1933

Yale School of Nursing Alumnae News 1933

Yale University School of Nursing

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Y.S.N.

ALUMNAE NEWS

1933
YN
LUX ET VERITAS

YALE
SCHOOL OF NURSING
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HElLO EVERYBODY!

This is an attempt at an informal, newsy bulletin for the alumnae of the Yale University School of Nursing, 310 Cedar St., New Haven, Conn. "kindly send your trunk and go yourself to -- " you know the rest.

It has been a bit difficult getting started on this first issue and some of our news may be incomplete. But perhaps you'll find something interesting about yourself, your erstwhile companions, or your professional alma mater -- and perhaps you'll be stirred to send in an item or two for next year. Please do!

First, a greeting from Miss Goodrich, dean extraordinary of the Yale School of Nursing and honorary member of the alumnae association, without whose professional guidance and personal sympathy we cannot visualize the working of this school and our relation to it and our chosen profession of nursing. Miss Goodrich writes:

"The request for a message of greeting through the pages of an alumnae magazine brings a gratification difficult to express, for the issuance of this publication on the eve of the tenth anniversary of the School is fraught with significance.

"As we cast a backward glance and note the ever deepening and expanding of the content of the curriculum, the ever more exacting admission requirement, the letters of inquiry which now approximate the number received by some of the older and most distinguished schools, and the steadily increasing student enrollment, how incomprehensible seem the early doubts and fears.

"The year 1933 opens with a total enrollment in the School of 110 and a graduate body of 224. In ad-
dition there have passed through the School in these comparatively few years 1520 students from affiliating institutions both in Connecticut and in adjoining states, while many hundreds of students from different countries throughout the world have visited us for longer or shorter periods of experience.

"Heartening as are these indications of growth and development they are but minor aspects of the fundamental factor in the value of the School. What part are our graduates playing in the now world-wide program of health, education and conservation? I believe we can with verity assert that the contribution of the graduates of this still young school in the fields of curative and preventive medicine is outstanding, and perhaps particularly so in the new, complex, and intriguing branches of mental hygiene and psychiatry. The limitations of space prohibit the enumeration of even the most important positions, but it should be noted that these graduates may now be found in Yugoslavia, in China, in Syria, and in the Belgian Congo; that in the United States they are holding positions of importance in the Universities of Washington, Leland Stanford University, California, Syracuse University, and the great medical centers in New York City, that the Rockefeller Foundation has assigned fellowships to two for research through Teachers College, that their Alma Mater is holding them in ever-increasing number and in all the various divisions of clinical medicine, 33 being so assigned.

"There is another contribution to the reputation of the School, certainly impressive and perhaps the most far-reaching in its social implications, that of the excellent mothers of many beautiful children undoubtedly being directed with a wisdom born of the rich and varied experience in human nature in all its aspects, strengthened and developed through the case study method.

"I am proud indeed of you, my dear former students and present colleagues, for the way in which you have responded to the challenge of this University School for which I predict even greater developments through the coming years."
Mary Taylor (Mrs. Walter Swoboda) of the first graduating class, 1926, is doing part-time work with the Emergency Work Bureau in New York City in the division caring for unemployed nurses. She writes about it:

"Three years ago New York City established through funds provided by popular subscription the Emergency Work Bureau whose function is to provide jobs, during this economic crisis, in non-profit making organizations for those people who could not otherwise find work. Thus a destitute man or woman is given work in a public park of a city hospital and paid weekly by the Emergency Work Bureau. The immensity of this program is almost unbelievable and since its formation the Bureau has expended over forty millions of dollars.

"In the fall of 1931 under the chairmanship of Mrs. August Belmont and the direction of Miss O. A. Randall, the Women's Division saw the advisability of establishing a separate working unit for the interviewing and placement of graduate nurses. Between that time and June 1, 1932, the nurses' division interviewed over 1000 graduate nurses unable to earn a living and without funds to carry on. Forty per cent of this number had to be turned from our doors due to ineligibility because of income from outside sources or insufficient residence in the city. The remaining sixty per cent were either placed on our pay roll at $12.00 weekly or through our many contacts found permanent work. It may be an interesting commentary on their unemployment that sixty-two per cent of the nurses applying had had private duty experience only.

