

# ◆ HISTORY OF NURSING NEWS ◆

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## Vancouver/Victoria History of Nursing Meeting

On Wednesday, September 30, 1998, Vancouver History of Nursing members will travel to Victoria for a joint meeting with the Victoria History group.

The plan is to catch the 9:00 am ferry from Tsawwassen as walk-on passengers. Cars can be left at *Sheila Zerr's* (5333 Upland Drive, Delta). The Victoria group will meet the ferry with cars and take us to the Royal Jubilee Hospital (RJH). There will be a tour of the RJH Chapel site and a no host lunch in the cafeteria as well as a chance to catch up on the activities of the Victoria group.

Plans include a visit to Begbie Hall in the afternoon to see the RJH archival collection. Cars will return to the ferry in time for the 5:00 PM sailing with arrival time in Tsawwassen at 6:45 PM.

Please let *Sheila* know (943-3012) if you wish to meet at her house for a ride to the ferry. You will need to be at her home at 7:45 AM so that she can arrange rides to the ferry.



**All Aboard!**

## Greetings from the President

At the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on April 2, 1998 some new executive were elected. The current executive are President: *Helen Shore*, Vice President: *Lynne Esson*, Treasurer: *Don Ransom*, Secretary: *Inga Von Maydell*, Members at Large: *Shirley Holtzman* and *Lois Blais*, and Membership Coordinator: *Jill Thompson*. *Ethel Warbinek* is the Past President and *Beth Fitzpatrick* Newsletter Editor. Committee chairs are Miniature Portraits: *Sheila Zerr*, Biography: *Janet Gormick*, Oral History: *Jill Thompson*, Programs: *Jackie Ratzlaff*, Archives: *Sheila Zerr*, and Memorial Books: *Helen Shore*.

The motion put to the AGM by the Archives Committee was passed unanimously. (A complete copy of the report is being mailed along with this Newsletter. Please see page 4 for the resolutions). The Archives Committee had a

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meeting with *Rob Calnan* and *Pat Cutshall* on June 4th and a report on these discussions will appear in a future newsletter.

Our current membership stands at 70 members: 49 full time, 16 affiliates and 5 honorary members. We do need to think of ways to increase our membership to keep our professional practice group strong. 100 members seems like a good target.

As soon as the AGM was over, the Executive began to prepare displays for the "Celebrate the Memories" event being staged in the Centennial Pavilion at the Vancouver General Hospital (VGH). The VGH School of Nursing Alumna invited us to contribute our historical displays to their historical collection being shown in the old Gift Shop of Centennial Pavilion. *Ethel Warbinek, Jill Thompson, Sheila Zerr, Nina Rumen and Glennis Zilm* prepared and put up displays. As a VGH grad myself, I attended the Sunday luncheon. Over 600 alumnae gathered to hear opening remarks, meet class-mates and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the class of 1948 and to visit the displays. I had thought it would be a mad-house, but it wasn't. It was crowded, but fun. During the subsequent week the historical display area was open during the day and monitored by alumnae and History Group members. Scores of people came through on each shift: members of the public, patients, hospital staff and alumnae. It was a wonderful event to mark the closing of the VGH School of Nursing after 99 years.

Then came Nursing Week and more, and different, historical displays were pre-

pared by *Helen Shore* and *Sheila Zerr*. On May 12th, the History Group had a table in Laurel Pavilion at VGH and moved to the Koerner Building at the University of British Columbia on May 13. *Glennis Zilm* prepared a display on pioneer B.C. nurses for the RNABC library and *Brenda Flynn* brought her nurse memorial monuments display to the lobby of the RN-ABC.

The History Group Executive are having a workshop in August to plan for the year ahead. Are we busy? You bet. Are we having fun? Always. Are we making progress? Definitely. More news next time.

*President, Helen Shore*



### Coming Events: Remembering Tuberculosis.....

Plans are underway for an exciting History of Nursing program meeting in late October focusing on the historical aspects of tuberculosis nursing. An academic researcher will chair a panel discussion featuring nurses and a patient.

