

portioned to the several boroughs. A school of instruction, providing for one hour's work each morning before going on the district, was inaugurated, and it was remarkable how well the plan succeeded. Those employed were women of high type. They gave the human touch to the work. One of the first evidences of the change was noticed when complaints fell off, so that the clerks ordinarily assigned to entering, assigning, replying to, and making final disposition of complaints, found themselves with nothing to do.

Placards that under the old regime had to be renewed in seventy-five per cent. of the cases also were affected, and the renewals were less than ten per cent.

The economy was effected, and there resulted a larger field staff, with less salary expense, a reduction in clerical staff, and a saving in printed material (posters, letters, entry books, telephone service), with a full time instead of a part time service.

The female trained nurse had entered a new field, and had made good.

The district nurse acts as a father confessor, a physician in first aid cases, and as a friend of the family. She straightens out all sorts of tangles, whether domestic and within her province or not—her instructions being "Never leave a case until it is better than you found it." In fact all kinds of welfare work crosses her path, which covers many details, from personal hygiene and sanitation to matters economic—even helping the son, daughter, or parent when out of employment to secure positions.

The trained nurse in public health work is an educator. Whole families must be educated, not simply in bedside attention, but even in the principles of right living. Home visiting nurses are an important item in the public health regime.

Does all this pay? Of course it does. A trained nurse is paid \$900 per annum (\$75 per month), and is required to work a full day. A physically sound person can easily make from twelve to seventeen visits a day (or about four an hour), giving ample time and opportunity for home instruction. At some homes more time may have to be given, while at others considerably less is required.

The nurse, aside from her required duties, must give her attention to ventilation. It is extremely difficult to get most people to open their windows often enough and wide enough, particularly when illness is present. Home sanitation needs to be mentioned often and vigorously. Proper food requires attention. Water, both for drinking and bathing, requires careful consideration. Many other things, too numerous to mention, must be part of her daily program.