"The figures for the present year are not available, but a sizable drop in the number of placements made is indicated due to a greatly enlarged state program of relief and due to many nurses forsaking their profession for commercial fields.

"The individual cases of distress and actual suffering are many. Frequently nurses of real ability
and background come to us because of hunger, and investigation reveals their living in the cheapest type of rooming house. The physical and mental breaking point is not far off in these cases and immediate financial assistance is given to tide them over until the first pay.

"Relief such as ours is only temporary and should be supported to the utmost, but a permanent solution must be considered now. The chief cause for unemployment among nurses is easily found: over-production. As in every field, the laws of supply and demand must be observed, and we cannot supply profitable work for everyone in an over-crowded profession that is being added to yearly at the rate of 25,000 to 30,000.

"Many schools of nursing throughout the country have materially decreased the number of students in their classes, and undoubtedly this will be of some value, but the very schools showing this foresight are the schools graduating our highest type of nurse. The schools using student nurses as a solution for cheap help in their hospital and consequently graduating a lower grade of nurse still continue to admit large classes. With the better schools slowing up and the poorer schools maintaining their average, indications point to a lower grade of nursing service unless some radical step is taken. Because the inferior school is forced to maintain its student body in order properly to staff the hospital which is financially unable to employ graduate nurses, we find ourselves in a position where an authoritative body must take command.

"In this respect the Committee on the Grading of Nursing Schools and the Committee on the Cost of Medical Care are making splendid progress. Only by such agencies acting in nation-wide capacity after intensive study can conditions be improved. To such a body we would gladly surrender our records, which have been kept in such a fashion as to be of value in the formation of new policies."
Elizabeth Bixler, 1929, supervisor of nursing in the psychiatric clinic, Yale University Institute of Human Relations, says that "Mae McCorkle and Gertrude Zurrer, 1927, have both been given fellowships to study at Columbia this year. They are working on curricula for schools of nursing on Social Hygiene and the Social Sciences respectively. They both spoke at Faculty Meeting in New Haven, Feb. 6, and from their wide conception of their subjects, we gather that they are trying to teach life itself."

Barbara Munson, pediatric supervisor and instructor at Yale and president of the alumnae association, knows a few things about some of her 1928 classmates:--

Marion Norman Burns has two children, Donald and Betty, and not satisfied with this accomplishment, she has now taken a position as head nurse in the obstetrical clinic of the University of California Hospital.

Mary Nash Brautigam has been in New Haven this winter while her husband has been doing graduate work at Yale. Mary has one son, Richard, who is being brought up according to Hoyle and Dr. Gessel and who should be a pride and joy to both. At present she is keeping in touch with nursing by doing volunteer work with the New Haven V.N.A.

Olive Walkley is still educational director at the Bristol, Conn., Hospital School of Nursing. We understand she has graduated enough students now so that they are considering forming an alumnae association.

Alice Howard is working with Miss Nina Gage at Hampton Institute on an educational program for negro nurses. We are watching this piece of work with interest.

Caroline Ladd and Jeannette Snyder, 1929, are at the American University of Beirut, Syria. Jean has been extremely ill with a streptococcus septicemia resulting from an infected finger, but we are glad to hear
that she is now convalescing. In her official report on nursing in Syria for 1929-1933 for the I.C.N., Laddie writes as follows of the school of nursing at Beirut:

"The entrance requirements for the School of Nursing have been steadily raised — to two years of high school in 1929, and to four years of high school in 1932. The hours of theoretical instruction have likewise increased consistently until they are now somewhat above the minimum number recommended by the University of the State of New York. Instruction in the sciences and clinical subjects has been taken over by the various departments of the School of Medicine, and the laboratories of the University have been made available for this instruction. At the present time separate classes in the Nursing aspects of these subjects are being added. Some of these are taught by the native head nurses, who are doing remarkably well with the project.

