

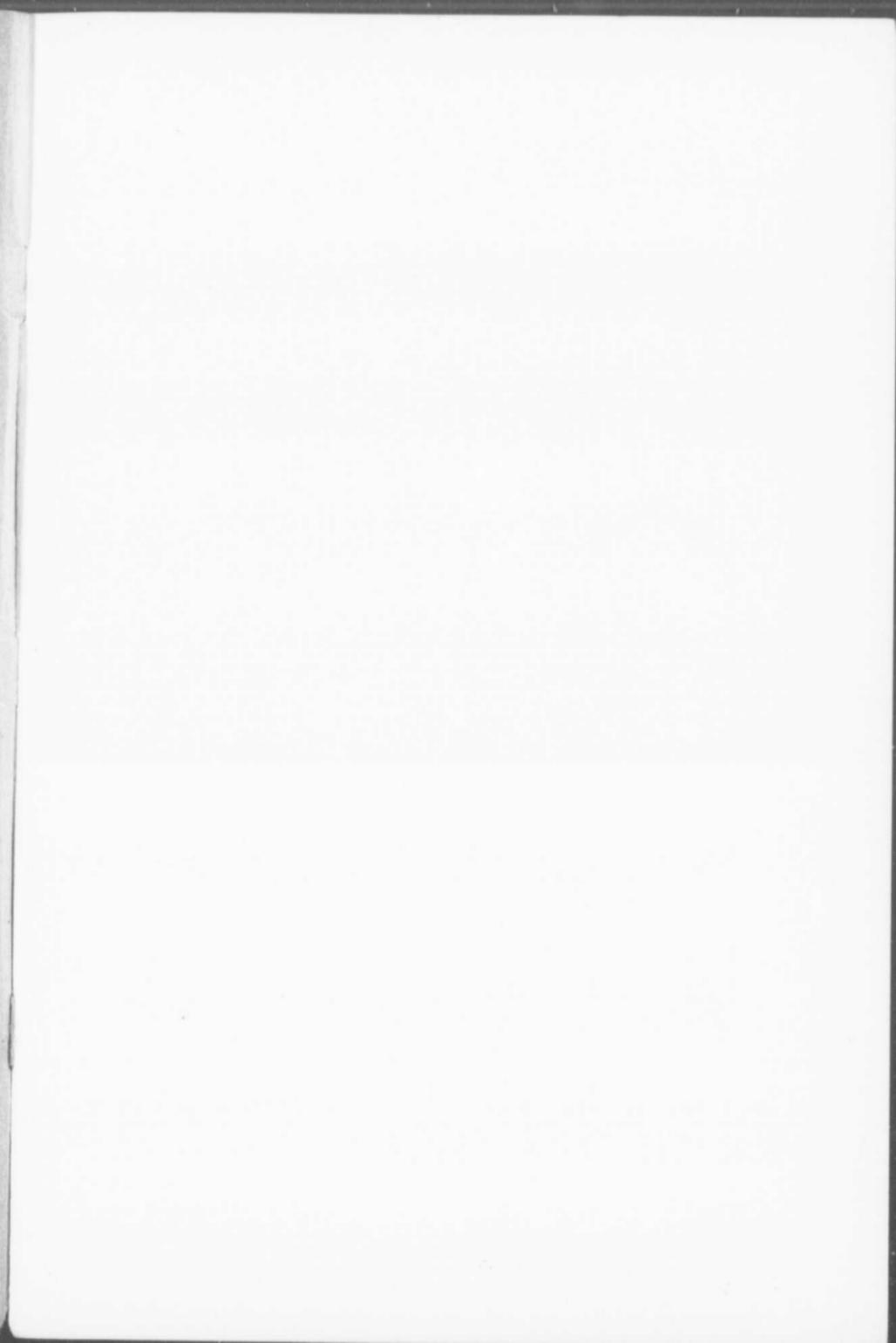
Ms L. J. Hill

1919 - 34

**Nursing as a Vocation for
Young Women**

**Training in
The Vancouver General Hospital**

1919





ADVANCED TUBERCULOSIS SECTION



MAIN BUILDING.



PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY & POWER HOUSE



NURSES' NEW HOME



ANTERIOR VIEW.



NURSES' OLD HOME



DOCTORS' HOME.



ONE OF THE ISOLATION WARDS.



LAUNDRY.

VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL



OUTDOOR & ISOLATION DEPARTMENTS.

NURSING AS A VOCATION FOR
YOUNG WOMEN



TRAINING IN
THE VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL



Vancouver:
G. A. ROEDDE, LTD.
1919

*Presented with the Compliments of the
General Superintendent and Board of Directors,
Vancouver General Hospital.*

NURSING AS A VOCATION

To Prospective Applicants:

It is quite unnecessary to elaborate on the nobleness of the Nursing Profession as a vocation for young women, when you reflect for a moment or two on the services rendered by our Nurses in the recent war abroad and throughout the disastrous epidemic of influenza at home, when they all worked under most strenuous and dangerous conditions, many of whom giving up their lives for the cause. There must be an incipient ambition in the life of every young woman to serve in the ranks of these noble women and take up the work. We hear on all sides that this profession is the highest and noblest calling for women of today, and we do think it is true, for in their daily life they come in contact with such conditions and such a serious side of life whilst in touch with suffering humanity, that it brings out of a woman the best that is in her, and moulds for her a noble character, enriched with the highest ideals and qualifications, in so much that we look upon a Nurse as a superwoman almost, demanding from all a certain reverence.

The field of Nursing has broadened greatly during the past few years, and especially during the war. At one time it was confined entirely to the care of the sick, but today the duties have been extended to the field of scientific and preventative medicine, thus requiring a broader education and the assuming of much greater responsibilities than heretofore. Large fields have rapidly opened up in Public Health, Social Service, Laboratory Work, etc., as well as an immeasurably broadened scope of institutional work, and today many are doing work that was formerly done by medical men. This enlarging of the field and scope of duty has caused a demand, and there is a scarcity of applicants in our Training School, as well as a shortage of Nurses suitable for filling the institutional positions vacant.

The opportunity to train in our own province under the present conditions is most desirable. The Vancouver General Hospital, a highly accredited and standardized institution, has in connection with it a large Training School, and offers to Nurses today a training unsurpassed. The following is a brief summary of information regarding same.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE TRAINING SCHOOL.

The Vancouver General Hospital Training School for Nurses was incorporated in 1902, and was the outgrowth of the Vancouver City Hospital Training School for Nurses, incorporated in 1899. It offers a complete course of training and instruction to women desirous of taking up the profession of Nursing. The aim of the course is to give scientific instruction in the principles and practice of Nursing and to prepare women for entering the profession as institutional, public health or private Nurses. The School has the advantage of being well established, modernly equipped, and connected with a large General Hospital.

EQUIPMENT.

The Vancouver General Hospital is a 1200-bed hospital, ideally situated, both as regards climate and scenery. As the name implies, it is a General Hospital, having Medical, Surgical, Children's, Obstetrical, Contagious, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Departments, treating all cases excepting Small Pox and Plague. The Hospital has the most modern and improved features of construction and equipment, and furnishes the best of facilities for the care of the sick.

The Home for Nurses, completed five years ago, is in all respects suitably adapted to its purpose. It is equipped with Class-rooms, Laboratories, Demonstrating, Examining Rooms, and Dressmaking Department. The bedrooms are light and airy, hot and cold water in each room; sitting-rooms, libraries and telephones on each floor. A large reception room on the main floor is used for social functions, and a refreshment room in the basement is provided especially for the use of the Nurses.

NURSING STAFF.

The Nursing Staff consists of 47 Graduate Nurses and 190 Pupil Nurses. The wards are directed by Graduate Head Nurses, who, together with the Instructors, give the required amount of bedside instruction and supervision.

ADMISSION.

Women desirous of taking the training must apply by letter, or preferably in person, to the Directress of Nurses. The applicant must be over twenty and under thirty-five years of age, of average height and weight, and have a strong physique. Exceptions to the age limit may be made when the candidate is otherwise particularly well prepared to undertake the training. The educational requirement is

three years' high school course or equivalent. Women of superior education and refinement will be given the preference. The names of applicants are placed on file as received. Approved candidates will be given due notice, and instructions as to necessary preparations will be forwarded. Any change of a candidate's address or plans should be immediately reported to the Directress of Nurses.

REGISTRATION.

Classes are formed October 1st and May 1st of each year.

LENGTH OF COURSE.

