

Nine Nurses Graduate at the Local Hospital

A Notable Event and Large Attendance—Eloquent Address is Delivered by Dr. Bier.

Graduating Class, Brantford General Hospital, 1916

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| Florence Slee | Adaline Dolly Westbrook, |
| Hessie McEellan | Margaret McCulloch, |
| Elizabeth Thomson Tink | Ada Stephens, |
| Ida Mae Crabb | Corla Pearl Irene Robinson, |
| | Marguerite Crawford Kerr. |

By far the most impressive ceremonies which have ever taken place in connection with the graduation of nurses at the hospital occurred yesterday afternoon.

There was an exceedingly large attendance, including ministers, medical men, hospital governors, aldermen, members of the Women's Hospital Aid Association, friends of the nurses and so on. In fact, the crowd was so big that it was impossible for all to enter the large parlour in the Nurses' Home where the event took place, and many had to content themselves with standing in the passage way. The room was most prettily decorated with roses and Autumn leaves.

Mr. C. H. Waterous, President of the hospital board occupied the chair and to the right of him, headed by Miss Forde, the superintendent, sat the graduating class, other nurses sitting to the left. They all presented a charming appearance in their neat uniforms.

After the singing of the National Anthem, Rev. Mr. Woodside led in prayer.

A letter of regret for inability to be present was read from Mr. J. H. Fisher, M. P.

Mr. Waterous, in an apt speech, dwelt upon hospital matters, and the amount of earnest work and study which were necessary to the granting of a graduating certificate.

Miss Forde, Superintendent, read a most interesting report. She dwelt on the fact that "a well equipped hospital is one of the greatest assets of a community" and that "the only difference in the treatment for the man of wealth, and the free patient should be one of luxuries only."

The important problem facing them was more rooms for nurses—not only sleeping rooms, but dining rooms, kitchen and sitting rooms.

"We have outgrown them in 18 months occupancy. Last year we reported a school of 29—an increase of 8 over the year preceding—and a staff of 4. There have been 33 nurses in training and have added one to our staff. We have been told the Women's Hospital Aid were severely criticised for planning such an unnecessary large Nurses Home, that it would not be filled for the next fifty years, and behold us now! In our hospital report for the year ending Oct. 1st, 1916, we find that whereas in 1914-15, the hospital cared for 380 patients, in 1915-16 we jumped to 1,725.

Miss Forde returned hearty thanks to the Governors for their "loyal support," to the doctors who had proved "unfailing friends," to the Women's Hospital Aid and junior Aid who "never faltered" in their "unfailing generosity" and to Mrs. Willets of Paris for a cheque of \$100 for the Nurses Home.

The graduating class that day was the largest that had ever gone out from the hospital and they were the

one of the broadest of professions. There is almost no phase of human nature with which a nurse may not be called in contact. Your sympathies and understanding of life in the largest sense must be equal to many occasions if you would fulfill all the requirements and possibilities which lie before you, so in the care of your body, of your mind and of your heart, you must always be alert, watchful, unselfish and charitable.

Nursing is a profession in which things move rapidly. The surgical and medical treatment of a year or two ago may have become obsolete to-day. If you would grow and develop and keep abreast with the progress of your day and generation you must occasionally get out into other fields and see what other people are doing. Hence you should visit other hospitals, give the benefit of your experience to others and when you can afford it, spend some time in post-graduate work. You will there acquire fresh enthusiasms and new ideas which will make your work much easier and much more interesting. In this day, when, in the parlance of the street—"Money Talks" we are apt to be carried away with the craze that to make money is the chief end of all things.

Not long ago a prominent doctor said—"Deliver me from a nurse whose God is her salary, who can see dirt outside the sick-room and not lift her hand to obliterate it, who would not stoop from her professional work to lift a crying child, or relieve a tired mother."

You, as pupils, came from well regulated Christian homes. You were literally thrown into the cold routine stream of hospital nursing, and you are apt to forget the essentials that really make for greatness—right living, high thinking, interest in others' welfare, sympathy, unselfishness and love in the true sense.

The real joy that you have gained is in learning more of the whys of things rather than the why-nots. As you have come to the end of your hospital course, curiosity to know the reason for treatment is commendable, but becoming more and more a matter of skillful management on the part of the nurse, who is entitled to know the reasons for what she is doing.

"The best nurse knows the 'whys' but never rebukes the doctor, she therefore urges on you a co-operative interest with the physician in the condition of the patient, in order to be of the highest service to the doctor and mankind."

Your instructors have endeavored with honor, dignity and enthusiasm to train you to use your hands, to teach you to use your heads and inspired you, I trust, to use your hearts.

