been obtained through club membership.)

FOR NURSES' SHOES
Myer Canter Footwear
Lewiston, Maine

Nurses' Relief

Mrs. Ina G. Bean, the Chairman of the Committee on Nurses' Relief, reported that there had been no applications for funds during the past year.

Resolutions Committee

Whereas, the Maine State Nurses' Association has lost through death a Charter Member of the Eastern District, a graduate of the Eastern Maine General Hospital, Miss Lottie M. Bickmore, whose loyalty and devotion to her profession over a period of many years at the Eastern Maine General Hospital has been an inspiration to the students, to members of the staff, and to this association,

Be it Resolved, that an expression of deepest sympathy be extended to her family, and a copy inserted in the minutes of this Annual Meeting.

Whereas the Heavenly Father in His Infinite Wisdom has removed from this association our sister, Stella Barry, graduate of the Massachusetts Memorial Hospital, Director of South Portland Nursing Service,

Be it Resolved, that an expression of our deepest sympathy be extended to her brother, and an expression of our appreciation be spread on the minutes of this Annual Meeting for the splendid service she rendered through the District Nurses' Association to the families in the South Portland area, for her cooperation with others, and for her loyalty to Public Health agencies and all professional affiliations.

Whereas, Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick, as our President, has guided with wisdom and patience this Association through a period of reorganization,

Be it Resolved, that the members of the Maine State Nurses' Association express their appreciation for her stimulating leadership.

Whereas, the 39th Annual Convention of the Maine State Nurses' Association has been held at the Bangor House, Bangor, Maine for the purpose of carrying on the business of this organization; whereas, such end could not have been accomplished without the effort of many persons,

Be it Resolved, that the delegates and participants express their gratitude to Mr. Horace Chapman, Manager, and to his personnel, for their kind hospitality and courteous treatment,

To the Clergy and Nuns who asked God's blessing.

To Aubigne C. Smith for her services as Executive Secretary and Editor of "The Maine R.N.",

To Nellie C. Norell, Chairman of Arrangements, the Convention Planning Committee and all members of the Eastern District, for their friendly hospitality,

To Georgina J. Patterson, Chairman of Registration,

To Eleanor C. Melledy, President of the Maine League for Nursing,

To Katherine Donley, Chairman of Program Committee,

To the Guest Speakers, for their interesting and stimulating messages,

To the Exhibitors, for their generosity,

To the Press, Radio, and T.V. facilities, for their kind cooperation,

To all others who have made our stay at the Bangor House so delightful.

Alice R. Teague

Louise M. Lambert

Margaret Y. Hodgkins

Mary G. Smith, Chairman

CD

Report on the Nursing Section of the Medical and Health Services, Maine Civil Defense and Public Safety, given before the Maine State Nurses' Association, October 8th, 1953—by Margaret Y. Hodgkins, Asst. State Nurse Deputy Director.

It has been a year since a full report on Civil Defense Nursing has been presented. In order to give you a picture of the work accomplished and the problems encountered, it is necessary to present a digest of the activities of the County Nurse Deputies throughout the state. This digest is compiled from reports sent in by these nurses in response to a questionnaire circularized in June, 1953. Only six counties of the sixteen sent in full reports; four reported indirectly. The Nurse Deputies have tried very hard to organize their specific areas according to the overall CD Plans. Some have succeeded well; others, through no fault of their own, have been unable to get very far for several reasons:

1. No Medical Deputies appointed.
2. No cooperation from the Medical Deputies.
3. No meetings held to acquaint the County Nurse Deputies with the overall Civil Defense Plans.

Space does not permit a printing of the full report county by county, but the following calendar reviews the major activities of the State Nurse Deputy.

October—Meeting in Augusta for all County and Local Nurse Deputies (expenses paid by State CD). Over 60 nurses put in an appearance. Reports were read by all County Nurse Deputies. Program: Plan for organizing a small town—presented by Mrs. Amy Estes, R. N. of Harpswell; the organizational plan for a city—outlined by Mrs. Aubigne C. Smith. Dr. Charles Steele and General Bisbee took part in the program.

December—Meeting in Farmington called by Mrs. E. Floyd. 25 nurses attended and most of the towns of Franklin County were represented. The duties and responsibilities of County and Local Nurse Deputies were outlined by the State Nurse Deputy.

January—Meeting in Augusta of State Medical and Health Services. Purpose: to plan County meetings of state and county medical staffs. Meetings were later held in Bangor, Portland, Alfred, and Lewiston, at which time the various county Medical Directors and their assistants presented their respective programs. These meetings served the purpose of stimulating the Medical Deputies to complete their plans and to co-ordinate all five divisions of Civil Defense.

March—Meeting of Region I in New York City. Refresher Courses held in Portland at three of the hospitals, seats filled to capacity. A "repeat" of these is now planned.

