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Yale University School of Nursing

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YALE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF NURSING, ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
310 CEDAR STREET

NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

July 25, 1958

Dear Alumna,

This is the first of the newsletters which you voted to have replace the Bulletins. We will plan to send out several newsletters a year to try to keep you well informed. At the Alumnae Association Business Meeting in June, several alumnae asked if it would be possible to include news regarding vital statistics and what people were doing. To do this, we need to know about job changes, husbands and babies, etc.

The annual meeting was held on June 7th, and Jean MacLean, who had returned from her new job as Director of the School of Nursing at the University of Maine, presided. Mrs. Mary Sullivan, Treasurer, reported that twenty more alumnae than last year (a total of 634) had paid their dues, which is a real help to the Association budget. Mrs. Simmons, Executive Secretary, reported that the new Directory was in the process of being mailed out to all dues paying members. (So if you haven't received your Directory, have you paid your dues?) There has been some confusion because alumnae have combined their dues with donations to the Alumnae Fund, and sometimes checks have been sent to the wrong place. Next year it is planned to begin the Alumnae Fund drive in the early Winter, so it will not conflict with the Spring request for Association dues.

Elizabeth Plummer reported that the Annie W. Goodrich Fund now totals \$90,352, an increase of over \$20,000 since a year ago at this time. She pointed out that alumnae donations, with interest, over the past fifteen years have totaled \$44,639, while \$32,500 has come from the China Medical Board, Mrs. Lovejoy, and foundations, and that friends of the School and former friends of Miss Goodrich have contributed \$11,728.

Dean Torrey introduced Miss Arnstein, who had returned from Washington to attend Alumnae Day and Alumnae College, and spoke of her outstanding contribution to both students and faculty during the Spring Term. She also reported that the Graduate Program had been fully accredited by the National League for Nursing, and that two faculty members had, or were in the process of having, books published - Family-Centered Maternity Nursing by Ernestine Wiedenbach, and Clinical Correlation of Anatomy and Physiology by Martha Pitel.

Two alumnae who had been invited to attend Alumnae College reported to the group. The idea of inviting a small number of alumnae to learn more about the graduate program and to give suggestions and comments to the faculty had come from a meeting of the New Haven Regional Group. Two representatives from each of the reuniting classes had been invited to return for a day of discussion about the Graduate Program. Arrangements were made for them to stay with classmates in the New Haven area, and these hostesses were also invited to the meetings. The plan was that those alumnae who attended would write to their classmates and bring back to their regional groups the information and the impressions they had obtained at the College.

The day began with coffee in the Seminar Room and ended with cocktails at the Torreys, with much discussion and intellectual stimulation in between. The morning seminar was devoted to nursing research with Margaret Arnstein leading the discussion. Mr. McElrath, the medico-sociologist who taught the course in Research

Methods, and students from the three majors discussed what they had done in their research projects during the past year. In the afternoon, the two psychiatrists, Dr. Stern and Dr. Lustman, who teach courses: Interpersonal Processes, Psychodynamics of Behavior, and Psychosomatic Aspects of Illness, presented the aims of their courses, again with students participating. Dr. Stern also has been having a weekly seminar with the faculty. The alumnae, the faculty, and the students all seemed to feel that it had been a most successful day, and we hope that Alumnae College will become an annual affair.

The Saturday morning Business Meeting ended with the report of the election of officers. Elected were: Lucy Conant '50, as President, Mrs. Walter Bretthauer (Beverly Beach '54) as Treasurer, and Mrs. Henry Bucholz (Elizabeth Armstrong '30), Adele Findlay '54, Mrs. Louis Claiborne (Aldyth Longshore '36), and Mrs. Alvin Brodish (Mary Stone '57) to the Board of Directors. Continuing for their second year will be Mrs. Gustaf Lindskog '26, as Vice-President, Mrs. Lawson Wilkinson '32, as Secretary, and Mrs. Howard Benedict, Jr. '48, on the Board of Directors.

The afternoon program began with the presentation of Dean Torrey's portrait by Miss MacLean and its acceptance by President Griswold. Enough money had been received from the Portrait Drive to pay for the portrait and its framing, as well as a gift to Mrs. Torrey of an antique chest. Deane Keller, from the Art School, had painted the portrait. Following this, Florence Schorske, our new Dean, and several other faculty members discussed plans for the School. She emphasized that the program is experimental, because both the course content and the teaching methods represent a different approach to advanced nursing education. Content in administration and supervision is integrated into the curriculum rather than taught as separate courses. This coming year there again will be the three majors, Maternal and Newborn Health Nursing, Mental Health and Psychiatric Nursing, and Public Health Nursing, and the number of students will be limited to 6-8 in each area. In the Fall there will be a two month period of field experience including seminars and conferences during which the students will focus on the nursing process and their own performance. Following this initial emphasis on the nurse, what she does, how and why she does it, the other courses will begin. The public health nurses will start their public health courses in September with the other students in the Department of Public Health, but also will have field experience at the Visiting Nurse Association.

The problem of time was also discussed by Miss Schorske and other faculty members. If the program is to include required and elective courses, a research project and field experience on an educational basis, it is impossible for students to assimilate all this in one year. Both a two year program and a second year for those students interested in further specialized work in research, teaching, supervision or administration are under consideration.

In the evening the traditional banquet at Woolsey Hall, to which the graduating basic and advanced students were invited, was held. Miss Effie J. Taylor was present, reuning classes reported, and Mr. Meyers, from the Yale Sociology Department, spoke. The usual Yale luck with weather on Graduation Day failed this year. Monday was showery, and the Commencement exercises were held at Woolsey Hall. However, it still was a colorful and impressive ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. Torrey are now in New Hampshire. They departed with the very best wishes from all who have been connected with the School of Nursing.

Remember that we would like to receive ideas and suggestions for these newsletters as well as news about yourself. Please communicate!

Sincerely yours,

Lucy H. Conant

President, YUSNAA