"In the fall of 1932, due to the generosity of the Rockefeller Foundation, the school was able to make a rather complete reorganization. It now has a budget independent of that of the hospital and has three additional over-seas directors. Miss Lyman has come out as Director of Education and Miss Snyder as Director of Public Health. Miss Ladd has taken over the principalship of the school and Miss Van Zandt is now Director of the Nursing Service. The educational content of the course is being increased and improved in every way possible. Special emphasis is being placed on the public health aspects of nursing, and it is in this field that the school hopes particularly to expand. Out-patient experience is being planned in connection with the students' ward experience in the various services. An insight into purely preventive work will be given by experience in the Health Center and the Prenatal Clinic. It is hoped eventually to introduce visiting nursing in connection with the Health Center work. This will be begun on a modest scale by planning an intensive public health program in a very limited portion of the city...."
"The school at present has students of many nationalities: Syrian, Armenian, Persian, Egyptian, and Hebrew. The Hebrew students come from Palestine but most of them are Russian or Polish in nationality. The aim of the school is not to increase its numbers, but to educate its students to be leaders in the nursing profession in their own communities. The school hopes by its higher standards and broader aims to interest an increasing number of Syrian girls in nursing. Heretofore many of the Syrian families have been reluctant to let their daughters enter a profession which they considered menial and arduous.

"In order to give a more completely rounded course it is hoped to make possible an affiliation with the nearby Hamlin Tuberculosis Sanitarium and the Asfuriyyeh Hospital for Mental Diseases. As yet, however, this has not been possible. We are also furthering the intention of eventually making this a regular University School of Nursing as the setting is ideal for such a plan. The young women of Syria are becoming greatly interested in higher education and would undoubtedly be attracted by a five-year course which led to a bachelor's degree in nursing...."

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Tony Daniels, head nurse on the men's surgical ward in the N.H.H., has tabulated her classmates of 1930 thusly:

Armstrong, Elizabeth...Mrs. Henry Bucholz, at home, New Haven. Elizabeth Ann Bucholz, born Friday 13th, Jan.'33.

Bowles, Hazel...running pediatric clinic. Incidentally, Hazel is the treasurer of the alumnae association and takes this opportunity of answering a question which pops up again and again, namely, "Does the payment of the $1.00 annual alumnae dues make a member of the alumnae association a member of the state and national associations also?"
Answer: "It does not. Alumnae engaged in nursing in Connecticut pay $5.00 annual dues which includes $4.00 for state and national organization dues. Those not working in Connecticut pay directly to their state and national organizations.

"At the last annual meeting it was voted to include an associate membership for those alumnae residing in Connecticut who are not actively engaged in nursing. Annual dues for associate membership will be $1.00.

"Beginning in 1933 the membership fee for graduates of the June Class will be 50¢ for the alumnae association for the last six months of the year. If the new graduates are working in Connecticut, dues will be $2.50, $2.00 going to the state and national organizations.

"Alumnae are reminded that they are not considered in good standing unless their dues are paid. We frequently have inquiries from other state organizations and nursing organizations. Please do not make us send an unfavorable reply due to any non-payment of dues."

Brandson, Margaret...Mrs. John A. Hillsman, at home, Winnipeg, Canada. Deane Hillsman born March, 1932.

Crooke, Florane...Mrs. Elisha Canning, Bronxville, N.Y., doing social work, child-welfare, in Westchester.

Harris, Elizabeth...Mrs. Francis Barton, at home, N.Y.C.

Isenee, Gayle...community worker under Council of Women for Home Missions, Englewood, Colorado.

Johnson, Jean...Mrs. Gerald Fraser, at home, Halifax, N.S. Has a son.

McNair, Marian...East Harlem Nursing and Health Service.

Mason, Grace...surgical supervisor, Ohio State University School of Nursing, Columbus, Ohio.
Mett, Jane... is now bravely fighting TB bugs at Trudeau.

