



The *Great* Canadian Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

Nuns and Nightingales The History of the Holy Cross School of Nursing 1907-1979

edited by
Barbara Kwasny

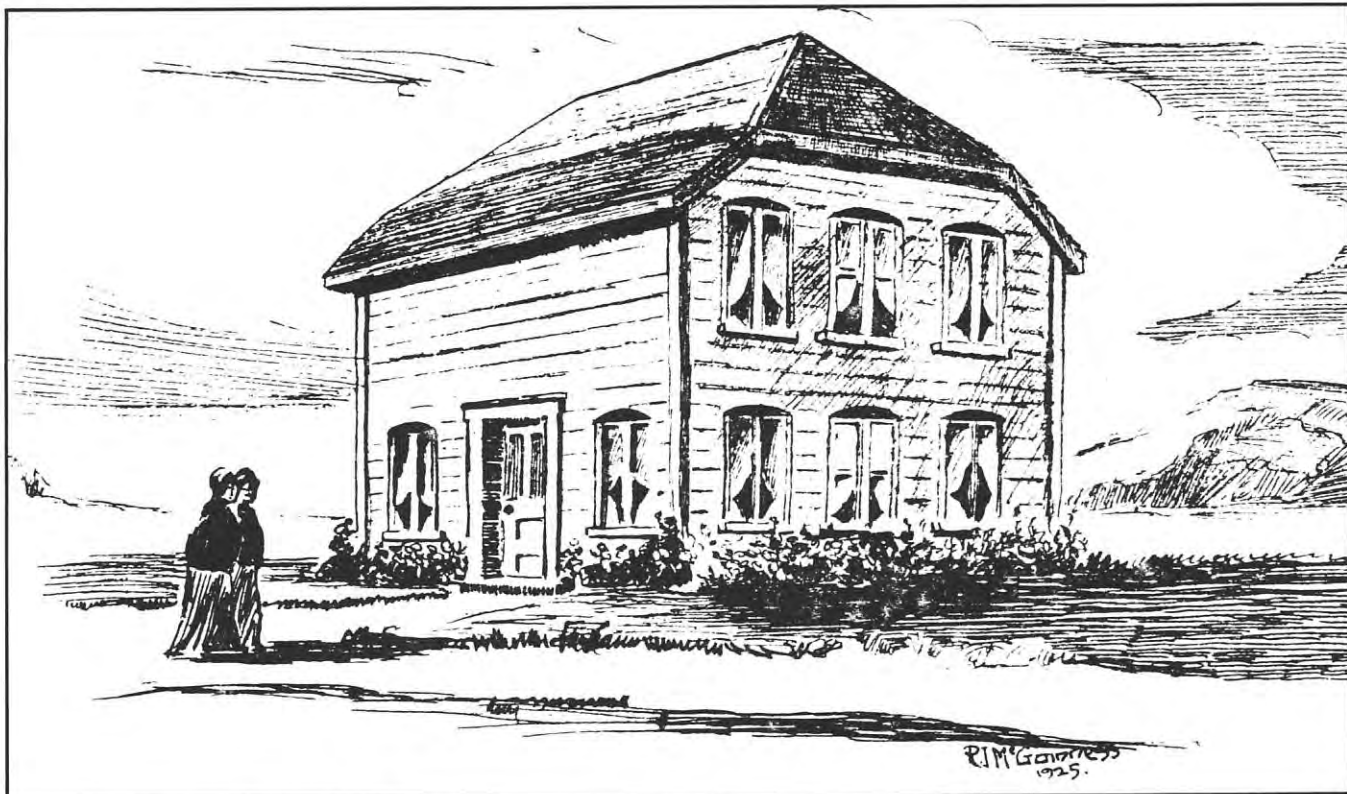
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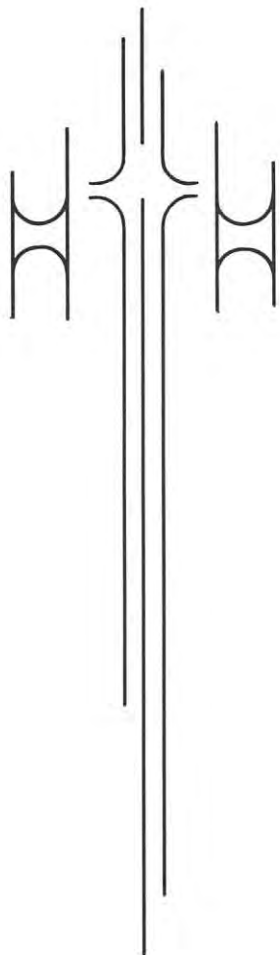
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Nurs
and
Nightingales





