

be interested in studying laws for selective service for nurses if such an occasion should arise. At the present time, there is a shortage but we have in our active nurse supply only about 26 percent who are single and the armed services generally require mobile single people, so it does limit the number from whom they can recruit.

Mr. ROGERS. Now, as I understand it, too, they do not commission in anything except the baccalaureate nurse group, do they?

Miss THOMPSON. At the present time, they are still commissioning persons from the diploma program which have the same number of years as a 4-year baccalaureate. I mean, they equate calendar year with academic year in order to secure a sufficient number of nurses.

Mr. ROGERS. In other words, they would have to have a 3-year basic curriculum?

Miss THOMPSON. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Or 4-year baccalaureate.

Miss THOMPSON. Yes.

Mr. ROGERS. Should this policy be reviewed, do you think, now that we are beginning to have the associate degree nurses come out? Is there any reason why they cannot perform services?

Miss THOMPSON. This has been considered by the armed services. At one time the Army Nurse Corps did admit the 2-year graduate as a warrant officer. This did not prove to be very popular and there were very few applicants for the warrant officer status.

Mr. ROGERS. Yes, but I was thinking of the commission status as such.

Miss THOMPSON. The laws which provide for commissions in the services requires that a person have a baccalaureate degree and this is one of the reasons why the 2-year graduate cannot be considered for a commission.

Mr. ROGERS. On the 3-year curriculum I think they do that, do they not?

Miss THOMPSON. Yes. One of the reasons why it precludes the 2-year graduate. The Veterans' Administration does use the 2-year graduate.

Mr. ROGERS. I would hope the armed services would review their situation. We may need to have them come in and talk about this because I think they are not being practical. I am sure they could use them in many places, I would think, and they are closing the door on this. I have a case of a young lady that wanted to get in. She cannot. She is qualified, she has passed State boards and everything.

Dr. COHELAN. There is a special program that the Army has put together and the University of Maryland cooperates with them, and we just had commencement and graduated, in effect, an extra 100 nurses who are now going to be commissioned in the Army and the last 2 years they have been taught by faculty under our faculty supervision, but they have had all of their clinical experience at Walter Reed. And it was the feeling of those in the Army that they needed an increment of at least 100 baccalaureate prepared nurses and their assignments, I am sure, will reflect this kind of preparation. I would think there might be many other ways that nurses could be used.

Mr. ROGERS. Let me ask on your summer courses now, which I think is excellent, where you bring the nurse in to give her increased knowledge. How many summers would it take now, say, to obtain a masters degree?