Negus, Mildred... the visiting nurse, East Lyme Nursing Association, Niantic, Conn. Says Mildred in an extremely interesting description of her lone job: "As time goes on and you get over the shock that the hens get more cod liver oil than the babies and that you are expected to know as much veterinary lore as public health measures, a tremendous satisfaction comes to the Community Nurse. There is a development of the full personality, and you never can bring too much resourcefulness to the job."

Noyes, Helen... Mrs. Gordon McKay, teaching case-study method at St. Mary's School, Brooklyn.

Perry, Hope... Lobenstine Clinic... school for midwives... N.Y.

Pettigrew, Margaret... Mrs. John Westbrook, at home, Cornwall, Conn. Has a baby girl.

Reynolds, Ina... staff nurse, District Nursing Association, Bedford, N.Y.

Rhoads, Elizabeth... public health nurse, Philadelphia, Pa.

Slavin, Mary... head nurse, infirmary, Bryn Mawr College.

Windeler, Edith... staff nurse, New Haven Hospital.

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Ruth Lyman, head nurse in the medical clinic, New Haven, wrote numerous letters and obtained the following information about the class of 1931:

Dottie Aldrich is a volunteer public health worker in her home community (Wilder, Idaho), acting as chairman of relief committees, helping the school nurse, and doing private duty nursing in the community p.r.n.
Babs Austin earnestly watches for and takes advantage of all good household linen sales these days, often mentions choosing a silver pattern, etc., etc.

Adelle Baldwin (Mrs. Ulric Lanoue) is the first to present the class with a baby boy, born in the Belgian Congo last March. Adelle sends interesting tales of her African household; says she spends most of her time trying to teach her little black boys not to be lazy and slovenly.

Zenia Beliavsky is mainly concerned this year with working for a master of science degree, is taking courses in bacteriology and chemistry out of books nearly as large as she is and doing ward work for thirty hours a week.

Lois Bliss is planning to motor west with the Wersebes this summer. This year she has been in charge of bi-weekly sandwich sales to swell the alumnae contribution to the Y.S.N. scholarship loan fund. And it did swell, too... to the tune of $100.00!

Gladys Boardman married Dr. Glass in April, 1932, wrecked her Chevy coupe not long after, and is still working at the Institute.

Priscilla Brooks is busily inspecting travel bulletins and thinking about a tour of Europe.

Esther Budd successfully weathered through a year of head nursing on old East 2 (remember it!) and has succeeded Caroline Keller as assistant surgical supervisor.

Peg Colvin presented the class with its first baby, a girl, Carol, on June 16, 1932. The Colvins moved to Williamsport, Pa., where Dr. Colvin is in private practice.

Marian Cowperthwaite married Dr. Roth, in June, 1931. They have been in Boston the past six months and plan to leave for a year of travel and study in Europe this September. Bill will observe child guidance clinics and mental hygiene clinics and Coppy will glean what she can from
foreign nurses with whom she comes in contact. Says she, "I'm but a domestic housewife, slowly getting to be a swell cook...I'd love to have any of you come to see me any time at all."

Mollie Curtis left the Institute last September to go to the far west as supervisor of psychiatric nursing, Harborview Hospital, Seattle.

Mary Foster left the V.N.A. to work as head nurse in the obs. clinic last December.

Eleanor Harmon is still with the E. Harlem Health Service. She gave Europe the once-over last summer.

Bece Hawkins is Dr. Wilson's office nurse (as well as wife), "fixes supplies, his bag, takes 'phone calls, etc., and what is best, goes out with him on his home delivery cases; the people here (Brunswick, Me.) all want the doctor who brings his wife as nurse to take care of them."

Mary Houghton is Mrs. Daniel Beers and puts in her mornings at the Rochester General Outpatient Department.

Since her return from the Frontier Nursing Service in Kentucky, Izzie Howe has been busy "snatching babies" on the outside obs. service in New Haven.