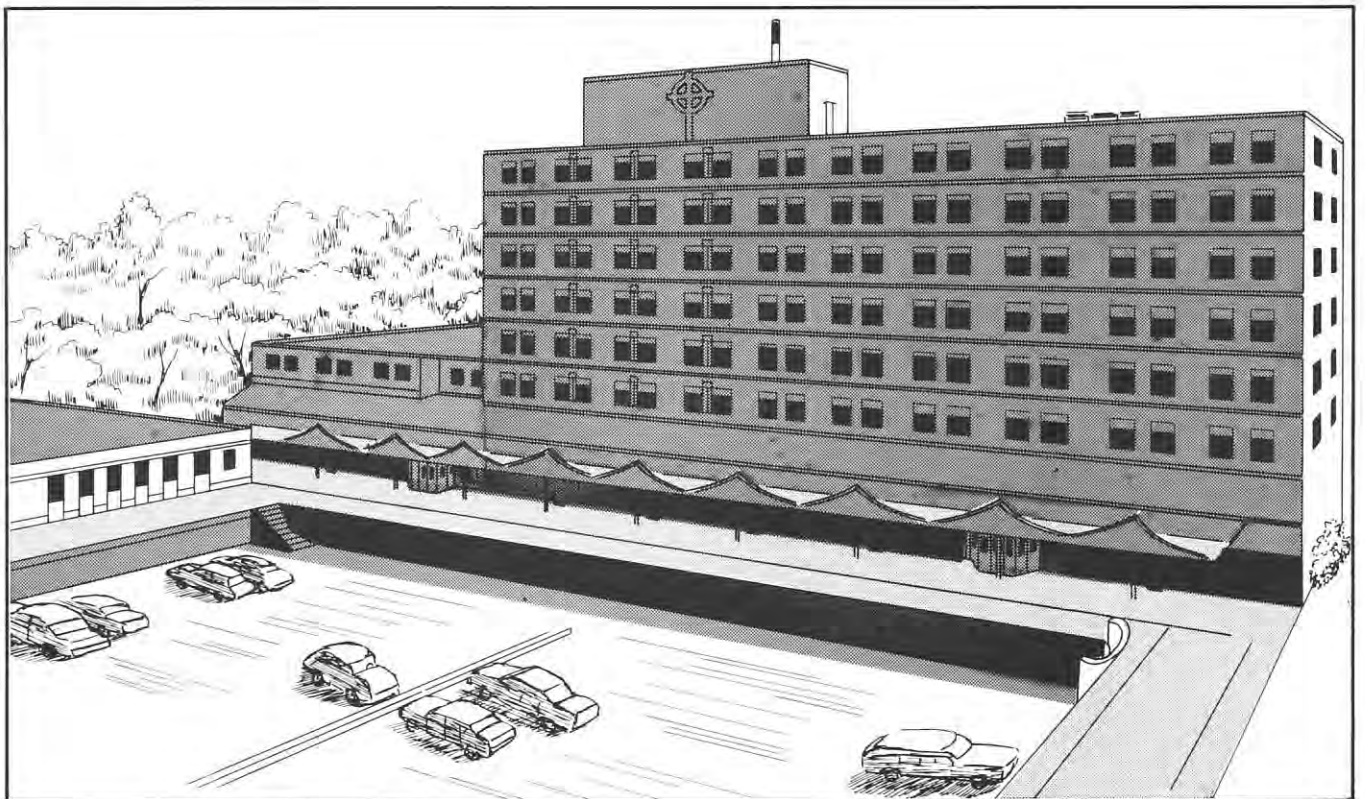
Temporary Hospital — opened April, 1891.



First Hospital on present site — opened November, 1892.



April, 1929 addition.



New Hospital — opened December, 1967.

NUNS AND NIGHTINGALES

A History of the Holy Cross School of Nursing
1907-1979

Editor — Barbara Kwasny

Published by The Alumnae Association
of the
Holy Cross School of Nursing

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Nuns and Nightingales
is dedicated to
the 2,409 graduates
of the Holy Cross School of Nursing.

Those no longer with us
on the occasion of the School's 75th Anniversary
are remembered with
special affection.

We also remember
those classmates who died while in training

Isabelle McAdam May 1932
Isabel McIntyre January 1933
Katherine Anton July 1933
Gwendolyn Sanderson April 1950

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Message to the Nurses of Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing

I accepted with pleasure the invitation to include a message in this book "Nuns and Nightingales". It gives me the opportunity to pay tribute to all the nurses of the Holy Cross Hospital who, since 1907, have followed one another in caring for the sick in various health centers or in serving the community with dedication and concern.

The 75th Anniversary of the Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing is an occasion for looking back at the past and for expressing one's hopes for the future. Its commemoration bids us turn with gratitude and respect to a long heritage of service; it invites us to revive and uphold a tradition of commitment to sound values.

In the early history of Calgary, the Grey Nuns appear as crusaders in the care of the sick. If they were able "to do some little good" as Mother d'Youville, our Foundress would say, it was thanks to their spirit of faith and to their persevering efforts together with the hospital personnel as well as the townspeople and civil authorities. If today this pioneering spirit is still alive, it is surely because our leaders believed in certain values, set goals and acted upon these aims in such a way that the inspiration remains even to this day. You, the graduates of the Holy Cross School of Nursing, have integrated these values through the educational process. You are now the messengers of Christ's charity in a world in need of unfailing love, kindness and compassion.

This 75th Anniversary is an opportune event for expressing our hopes for the future. As we look at the world of today, are we not tempted to be disturbed by the image we see? There are many areas of common concern which call for response from Christians, but there is one that urgently challenges the whole human family: the quality of life. As nurses, we are dedicated to the preservation of life. What can we do to bring about, even to insure the quality of life in our present world? As graduates of a very fine School of Nursing, steeped in firm values, you are called to root your efforts in a recognition of the worth and dignity of human life, the unborn, the aged, the poverty stricken, the oppressed, the diseased, the imprisoned, the helpless of all ages, races, creeds and ethnic origins. Is this not a goal that holds an appeal to the heart of every Holy Cross nurse?



SEMPER FIDELIS, ALWAYS FAITHFUL — your motto prompts you to live the ideal of service and devotedness set by our predecessors and to respond to the expectations of our evolving society. I pray that God who created all life will be with each of you always and direct you toward the good of the most needy. The presence of God in us and in the world is our unfailing hope.

Congratulations and Best Wishes!