Several lines of service are open to you. There is institutional work which will have attraction for some of you, though it has disadvantages. Institutional life is very apt to get a person into a groove, which gets deeper and deeper until he cannot see over the edge of it. Still it is a life of great interest.

The life of a private nurse has many more attractions. It is much more varied, much more trying, but it gives a person, who is interested in men and women, the advantages of an experience that can be obtained in no other way. No other people in the world see men and women as the private nurse does. For a student of human nature and you will know a great deal more in a few years than you do now.

The work of the district nurse I hope will attract some of you. The need is very great, and therefore much to be accomplished by the trained hand, eye and heart going in and out amongst the poor. To a district nurse belongs the highest privileges a nurse can claim—to nurse the sick back to health, to cheer and brighten the homes of the poor, to comfort the fatherless and the widow, to ease the dying and to perform the last nursing duties required by the dead—but it is not so easy to summarize the sympathy and love which render the visit of the nurse the brightest spot in the day, not only for the patient but the patient's friends.

And then in the special nursing of tuberculosis, mental disease, etc. there is another field just opening.

I would here remind you of the noble band of women who have gone overseas to help in the fight for freedom whose faithfulness to the duty assigned to them is the admiration of all who have had occasion to come in contact with them. To fit and die for one's country is noble and heroic, but to live and work in the battle's wreck is the highest form of sacrifice, the noblest test of patriotism, since it is come none of the emotions and glory

of conflict, neither the blare of trumpets nor the roar of drums since it is done amid the silence and paths of the hospital where few come save the beaten and bereaved.

So the choice for each one of you is a wide one and whichever field you pick, the opportunities are great for the development of your virtues, which, as Dr. Osler aptly says, are seven, the mystic seven—Tact, Tidiness, Taciturnity, Sympathy, Gentleness and Cheerfulness, all linked together by Charity.

Tact is the saving virtue, without which no woman can be a success in anyway, as a nurse or not. She may have all the others but without tact she is a failure. It is the virtue which enables her to do the right thing at the right moment.

Tidiness—neatness is the very essence of her work—neatness is the assepsis of clothes.

Taciturnity (silence)—it is the gift I should like you all to cultivate. It is so much needed. I know how you will be tempted by your patients who talk to you, who gossip and expect to be told all sorts of things by the nurse. If you have heard anything let it die with you.

Sympathy—You must have that in full measure, but pour it out with discretion, learn to give where needed and withhold where not needed.

Gentleness is your birthright as a nurse. It is expressed by words, by hand and in motion.

Cheerfulness is to preach happiness by example. It is expressed in the face and in the way you go about your work. There is no such blessing in the world as cheerfulness. It is not always easy to obtain. There is so much sorrow and so much suffering that only the bright and cheerful fulfil the law of bearing one another's burdens.

Of the last nurse's virtue—Charity—I need scarcely speak; gently to scan your brother man, still more gently your sister woman, to judge no one harshly, to live as closely as possible to the counsels of the Sermon on the Mount may enable you to live in the true spirit of nursing.

In conclusion I again congratulate you and wish you great success in your future work and let me quote Oliver Wendell Holmes' lines to the physician, which seem to be equally applicable to the nurse—

"And last, not least, in each perplexing case
Learn the sweet magic of a cheerful face.
Not always smiling, but at least serene,
When grief and anguish cloud the anxious scene,
Each look, each movement, every word and tone
Should tell the sufferer you are all his own."
Not the mere hireling, purchased to attend,
But the warm, ready, self-supporting friend
Whose genial presence in itself
Is a boon of tonics, cordials, andodynes."

Mr. C. H. Waterous handed the diplomas to the members of the graduating class, and Mayor Bowly presented each with a hospital pin. Both gentlemen made happy speeches in his doing.

Mrs. R. S. Schell, President of the W. H. A. conveyed hearty greetings from that association. Thermometers had been ordered for each nurse, but unfortunately had not arrived in time. They would be distributed as soon as received.

The graduates, at the close of proceedings, were showered with individual congratulations, and all were the recipients of handsome bouquets.

All of the speakers paid hearty tributes to Miss Forde, the doctors and the Women's Hospital Aid.

At the close, dainty refreshments were served in the nurses' dining room in the basement. Mrs. Cummings Nelles and Mrs. A. K. Bunnell poured tea and coffee, and those who waited on the guests were members of the Junior Hospital Aid—Misses Kippax, Palmer, Kitchen, Chalcraft and Whitaker.