Dottie Huey has been at the new Cornell Medical Center since last November as assistant instructor in practical nursing and is having a good time there helping organize the new school of nursing. She is still always forgetting something, usually her glasses' case.

Peg Luce sailed for China last September and has met many old acquaintances and friends of friends there. Some we know: Miss Parsons, Miss Hodgeman, and Mary Sun. Peg plans to do missionary work there and will probably be gone five years. This year is being devoted to learning the Chinese language, after which she will gradually be-
gin to work in the hospital along with the language study. The ultimate intention is to teach nursing to native girls.

Grace Lyman succeeded Carolyn Ladd as instructor in practical nursing here at Yale last fall and is most zealous in teaching and watching over her fifty children as they venture onto the cold, cold wards. We are often reminded that the present freshman class is an unusually good one.

Katie Parks manages the men's orthopedic ward and spends her off-duty time gardening on the windowsill or lying on the roof to get a nice even tan.

Migs Morris was married in June, 1931, (Mrs. John Scammon), and has since been her pastor-husband's right-hand man, is always teaching a S.S. class, leading a committee meeting, or serving at the Ladies' Aid. Little Ruth was born in July, 1932, and has her mother's big blue eyes.

Madeline Prentice is finishing up at Vassar this year. She worked in Farnam O.R. last summer and says college life seems a bit dullish after the exciting life of a nurse!?! 

Luke Shaw has been in the pediatric clinic since returning from the Kentucky Mountains in the fall of 1931. She is as restless as ever and wears out her friends with long strenuous hikes.

Tat Slocum celebrated her second wedding anniversary on February 26. She spent much of the past two years translating French scientific articles. When she had finished, instead of a magnificent check for dollars and dollars, she received a letter informing her that she had been working so long that the material was out of date and no longer usable in the light of more advanced knowledge. We think our memory does not fail us when we state that the remuneration for those years of toil was 47¢. But anyhow, she has a lovely baby girl, Sara Brooks Owen, who compensates some for the big disappointment.
Mary Sun was married to Colonel Shih Chung Liang in June, 1932, and is living in China.

Jimmie Tilton left her job as head nurse in the obs. clinic in December, 1932, and announced her engagement to Mr. Rowland Davis. She will be married this coming June and is putting in her time learning to cook at the Boston Cooking School. The Davises will live in Elmira, N.Y., where Mr. Davis is connected with a law firm.

Charlotte Van Cleve has been Mrs. Ray McKeown since the fall of 1931.

Helen Wersebe bought a red-cushioned Plymouth roadster last summer in which she, Lois, and Katie Parks toured New England. Reba doesn't sleep as much as she used to.

Kay Ann Wilgus left the institute in December to become supervisor of psychiatric nursing in the Stanford University Hospital.

Eileen Ditchburn is director of nurses at the Toronto Psychiatric Hospital and has assisted in organizing and putting into effect the first course of psychiatric affiliation for general hospital students in Canada.

She writes: "Our aims in mental nursing in Ontario are to make psychiatric affiliation a compulsory part of a general hospital training...1st, to provide post-graduate psychiatric nursing courses for present graduates who feel the necessity of rounding out their general hospital training more completely in preparation for the general and public health fields; 2nd, to prepare nurses in administrative and teaching work for instruction in mental hospitals; 3rd, to raise the standard generally of mental nursing; 4th, to increase the number of nurses per patient in our Provincial mental hospitals."
As far as the class of 1932 goes ... or has gone...

Helen Archer married Edward Bosworth last fall and is splitting her time between working for the V.N.A. and superintending her husband’s thesis in public health.

Irma Biehusen has alternately served as health nurse in the infirmary here at Yale and as mamma for the Sterling Dorm. when the residence director has been called away.

Mary Bohan still talks about Eddie. She busies herself professionally taking pictures of nice athletic chests at the Yale Health Service.

Billie Clinton scrubs in P.P.O.R. and dashes to N.Y. as often as ever.

Mattie Duling has charge of the nursing service of the Norfolk and Princess Anne County Health Department, Va., and runs around giving talks to mothers, assisting with inoculations, etc.