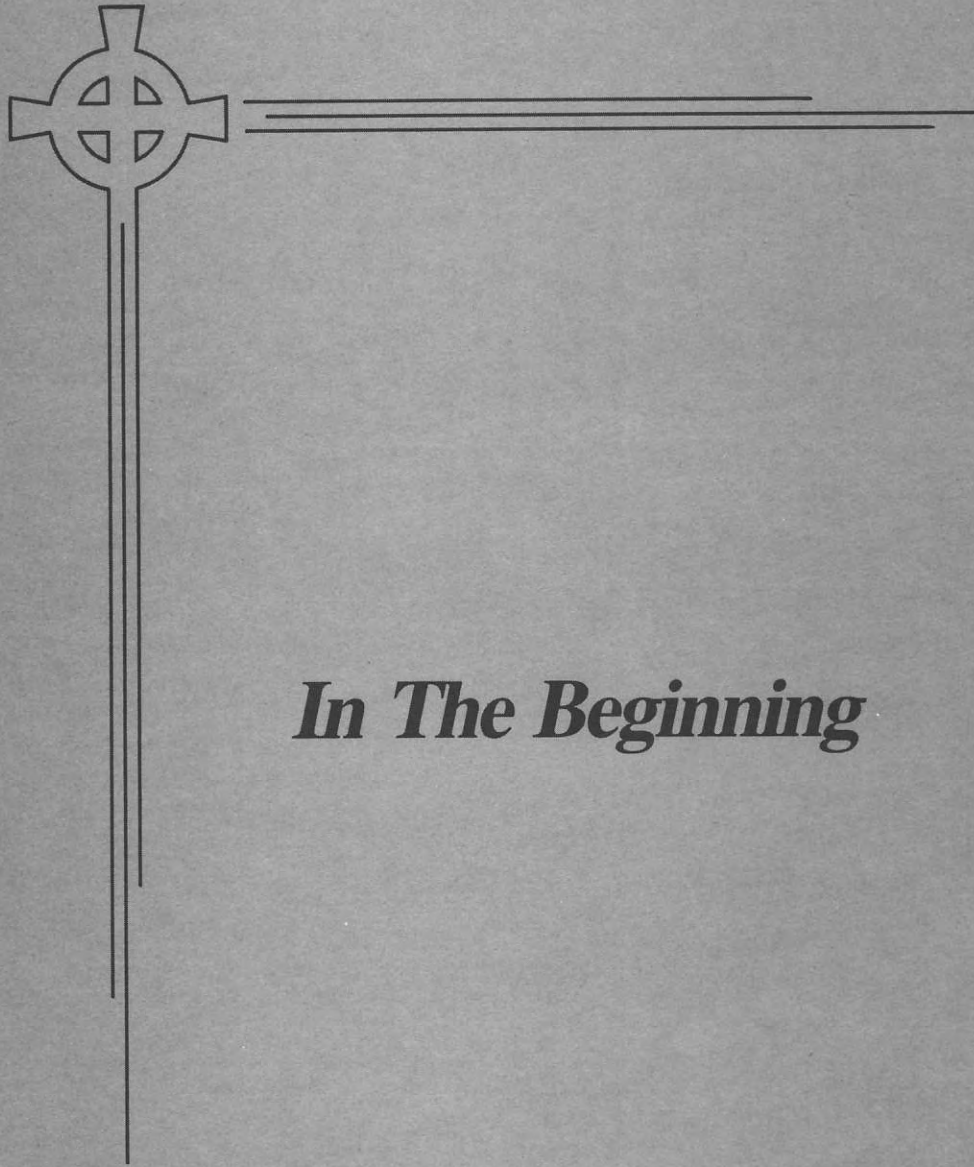
Marguerite Letourneau, s.g.m.
Superior General

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF MONTREAL
"GREY NUNS"

Maison de Mère d'Youville
Montreal, Quebec
January 25, 1982

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In The Beginning

*"The beginning is said to be half
the whole."*

Aristotle



"Blessed Marguerite d'Youville comforting her protégés."

Mother D'Youville

The real roots of Holy Cross Hospital go back 4,000 miles and 280 years to New France during the reign of King Louis XIV — to Varennes in rural Quebec where Marie Marguerite Lajemmerais was born on October 15, 1701. She was destined to become Marguerite d'Youville, foundress of the Grey Nuns and, indirectly, of the Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary.

Marguerite, the eldest of six children, was a grave and dependable child. When her father died in 1708, leaving his young family destitute, she became her mother's support and comfort.

Family connections made it possible for 10-year-old Marguerite to attend school as a boarder at the Ursuline Convent in Quebec City. This meant a 150-mile canoe trip, which she made in the care of relatives travelling to the city on business.

During her two years with the Ursuline Sisters, she received her only formal schooling, and it was here that religion became a way of life.

When Marguerite was eighteen, her mother re-married and the family moved to Montreal where the personable Francois d'Youville paid court to Marguerite, now a dark-eyed beauty. Her marriage to Francois in 1722 proved to be an unfortunate alliance to a dishonest whiskey trader who neglected her and brought his family to ruin. They had six children, but only two survived their first year of life. After five years of unhappy marriage, Marguerite joined the Confraternity of the Holy Family at Notre Dame Church, a lay group dedicated to charitable works. This was a turning point in her life, as she developed a piety that was to sustain her during the desperate years that followed.

When her husband died in 1730, he left her 11,000 pounds in debt, with a dishonored name and two small sons to raise. By selling all her possessions, she was able to pay her husband's personal debts and she then supported her family by operating a small store in her home.

The only possession that she salvaged from her years of marriage was a beautiful Parisian clock of walnut and enamel, a wedding gift from her husband. It is now a treasure at the Motherhouse of the Grey Nuns in Montreal.

The years that followed saw Madame d'Youville's store prosper, enabling her to devote even more time to the suffering poor of Montreal. She began visiting the General Hospital, which was dedicated to the care of old men and orphans.

On May 25, 1731, Marguerite was chosen Mistress of Postulants of the Confraternity of the Holy Family and directed a probation of several months for those who wished to become registered members. At this time too, she was chosen a Lady of Charity. This gave her the privilege not only to visit and console the sick, but also to beg for the poor and distribute the alms she collected.



Mother d'Youville's room in the Order's motherhouse. Her treasured clock is on the wall.

When her older son, Francois, went to Quebec to study for the priesthood, Madame d'Youville opened her home to Montreal's destitute. She needed others to assist her in her work and three women from the Confraternity volunteered. On December 31, 1737, these four women consecrated themselves simply and privately, to the service of the poor.