May—Civil Defense exhibit at MSNA Summer Session in Portland. Material on CD was distributed. Letter and questionnaire sent out to all County and Local Nurse Deputies asking for information on CD activities in their areas. 138 letters sent; 17 replied. Many questionnaires were returned "unanswered," as nurses had moved and "left no address." Only three planned fall meetings with the State Nurse Deputy. Copies of CD "Organization and Operation of the CD Casualty Services—Part I: First Aid Stations" were sent to all Nurse Deputies. Prior to this, copies of "The Nurse in Civil Defense" had been sent to nurse deputies and the Directors of all nursing schools in Maine.

June—State Nurse Deputy participated in a CD exhibit at the Maine Medical Center. Conferences were held with Dr. Clyde Swett, Medical Deputy of Aroostook County and with Dr. Frank W. Barden, York County Medical Deputy. Meeting with Dr. Steele, Dr. Stanley, and Miss Mildred Lenz to assemble data for ANA report.

September—Preparation of questionnaire to be sent out with 1954 registrations.

October—Joint meeting of State Medical and Health Services and the Kennebec County Medical Staff held at Thayer Hospital, Waterville. Dr. Charles E. Towne presented his medical plan.

November—Meetings planned with Dr. Clyde Swett in Aroostook County and with the commanding officer, Limestone Air Base. Meeting in Hartford of Region I to consider the Emergency Welfare Services and (it is hoped) State Nurse Deputies.

In closing, I would like to offer my sincere appreciation to all nurses in the State Civil Defense Nursing Section. They have carried on in the face of many difficulties. Should the need arise, either within the state or in some neighboring territory, I feel certain that the nurses of Maine are ready to give unstintingly of their services.

(Ed. note. A new film on "Emergency First Aid" has been released. This is now available by request, with projector and projectionist.)

Maine Board of Registration of Nurses

Due to unusual and unavoidable circumstances we now have an entirely new Board. Members and their officers are: Miss Mabel Booth, President, Miss Mary C. Ragan, Secretary, Miss Geraldine Hiller, Miss Frances Jordan, and Miss Louise Nawfel. Office staff remains the same.

State Board examinations for candidates seeking licensure in Maine were offered October 21-22, 1952, and May 12, 13, 1953. National League for Nursing, Evaluation and Guidance Service, State Board Test Pool Examinations, Series 951, were written. Board meetings were held preliminary to and during examinations, as well as at intervals during the year to conduct other business. A major project has been the revision of "Requirements, Recommendations and Policies Governing Accredited Schools for Nursing Attendants and Licensure of Nursing Attendants."

A total of 230 nurses were registered by examination and 92 by reciprocity, making a total of 322 nurses registered in Maine during the year ending June 30, 1953.

The total number of nurses registered in Maine to June 30, 1953 is 9274, and those currently renewed to that date 5609.

The number of licensed nursing attendants total 516, of which 5 have been added by endorsement licensure during the year. Renewals total 446.

The following schools of nursing are approved by the State and also hold temporary national accreditation (National League for Nursing):

Bates College Department of Nursing,
Lewiston

Central Maine General Hospital School of
Nursing, Lewiston

Eastern Maine General Hospital School of
Nursing, Bangor

Maine Medical Center School of Nursing,
Portland

Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Portland

St. Mary's General Hospital School of
Nursing, Lewiston

Additional schools approved by the State:

Madigan Memorial Hospital School of
Nursing, Houlton (not admitting new
classes)

Rumford Community Hospital School of
Nursing, Rumford (not admitting new
classes)

Schools of nursing closing this fall:

Maine Eye & Ear Infirmary School of
Nursing, Portland

Maine General Hospital School of Nursing,
Portland

Sisters' Hospital School of Nursing, Water-
ville

Psychiatric Nursing Affiliating Schools
approved:

Augusta State Hospital Affiliate School,
Augusta

Bangor State Hospital Affiliate School,
Bangor

This month State Boards will be offered to the largest number of graduate nurses scheduled at one session to write the licensing examination.

Section Reports

EACT—24 members were present at the second organizational meeting of the Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers. Mildred I. Lenz, temporary chairman, presided. Ruth J. Kohl was appointed secretary pro tem. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted for filing. Eleanor M. Melledy reported for the Revision of Rules Committee. Copies of Rules were distributed, read by the chairman, and adopted by unanimous vote. (Copies are available for EACT members who were unable to be present.) Sister Binette, Chairman of the Committee on Nominations, presented the ballot. The ticket was completed by nominations from the floor and the candidates on the ballot were introduced. Tellers appointed were Mrs. Ina G. Bean, chairman; Mrs. Kathleen Howard, Virginia M. Burnham. Section members were then divided into two groups to discuss the functions of the EACT section and how best to implement these. Suggestions and commendations were:

1. To hold meetings more frequently than the MSNA.
2. To define the functions and personnel policies of the clinical instructor.

These will be presented to the Executive and Program Committees for workup.