Watch your mail for a flyer announcing the exact date, time and place. For further information call *Nina Rumen* at 733-7529.

### More on Nursing Displays....

During May 1998, three history of nursing displays prepared by members of the B.C. History of Nursing professional Practice Group were presented in the foyer and library of RNABC.

**Vancouver's Monuments to Nurses** was prepared by *E. Brenda Flynn* and *Nina Rumen*. This presentation, located in the foyer of the RNABC, highlighted nursing's heritage through identification of local public tributes to nurses and nursing. It provided photographs, brief summaries, and locations of 15 public monuments in Vancouver dedicated to a nurse or to nursing generally. Included are the monuments to the World War I Nursing Sisters that grace Cathedral Place in downtown Vancouver and *Beatrice Lennie's* marble frieze depicting a nursing sister and wounded soldier located on the grounds of the old Shaughnessy Hospital.

**Early Nursing in B.C. (1800's)** was prepared by *Glennis Zilm*. Until the mid-1850's, nursing in what is now B.C. was carried out by friends or family of the ill person, usually in the home. A few doctors gave care for the less-than-35,000 non-Native pioneers scattered throughout the province. By 1900, B.C.'s population had reached nearly 100,00 persons, and professional nursing was established. Larger hospitals were opening, community health nursing was beginning, and schools of nursing were inaugurated. This display provided an overview of nursing "firsts" in B.C. and identified some of B.C.'s pioneer nurses.

**Miniature Portrait Scenes**, prepared by *Sheila Zerr* consisted of two display cases showing Miniature Portrait Dolls illustrating history of nursing. The first case honored the Victorian Order of Nurses, which in 1998 celebrates 100 years of caring in B.C. The second case showed the "before" and "after" of patient care with a Sister of St. Ann (1858) on one side of a patient in a bed and two modern-day nurses on the other. *Sheila Zerr* designs and makes historical portrait dolls as a means of fundraising for a scholarship offered by the B.C. History of Nursing Group.

The group wishes to thank Librarian *Joan Andrews* and her staff for their assistance with and support for this project. For further information about the displays, please contact the History of Nursing Group c/o RN-ABC.

*Information taken from a pamphlet prepared by Glennis Zilm.*

### Call for Abstracts

The Canadian Association for the History of Nursing (CAHN) is issuing a call for abstracts for the 12th Annual Conference being held in Edmonton, Alberta June 18-20, 1999. Any subject in the history of nursing and health care is suitable for presentation. Abstracts must be submitted by mail before October 31, 1998 to Dr. G. Boschma & Dr. P. Paul, Co-Chairs, Scientific Review Committee, 1999 CAHN Conference, University of Alberta, Edmonton, T6G 2G3

### More News from the 8th Annual General Meeting

Nineteen members and 2 guests attended the April 1998 AGM. Here are some of the decisions made and highlights from the executive reports:

- *Ethel Warbinek*, in the President's report, stressed that 1997 was an action-filled year. The outstanding events included the International History of Nursing Conference in June, the creation and sale of the new nursing history note cards depicting the Christ Church Cathedral nurse-window, and the publication of Past is Present, a compendium of the keynote addresses from past Hannah Lectures given at CAHN conferences. Other important milestones included initiation of a web page and awarding, for the first time, a nursing history scholarship.
- The History of Nursing Archives Subcommittee report was presented and discussed. The resolutions were passed unanimously.
- *Janet Gormick* reported for the Biographical Committee indicating that 10 files have been completed this past year, of which 5 are RNABC Presidents.
- *Sheila Zerr* noted that there are 13 Memorial Nursing Portraits on display and one in the making. We are averaging about two new portraits per year.
- *Helen Shore*, giving the 1998 RNABC Memorial Book report, informed us that nine outstanding nurse leaders have been entered this year into the Memorial Book (see details on page 14).
- *Jill Thompson* (Oral History committee) noted that the RNABC library to date contains oral history tapes of 156 nurses. This committee is seeking committee members from Vancouver Island, the Okanagan Valley and other parts of B.C. to further its work.
- *Jackie Ratzlaff* reported that the "Show and Tell" program meeting was very successful (see story on page 8). She has several other ideas for future meetings.
- *Beth Fitzpatrick* stated that the Newsletter continues to be cost-effective. Sheila Zerr was guest editor for a Special Edition Pictorial Report, covering the highlights of the International Conference.
- *Don Ransom* presented the treasurer's report and the proposed budget for 1998 (see page 4).



