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Yale University School of Nursing

ALUMNAE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 1

New Haven, Connecticut

November, 1948



Helene Fitzgerald '26
President, Y.U.S.N.A.A.

Dear Y.S.N. Alumnae:

The year 1949 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the School of Nursing at Yale University. February sixth is the birthday of our beloved first dean, Annie Warburton Goodrich, whose untiring efforts and devotion to the school have placed it among the leaders in its field.

Those of us who have watched the evolution of the school from its inception to the present, along the lines organized by Miss Goodrich a quarter of a century ago and so ably carried on by Miss Taylor and Miss Bixler, are proud of the enviable record the School of Nursing has attained through the years. The contributions its graduates have made toward bettering health conditions in the areas where they have worked are a tribute to the guidance and leadership of its founder.

It is fitting, therefore, that we look beyond the narrow present to the future and take our places as planners for and contributors to this period of social change in which we live. We can do this only if we are actively interested in current trends, not only as they affect our own profession but as they affect allied fields whose objectives are the same as ours.

The program for the celebration in honor of the twenty-fifth birthday of the School of Nursing is outlined in this issue of the Bulletin. We hope that each regional group will share in this celebration, so that it will be one worthy of this important anniversary.

Helene Fitzgerald '26

The opening event of the 25th Anniversary celebration of Y.U.S.N. will take place at 4 P. M., Saturday, February 5, 1949 at the Historical Library of the Yale University School of Medicine, 333 Cedar St. President Seymour will preside. Dr. Angell, Prof. C.-E. A. Winslow, and Dr. Winternitz, who have been influential in the founding and growth of the school will confine their remarks to "Nursing in the First Quarter of This Century." Dr. Alan Gregg, Director, Division of Medical Sciences, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Dr. Brock Chisholm, General Director of the World Health Organization, have been invited to participate, but their acceptance will depend upon other commitments and whether or not Dr. Chisholm's presence will be required in Geneva.

Refreshments in the Beaumont Room will follow and a buffet supper in the Club Room of the Medical School is being considered.

To these exercises will be invited guests, both within and without the profession, and it is hoped that alumnae, also, will wish to return.

THE BULLETIN BOARD

Charlotte Perkins '46	}	Editors
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Helene Fitzgerald '26		
Elizabeth S. Bixler '27		

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310 Cedar St., New Haven, Conn.

Y.U.S.N.A.A. PROPOSED BUDGET

January - December 1949

Estimated Receipts:	
Alumnae Association Dues.....	\$2,200
Estimated Expenditures:	
Anniversary Fund	\$ 180
Auditing and Insurance	15
Bank Charges	10
Class Secretaries Bureau.....	100
Contingency Fund	225
Directory	250
Entertainment	125
Flowers	50
Miscellaneous	50
News Bulletin	300
Office Equipment	50
Postage	60
Printing and Office Supplies.....	175
Salaries (clerical)	500
Telephone	10
Travel and Convention.....	50
Yale Medical Library.....	50
	\$2,200

ALUMNAE DIRECTORY

If your Bulletin is not reaching you at the proper address, please notify the Alumnae office immediately in order that the Directory will be as accurate as possible. It will be sent to all dues-paying members in December.

25th ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIRS

Printed tea napkins with a cartoon by Collier, "Yale Now Has a School of Nursing," appearing in the Boston Herald, May 6, 1923 will be available for purchase by December 1.

THE ANNIE W. GOODRICH FUND

The Annie W. Goodrich Fund, established in 1942 by the Y.U.S.N.A.A., now totals slightly more than \$10,000. This is an encouraging sum, but it must be increased many times over before the alumnae can make a really significant contribution to the school, such as the endowment of a professorship or the provision of improved housing or classrooms. The members of the Y.U.S.N.A.A. will decide on the use of the fund when the contributions of alumnae and friends of the school create a sum of impressive amount. Until then, the principal of the fund accumulates. So far the interest on the principal of the fund, now about \$300 a year, has been untouched and has been added to the principal.

At the annual meeting of the Y.U.S.N.A.A. last June, it was voted that consideration be given to using the yearly interest for an annual project of educational value to the students of the school, to alumnae, and to the nursing profession. It was felt that such an annual project, in addition to its educational value, might stimulate interest in the fund itself and hasten its growth. One suggestion was the possibility of establishing a lectureship to bring to Yale each year an outstanding person to discuss an aspect of nursing of significance to Yale students and alumnae, to nurses generally, to allied professional groups, and to the interested public. Reprints might then be available for all alumnae through the Y.U.S.N.A.A.

A committee has been appointed to consider various ways of using the yearly interest and to submit recommendations to the Board of the Y.U.S.N.A.A. Such consideration is still in a preliminary and exploratory stage; any progress will be reported in the next Bulletin. Suggestions from the alumnae are solicited.

Eleanor M. King '32, Chairman

Y.S.N. HISTORICAL EXHIBIT

The class of 1951, under the direction of Miss Melby, will arrange an exhibit which will feature the Connecticut Training School and the Yale School of Nursing in honor of the 25th anniversary. This exhibit will be on display during the month of February in the rotunda of the Yale Medical School Library.