The Resolutions Committee: Chairman, Mary E. Thompson, Lewiston; Mrs. Catherine Robinson, Portland; Sister St. Jeanne Vianney, Lewiston, presented the following resolutions:

1. BE IT RESOLVED: That the Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers Section of the Maine State Nurses' Association join with the parent organization, the Maine State Nurses' Association,

Eddie's Market

Home Of The

Community Food Bank

611 MAIN STREET

PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE

Compliments

of

Clark-Mitchell

The following schools of nursing are approved by the State and also hold temporary national accreditation (National League for Nursing):

Bates College Department of Nursing,
Lewiston

Central Maine General Hospital School of
Nursing, Lewiston

Eastern Maine General Hospital School of
Nursing, Bangor

Maine Medical Center School of Nursing,
Portland

Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Portland

St. Mary's General Hospital School of
Nursing, Lewiston

Additional schools approved by the State:

Madigan Memorial Hospital School of
Nursing, Houlton (not admitting new
classes)

Rumford Community Hospital School of
Nursing, Rumford (not admitting new
classes)

Schools of nursing closing this fall:

Maine Eye & Ear Infirmary School of
Nursing, Portland

Maine General Hospital School of Nursing,
Portland

Sisters' Hospital School of Nursing, Water-
ville

Psychiatric Nursing Affiliating Schools
approved:

Augusta State Hospital Affiliate School,
Augusta

Bangor State Hospital Affiliate School,
Bangor

This month State Boards will be offered to the largest number of graduate nurses scheduled at one session to write the licensing examination.

Section Reports

EACT—24 members were present at the second organizational meeting of the Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers. Mildred I. Lenz, temporary chairman, presided. Ruth J. Kohl was appointed secretary pro tem. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted for filing. Eleanor M. Melledy reported for the Revision of Rules Committee. Copies of Rules were distributed, read by the chairman, and adopted by unanimous vote. (Copies are available for EACT members who were unable to be present.) Sister Binette, Chairman of the Committee on Nominations, presented the ballot. The ticket was completed by nominations from the floor and the candidates on the ballot were introduced. Tellers appointed were Mrs. Ina G. Bean, chairman; Mrs. Kathleen Howard, Virginia M. Burnham. Section members were then divided into two groups to discuss the functions of the EACT section and how best to implement these. Suggestions and recommendations were:

1. To hold meetings more frequently than the MSNA.
2. To define the functions and personnel policies of the clinical instructor.

These will be presented to the Executive and Program Committees for workup.

The Resolutions Committee: Chairman, Mary E. Thompson, Lewiston; Mrs. Catherine Robinson, Portland; Sister St. Jeanne Vianney, Lewiston, presented the following resolutions:

1. BE IT RESOLVED: That the Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers Section of the Maine State Nurses' Association join with the parent organization, the Maine State Nurses' Association,

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in expressing appreciation to the members of the Eastern District of the Maine State Nurses' Association for their effort and achievement in making this such a successful convention through their gracious hospitality in arrangements for the social hour, the luncheons, and the banquet.

2. BE IT RESOLVED: That the Educational Administrators, Consultants, and Teachers Section of the Maine State Nurses' Association extend its deep gratitude to the members who have served on committees in the organizational phase of this section.

The following officers were elected for the fiscal year:

Chairman, Frances V. O'Brien, Portland; 1st Vice-Chairman, Sister M. Rita J., Houlton; 2nd Vice-Chairman, Sister Mary Gloria, Houlton; Secretary, Ruth Jean Kohl, Lewiston; additional members to Executive Committee, Mildred I. Lenz, Lewiston; Giovanna Martini, Bangor; Nominating Committee, chairman, Grace B. Emerson, Portland; Gertrude M. Welch, Bangor; Louise M. Nawfel, Bangor.

INSA—24 members were present at the second organizational meeting of the Institutional Nursing Service Administrators. Mildred Richards, temporary chairman, presided. Mrs. Reta McInnis was appointed secretary pro tem. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted for filing. Copies of Rules were distributed, read by Alice R. Teague, Chairman of Committee on Rules, and adopted, after due discussion, by unanimous vote. Mrs. Honor Purvis, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, presented the ballot. The following officers were elected to serve for the fiscal year: Chairman, Mildred Richards, Bangor; 1st Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Nellie D. Norell, Bangor; 2nd Vice-Chairman, Sister Mary Garrett J., Houlton; Secretary, Mrs. Reta B. McInnis, Bangor; additional members to Executive Board, Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick, Bangor; Mrs. Viola C. Cyr, Portland; Nominating Committee, chairman, Mrs. Susan P. McGrath, Bangor; Mrs. Mae H. Kierstead, Presque Isle; Mrs. Elizabeth G. Henderson, Windsor; Alice M. Tremblay, Portland.

PUBLIC HEALTH—27 members were present at the annual section meeting. Katharine Donley, chairman, presided. The secretary's reports of the last annual meeting and of May, 1953, were read and accepted. The annual financial report and the auditor's report were also read and accepted. The ballot was submitted by the Nominating Committee and was read by the

secretary. Nominations were then in order from the floor to replace the name of Ann McDermott, candidate for Chairman of this section, who will be out-of-state for several months. Tellers appointed were Eleanor Meserve, Ella McClunin, and Mrs. Louise Lambert. Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Chairman, Eleanore M. Irish, Portland; 1st Vice-Chairman, Clare R. Donahue Libby, Presque Isle; 2nd Vice-Chairman, Hazel M. Conrad, Portland; Secretary, Mrs. Esther L. Higgins, Brunswick.

