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Courses in Public Health for Nurses

Take an example from the Province of Ontario. Although more than one Department of the Government requires public health nurses, properly qualified, no provision had been made for an adequate course of instruction and training in Public Health Nursing. After conference between the Provincial Division of the Red Cross Society, the University of Toronto and others interested in health work in the Province, it was arranged that a course in Public Health Nursing should be given by the University. The Red Cross agreed to meet the expense for a period of three years. It also granted scholarships of \$100 each to ten nurses to enable them to take the course.

Similar provision for courses in Public Health for graduate nurses has been made by the Red Cross in Provincial Divisions in other Provinces.

Nurses and Community Health Centres

Another example: When the Legislature of Ontario had voted a sum of money sufficient to provide eight public health nurses for service throughout the Province, the Chief Health Officer for the Province approached the Ontario Division of the Red Cross with a request for a grant of money whereby an additional number of nurses could be provided in order that the Province might get public health service in larger measure and at faster rate than was practicable by the amount voted by the Legislature. After consultation, the Red Cross offered to provide eight nurses to serve under the Chief Health Officer for the Province. The Red Cross pays the salaries and expenses of these nurses and thus properly plays its part as auxiliary to the official Health Department. These nurses work in pairs, one pair within each of the eight Health Districts into which the Province is divided. They are expected to stay several weeks in each place they visit and to promote the establishment of a Community Health Centre. The hope has been entertained that as a result there may be established about twelve Community Health Centres in each of the eight Health Districts of the Province within a year. That would be an advance which could properly be regarded as the beginning of a new era of Public Health Service in Ontario.

This is what Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, the Chief Health Officer of the Province, has said about those nurses and the outlook for service by the Maternal and Child Welfare Division of his Department.

"Their business will be to interest the local newspaper man, the clergy, physicians, teachers and influential members of the place in forming a Community Health Centre. Mothers from the adjoining rural neighbourhood will be encouraged to come to the meetings. For a month or longer the District Nurse will carry on her course of instruction and the Community Centre will