The little group was by no means a religious community, but simply an association of secular women bound by a common goal. In those days, religious communities depended largely on royal subsidies and could only be formed, on French soil, with the approval of the King of France.

Indians from the woods often lounged on the steps of her store, knowing that Madame d'Youville was their friend. As the world at that time had little respect for those who helped the poor, the rabble of Montreal jeered at her for being a whiskey trader like her late husband — or, at the very least, for being “befuddled and foolish”. Cries of, “Viola! Les

soeurs grises!”, (the tipsy nuns), followed the women as they hurried on their errands of mercy. Thus it was that the Grey Nuns got their name.

Madame d'Youville and her three companions occupied a house on the corner of Notre Dame and St. Peter's Streets, at the centre of the community. Within its walls, they lived together, dedicated to a common way of life; the traditions that evolved have been cherished by the Grey Nuns for more than 200 years.

To support themselves and their growing numbers of needy, they took in paying boarders, and sewed soldiers' uniforms and ladies' gowns. Their small community grew as other dedicated women joined the group.

On September 1, 1747, Madame d'Youville received her commission as Directress of the General Hospital, an institution in a state of great disrepair. Its guests consisted of two old Charon Brothers, and four destitute old men. After renovations were completed, the “Soeurs Grises” moved to new quarters in the building.

In 1753, they received Royal Sanction for the foundation of their group as a religious community, and Madame d'Youville became the first Canadian-born foundress of a religious congregation.

When she designed the dresses for her Sisters, she chose a grey fabric, giving new meaning to the name of “Soeurs Grises”. Each Sister also wore a small silver crucifix with a fleur-de-lis engraved on each extremity in remembrance of King Louis XV, who had sanctioned their community. Above the Crucified, was a replica of the Sacred Heart. A plain silver ring, engraved on the inside with the names Jesus, Mary and Joseph, completed the costume which was given official approval in 1755. The community was designated The Sisters of Charity, but was affectionately called the Grey Nuns.

Mother d'Youville next established a home for abandoned babies. From 1754 to the fall of New France in 1760, she welcomed seventeen children. At the time of her death in 1771, 318 babies had been cared for. The d'Youville Creche near Montreal, with facilities to care for 780 foundlings, still stands as a tribute to her love of children.

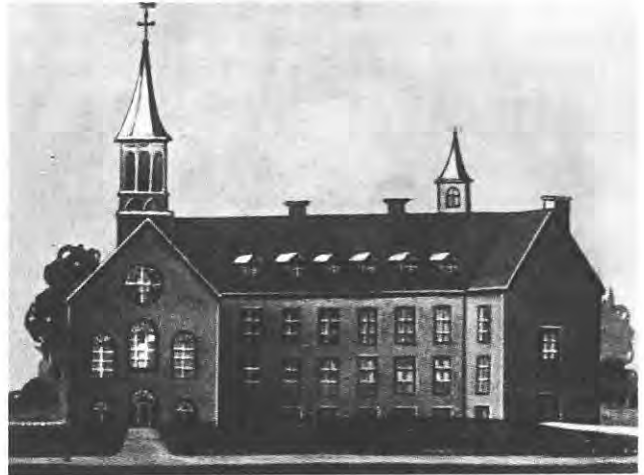
Autumn of 1760 saw the British forces victorious and many wealthy French families returned to France. This undermined financial support for the hospital, but the faithful nuns somehow struggled to keep its doors open. In 1765, during the Great Fire of Montreal, the hospital was reduced to ashes. Only the brass statue of Our Lady of Providence, before which Mother d'Youville and her three friends had made their long-ago act of consecration, was saved. It too is still treasured by the Grey Nuns.

The hospital was rebuilt in 1767, and eighteen Sisters cared for the 170 people it sheltered.

Mother d'Youville served the poor of Montreal until the night of December 23, 1771, when she died peacefully after a short illness.

According to witnesses of unquestioned integrity, a luminous cross appeared in the sky over the old General Hospital on the night of her death.

When she was beatified by Pope John XXIII, on May 3, 1959, Marguerite d'Youville, "Mother of Universal Charity", became the first North American-born woman to be so honored.



The Grey Nuns' first motherhouse — the General Hospital, Montreal.

The Western Branch

The Hospital from 1891-1907

Seventy years after Mother d'Youville's death, Father Eduoard Crier asked the Grey Nuns of Montreal to come to care for the ill and needy of St. Hyacinth. Thus, the first branch of the sturdy tree planted by Mother d'Youville began to grow.

A call by Bishop Norbert Provencher brought the Grey Nuns and their caring hearts to St. Boniface in 1844 and they were soon well-known and well-loved in the Northwest.

In 1887, far to the west of St. Boniface, the frontier town of Calgary was in desperate need of a hospital. Settlers spilled out of every train that arrived from the East on the brand new railway and, though population was nearing 3,500, the primitive NWMP post offered the only hospital beds in the settlement. Bishop Vital Grandin, Bishop of St. Albert, pleaded for help from several religious communities in the East. Calgary needed a hospital — could they fill the need?

Only the Sisters of Charity of Montreal accepted his challenge and, on January 19, 1889, agreed to come west to nurse Calgary's sick. For two years, preparations were made for the trek to the Northwest Territories.

In accordance with Mother d'Youville's teaching, all Grey Nuns learned to strive for: religious spirit; discretion; perfect union of heart and soul;



The frontier town of Calgary, 1890 — looking south from about First Street East.

poverty; humility; obedience; courtesy; attention to one's work and respect for the work of others; openheartedness; charity for the poor; purity of heart, and fidelity to rules. The four nuns chosen to come to Calgary had an abundance of courage, faith and fortitude as well. Sister Agnes Carroll, Sister Olivia Beauchemin, Sister Elizabeth Valiquette, and the young postulant Sister Gertrude (Beemer) would form the vanguard of the Order in the far West.