Regulations on the Loan Fund were read and accepted. It was reported that an application for a scholarship loan of \$300 had been received and granted.

The Executive Committee will function with the present officers until the annual meeting in 1954, at which time two additional members, called for by the newly revised rules, will be elected.

At the close of the Business Meeting, the Program Chairman, Natalie Rice, introduced Ruth T. Clough, Consultant on Health Education, State of Maine Department of Health & Welfare, who spoke on "Health Education in Our Communities."

GENERAL DUTY—11 members were present for the annual meeting of this section. Considering that General Duty has next to the largest enrollment in the state, discussion immediately followed as to how to enlist the support of the members. No Standing Committees were organized, due to the small attendance. The new officers are: Chairman, Pauline Ann Roy, Lewiston; 1st Vice-Chairman, Jacqueline M. Springer, Bangor; 2nd Vice-Chairman, Dorothy L. Hamm, Portland; Secretary, E. Patricia Randall, Augusta.

PRIVATE DUTY—12 members were present for the annual meeting of the Private Duty Section. Reports of each district were read and placed on file. It was noted that Central District P. D. Section is not organized on a district level at this time. Names of nominees for ANA Section Committees and officers were presented for consideration. Mrs. Leona Rines of Portland was appointed Chairman of Revision of Rules and was asked to appoint her own committee. Nominations were called from the floor to complete the ballot for 1954 officers and the following were elected: Chairman, Laura Austin, Westbrook; 1st Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Mary A. Begin, Fairfield; 2nd Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Thelma Ross, Houlton; Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Barker, Brewer.

Report Of The Districts

WESTERN

The Western District reports a membership of 285 active and 29 associate members, as compared to 296 active and 13 associate on October 1, 1952.

The Annual Meeting was held on January 21, 1953 at the Hotel Eastland, Portland, Maine. This was an all-day session, followed by a banquet and guest speakers. The following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Mary-Anne Furbish

1st Vice-President, Mrs. Edith W. Woodman

2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Catherine R. Robinson

Secretary-Clerk, Mary Catherine Ragan

Treasurer, Mrs. Mary W. Graffam

Directors for 3 years, Mrs. Leona Rines, Alice M. Tremblay

The District has had a meeting of the Board of Directors each month, except during July and August, and two regular meetings of the members. The May 27th meeting was held at the Alida Leese Nurses' Home of the Maine General Hospital, at which time the members and guests were served refreshments and programs consisting of games. At the September 16th meeting, held in the classroom of the Maine Eye & Ear Infirmary, Gladys Marston and Ella Mae Grace presented travelogues of their participation in the 10th ICN Congress held in Brazil during July.

During March, a three weeks' refresher course for graduate nurses was given at the Mercy, Maine Eye & Ear Infirmary, and Maine General Hospitals. This course proved so popular that it will be necessary to give a "repeat" in order to take care of all who wished to avail themselves of this opportunity.

The Local Chapter of the American Red Cross and Western District sponsored a joint program on Disaster Nursing: Subject: Polio Epidemic. Mrs. Sarah Woodworth, field representative of Eastern Area, gave the prologue, and demonstrators were:

Mrs. Catherine Robinson, Medical Supervisor, Maine General Hospital, on "Care of the Polio Patient in a Respirator"

Marion Dunn, Pediatric Supervisor, Maine General Hospital, on "Application of Hot Packs" and "Making a Polio Bed"

On July 13 and 15, 1953, three hour refresher courses were given on Polio: one at

the Mercy, a day session, by Dr. Thomas A. Foster and the other at the Maine General, an evening session, by Dr. Leo J. McDermott. Both lectures were followed by demonstrations.

The Project Committee of Western District is sponsoring a Fair on October 14, 1953 at the Mercy Hospital.

At our business meeting on September 16, 1953 it was voted to move the annual meeting ahead from January to the preceding November, with three regular meetings scheduled for February, May, and September.

EASTERN

Membership: 191 active and 11 associate members. One annual, two regular, and six executive board meetings have been held.

At the annual meeting on January 28, 1953 Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick, President of the MSNA, and Mrs. Aubigne C. Smith, Executive Secretary, gave reports on their trip to Washington where they were guests of the Graduate Nurses' Association of the District of Columbia and attended the inauguration of Dwight D. Eisenhower. These two nurses represented Maine at the ANA Advisory Council in New York, and their reports covered: Progress in Reorganization, Proportionate Delegation, Counselling and Placement, Field Work, Public Relations, and Research and Statistics.

The following officers were elected:

President, Georgina J. Patterson

1st Vice-President, Mrs. Doris B. Greene

2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Aubigne C. Smith

Secretary, Bernice R. Getchell

Treasurer, Mildred Richards

Directors, Mrs. Nellie D. Norell, Sister Laetitia

The program at the April meeting was a panel discussion on Group Insurance. The major points of two companies, Massachusetts Bonding and Continental Casualty, were discussed by the participants. These covered such topics as optional benefits, hospital and surgical coverage, reasons for having insurance, insurability risks, additional benefits, cost, and age requirements. The discussion that followed proved the worthiness of this program.