**B.C. HISTORY OF NURSING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE GROUP BUDGET 1998**

**REVENUE**

	<b>1996 Actual</b>	<b>1997 Budget</b>	<b>1997 Actual</b>	<b>1998 Budget</b>
Grant	1,000.00	500.00	500.00	500.00
Memberships	1,487.18	1,500.00	1,445.00	1,500.00
Donations	15.00	—	87.18	—
Interest	5.27	—	1.46	—
Note Cards	1,723.55	1,300.00	1,980.20	1,300.00
Nurse Prints	—	—	835.00	100.00
Loan Repayment	—	—	2,000.00	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,231.00</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>	<b>6,348.84</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>

**EXPENSES**

Stationary	3,260.67	900.00	2,805.51(1)	800.00
Postage/Fax/Phone	574.13	600.00	673.41	700.00
Photocopying	506.12	600.00	354.16	500.00
Meetings	173.27	300.00	268.39	300.00
Honorarium	—	100.00	—	200.00
Miniatures	25.68	100.00	—	100.00
Bank Charges	—	—	16.81	—
Miscellaneous	1,111.11	700.00	9,16.07(2)	800.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,650.98</b>	<b>3,300.00</b>	<b>5,034.35</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>

**Notes**

1. Cost of reprinting "Canadian Memorial" note card \$1,898.31 plus \$350.00 to Jo Scott-B for "Nurse Prints".
2. Memberships: American Association for the History of Nursing (\$150.00 US=\$210.83 Canadian); Archival Association of B.C. \$20.00

Bank balance as of December 31, 1997: \$2,265.94 plus \$1,500.00 B.C. bond paying 6%  
 Scholarship Fund as of December 31, 1997: \$8,669.65 consisting of a \$5,000.00 GIC at 8%  
 Audit of the financial books was done on February 28, 1998 by Glennis Zilm and Sheila Zerr  
 Treasurer: Don Ransom



## Beverly Witter Du Gas Nominated for Honorary Membership

One of the highlights of the Annual meeting was the nomination of *Beverly Du Gas* for Honorary Membership in the History of Nursing Professional Practice Group. *Shella Zerr*, in making the nomination, spoke of *Beverly's* many accomplishments and contributions. "*Beverly* served as the first and founding President of the B.C. History Group. In this role she was instrumental in guiding the initial efforts to establish the group's constitution and committee structure. In her role as past President she served as nominations chair, she gave a keynote address at the 1991 Annual meeting, and she chaired the abstracts committee for the International History of Nursing Conference. *Du Gas* has also contributed significantly to the history of nursing through writing. In her widely circulated textbook, Introduction to Patient Care: A Comprehensive Approach to Nursing, now in its 6th edition, she has included a series of historical vignettes written by *Glennis Zilm*."

*Shella* spoke of *Du Gas'* distinguished professional career which has encompassed patient care, nursing education, nursing administration, writing, and international consultation. She was born in Vancouver and has 3 sons and a daughter, *Barbara Diamond*, who was present when the honorary membership was awarded.