There was much to do in the two years before they were ready to board that west-bound train. Bishop Grandin had promised them a place to live and provisions for a month and, in far-away Calgary, the missionary priest Father Hippolyte Leduc was in charge of construction of their hospital.

In Montreal, to help the Sisters to buy essentials for their venture, the Superior General granted permission for them to canvas friends and relatives for donations. The priest of St. Patrick's parish made an appeal for assistance and collected \$50. Sister Carroll was given \$60, and other donations brought the total to \$209.75. Gifts to the value of \$150 were made to the future library, pharmacy and kitchen of the outpost hospital. The Sisters tried to persuade the C.P.R. to give them free fares for their mission, but were unsuccessful; their tickets were \$116, with \$16 allotted for their berths on the long ride west.

This left them with \$73.75 to finance Holy Cross Hospital. The early chronicles of the Grey Nuns say of the four brave Sisters, "They have no other resources than their confidence in Divine Providence. Could we doubt their success?"

On January 21, 1891, the four missionaries left Montreal, "Their hearts full of tears, but with valiant and courageous souls." They broke their journey to rest a few days at St. Boniface, then continued to the Northwest Territories, arriving in Calgary at two in the morning of January 30th.

A cold welcome awaited them. The chronicles tell of their fears. "How tiny they felt in the dark night! How cold and unfriendly would the people of this frozen country be? Was this harsh wind that penetrated to their very marrow an omen of an even colder reception?"

There were no streets and no streetlights between them and the Sacred Heart Convent where they hoped to spend the night, so Father Leduc, who had accompanied them from St. Boniface, left them shivering on the platform while he tried to locate a ride to the convent. No transportation could be found at that hour, so they decided to walk the quarter of a mile. Father Leduc led the way, breaking a path through the snow while the Sisters, loaded with their belongings, trailed behind him like frost-bitten sparrows.

The Sisters at Sacred Heart Convent welcomed them warmly and found them beds for the night. The convent was full of boarding students, so it was strictly a stop-gap measure and the Grey Nuns spent the next night in their hospital. It was a two-storey, twenty-four foot square building still under construction near the convent, where St. Mary's Parish Hall now stands.

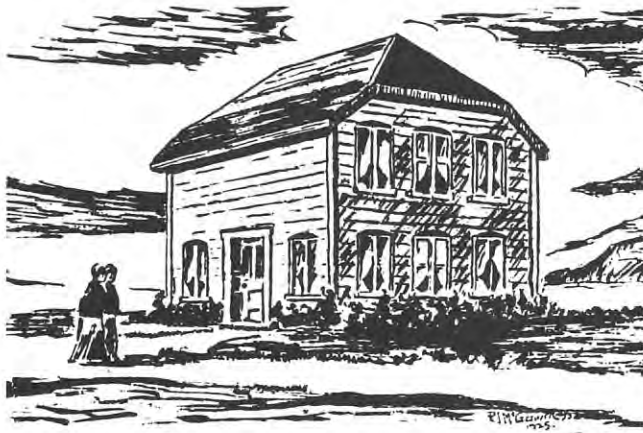
Each floor was divided into two large rooms and the single stove that was their first purchase tried valiantly to heat the hospital in spite of the wind that howled through every crack. The nuns slept on old mattresses covered with tattered blanket and furnished their rooms at auction sales.

Although by this time Calgary had an eight-bed General Hospital, more beds were urgently needed and heavy labor became a part of the Sisters' lives as they hurried to finish their hospital. They hauled their drinking water from Father Leduc's well and their laundry water from the nearby Elbow River until a well would be drilled on the hospital grounds. On hands and knees, they scrubbed the floors, in a never-ending battle to keep their hospital sanitary.



St. Mary's rectory and Church with Sacred Heart Convent in the background. The 800-pound bell in the tower was named "Alberta Josephine", 1886.

Glenbow Archives



Original Holy Cross Hospital, a small, frame building located near St. Mary's Church, 1891.

Luckily, Calgarians weren't as cold-hearted as the weary nuns had feared. Two charitable women, realizing the Sisters' plight, organized a door-to-door collection of linens and furnishings. Sister Gertrude became a familiar sight as, basket over her arm, she canvassed the city for donations of food or money. The people of Calgary could be counted on to give generously from their meager supplies.

Their primitive hospital — candlelit, without water, heated by a single stove — began with four beds, then increased to eight. On April 10th, 1892, Holy Cross admitted its first patient, described by Sister Gertrude as "so poor that all he had was typhoid." By the end of the year, the Sisters had cared for sixty-four patients and it was obvious that the hospital had been obsolete before it opened.



Holy Cross Hospital, 1892 — rear of building, showing patients' sunporches.

Early in 1892, nuns and townspeople made plans to finance construction of a large building. The land and 25,000 bricks were donated by the Oblate Fathers and the nuns set about raising money to turn a pile of bricks into a hospital.

Sister Carroll, Sister Superior of the group, became a dedicated fund raiser. She collected \$300 from construction workers along the CPR main line and, accompanied by a woman from St. Mary's parish, canvassed the country from Calgary to Fort Macleod and Pincher Creek for contributions to her hospital.

The Drama Society, directed by well-known Calgary lawyer P. J. Nolan, raised \$247; a concert sponsored by Knox Presbyterian Church brought in \$60 and the Sisters donated their exquisite fancywork and sewing to a bazaar put on by the ladies of St. Mary's. Thanks to the generosity of Calgarians of all denominations, \$2,600 was contributed to the building fund. Divine Providence hadn't deserted the hard-working Sisters.

In April 1892, Sister Hamel, from Motherhouse in Montreal, arrived to make the final selection of a site for a new hospital. Father Leduc favored "the brick-yard", a large open area east of the river with plenty of room for expansion. Sister Carroll, a practical woman, preferred a site handier to St. Mary's — and further from the graveyard. Sister Hamel concurred and the new Holy Cross was built on the west side of the river, between Rouleau, Doucet and Hamilton Streets. This is the site of the present hospital.