A follow-up on the April program was given at the September meeting, with Oscar Webb, the Continental Casualty Agent, on hand to answer questions and more fully explain the insurance plan.

The District lost by death Lottie I. Bickmore, a charter member of the association, who gave over forty years of service to the Eastern Maine General Hospital.

CENTRAL

Number of meetings: Annual 1, Regular 2, Executive 5. Membership: Active 247, Associate 13, Honorary 1; total 261.

The first Executive meeting preceded the Annual Meeting, held at the Hotel Elm, Auburn, January 14, 1953. During luncheon, Miss Elouise Collier, Assistant Executive Secretary, ANA, spoke on "The New Organization and Its Meaning at the District Level." At the business meeting, a general election of officers resulted in the following panel:

President, Amanda I. Lerch

1st Vice-President, Mrs. Agnes E. Berry

2nd Vice-President, Elizabeth F. Foyer

Secretary, Virginia Welsh

Treasurer, Mrs. Marjorie Boucher

Directors, Gwendolyn G. Hardy, Mrs. Elizabeth G. Henderson

After the meeting, tea was served at the Nurses' home, St. Mary's General Hospital.

March 13, 1953, an Executive Committee meeting was held at Togus, for the purpose of appointing Standing and Special Committees, discussing the forthcoming ANA Workshop on Section Organization, and planning for the May meeting.

An Executive Committee meeting was held March 20, 1953 at Togus, prior to the regular meeting in the afternoon. Routine business included reports on previous meeting, and those of the secretary, treasurer, and committee chairmen. Reports from delegates to the ANA Workshop in Boston constituted the program.

June 12, 1953, a meeting of the Executive Committee was held at Togus. Plans were formulated for the September meeting. The resignation of the president, Amanda I. Lerch, was read and accepted with regret. Miss Lerch has been transferred to the V. A. Administration at White River Junction, Vermont, as Chief of Nursing Service. It was voted that Miss Foyer serve as the president for the remainder of the year.

Preceding the fall meeting on September 16, 1953, at Waterville, an Executive Committee meeting was held. Luncheon was served in the cafeteria of the Sisters' Hospital. Plans were made to hold the annual business meeting in Lewiston, January 13, 1954. The speaker of the afternoon was Sister Mary Paul from the Catherine Laboure School of Nursing in Boston. She gave us a birdseye view of this, the first central school of nursing, in this vicinity. A tour of Colby College followed the speaker, and was greatly enjoyed by the members.

NORTHERN

Membership: 64 active and 4 associate.

On February 4, 1953 the following officers were elected:

President, Mrs. Honor Purvis

1st Vice-President: Barbara J. Rogers

2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Conlogue

Secretary, Alfreda M. Roy

Treasurer, Mrs. Ruth Arlene Evans

Directors, Katherine Donley, Georgina C. Lyons, Mae H. Kierstead, Mrs. Ruby B. Kelley

The speaker for the afternoon was Dr. L. F. Carter, Superintendent of the Presque Isle Sanatorium, on old and new methods of treating tuberculosis. A valentine tea was served.

The spring meeting was held at the Mary Lane Dormitory, Madigan Memorial Hospital, Houlton. This was preceded by a Board meeting. Ways and means of raising money were discussed and a Committee on Finances was appointed to work with the chairman, Mrs. R. Arlene Evans. It was reported that food sales will be held at Houlton and Presque Isle on May 23. Katherine Donley and Mrs. Dorothy Murphy gave brief reports on the ANA Workshop in Boston, which they attended as delegates. Tea was served by the Alumnae of the Aroostook General and Madigan Hospitals.

On June 15, 1953 a T.B. Institute was held at the Northern Maine Sanatorium, Presque Isle. Dr. L. F. Carter and Dr. J. Petukaushas discussed case histories, x-rays, use of such drugs as streptomycin and isonazamid. After the Institute, the group had a picnic supper at the Nurses' residence. The Executive Secretary of the T.B. Association for Aroostook County was a guest. It was reported that the food sales were very successful financially and were well patronized.

On August 23, 1953 Mrs. Ruby Kelley entertained the district members at her cottage on Portage Lake. The weather was superb and many took advantage of this day to enjoy an outing. Beanhole beans and coffee were served by Mrs. Kelley and the members brought whatever else they wished to complete the picnic. Dr. and Mrs. L. F. Carter of the Northern Maine Sanatorium were guests.

At the fall meeting on September 3, 1953 at the Presque Isle Hospital, the State president, Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick, attended both the board and the regular meetings. She spoke to the group on the insurance plan, revision of the District bylaws, membership dues, maintaining continuity of committees by staggering the service of the members, and other pertinent subjects. After the meeting, the group drove to Caribou for dinner at the Green Acres Restaurant.

DOUBLE CHECK

... your membership card. Are you in the right category, according to your occupational nursing field? The 1954 ANA Convention is coming up in April. Your card is your passport, and you will be admitted to the meetings of the section in which you are classified. Glance over the chart below and double check yourself—just to be sure.