DATA FROM THE DEAN

The first of October a year ago was a particularly hectic time in Brady, because the Class of 1947W finished and the Class of 1950 entered, practically simultaneously. 1947W had the distinction of being the last "war" class, and the first group to have the final month of classes without clinical assignments. This salubrious arrangement gave the students an opportunity to give their full attention to classes, and we were particularly proud of the Senior group projects which were presented at that time. In our efforts to perfect the Senior project assignment, the faculty studied almost as hard as the students. Last June we had the stimulation of an intensive two-day workshop with Mrs. Genevieve K. Bixler, Consultant on Research. One result of this should be that the faculty members feel better qualified to direct and advise the Seniors in what is at least an embryonic form of research.

Forty-four students of the Class of 1948 received their degrees at Commencement last June. Another member of the class is on sick leave at present, but expects to graduate with the Class of 1949. Thirty-seven students remain in the present Senior class; forty-seven in the Class of 1950, and fifty-nine entered this fall in the Class of 1951. The upward trend is definitely encouraging, and we want it to continue, not from any desire for "bigness," but because we believe the profession of nursing, and the course at Yale should attract college women in ever-increasing numbers. Incidentally, we made a study of the number of students who have left school without graduating, for all reasons, and find that the percentage of loss, in the past twenty-five years, has been less than 20%, which compares very favorably with the attrition rate in all schools of nursing.

Last February in this column you were given some data on the financial status of the School, and it was suggested that the tuition might have to be increased. Reluctantly, this was done on July 1 of this year. The total cost now to the student (tuition, maintenance, special fees, uniforms, etc.) is approximately \$1,400, an increase of \$200. Fortunately the loan and

scholarship funds are reasonably adequate for students who need financial assistance.

Speaking of the cost of nursing education, may I urge all of you to read "Nursing for the Future" by Esther Lucille Brown, published by the Russell Sage Foundation (New York 1948), price \$2.00. It is the School Study report and should have far-reaching effects on nursing education. And please see to it that public spirited "lay" persons read it, too! Should not the public bear some of the cost of preparing nurses to care for the community and to help in the maintenance of health?

In May, the University Alumni Committee met for two days in New Haven to learn about the Schools of Medicine and Nursing and their needs. Ruth Delano '49, told the committee about the School from the student's viewpoint, and brought out, quietly but forcibly, the need for more clinical instructors and for more adequate dormitory facilities. At a luncheon meeting Miss Melby, Miss Hallfors and Miss Hyder discussed something of the philosophy of the School and different phases of the curriculum. The Committee was visibly impressed with this introduction to the work of our School and, believe me, I practically burst with pride.

Now we are entering a particularly significant school year, during which we shall celebrate the 25th anniversary of Y.S.N. with a brief glance backwards but with divine discontent urging us on to even greater service in the future.

Eugene S. Bixler

October, 1948

The 25th Anniversary celebration will start on February 5. Following this in February and March there will be regional gatherings throughout the country at which Dean Bixler will be present. The final phase of celebrating will be the informal class reunions and special events at Commencement in June.

 "HOW COME WE CAME" — Chapter I

Elizabeth Grigg '45W

In the words of Miss Annie Goodrich herself, the history of the Yale University School of Nursing really began with that momentous Committee for the study of Nursing Education financed by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1923 under the chairmanship of Professor C.-E. A. Winslow, and whose findings led to the publication of the Goldmark Report. It was in that same year that Yale was finally chosen to be the center for a University school of nursing, but not without considerable debate, for there was keen competition among several educational institutions.

Yale was chosen largely through the influence of Mr. Embree, secretary of the Foundation, Professor Winslow and Dr. Winternitz, always friends of nursing and more than anxious to see it come into its rights as a profession. So in 1923 the Rockefeller Foundation helped the Yale School of Nursing into being with a gift of \$125,000 and the promise of \$1,000,000 more in five years should the undertaking prove successful.

It was with many skeptical eyes upon her that Miss Goodrich undertook this unique work of projecting a school of nursing into a men's college. Nor should one imagine there were not many hurdles. The first great problem was housing. President

Angell of Yale offered Miss Goodrich a choice of the Dog House or the old Elm City Hospital, then used as a teaching center. The latter, the present Nathan Smith Hall, was considered preferable, but was given up with reluctance by its occupants, one professor accusing the Dean of being "the woman who deprived us of our teaching building." However, Professor Winslow gladly added his support, though it meant giving up his own department's headquarters. For academic quarters no choice was offered, and the School of Nursing through the generosity of the School of Medicine was launched with offices and class rooms on the top floor of Brady, though the close proximity to the animal rooms often rendered it almost unendurable. But, as Miss Goodrich said, "We gradually came down as we went up."

The next burning question was that of degree. Miss Goodrich met Dr. Angell at the Cosmopolitan Club and asked hopefully what degree would be given. "No degree will be possible," replied Dr. Angell, for women were not admitted to Yale College or Sheffield. "This is an awful blow," said Miss Goodrich, "We won't get any students." She almost weeps now when she thinks of it, but at the time she did not weep, for she had to think.

(To be continued in next issue)