Construction costs were \$6,000, with heating amounting to an additional \$2,500. A windmill which supplied the hospital with ample water was a feature popular with the young Sister Gertrude. The new three-storey building was fifty feet square and a "marvel of grandeur" with "hot and cold running water; baths; electricity; telephone; and sumptuous accommodation for thirty-five patients," according to a letter written by the delighted Bishop Grandin.

Sister Carroll, slightly less enthusiastic, described their new quarters to her Mother Superior:

"Reverend and dear mother,

When I wrote to you a few weeks ago, we were busy cleaning up our new hospital . . . it is not yet finished . . . his lordship, Bishop Grandin came to Calgary two weeks ago . . . while here, he manifested the desire to bless the hospital. He performed the ceremony in the presence of a few intimate friends on the 13th inst. We had just time to clean up for the ceremony, and the week following we began to move in. It was a fatiguing week as we could not get help, even for money . . . Sister Valiquette and little Sister Gertrude worked like two slaves. We are all pretty much fatigued and we are not settled down yet.

I heard, kind mother, and the thought encourages and consoles, that you do not forget us, you are going to send us help . . . Dear Mother, as you understand, the larger the establishment the greater

the expenses. More coal is required to heat it, more oil to light it, more provisions to feed the inmates. I am at my wit's end to know where the means will come from. I wrote to the Northwest Executive Council but there are so many other hospitals in the Territories that I could only obtain a grant of \$75. We are the children of divine providence. I wish I were nearer you, that I might have the advantage of your wise counsel. I need it, I assure you. I live in hopes of seeing you here in the early spring. I hope God will spare us all until then.

Adieu good mother. 'Tis late. I am not able to write more tonight, I am so tired.

Your poor child,
Sister Carroll."

In the 1890s, the hospital received a bequest from R. J. Devins, a brother of one of the nuns in Montreal. It consisted of household goods and \$8,000 in cash. The Holy Cross was solvent at last.

The new hospital was soon filled to the doors and, during a smallpox epidemic, Sister Beauchemin



Glenbow Archives

Bishop Vital Grandin, moving force behind plans for Holy Cross, circa 1870.

and Sister Valiquette endeared themselves to Calgarians by leaving their modern facility to care for the victims, isolated in tents along Nose Creek three miles from town. Later, during an outbreak of diphtheria, the Sisters vacated their own quarters on the second floor of the hospital, moving into the unfinished third floor to make room for an isolation ward.

With the larger hospital, reinforcements were needed. Two more Grey Nuns joined the hard-working four who had founded Holy Cross and lightened their load a little. The nuns made their presence felt in the community in many ways. Sister Carroll taught the women of Calgary how to care for the sick at home; with so few hospital beds available, good home nursing was essential. Although her days were crowded with problems and challenges, Sister Superior always had time for those in need of a sympathetic ear, and the neighborhood children loved her. It became a cherished custom to drop in at Holy Cross after school for a slice of bread and jam and a visit with the kindly "Mother Superior".

Following Mother d'Youville's example, the Sisters supplied meals for the poor who found their way to the doors of Holy Cross, a practice which continued for many years. Records show that 440 meals were provided for the needy as late as December 1924. Such charity was rare in Canadian hospitals.

Calgary, incorporated as a city in 1894 and growing daily, made impossible demands on the few nuns staffing Holy Cross. One way to provide themselves with enough help was to start a training school of their own and in 1899, Sister Duckett, the first graduate nurse to serve at Holy Cross, arrived to set up a school.

In 1903, three Grey Nuns began their training. The three, Sister Anna Sansoucy, Sister M. Celia Dougherty and Sister Alice Prono, and their instructress Sister Marie du-St-Sacrement, set a high standard for the lay students who were to follow them. Only the healthiest of young women — in mind and in body — could hope to finish those gruelling three years of training.

The first Sister-students had a hectic schedule — long days on wards, with one hour of classes in the afternoon, and study or prayers crammed into every available free minute. In September 1906, all three graduated, after passing examinations set by the Board of Examiners in St. Boniface. Records from the St. Boniface School of Nursing attest that they attained a General Proficiency grade in each subject.

Holy Cross was ready to open its School of Nursing.

The Founding Four



Sister Carroll, foundress of the hospital.

Sister Agnes Margaret Carroll was born in Birr, Ireland, May 10, 1854. A devout Christian throughout her life, she joined the Community of the Sisters of Charity at the age of seventeen.

Although it was often difficult for the high-spirited girl to subjugate her will, an abundance of faith in God sustained her. She grew into a hard-working young woman, always willing to relieve the older Sisters in the fields at harvest time. Her cheerful labors were rewarded when, at the age of thirty-six, she was chosen to lead a small group of Grey Nuns to Calgary. It was an honor that would carve her name into the history of the West.

She endured many hardships during the years that she spent in Calgary, but Sister Carroll did little complaining and became a favorite with Calgarians of all ages.

After leaving her position at Holy Cross in 1907, this extremely capable woman rose to become Mother Vicar, with responsibility for all the Grey Nuns' institutions in Alberta, and some in northern Saskatchewan as well.

On July 5, 1911, Mother Vicar left the Calgary she had come to love in order to return to Montreal for surgery on her tuberculous bowel. Although the operation was not successful and she was often in pain, she carried out a last tour of the North before her death in August. On her return to Montreal, she faced death without fear and often reminisced about the warm welcome she had received at Athabasca, Mackenzie, Fort Resolution, Saddle Lake and Isle La Crosse, points she had visited on that final trip.

Sister Maria Olivia Dulcina Beauchemin was born in Montreal on September 26, 1859, fourth in a family of eight girls. Her parents were well-educated Christian people; her father, a librarian, established a book store which celebrated its one hundredth anniversary in 1942.

Twelve of her early years were spent in a religious congregation during the day, and then at night she helped to care for and educate her younger sisters at home. When she was twenty-three, and her eighteen-year-old sister entered a convent, Dulcina knew that she too must make a permanent decision about her life.