In accepting Honorary Life Membership *Du Gas* thanked the members stating that she was "deeply honored to be made a lifetime member". She recalls "when *Ethel Warbinek* called to tell me that I had been chosen to be honored at the Annual Meeting, my first thought was 'How very nice of the History Group!' My second thought was 'My goodness, I must be getting old' if I am being accorded an honorary membership. But I was reassured by *Shella* that I was the youngest person that had been given this award and I immediately felt better—a little—until I began to think that my former students are retiring in increasing numbers. I am indeed getting older. So be it!"

*Du Gas* concluded her remarks by emphasizing that she is thankful that she has had the opportunity to participate in the initial and on-going development of the History Group. "I thank you for awarding me this honor and hope that we will all live to see our dream of a permanent History of Nursing Archives established in British Columbia".



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 Editor's Note: This is the second article translated from the official Journal of the Swedish Health Care System (Vardfacket, NR 7, July-August, 1997) by Honorary Member Esther Paulson.  
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### The Impressions of a Young Swedish Nurse on the ICN Congress and Vancouver

A full page account in the Swedish Journal describes the impressions of a young Swedish nurse attending her first ICN Congress. It was also her first visit to North America. The photo shows an attractive young woman wearing a Vancouver T-shirt. *Gunilla Samuelsson* is a district nurse in the northern province of West Norland which adjoins the southern border of Lapland. She learned about the 21st ICN congress from an announcement in VARDFAKET - the journal of the State Health System and decided to attend. She was responsible for one-half of the travel expense and the other half was paid by the Health System and the district where she is employed. It was an incredible experience, understandably rather overwhelming, as she did not know any of the Swedish delegates, nor of course, any one of the more than 6000 delegates from the ICN member countries.

Primary health care was her major interest so she attended seminars and workshop discussions on family health care which involves the entire family as well as the patient. She also arranged for a study visit with the Vancouver Health Department. There she learned that the system in Canada is based on the same principles as in Sweden. For example, health care for all

citizens regardless of financial status, but concluded that home care service is more limited in Canada. Some confusion, apparent on this point is due possibly to a language difference, hers or mine.

She was told about a specific project - the "she-way" plan for HIV positive women in Vancouver's West End, a district with many drug addicts and HIV positive people. These women are provided with clean syringes and food and clothing for them and their children, under supervision for 18 months. Thanks to the food provided daily, more than 40% are able to keep the children, but she wonders what happens to them after the 18-month period surveillance. She also visited youth clinics, familiar to her in Sweden, but again the Swedish program is more varied and comprehensive.

*Gunilla* attended the key note address delivered by *Dame June Clark* of Great Britain, in tribute to *Virginia Henderson*. She described the lecture as inspiring but adds: "from my understanding, *Virginia Henderson* was compared to *Florence Nightingale* for her ideas and contributions to the nursing profession in this century! Of course I know about *Florence Nightingale* but until now I had not known about *Virginia Henderson*!!"

*Gunilla* attended the main session on "care at time of death." The program focussed on euthanasia and on assisted murder and self inflicted death. She believes death to be individual - different for each person and that the role of the nurse must concentrate on good palliative care and relief for pain and suffering for the

patient and support for the family as well as the patient.

*Gunilla* managed to make time to enjoy sight seeing and some social and recreational diversions. The Swedish delegates were guests at a buffet on the first evening arranged and sponsored by the Swedish Health System (SHSTF) and a reception two evenings later given by the Swedish Nurses Association for the delegates from all the Scandinavian countries. Apart from sight seeing, she enjoyed promenading in this city of 1 ½ million people. A special thrill was a the trip by aerial tramway up Grouse Mountain, north of Vancouver, where she saw a bear family cavorting on the slope below and a magnificent view of the city from the top.

*Gunilla Samuelsson* has happy memories of the ICN, of Canada and Vancouver. She appreciated the welcome and help from the Vancouver Health Department in arranging the study visit and the opportunity to learn more about the state health service in this country. Her first attendance at an ICN Congress was a memorable experience.