Governor Major, of Kansas, renewed the reward offered by the state of \$300 for the arrest and conviction of Robert Rogers, accused of having killed Hazel Hardesty in Kansas City, Sept. 5, 1911.

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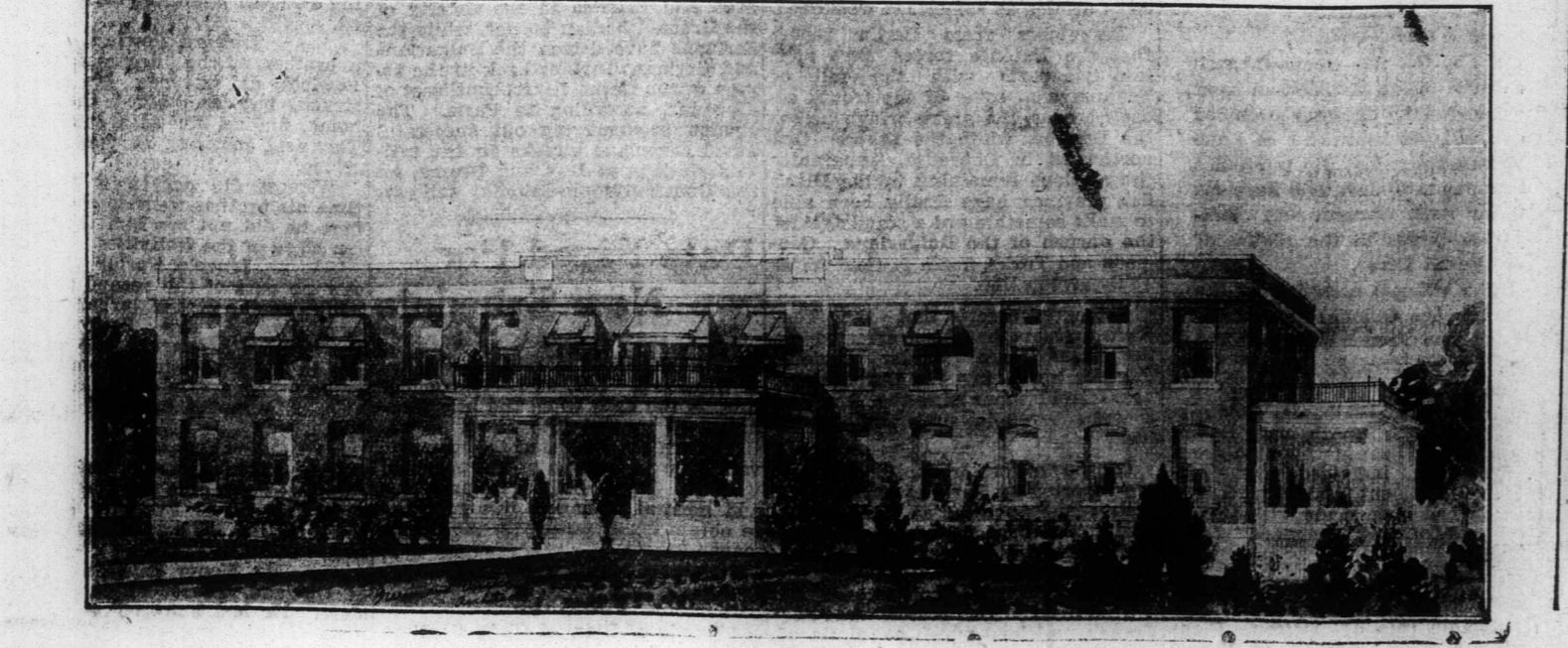
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RIP

My whole attention meets the rising cost keeps me hustling to buy the liver, and to feed the wife and and see that the plenty. The trans swiftly moving and be improving; I'd ever harder, that ha stock the larder. So to the smartly, the windy party, who

Good

"Now Jane," said the ed the fairy balloon, and your doll, Claris nights to the doll of fairy forest. And acted. Once you tip and we all fell out German doll's hay- up moonbeams and gnomes had to chase let India sprinkle a a pool of water and tures of India. And of a jungle and sea death. It was your ian goblin got out of and your fault the on the parasol escap have got to be good truth, I'm sorry I ev Jane promised to it came about that went to the doll con doll Clarissa.

This time she sat Spanish doll whose bella came over and Now Isabella was doll. She had dar eyes and wore a green shawl trimmed fringe. Her apron we ed and her hair com top of her head.

"Please don't han said Jane meekly, do it'll sure to be en get in some dress ble, I'm cold, and I' to speak to anybody Isabella went bac feeling pretty sorry she dropped her ma

HA

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