EACT—gray

Educational Administrators, Consultants and Teachers Section: "... who hold any position concerned with nursing education, or who held such a position at the time of retirement, also other nurses whose interest is in the field of nursing education." Director, Assistant Director, Educational Director, Teaching-Supervisor, Instructor, Dean, Professor and Assistant Professor in programs of nursing, diploma or degree. Directors, Executive Secretaries, Executive Administrators, or Educational Directors or Boards of Nurse Examiners, Nurse Consultants to schools.

INSA—blue

Institutional Nursing Service Administrators Section: Directors, Assistant Directors, Supervisors, and Assistant Supervisors of nursing service in hospitals with or without schools of nursing. Head Nurses and Hospital Nursing Service Consultants.

PUBLIC HEALTH—yellow

Staff nurses of official and nonofficial agencies—Teacher Nurse, Head Nurse, Supervisor, Consultants, Educational Director and Director—both types of agency. School Nurse Teachers and Coordinators of basic schools of nursing.

INDUSTRIAL—pink

Staff Nurse and Supervisor employed by industry or commerce, Consultant employed by Government agency, insurance company or industry.

GENERAL DUTY—orange

General Duty Nurse, Head Nurse.

PRIVATE DUTY—green

Private Duty Nurse.

SPECIAL GROUPS—buff

"... members of the ANA who are not eligible for membership in any other section of the ANA": Office Nurse, Executive Secretary, Registrars, Counselors, Procurement Officers Armed Services.

ASSOCIATE—white

These members should designate the occupational field in which they were before retirement.

Registrations In Order

At the Executive Board meeting which followed the annual convention, the resignation of Aubigne C. Smith as Executive Secretary was accepted with deep regret. Aubigne had assumed the duties of office under pressure at a critical time in the affairs of the association, despite the demands of six young children, County Civil Defense Nurse Deputy, teaching pottery, Civic Theatre, and a host of other civic and community interests. She is a past master at organization of resources, and has been a vital factor in steering the association through a tense period of reorganization. She will still continue to help with the editing of "The Maine R.N.," and for this we are very grateful. We offer her our sincere thanks for all she has done and hope that the future may be a little less strenuous and taxing.

Mrs. Josephine C. Philbrick, past president of the association, has been appointed as Executive Secretary. At the Executive Board meeting on November 20, 1953, the resignation of Mrs. Philbrick as a director was accepted, and Mrs. Susan McGrath was elected by the Board to fill the office.

PC and PS

Those of you who were at the convention heard Mrs. Evelyn Ferguson, Assistant Executive Secretary of the American Nurses' Association, explain the scope and purpose of Professional Counseling and Placement. You also know that at the Executive Board meeting prior to the convention, it was voted to set up a PC&PS Committee on a state level, and to ask the districts to follow suit with a like set up. Mary Catherine Ragan, Mercy Hospital, Portland, was elected Chairman of the State Committee. The flyers in this issue of the bulletin entitled, "Always Use PC&PS Because—" give you the information which you will need *if* and *when* you wish to change jobs. One point should be emphasized—the State and District Committees will be solely for channeling applicants, and not for counseling. The committee members will have application forms at hand, and other pertinent information which you may need to know. They will tell you how to get together your credentials and stand ready to help you compile them. This is another one of the services which ANA offers you as a member.

It's Now Up To You

After reading the report of the editor of "The Maine R.N.," surely there can be no doubt in your minds about the way "the wind was blowing" at the recent Convention.

Recommendation that the members pay a subscription fee for the bulletin had been presented at the convention assembly a year ago by Aubigne Smith. It was, therefore, in order that the matter be brought before the general assembly for discussion at this convention, and that the House of Delegates vote on the issue: i.e.—that the state dues be raised \$1.00, to include the subscription to "The Maine R.N."—all in one package, as it were.

What were the reasons behind all this? To bring them into focus again:

1. To distribute the responsibility of financing the bulletin more equitably among the membership, thus making the bulletin a truly cooperative venture.
2. To cut down on the solicitation of "ads"—a practice which is highly unprofessional and distasteful to those who are saddled with the job of "ad procurement."
3. To clear the space, now taken by "ads," to give you nursing material which you should have, and for which there is no room at present.

The proposed revision was tabled at the first assembly, but came up again for discussion and vote at the final session. It was defeated by a small minority. We are now right back where we were before the convention, and it will be another year before the proposed revision may be reconsidered.

This leaves only one alternative—to ask each member to send in that extra dollar with her dues. In one district, the 1954 bills were already in the process of being printed before the failure to carry of the revision was brought to the attention of the treasurer. This will explain the very clever flyer that was mailed out with the bills by that district treasurer.

If each member will take upon herself the voluntary contribution of a dollar, the financing of the bulletin will be assured, the editorial board will be spared a vast number of headaches, and you will have a grateful staff working for you all the way. We're now pinning our hopes on YOU.

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A Flying Trip To Rio

By GLADYS N. MARSTON, R. N.