Although her health was not good, she entered Notre Dame de l'Assumption in 1882 and pledged her vows on December 30, 1884. A trained pharmacist, she worked at the Motherhouse and at Notre-Dame Hospital before being assigned to travel with three other nuns to open a hospital in Calgary.

Their early years in Calgary were a time of true hardship, and all the Sisters found heavy labor a part of their lives as they helped with the actual construction of the hospital. Sister Beauchemin remained in Calgary for eight years, by which time there was a second, modern Holy Cross with running water, telephones and electricity. In 1898, she was asked to serve as pharmacist at Lac la Biche, a post that would mean a return to a life of hardship and poverty.

She toiled in Lac la Biche for eight years then, tired and ill, returned to Montreal. At the Motherhouse, she gave up her pharmacy career at last, devoting her time to fancywork and flowers until her eyesight failed.

She died peacefully just a month before her sixtieth anniversary as a nun.

Sister Elizabeth Dumoulin Valiquette was the fifth child in a family of twelve. The children were all born at Longueuil, Quebec between 1862 and 1884, which would place her birth about midway in these twenty-two years.

She was blessed with parents who practised their Christian faith as a part of their daily lives. Her father was a very positive man whose large and loving heart never refused a plea for help; her mother was a serene person who contributed much to the harmony of their marriage. In this loving atmosphere, the young Elizabeth was nurtured.

A deeply pious girl, she was eager to join her sister, already a member of a convent. After making her vows, Elizabeth went to Manoir de Chateauguay, but her stay there was brief. She was soon to answer a call to the remote western town of Calgary.

The work at Holy Cross was extremely difficult, with the nuns leading multi-faceted lives as nurses, kitchen workers, laundresses, gardeners and painters. Calgarians had great respect for the Sisters who served their community and especially admired Sisters Valiquette and Beauchemin, who fearlessly nursed smallpox and diphtheria patients.

After suffering two heart attacks, Sister Valiquette was recalled to the east in 1899, to do less demanding work. She continued a life of prayer and service until her death on April 11, 1947.



Sister Valiquette.



Sister Gertrude.

Sister Madeleine Beemer, Calgary's beloved Sister Gertrude, was born in Germany on January 22, 1869. Orphaned at three, she was sent to live with her Uncle Emile, a butcher in Michigan, U.S.A.

When her grandmother died, the lively nine-year-old Madeleine proved too much of a handful for her uncle and aunt and they put her into a convent. She was to know no other life. When she was twenty, she moved to Montreal and joined the Order of the Grey Nuns.

Nine days later, she was on a train, on her way to Calgary to help to build a hospital. She was destined to serve in Calgary for over forty years and, at one time, was in charge of all contagious cases, a particularly heavy responsibility in the days before antibiotics.

In later years, Sister Gertrude loved to share her vivid memories of the early days in Calgary. Father Lacombe was "quite an old man, even when we arrived. To him, the Indians were everything." She recalled the back-breaking duty of hauling all the drinking water for the hospital from Father Leduc's well, until the nuns had their own well dug. Indians camped on the parish grounds and a "two-board" sidewalk led from St. Mary's to downtown Seventh Avenue.

"We began poor, all right," she told one reporter. "I think that is why we prospered . . . The people of Calgary were very charitable and kind. The Protestants were just as helpful as the Catholics. Calgary is a fine place."

The last surviving member of the four who started the hospital, she died at the Grey Nun's Provincial House in St. Albert on February 21, 1957, thus ending an era in the settlement of the West.

More Than Brick and Stone

The Hospital from 1907-1982

"Holy Cross Hospital" — To graduates of the School of Nursing from eight different decades, those words conjure up memories of different hospitals, different doctors, different training days.

None of the nurses would recall the first Holy Cross, a small frame building near St. Mary's Church. The four Grey Nuns who founded and helped to build it in 1891 were also its only nurses during the twenty months it was in operation. The hospital that replaced it in 1892, along with additions in 1903, 1906 and 1907, is the "modern" one that greeted the first class of lay students in 1907. This building is part of the memories of Holy Cross nurses from the first class to 1966, when it was demolished.



Nellie Whalley, first obstetrical instructress.

In 1911, Nellie Whalley, one of the first graduates, returned from a course in Edmonton to teach the first classes in Obstetrics at Holy Cross. A new wing in 1913 changed the hospital for another decade of students with the addition of a maternity ward and laboratory services.

An X ray machine was donated by Fred Lowes and Pat Burns, faithful supporters of the hospital, and in 1918, E. S. Hoare, the hospital's first radiologist, was responsible for installation of equipment for his new department.

With these and other improvements, the hospital qualified for approval by the American College of Surgeons in 1919. It was recognized in Class A, as a hospital of 200 beds, having all the modern equipment of the era.

By this time, eight of the Sisters were members of the A.A.R.N., Alberta Association of Registered Nurses, and had, in fact, been instrumental in organizing the Association in Calgary in 1916.

The Grey Nuns always endeavored to keep their hospital up-to-date academically. They not only demanded a striving for perfection from themselves, but also from their students and staff. Constant communication with their Motherhouse in Montreal gave them a considerable advantage over other isolated institutions. Through these ties, they kept abreast of medical advances in Eastern Canada and throughout the world. Skilled doctors, attracted to their well-run hospital, enhanced the reputation of Holy Cross.

A dietician's course was inaugurated in 1920.

In 1922, the first annual medical meeting was held, with student nurses waiting on table at the dinner, a practice that was to continue for many years. Dr. D. S. Macnab read a paper prepared by one of the nuns. It outlined the hospital's responsibility to its nurses, and vice versa, and was well-received; the doctors made a generous donation to the School.