The course of training covers three years from the date of entrance. The first six months of this period constitutes the preliminary probation term. At the close of the preliminary term candidates who successfully pass the required examinations, written, practical, and oral, and who have given satisfaction in other respects, assume the uniform of the School and are considered as Nurse Pupils. On entering the Training School, pupils are given a physical examination.

HOURS OF DUTY.

The eight-hour duty is in vogue in our Training School for Nurses. The hours of duty are as follows: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., with four hours off daily; 3 p.m. to 11 p.m., and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., and one-half day a week and part of Sunday are allowed also.

VACATIONS.

Three weeks' holidays each year are allowed Pupil Nurses. These are given at the convenience of the Directress of Nurses. All leave of absence granted a Nurse must be made up at the close of the course. Pupils will not be permitted to nurse sick relatives at home nor to absent themselves for any other personal reasons. If a Nurse is absent for a period exceeding four weeks, she will lose her class position in the School, but may enter the succeeding class, unless such absence exceeds four months, when she will lose her place in the Training School. This rule may be modified at the discretion of the Directress of Nurses.

ILLNESS.

In illness pupils are cared for gratuitously, but all time that a Pupil Nurse is off duty through illness must be made up at the end of the term. The Training School Physician will attend the Nurses unless special arrangements are made otherwise.



Dining Room, Nurses' Home.



Typical Sitting Room, Nurses' Home.

EXPENSES.

During the first two months of probation the applicants receive board, lodgings, laundry and the instruction of the School, but receive no money for expenses. They will receive \$6.00 per month for the balance of the first year, \$8.00 for the second, and \$10.00 per month for the third year. Pupils must wear the uniform of the School after acceptance, the material for which will be furnished by the Hospital. A deposit of \$10.00 must be made at the time of acceptance, for uniform material. This will be returned when the Nurse completes her course. Pupils leaving the Training School before finishing their course must return uniform to School. Pupils provide their textbooks and other such note-books as may be necessary. They are also required to pay at the end of each month for breakages.

EXAMINATIONS AND GRADUATION.

Written and oral examinations as well as practical tests will be given at the close of each course of study. The passing mark is 75 per cent. Nurses failing to make this mark will be given one re-examination. Failure to pass this will necessitate the pupil taking the class work over the following year. Final examinations will be conducted by a committee of the Medical Board. Should a Nurse successfully pass these required examinations, and her conduct has been satisfactory, she will be given the Diploma and Pin of the School, and will be considered well prepared to take up her professional duties.

RELIGION.

The School is non-denominational, but Nurses are expected to attend their own places of worship once every Sunday when at all possible.

DISCIPLINE.

The Directress of Nurses makes all appointments of candidates to the preliminary class, and determines the qualifications of probationers for the work and the propriety of retaining or dismissing them at the close of the probation period. Pupil Nurses are subject in all particulars to the rules of the Hospital and the discipline of the School, which will be made known to the pupil on her arrival. Nurse Pupils are under the control and management of the Directress of Nurses, who, with the concurrence of the General Superintendent, shall have power to dismiss or otherwise punish them for inefficiency or misconduct, whether on or off duty.

UNIVERSITY RELATION.

The University of British Columbia today offers the highest degree in Nursing that can be secured, on the fulfilment of certain conditions as hereinafter indicated. A few months ago the General Superintendent and Board of Directors submitted to the British Columbia University authorities a scheme by which the Training School could be connected more closely with the University. The proposal as made formed the basis for the establishment of a Department of Nursing in the University of British Columbia, under the Faculty of Science. The final arrangement as adopted, in substance is as follows:

That the University of British Columbia agrees to establish a Department of Nursing, with a degree to be granted on the fulfilment of certain conditions, namely:

- (a) Two years' Arts or preparatory course.
- (b) Completion of three years' training in a recognized Training School (required standard for the Training School to be laid down later).

With this arrangement, candidates desiring to take the degree or five years' course, will complete their two years in the University before going in to train. Those who do not wish to take the degree will go into the Hospital direct, taking up the three years' training and will get the Hospital diploma, but not the degree. Both Nurses, however, will secure the same practical training.

POST-GRADUATE WORK.

The Hospital offers post-graduate courses in the following: Operating Room Technique, Obstetrics, Pediatrics and Dietetics. Scholarships valued at \$250.00 to \$300.00 are granted to different Nurses of the graduating class to enable them to take up post-graduate work in other hospitals. During the last year three such scholarships were granted.