#### **"Show and Tell" Program Meeting**

Those of us who honor and cherish our profession's history acquire artifacts from nursing's past. These items often provide glimpses into nursing practice of long ago or serve to remind us of particularly significant events in our professional lives. The March 5th 1998 program meeting served as a wonderful opportunity for us to "show and tell" about our cherished nursing items.

A great variety of interesting

artifacts were brought to the meeting ranging from historical nursing uniforms, treasured books and journals, nursing pins, an ancient baby bottle, favorite pictures of nurses, student nurse's notes (1957), nursing procedure book (1946), and numerous other momentos and memorabilia. Led by *Jill Thompson*, each person was allocated 5 minutes to describe their treasures.

An item of particular interest was reproductions of 3 nursing uniforms worn at the Public Hospital for the Insane in New Westminster in the mid to late 1880's. The uniforms were made by the ladies in the sewing room of the Industrial Division at Riverview Hospital and were brought to the meeting by *Anna Tremere* and *Kathy Nelson*.

One of the most unusual items was brought by History member *Edith Lees*. It was a shiny pair of her Army boots and she explains their significance in the following story: "I brought my army boots, for a reason. While collecting narratives and photographs for the book The Military Nurses of Canada, one thing was quite obvious, the nurses wore shoes with a noticeable shine. It is very unlikely they actually shined their own shoes. Soldiers who were patients would often point out that our belts, buttons and shoes needed shining. They would ask us to let them polish these items. It was one of the many customs that was instrumental in establishing rapport between nurses and patients.



These are my army boots, one part of my military uniform that I preserved. They are worn with fatigues or battle dress, a field uniform and the most comfortable of uniforms. You feel you are definitely a soldier in the army when you wear this part of dress. The shine on the shoes is almost permanent, the result of a particular way of applying shoe polish. Polish is applied with a wet piece of cotton, hence the term 'spit polish.' It is rubbed onto an area of the shoe, lighter fluid is poured onto it, then set afire and rubbed until it shines. The process is repeated until the whole shoe is shined. This shine does not wear off. I was shown this method of shining shoes by a soldier and this time applied my own shine.

The shoes are laced airborne style, no criss cross is visible. It is just one very small item of the many things that soldiers do that drives them to excel in their field of endeavor. It adds to their mind-set or esprit de corps."

This meeting, attended by 26 members, was a great deal of fun! Many of the items provided glimpses into nursing practices of an earlier age and emphasized the importance of keeping our treasures (and the stories that go with them) so that they may be enjoyed by future generations.

#### History Members Make News

Dubbed "Canada's most distinguished nurse in her time and generation," *Helen Mussallem* has helped shape the country's health policies, raised standards of nursing education, and established the first national nursing library and archives. She also has

addressed the public health issues among the country's northern peoples, assisting nurses in their careers and developing the use of traditional medicine. (From *The University of Ottawa Gazette*, May 15, 1998)

Congratulations to *Glennis Zilm*, freelance writer, editor and writing consultant, on the publication of her new book, *The SMART Way, An Introduction to Writing for Nurses*. The book examines the essential elements of written communication (Source, Message, Audience, Route, and Tone) with the needs of nurses and nursing students in mind.

#### History Repeating Itself.....

The creation of a national director of nursing policy position to advise the federal health minister on major health care issues brings to mind the excellent 1994 book by *Verna Huffman Splane* and *Richard Splane: Chief Nursing Officer Positions in National Ministries of Health*. Here, at last, is concrete recognition of the firm belief of the authors of that landmark study that the profession of nursing can be and should be an influential contributor to health care decisions in Canada and the world.

All nurses should be cognizant of the *Splane and Splane* study which highlights nursing's "progress against odds" (p.139) throughout its history and which alerts us to issues we will continue to face in the next century! *Verna Splane* is an honorary member of the BC History of Nursing group.

