

No. 189, A.]

[Published June 17, 1911.

CHAPTER 346.

AN ACT to create sections 1409a—5 to 1409a—11, inclusive, of the statutes, relating to the registration of nurses, and providing a penalty.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes seven new sections to read: Section 1409a—5. Any resident of this state, being over twenty-one years of age, of good moral character, who shall make application to the state board of health for registration as a registered nurse, upon compliance with the provisions of this act, shall be entitled to registration as follows:

First. Without examination, provided the application be made prior to September 1, 1914, and provided the applicant shall have graduated before said date from a reputable training school, connected with a general or special hospital, who at the time of graduation shall have received a course of at least two years' training in such training school.

Second. If application be made prior to September 1, 1914, and the applicant at the time of such application shall have been engaged in the actual practice of nursing for three years, and shall pass an examination to determine the fitness and ability of the applicant to give efficient care to the sick.

Third. If application be made on or after September 1, 1914, and the applicant at the time of application shall have graduated from a reputable training school, and shall pass an examination to determine the fitness and ability of the applicant to give efficient care to the sick. Such training school within the meaning of this subdivision must be connected with a general hospital, and from and after September 1, 1911, must require an adequate and systematic course of instruction of three or more years. The first two years of such course shall be spent in such training school or hospital, and not to exceed three months of the senior year shall be devoted to outside nursing. Such instruction shall be both theoretical and practical in the following branches:

Nursing, ethics, anatomy, physiology, hygiene, dietetics, materia medica, elementary urinalysis, medical, surgical and gynaecological nursing, obstetrical nursing, including the care of infants, and a thorough course of theoretical instruction and, when possible, practical experience in contagious nursing and the nursing of sick children.

Fourth. If application be made on or after September 1, 1914, and the applicant at the time of application shall have

graduated from a reputable training school, connected with a special hospital, requiring a systematic course of theoretical and practical training of at least two years, and who at the time of application shall have obtained in a reputable general hospital one year's additional training in the subjects above enumerated in the third subdivision of this section, not adequately taught in said training school, and shall pass an examination to determine the fitness and ability of the applicant to give efficient care to the sick.

Fifth. Without examination, provided the applicant shall have been registered as a registered nurse, under the laws of another state having requirements determined by the state board of health of this state, to be equivalent to the requirements of this state.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 50.)

Section 1409a—6. The state board of health shall, on or before September 1, 1911, appoint five graduate nurses, to be known as the committee of examiners of registered nurses. At the time of their appointment they must be actual residents of the state. They shall be selected from nurses engaged in active work, who shall have been graduated for at least a period of three years from a reputable training school, and who, during their course of training, shall have served for two years in a general hospital, and who (except those appointed as first members of the committee), shall have been registered under the provisions of this act. Two members of the committee shall be selected from nurses who have had at least two years' experience in educational work among nurses. The members of the committee shall be appointed to hold office as follows: One for one year; two for two years; and two for three years from September 1, 1911. Upon the expiration of the term of office of a member, the state board of health shall appoint a successor whose term of office shall be three years, and shall fill each vacancy for the unexpired term. The board shall have power to remove any member of the committee. Each member of the committee shall hold office until a successor is duly appointed and qualified.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 50.)

Section 1409a—7. 1. The members of the committee of examiners shall, as soon as organized, and annually thereafter, elect from their number a chairman, who shall preside over the meetings of the committee, and a secretary, who shall keep a record of its proceedings. The committee shall immediately, upon the election of such officers, file with the secretary of the state board of health, a certificate thereof, giving the name and address of

such officers. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the committee shall be called by the secretary, upon written request of any two members or upon the request of the secretary of the state board of health.

2. The committee shall, from time to time, adopt rules not inconsistent with this act to govern its proceedings, also for the examination of applicants for registration, may amend or repeal such rules, may recommend courses of instruction for the guidance of training schools, subject to the approval of the state board of health. Immediately upon the adoption of any rule or recommendation the committee shall file with the secretary of the state board of health a certificate thereof, setting out therein a copy of such rule or recommendation, or in case of the amendment or repeal of a rule, setting out fully such fact. The secretary of the state board of health shall immediately publish such certificate in at least one journal devoted to the interests of professional nursing.

3. Each member of the committee shall receive a compensation of five dollars, and expenses for each day in which such member is actually engaged in attendance upon the meetings of the committee, but not exceeding in all fifteen days in any one year, to be audited by the secretary of the state board of health, and paid out of the fund hereinafter provided for.

