

men are members of this committee. We believe these bills go far in recognizing the essential role of the diploma schools of nursing and the fact that the nursing needs of the Nation will not be met except by the continued operation of these hospital diploma schools of nursing. They further recognize the serious economic situation confronting these schools. The fact that the diploma schools do not have access to the public funds available for both the collegiate and the junior college schools has been a serious handicap and unless the Congress recognizes the special needs of the diploma schools large numbers of them are likely to discontinue operation. We believe that H.R. 15757 goes far toward accomplishing certain of these objectives. However, the bill does not, we feel, provide adequate assurances of financial assistance to hospital schools.

We cannot stress too strongly the significance of this section of H.R. 15757 in relationship to meeting the health needs of the country. The shortage of nurses is acute and will only be met through a very substantial Federal program of assistance. The recently published review of the nursing situation by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare indicated that by 1975 we will have need for 1 million nurses. This indicates that we will have to increase the supply by approximately 60,000 nurse graduates a year. The criticalness of the situation facing the Nation will be seen when it is realized that during the period 1964-65 there were 34,686 nurse graduates and during the period of 1965-66 there were 35,125 or an increase of less than 500 graduates in nursing. Thus, even with the Nurse Training Act of 1964 in effect we have continued to fall very substantially short of meeting the need.

Just what does this shortage mean? The needs of the military have grown and these needs can only be met from the existing pool of civilian nurses. These needs of the military as well as the needs of the Veterans' Administration will be met in large part by graduates from hospital schools of nursing. An example of the kind of solicitation of nurses may be seen in the attached recruitment material directed to the homes of registered nurses.

(The document referred to follows:)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY,
U.S. Army Recruiting Main Station,
Montgomery, Ala.

DEAR REGISTERED NURSE: Did you know that the Army Nurse Corps is no longer what it used to be? Pay increases have recently been received and promotion requirements have been revised. It now takes only twelve months to be promoted to First Lieutenant and only twenty-four months of active duty in the Army Nurse Corps qualifies you for the rank of Captain.

Registered nurses who are interested in joining may receive a guaranteed assignment to the geographical area of her choice and if qualified may choose to attend one of the advanced nursing courses. Whatever your nursing specialty or interests, the Army Nurse Corps has it for you.

Chances are you chose a nursing career because you wanted a rewarding and challenging job; you wanted to feel useful, appreciated and needed. All this is offered you as a member of the Army Medical Team.

The Army wants nurses who like to do *real* nursing. If you would like more information or a personal interview, please indicate this on the enclosed card. I will be looking forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

LINDA E. MOODY,
Captain, Army Nurse Counselor.