It was my privilege last July to attend the 10th Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses held in Petropolis, Brazil. Miss Ella Mae Grace, of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary staff and I left Portland July 9th for New York. The following morning at eight o'clock, we checked in at the Argentine Airlines Office on Fifth Avenue, New York City, along with sixteen other nurses taking this particular tour. Two of this group were already there when we arrived. After an exchange of greetings, one said, "We might just as well introduce ourselves now if we are to be together for the next two weeks, I am Helen Becker from Portland, Oregon." Miss Grace and I were very happy to tell her that we were from Portland, Maine.

At this office our passports, visas, health certificates, et cetera, were checked, baggage weighed and stamped and tickets collected to save confusion at the airport. We were transferred by bus to Idlewild Airport where we took off at ten o'clock, Friday forenoon. There were forty-five passengers on the plane, eighteen of whom were nurses; the remaining number was made up mostly of Brazilians and Argentinians, all male. The trip proved to be very interesting indeed.

We made three stops along the way, one hour each for refueling. The first in Havana, Cuba, at 2:30 p. m., the second in Trinidad at 11:30 p. m. and the third at 5:30 the following morning in Belem, Brazil. Belem is a large town situated on the Amazon River and very near the equator since the equator passes through the center of this great river. It was here that we had our first taste of Brazilian coffee and here too that we set our watches ahead to correspond to Brazilian time. Brazil lies eastward of New York so there is a difference of two hours in time. This stop proved to be very interesting but we were happy to be on our way once again to escape the intense, muggy heat.

Flying high over this northern part of Brazil, we were amazed at the vast and endless mountain ranges. There were no

signs of civilization whatsoever. We wondered if we were really crossing vast areas of land yet unexplored. About noon land under cultivation, small villages and towns, numerous highways connecting them and an occasional city nestled in the mountain valleys were visible. Our Brazilian friends kept us informed as to location and it was a thrilling moment when they pointed to a "white mass" on the coast line in the distance and told us that it was Rio de Janeiro. At 1:15 p. m. the plane landed at the International Airport in that city. We had reached our destination after a twenty-six hour flight covering nearly 5,000 miles.

We were met at the airport by a representative of the travel agency who had made arrangements for the tour. After passing customs inspection, we were escorted to cars waiting to convey us to Petropolis. As we came into the waiting room at the airport, there were two Brazilian nurses to greet us. Their warm hand-clasp and friendly greeting in their native tongue (Portuguese) made us feel very welcome.

Petropolis is a city of 65,000 people located in the mountains and about forty miles from Rio. It is a popular weekend and vacation resort for the hot summer months. Since it was winter in Brazil, we did not come in contact with many tourists in this city. The winter climate in this region resembles our September or early fall weather. The days were warm and delightful, the nights cool. We also had to adjust to the short days and long evenings. Since the sun was north of the equator it set between five and six o'clock in the afternoon.

In Petropolis we visited many points of interest including the old palace of Don Pedro II that is now a public museum containing many objects and relics from the days when Brazil was a monarchy, also the great cathedral that contains the tombs of this famous king and his queen.

Four miles out of Petropolis and nestled high in the mountains is the luxurious Quitandinha Hotel, a resort hotel for wealthy Brazilians. Its spacious lawns with pools, landscaped gardens containing many varieties of tropical flowers, and its background of mountain peaks made this an ideal spot for the meeting of the I.C.N. All nurses attending the Congress were housed in this hotel and all meetings were held in its huge auditorium.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Yes, it's over—the initial enrollment period to insure yourself in the Group Plan. There never will be another opportunity like that one, and it is regrettable that we didn't make the 50% goal. When the final count was in, under 150 members had sent in applications. This meant only one thing—those who wanted the insurance would have to be screened and accept waivers or rejections, according to their past medical history.

The screening is now practically completed. A very small per cent were rejected as "not insurable." A little larger per cent were asked to produce statements from their physicians, and it is too early to know how many of these will be waived.

Although we may regret that the whole membership did not see "eye to eye" with us in subscribing for the Group Plan, there are a couple of creditable factors which now evolve in the picture. One is this—that in the future, there will be no need for a stated enrollment period, for now the Plan is opened up to every member, new or old, to make application any time she may wish to do so. The stated enrollment period pertained only to the 50% coverage. A second point which bears mentioning is that once the weeding and culling is over, those who passed muster represent a finer insurable group than would have been possible with 50% covered. This goes back to the statement made before now that 10% of the nursing population are non-insurable, but would have been carried along in the group, if the 50% goal had been reached. Small comfort, you say, for the efforts expended to reach the 50% goal? It may be so.

There is one other point which you should bear in mind, and this may be worth a great deal of comfort to you in the future. Now that you are "in," no matter what happens to you, for as long a time as the Maine State Nurses' Association endorses the Group Insurance Plan, you cannot be waived or dropped. Let's be more specific, for this point is not too clearly understood by the membership at large.