Marjorie Everingham is helping Virginia Kirk at the latter’s new and different hospital in Providence, R. I., for the study and treatment of psychiatric and neurological children.

Mrs. Hanson is somewhere in the far west. We think she has acquired a master’s degree since leaving here.

Carolyn Herrick took practical nursing all over again this year...helped Grace Lyman with the new class...and is now developing versatility by relieving head nurses on all kinds of wards on their long days.

Peg Holloran likes her work with the Brooklyn V.N.A.

Betty Howland is finishing up at Simmons.

Ruth Johnson is assistant head nurse on Fitkin 5, children’s surgical ward.
Eleanor King is the person responsible for this magazine, or call it what you will. Please write to her at 350 Congress Avenue, N. H., with your reactions, favorable and unfavorable, and with your suggestions for policy in the future. It's been hard knowing just what to put in this first issue and just how to begin. Let her have your ideas.

Bunnie Lacount expects to be married this June.

Jeannette Moore is being Miss Melby at a small school of nursing in Mt. Holly, N. J.

Jessie Munger is in psychiatric department of St. Luke's Hospital, Spokane, Washington.

Lora Neal tackled the new East 2, Tompkins 5, last fall and so far has retained her health, good looks, and efficiency.

Elizabeth Ostergren is putting in time at Goucher while waiting for her husband to finish interning in Baltimore.

Ruthie Pearson did private duty for a while in Rochester and is now helping Ovid with his office work.

Dottie Peck now issues forth instructions from behind a mask in Farnam. Her hobby is collecting discarded skull pieces for ash trays.

Sofia Pincheira, who was here on a Rockefeller grant, has returned to Chile as chief of the public health nurses there.

Jeanie Russell is growing bigger and better every day on Tompkins 2.

Charlotte Seyffer is loafing at home in Superior, Wis.

Shirley Shingle has been trying to recapture the thrill of college life this year at the University of Colorado, but finds it lacks the zest of nursing.
Charlotte and Jimmie Stringham have been in the Hartford Hospital this year and are as undaunted as ever about going to China in the near future.

Fran Thielbar has been hobnobbing with the patients at Butler this year and teaching some nursing classes in between times. She drives down to New Haven occasionally and keeps us informed of Kitten, Sweetheart, and all the good old thrillers.

Katie Upchurch has been doing baby-farming this year in the new nursery and has raised a goodly crop. Katie was chairman of the rummage sale put on this April for the benefit of the scholarship loan fund. With the $100 from the sandwiches and the $200 from the rummage sale, the alumnae can feel proud of this year's effort to help some poor struggling students next year. This rummage sale is getting to be a yearly event. It was initiated last year under Laddie's supervision and netted only a trifle less than the proceeds this year.

Betty Walters has been Retreating in Hartford, with a side trip to Florida this winter. Being adventurous, she is sailing the Atlantic this summer to take a four months' course in the American Hospital in Paris.

Alma Whitman is undecided whether to go home to Hawaii this summer or not. She hates to leave Fitkin 3 that long. She grows especially attached to minute premies and almost would rather not have them get bigger and better, so much does she sorrow at their leaving their Hess beds for home and mother.

Liz Woodbury gave everyone a good surprise by getting herself married to Mr. Larry Wilkinson a few months ago. Bon voyage!
The class of 1933 is gradually getting through training, one more finishing her time every few days. Some have started work both here and other places, but the majority are struggling with Nursing 155, a new post-graduate course here at Yale for prospective head nurses and administrators. The course is four months long, a combination of theory and practice, designed to give the recent graduates some easing-in experience in graduate duties and responsibilities and some familiarity with the pleasures and rigors of head nursing. They look grand in their new white uniforms and blue ribbons and will probably all create some news about themselves for next year.

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**REMEMBER!!!**

Commencement June 18-21!
Pay your dues to Hazel Bowles!
Send ideas about another alumnae publication to Eleanor King!
Pay your dues to Hazel Bowles!
Commencement June 18-21!