SCHOLARSHIPS, MEDALS, PRIZES.

The R. E. McKechnie Medal for General Proficiency.

The Glen Campbell Prize for Best Examination in Diseases of the Eye.

The Seldon Medal for Highest Standing in Surgery.

The Allison Cummings Medal for Highest Standing in Medicine.

The Riggs-Monro Scholarship for six months' Post-Graduate Course in Surgery.

The Thomson-Champion Scholarship for six months' Post-Graduate Course in Surgery.



Typical Bedroom, Nurses' Home.

The Covernton Scholarship for six months' Post-Graduate Course in Pediatrics.

The Carder Prize for General Proficiency in Pediatrics.

The McKee First Prize for Highest Standing in Obstetrics.

The McKee Second Prize for Second Highest Standing in Obstetrics.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU WANT TO MAKE APPLICATION
TO TRAIN.

1st.—Write to the Directress of Nurses, Vancouver General Hospital, and secure application form.

2nd.—Fill in application form, which is as follows:—

This paper is to be filled in (in the candidate's own writing) and sent to the Directress of Nurses, The Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, B. C.

Every question must be distinctly answered.

1. *Name in full and present address*.....
.....
2. *What is your home address, and the name and address of nearest relatives?*
3. *Age last birthday*
4. *Year and place of birth*
5. *Are you a single woman or a widow?*.....
6. *If a widow, have you any children, ages and how provided for?*.....
.....
7. *Are either or both of your parents living?*.....
8. *What educational advantages have you had?*.....
.....
9. *(a) Height, (b) Weight, (c) Sight, (d) Hearing*.....
.....
10. *Are you strong and have you always had good health?*.....
11. *Have you been vaccinated?.....If so, how long ago?*.....
12. *What infectious diseases have you had?*.....
13. *Have you had rheumatism, rheumatic fever or varicose veins?*.....
.....
14. *Where (if any) was your last situation, and when did you leave it?*
.....

15. *In what capacity were you employed?*.....
16. *Have you ever been connected in any way with any hospital or training school; if so, where, when, how long and in what capacity?*.....
17. *The names and addresses of two persons (not relatives) to be referred to. If previously employed, one of them must be that of your last employer*
18. *Of what Religious Denomination are you a member?*.....
19. *If accepted, when can you come?*.....
20. *You are further required to send with this a certificate from Clergyman, Physician and Dentist*

I, the undersigned, declare the above answers to be correct and true, and if accepted I will agree to conform, in all respects, to the rules of the Hospital and the requirements of the School.

.....
Candidate.

Date.....

3rd.—Return same to the Directress of Nurses with three certificates, one from your clergyman, one from your physician, and one from your dentist. The physician's form to be filled in will be enclosed with the application, and is as follows:

Name Age.....

Previous Residence.....Previous Occupation.....

Family History.....Personal History.....

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

(a) *Development—Nutrition—Temperament, etc.*

(b) *Eye—Ear—Nose—Throat—Teeth, etc.*

(c) *Respiratory System*

(d) *Circulatory System*

(e) *Digestive System*

(f) *Nervous System*

(g) *Glandular System*

(h) *Integumentary System*

(i) *Locomotor System*

(j) *Genito-Urinary System*

(k) *Remarks or Recommendations*

Signed,

.....
Medical Examiner.

Dated.....

4th.—If your application is accepted, you will receive the following reply:

Vancouver, B. C., 19.....

Dear Madam:

Your application is accepted, and the date of your appointment to enter the School is.....
Report for duty before 5 p.m.

It will be necessary to have two plainly-made wash dresses, blue in color, made with high neck, long sleeves and with two one-inch tucks; six linen collars, which may be obtained from the hospital; twelve large white aprons, to be exactly even with bottom of uniform (six inches from the floor) with a five-inch hem and a one-and-a-half-inch hem in back; band to be double, two-and-a-half inches wide, to fasten with two bone studs; aprons to be gathered and meet in the back, no bibs, no pockets; black boots with rubber heels; two colored bags for soiled clothes; one napkin ring with name engraved; a watch with a second hand; a fountain pen; kimona, bedroom slippers, sweater or long wrap, and a good supply of *plain* underclothing. Every article to be marked with full name on the bands.

If the teeth are in need of attention, have them put in order before coming.

Please let me know if I may rely on your coming at the above date, and oblige,

Yours truly,

.....
Directress of Nurses.