*Submitted by Jill Thompson*

## CANDID CAMERA PHOTOS



*President Helen Shore, seen on the left, shares a happy moment at the AGM with past President Ethel Warbinek on the right.*

*Esther Paulson attends the AGM, and is wished a Very Happy Birthday!*





At the "Show and Tell" program meeting, Kathy Nelson (left) and Anna Tremere (right), display reproductions of 3 nursing uniforms worn in the mid to late 1880's, at the Public Hospital for the Insane in New Westminster.



Kathy Murphy (left) proudly wears her nursing pins, Diana Ritchie (centre) cherishes a gilded nursing cap given to her by student nurses and Pat Wadsworth displays several treasured nursing books.

### Books and TB Pamphlets Donated

*Mary Fetherstonhaugh* of Vancouver, a graduate of the Winnipeg General Hospital, has donated five booklets and four single-sheet pamphlets on tuberculosis to the B.C. History of Nursing Group. *Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh* worked for a few years as a public health nurse in B.C. in the 1940s and was recently cleaning out cupboards. Her daughter, who also is a nurse, plans to take some of her other artifacts and books, but they will be talking to other members of the HoN Group about other possible donations.

The TB artifacts were given to *Glennis Zilm*, who will hold them temporarily for the HoN Group. *Glennis Zilm* and *Ethel Warbinek* are doing research into TB nursing in B.C. from 1895 to 1945. *Mrs. Fetherstonhaugh's* materials give a good example of the information that was distributed by nurses at the end of this period as well as illustrating the kind of information about TB in B.C. that was available at that time.

These artifacts will be kept with the collection of books and TB materials donated to the History of Nursing Group a few years ago by Honorary Member *Es-ther Paulson*. Those materials also contained information on the history of TB nursing in this province.

*Ann Aylard*, a nurse from Port Alberni, B.C. has donated 5 very old textbooks in excellent condition dating from 1906-1916. These books belonged to her aunt, *Jessie Strath*, who attended the School of Nursing at Brandon General Hospital in Manitoba. One of the books (Textbook of

Nursing 3rd edition, 1914) written by *Clara-Weeks Shaw*, begins with the following definition of health: "Health is the perfect circulation of pure blood in a sound organism" and further notes that "any departure from either of these three conditions constitutes disease".

Another gem is Textbook of Materia Medica for Nurses, 4th edition, 1905, compiled by *Lavinia L. Dock* which cost \$1.50. A leather bound 9th edition of The American Pocket Medical Dictionary (1915) is buttery-soft with gilt edges and looks almost new. Another fascinating book, titled Motherhood: the Generative Organs, Their Purpose and Derangements was published in 1906. It was written by *Susanna Cocroft*, Commandante of the United States Training Corps for Women, who is the author of twelve books in the 'Know Thyself Series'.

These donated books will be kept temporarily by *Beth Fitzpatrick* who will hold them for the History of Nursing Group.

### The British Columbia VON Celebrates 100 Years

Victorian Order of Nurses celebrates "100 Years of Caring" in British Columbia this year. The first VON branch in B.C. was opened in Vancouver in 1898, just one year after the national Order was founded in Ottawa in 1897.

The Vancouver-Richmond Branch launched the B.C. Centennial

Celebrations at its annual "Volunteer Recognition Event" on April 23. In addition to the recognition of its volunteers, Executive Director *Karen Watson* and her staff put on a special historical fashion show. Uniforms from the earliest years until the 1960s were modeled. As well, a special slide and music presentation showed photographs from the Vancouver-Richmond archival collection.

In honor of the 100 years, the Vancouver-Richmond Branch also launched the **Macaulay Club**. This special fund-raising club recognizes contributions to the VON of \$500 or more. Large checks from the Royal Canadian Legion Pacific Command (\$25,000) and RBC Dominion Securities (\$5,000) helped initiate the fund. VON branches across Canada still depend largely on donations to help support VON programs such as Meals on Wheels, Respite Care, and health promotion services. The Vancouver-Richmond branch is planning to launch a Respite Care home, and these two donations were directed to this project.

