

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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February 3, 1942

The Attorney General

Governor Sewall

I have been discussing the statutes in regard to the Board of Registration of Nurses with the members of the Board.

There is nothing in the statute that authorizes the Board to set the subjects to be studied in High School for the length of time that any one subject is to be pursued. However, I find that at the Maine General Hospital in Portland, the Central Maine General Hospital in Lewiston, the school affiliated with the Children's Hospital in Portland and the Rockland Hospital, there is no lack of applicants for positions as student nurses. The educational requirements fixed by the Board have apparently increased rather than decreased the number of applicants in the better hospitals.

It is the contention of the members of the Board that the change in this requirement would not make any difference in the better hospitals because these schools feel that a reduction in educational requirements in the High School would mean a loss of prestige to the school which they are unwilling to have occur. It seems to be the considered opinion of the members of the Board that a lowering of the standards would increase the number of student nurses in some of the less desirable nursing schools, and that this is the only result that can be anticipated.

Frank I. Cowan  
Attorney General

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