We will use Mary Jones as an example, for Mary Jones is always convenient. Mary Jones made application for the Group Plan early in the enrollment period, so she was one of the first screened. She was found to have a fine record, and was accepted without strings. Within the first year, Mary

developed a bleeding ulcer. Now, if this had been an individual policy and not a Group Plan, the insurance company would have paid her first hospital bill and attached a waiver to her policy: to wit, that they would no longer stand back of any ulcer trouble which Mary might have. In the last analysis, she would be dropped as a poor insurance risk.

But Mary Jones didn't have an individual policy. She was covered by Continental Casualty Group Plan as a member of the Maine State Nurses' Association. It therefore follows that Mary Jones may have repeated hospitalizations because of her ulcer, and she will still receive the full benefits of the Group Plan.

Mary Jones is a fictitious person. But she could be you.

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Medical Social Work

Although medical social work is a relatively young profession, there are approximately 3,825 persons actively engaged in this work in the United States today, according to the publication "Health Manpower Sourcebook, Section III: Medical Social Workers," just released by the Public Health Service of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

There are, however, three times as many positions open in this field as there are persons to fill them, and it is estimated that 800 to 1,000 graduates a year will be needed to fill the vacancies.

The sourcebook contains hitherto unpublished data from the U. S. Department of Labor and the American Hospital Association, and information from the American Association of Medical Social Workers. It presents for the first time a comprehensive study of the employment, educational background, and personal characteristics of medical social workers.

The data indicate that the largest number of medical social workers (approximately 41 per cent) are located in the Northeast section of the country. Three-fourths of the total are employed in hospitals and clinics, while the two next largest groups work with the physically handicapped and other special groups. Most medical social workers are women (93 per cent), although the number of male graduates from social work courses is gradually increasing.

Copies of "Manpower Sourcebook, Section III: Medical Social Workers" are available from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. at 40 cents each. (Public Health Service Publication No. 263, Section 3).

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MAINE STATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION

Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
For the Year Ended August 31, 1953

Cash Balance, September 1, 1952:

Checking account	\$2,865.27
Savings accounts	2,650.66
	<u>\$5,515.93</u>

Receipts

Dues—Active members, 763 at \$10....	7,630.00
Associate members, 57 at \$2.50.....	142.50
Registration Annual Meeting.....	128.50
Registration May Meeting.....	87.00
ANA Assessment for Research Fund	122.00
Advertising Maine R.N.	767.30
Subscriptions to Maine R.N.....	2.50
Interest on savings accounts.....	38.37
Interest on U. S. Savings Bond, Series K	27.60
Received from the Public Health Section MSNA	1,304.96
	<u>10,250.73</u>
	<u>\$15,766.66</u>

Disbursements

ANA dues—	
16 Active members at \$3.00.....	\$ 48.00
747 Active members at \$5.00.....	3,735.00
57 Associate members at \$1.25	71.25
ANA Research Fund.....	122.00
New England Division ANA	
800 members at .05.....	40.00
Women's Legislative Council (1952-1953 dues)	10.00
Auditing	40.00
Treasurer's Bond	10.00
Annual Meeting, 1952.....	101.84
May Meeting, 1953.....	51.87
Travel expenses, President.....	150.00
Travel expenses, Executive Sec.....	155.57
Travel expenses, Executive Board.....	402.93
Travel expenses, Finance, Nominating and Polio Committee.....	22.63
Executive Secretary, salary.....	656.82
Internal Revenue, withholding tax and social security.....	151.20
Secretarial assistance	301.00
Office expense and postage.....	252.77

Telephone	16.90
Insurance, storage and taxes on office furniture	74.96
File for office	49.63
Advertising	70.56
ANA Workshop—delegate's expense	220.00
Maine R.N. Printing.....	701.96
Maine R.N. Mailing, labels, etc.....	53.30
Maine State Grange, room rent for board meeting	5.00
	<u>7,515.19</u>
	<u>\$8,251.47</u>
Cash Balance, August 31, 1953:	
Checking account	\$2,469.84
Savings accounts	5,781.63
	<u>\$8,251.47</u>

Balance Sheet as at August 31, 1953

ASSETS

Cash on Deposit:

Checking account:	
The Merrill Trust Company.....	\$2,469.84
Savings account:	
The Merchants National Bank of Bangor	\$3,608.23
Penobscot Savings Bank, Scholarship Fund of Public Health Section	1,067.22
Penobscot Savings Bank Nurses Relief Fund.....	137.16
Bangor Savings Bank Nurses' Relief Fund.....	969.02
	<u>5,781.63</u>
	<u>\$8,251.47</u>

Bonds:

U. S. Savings Bonds, Series F, par \$1,000.00. Legislative purposes	\$ 962.00
U. S. Savings Bond, Series K, par \$1,000.00 (Redemption value \$985.00)—Cost	1,000.00
	<u>1,962.00</u>

TOTAL ASSETS \$10,213.47

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—1954 COMING UP—IT'S A DATE—

January 13	Central District Meeting	Lewiston
January 27	Eastern District Meeting	Bangor
February 12	Maine League for Nursing Program Division of Nursing Service	St. Mary's Hospital Lewiston
April 26-30	ANA Convention	Chicago