The **Macaulay Club** is named in recognition of *May Macaulay* (*Mrs. James Macaulay*), one of the founders and first president of the B.C. Branch. In fact, *Mrs. Macaulay* was so dedicated to bringing VON nursing services to B.C. that she served as either president or vice-president from July 1898 until 1919. When she finally retired from the executive after 21 years continuous service, she was named honorary president.

*Submitted by Glennis Zilm*

### Remembering.....

*Alice Katherine Smith*, a major contributor to the development and success of health care programs for Canada's remote areas from 1950 to 1975, died in White Rock, B.C., May 19, 1998 after a brief interval in hospital. *Dr. Smith* was a major force behind development of Canada's northern health services. She was the first Chief Nursing Consultant with Indian Health Services (later Indian and Northern Affairs and still later the Medical Services Branch of Health and Welfare Canada).

Born in Cartwright, Manitoba, in 1910, she graduated from the Winnipeg General Hospital in 1933 and took a certificate in public health nursing at the University of Toronto in 1938. She then joined the Manitoba Department of Health as a staff nurse in rural areas, eventually becoming the nursing consultant responsible for rural cancer education programs from 1942 to 1948. As a young public health nurse in rural and northern areas, she soon fully appreciated the value of primary nursing services in the many areas of Canada where doctors are not available.

In 1948, she was asked by the Canadian Nurses Association to go to Great Britain to study the effects on nursing of that country's new national health insurance plan. Following that project, she took her baccalaureate degree in nursing education from Teachers College, Columbia University (1950), then joined the newly reorganized Indian Health Services in Winnipeg. She took her master's of public health degree at Yale University in 1957.

In her 25 years with the federal government, during which she achieved



increasing influence as a Chief Nursing Consultant, she initiated continuous refinements in the medical services under her supervision. She helped implement drastic improvements in health care for the Indian and Inuit peoples, leading to dramatic decreases in maternal and infant mortality and reductions in incidence of tuberculosis. In particular, she initiated many practical ways for northern nurses to upgrade their credentials and improve practice in their remote health facilities. As well, she provided opportunities for universities to work with remote nursing stations to increase their field experience and understanding of primary nursing needs. Her efforts helped establish ever better guidelines for health care delivery in Canada's remote areas. For this and other such services, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Ottawa in 1975.

Following retirement in B.C., she was active in the local Council of Women and served on the board of the Semiahmoo House Society (for the mentally handicapped) and continued to act as a mentor to individual nurses. An oral history tape in which she describes some of her contributions to northern nursing is available in the library of the Registered Nurses Association of B.C.

*Submitted by Glennis Zilm*

#### **Noted Nursing Leader Dies**

*Eleanor C. Lambertsen*, EdD, RN, noted national and international nursing leader, died in Philadelphia on March 30, 1998 at the age of 82.

*Dr. Lambertsen* earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from

Teacher's College, Columbia University. As a faculty member at Teacher's College, *Dr. Lambertsen* assumed the Directorship of a W.K. Kellogg grant to design team nursing and patterns of nursing service administration. This led to extensive international teaching and consultation.

Widely respected for her scholarship and expertise in nursing, organization activity, interdisciplinary collaboration and health policy, *Dr. Lambertsen* held innumerable elected and appointed positions in nursing and other health care organizations. She pioneered the development of the PhD program in nursing at Teacher's College, the preparation of family and pediatric nurse practitioner programs, and numerous other innovations in health care. Her international leadership spanned three decades, embraced countless nations and shaped the emergence and development of nursing and other health care delivery patterns throughout the world.

#### **RNABC Memorial Book 1998 Nominations**

Just a year ago the RNABC Memorial Book was launched at the RNABC Annual General Meeting and the names of eight special nurses warranting recognition for their excellent contributions to nursing and health were entered in the Book.

This year there were eleven nominations received by the April 1st deadline. Nominations came from nurses in the Kamloops Chapter, from

Vernon and Surrey as well as from members of the History of Nursing Group.

