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**EDITORIAL**

**E**LSEWHERE in this issue will be found the new Transvaal Hospitals scale of salaries for both male and female physiotherapists.

In these modern days, when women and men are working together on the same projects in more and more fields, it seems strange that physiotherapists have to be shown discrimination.

Equal pay for equal work!

Male physiotherapists, whether they have a wife and six children to keep, or live comfortably as bachelors, are apparently worth more to the Province. The cost of living, at one time granted to these fortunate beings, has now been taken away; instead a substantial basic rise has been granted. What of the widowed physiotherapists with a small family to support? What has she done to deserve this treatment, and why hasn't her case been considered?

In many walks of life a man can demand a higher salary than a woman, but surely in professional spheres where exactly the same work is expected, one can expect the same pay.

On the other hand, comparing the local salary scale with that of an overseas society, we can appreciate how fortunate we are, whether male or female. The Transvaal Hospitals scale starts the junior physiotherapist at the same level, but rises fairly rapidly to heights undreamed of by their seniors overseas. Nevertheless, these physiotherapists are worth the same to their employers, who make no discrimination between sexes.

People who trained twenty years ago were grateful to work for half the salary of a present day newly qualified physiotherapist. Many of them returned to their home towns, to face an uphill

battle to find employment or recognition from their local doctors. Now the demand is greater than the supply; and what very varied work presents itself for everyone.

The year 1958 is drawing to a close and we are all looking to 1959 and what may be in store for us in the forthcoming months.

In September 1959, the International Congress of the World Confederation is to be held in Paris. This is an important and wonderful event.

Founded in 1951 the World Confederation of Physical Therapists has already won world recognition and physiotherapists, through this Confederation, are represented on many world-wide organisations. The International Society for the Welfare of Cripples is one of these; also World Health Organisation (W.H.O.), reference to which is made under extracts from Bulletin No. 14 of W.C.P.T. in this Journal.

Through W.C.P.T. we gain many advantages, material and otherwise. Guidance is offered for training, registration requirements, working conditions, etc., in other countries, also through congresses where physiotherapists from all over the world get together to discuss each others ideas and thus widen each others outlook. Over and above all this is the fact that physiotherapy the world over has been recognised as an important link in many organisations dealing with internationally important health problems.

The Editorial Committee would like to take this opportunity of wishing all their many colleagues here in South Africa and overseas the compliments of the season.

**GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL IN 1959!**