Section 1409a—8. It shall be the duty of the committee of examiners to meet for the purpose of holding examinations of applicants for registration, not less frequently than twice every year. Notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be given to the public press, and to at least one journal devoted to the interests of professional nursing, and by mail to every applicant, and to every known training school in Wisconsin, at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The committee shall frame its own questions and conduct its own examinations. The written questions and answers shall be filed with the secretary of the state board of health. The applicants shall be known to the members of the examining committee by numbers, so that no members of the board shall be able to identify the papers of any applicants until they have been graded and the case passed upon, and all questions and answers with a grade attached shall be delivered to the secretary of the state board of health, and by him preserved for at least one year. Before any applicant shall be permitted to take such examination she shall pay to the secretary of the state board of health an examination fee of ten dollars. No person shall be granted a license, except as herein provided, to practice nursing until she has passed a satisfactory

examination before the examining committee, appointed for the purpose by the state board of health, nor until she has filed with said board a certificate signed by at least three members of the examining committee, stating that they have found her qualified to practice. Before the applicant is granted a license, she shall also file with the secretary of the state board of health, on blanks furnished by said board, a statement, giving her name, place of birth and present residence. All written questions for the examination of nurses shall be approved by the executive committee of the state board of health, and the license to practice nursing shall be issued by the secretary of the state board of health and countersigned by the president and secretary of the examining committee. Any person to whom a certificate of registration shall be issued shall, within thirty days thereafter, cause the same to be recorded with the county clerk of the county in which such person resided at the time of the application. The state board of health may revoke the license of any nurse who has been convicted of unprofessional or dishonorable conduct. Said state board of health shall have power to revoke any certificate of registration granted by them if said certificate was obtained through error or fraud, or if the recipient thereof is shown to be grossly incompetent in the practice of nursing; and, provided, further, that before any certificate shall be revoked, the holder thereof shall have notice in writing, enumerating the charges against her, and at a specified date named therein, not less than five days after the service of such notice, be given a hearing by said board and have an opportunity to produce testimony in her own behalf and to confront the witnesses testifying in said matter. Any person whose certificate has been revoked for gross incompetency, may, after the expiration of one year, apply to have the same regranted, and the same shall be regranted her, if in the discretion of said board they deem it proper.

Section 1409a—9. It shall be unlawful hereafter for any person to practice, or attempt to practice, in the state as a registered nurse without a certificate from the state board of health. Any person who has received such certificate shall be styled and known as a "registered nurse," and shall be entitled to append the letters "R. N." to the name of such person. No other person shall assume or use such title, or the abbreviation "R. N.," or any other words, letters or figures, to indicate that such person is a registered nurse.

Section 1409a—10. This act shall not be construed to affect or apply to the gratuitous nursing of the sick by friends or mem-

bers of the family, nor to any person nursing the sick for hire who does not in any way assume or pretend to be a registered nurse, and this act shall not be construed to interfere in any way with members of religious communities or orders which have charge of hospitals or take care of the sick in their own homes; provided, such members do not in any way assume to be registered nurses.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 50.)

Section 1409a—11. The state board of health shall enforce the provisions of this act, and cause the prosecution of all persons violating any of the provisions thereof, and may incur necessary expenses in that behalf. The secretary of the state board of health shall keep a register of the names and addresses of all nurses duly registered under this act, which shall be open at all reasonable times to public inspection. He shall also keep a record of all applications for registration and a detailed account of all moneys received and disbursed. All moneys shall be kept as a special fund to meet the expenses of carrying out and enforcing this act and of prosecuting violations thereof, and all expenses and compensations under this act shall be paid from such fund and no part thereof shall be paid out of the state treasury. The secretary of the board shall make a semi-annual report of its proceedings under this act to the governor, and such report shall contain a true and itemized account of all moneys received and disbursed under this act. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction, be fined for each offense in the sum of not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

(Am. 1911, c. 664, s. 50.)

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved June 15, 1911.

No. 461, A.]

[Published June 17, 1911.

CHAPTER 347.

AN ACT to repeal sections 2377 to 2394, inclusive, of the statutes, and to create sections 2377 to 2387, inclusive, of the statutes, relating to apprenticeship, and providing a penalty.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Sections 2377 and 2394, inclusive, of the statutes are repealed.

SECTION 2. There are added to the statutes eleven new sections to read: Section 2377. Every contract or agreement en-