The names of 9 outstanding nurse leaders have been entered this year. Four of these nurses represent the earlier era in British Columbia: they are **Sister Frances Redmond** (1854-1932), **Mabel Grey** (1880-1976), **Margaret Johnson** (1871-1929), and **Isabelle Maude Hill** (1871-1936). Then there are three nurses born near the beginning of the century and who died more recently: they are **Evelyn Mallory** (1902-1993), **Edna Rossiter** (1905-1988), and **Dorothy Tate Slaughter** (1911-1993). Finally the two other nurses are **Kathleen Simpson** (1930-1995) and **Shirley Lemiski** (1950-1995).

Thank you to all who made nominations, to *Irene Day*, Member Relations, RNABC who has been so consistently helpful, and to my colleagues in the History of Nursing Group for their unfailing support and help.

*Submitted by Helen Shore,  
Chair, RNABC Memorial Book*

#### **News About the Riverview Archives**

There is a great deal of progress being made in establishing the Riverview Archives. Several months ago a dedicated space for the preservation and display of artifacts was allocated by the Hospital. *Anna Tremere* updates us with the following account: "The museum space has now

been cleaned out, painted, and I am waiting to get the floors stripped and refinished. A security gate is being installed, hopefully in the next several weeks.

There are a number of wonderful cabinets that I am getting refinished and will use to display some of the smaller and/or more fragile items. There is a space just as you enter the room that will be set up as a reception area with all the heritage furniture and equipment.

The tentative plan for the main area is to set it up in sections to display various themes - a patient bed area, a treatment area and so forth.

I now have 3 female and 2 male mannequins with heritage clothing for all. I would like to get 1 more male and female as I hope to have them placed around the museum in various period outfits and "roles." So far my females are a blond, brunette and a redhead. I also have a wig with some gray in it that I can interchange to make them look older. I have a wig and a couple different moustaches that I switch on the men. I have also been collecting a variety of styles of glasses, male and female, so can make some pretty marked changes in appearances.

We celebrated the 85th anniversary of the hospital in May and had a huge display set up with furniture, equipment, pictures, mannequins, and so forth. The original hospital fire truck was on display as well as one of the earliest ambulances and a variety of antique cars from the early 1900's.

I must say its been a lot of work but a tremendous amount of fun and I have a wonderful bunch of committee members."

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

September 25-27, 1998 American Association for the History of Nursing Fifteenth Annual Conference, Jackson, Mississippi.

September 30, 1998 Vancouver/Victoria History of Nursing Meeting, Victoria, B.C. (See page 1 for details).

February 6, 1999 Ethel Johns Research Day, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, B.C.

June 18-20, 1999 Canadian Association for the History of Nursing 12th Annual Conference, Edmonton, Alberta

### HISTORY OF NURSING PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE GROUP OF THE REGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The History of Nursing Professional Practice Group provides a forum for those interested in the history of nursing to exchange ideas and information. The Group, formed in 1990, strives to stimulate interest in history of nursing and promotes study of and research into history of nursing in British Columbia. The Group also encourages the teaching of nursing history in educational programs and can assist in the preservation of historical nursing materials.

Membership categories are honorary, full, affiliate and student. If you would be interested in joining us, please get in touch with any member of the executive. Full (voting) Members must be paid-up practicing or non-practicing members of RNABC. Non-nurses may join as Affiliate Members. Student Members must be enrolled in a nursing education program or be Registered Nurses enrolled in a graduate program.

Dues for 1998 are: Full and Affiliate \$20; Students \$5. Membership year is January 1 to December 31. Send name, address, telephone number, and RNABC registration number or name of the educational program. Make checks to "History of Nursing Group" and send to: Don Ransom, Treasurer, #107-9310 King George Highway, Surrey, B.C. V3V 5W3

### R.N.A.B.C. NURSING HISTORY



### THE HISTORY GROUP'S NEWSLETTER

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