On Easter Monday, April 1, 1929, an impressive new wing was opened, adding 112 beds to Holy Cross. Bed capacity was now 312, giving the hospital the potential to care for seven thousand patients annually. At this time, personnel consisted of eighteen Sisters, ninety-five nurses (students and graduates), and forty-eight support staff. Costs of furnishings had skyrocketed since 1892. Then \$25-\$50 would equip a room; \$500 was necessary in 1929.

The main building, four storeys high and fire-proof throughout, was "Calgary-made", with a local architect, W. S. Bates, in charge of local builders. It contained such luxuries as elevators; stairways of Tyndale stone and intricate mosaic work; terazzo floors; friction hinges, and a silent call system for the patients. The *Calgary Herald* praised the building on its official opening saying, "The equipment . . . is of the most modern type and a credit to Calgary or any other city in Canada." The write-up went on to laud "the stately hall", beautiful library", and "noble stairway."



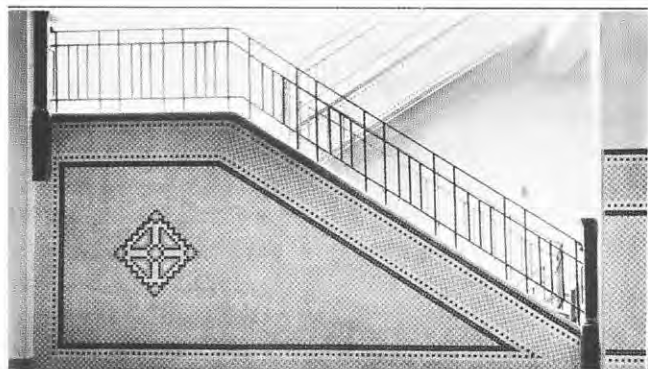
The new wing, opened in 1929.

The hospital now had a file room for case records, a pharmacy, nurses' lecture room and demonstration room, diet kitchens with electric appliances, utility rooms with the latest in sterilizing equipment, a cafeteria and a new ambulance entrance. Part of the third floor was devoted to a well-equipped pediatrics unit.

A magnificent chapel, which soared two storeys high at the front of the building, replaced the long, narrow basement room that had served as chapel for 25 years.

The fifteen-foot-high altar, carved from Carrara marble, was a gift of Calgarian C. J. Duggan, a devout Catholic and business associate of Pat Burns. Tons of marble, imported from Italy, was carved for the chapel by Italian craftsmen. Here in their tranquil retreat, with stained glass windows scattering fragments of rainbow light on the oak pews and marble altars, the nuns and students found strength to face a demanding life.

The Roman-style facing and the classic columns that flanked the main entrance to the hospital have been incorporated into each subsequent renovation of the Holy Cross.



Mosaic stairway in entrance of 1929 addition.

A public inspection of the hospital was a highlight of 1931. Held on June 19th in response to a Canadian Doctors' Association request for a commemoration of Canada's first nurse, Jeanne Mance, the open house was organized jointly by doctors, nuns and nurses. It illustrated the benefits of being treated in a hospital rather than at home; Holy Cross had come full circle from the days when Sister Carroll had instructed the women of Calgary in home nursing, hoping to free a few desperately-needed hospital beds for active treatment.

As the Sisters continued to improve and expand their hospital, they also contributed to the improvement of nursing in Alberta. When inspection of schools of nursing was initiated in 1936, Sister Mead of Holy Cross had an active role and, along with Eleanor McPhedran, was named an inspector of nursing schools. The same year, Sister Loretta Mansfield and Sister Clara Tougas were named to the Executive Committee of the Alberta Nurses Association.

Dr. Bligh Banks, the first intern, arrived at Holy Cross in 1937. The following year, the appointment of Dr. R. C. Riley as the hospital's first full-time pathologist was announced.

The School of Nursing kept pace with the many improvements in hospital service, by training its students to use the new equipment, to treat patients with new procedures, and to keep informed of pharmaceutical advancements.

During World War II, efficiency and educational opportunities increased. In 1942, the only cancer facility in the province opened in the basement of the hospital. The following year, the first nursing aides were employed. In 1945, Sister Marie Nadeau was sent to Edmonton where she learned how to operate a Blood Bank; later that year, she opened a facility at Holy Cross. That same year, graduates in radiology



Physiotherapy department, 1950s.

technology received their diplomas, and the laboratory course offered by the hospital was recognized as a school by the Canadian Medical Technology Society.

That was also the year that patients' meal trays were served direct from a central kitchen, rather than from kitchens on each ward, thus effectively putting an end to midnight feasts by the night nurses.

In 1946, Sister Alice Herman was admitted to the American College of Hospital Administrators and the following year Sister Lucienne Lapierre assisted in the revision of the A.A.R.N. constitution.

In 1947, a patient on St. Ann's ward was the first in Calgary to receive a blood transfusion from the newly operative Red Cross Blood Clinic. It was also the year that the emergency department was able to offer more efficient care because it now had on-call doctors and Mary Goss became the hospital's first Public Health Nurse, with responsibility to oversee the health of students and staff.

The central dressing room was organized in 1948 and all treatments such as compresses and fomentations, dressings, and irrigations were carried out by students in this specialty. A physiotherapy department was added to hospital facilities as well.

In 1950, another attractive and functional addition to the hospital was completed. It housed efficient new operating theatres and delivery rooms, a nursery, Holy Angels ward (pediatrics), a luxury ward of private and semi-private accommodations, and a cheerful, modern cafeteria. The Holy Cross had come a long way from the small, cold, comfortless building of 1891.

Because of the wide range of services offered to the community by the hospital, for the first time, the Advisory Board appealed to the public for financial assistance to furnish this wing. Once again, as in the hospital's earliest days, Calgarians came through with cash and furnishings. Brass plaques placed on the doors recognized the generosity of donors.

A Recovery Room was opened in the early 1950s to care for patients directly after their surgery. Before this, patients were returned to the ward while still unconscious and left to the ministrations of the over-worked ward nurses.

By 1957, Holy Cross had a personnel of two hundred doctors, 180 graduate nurses, 12 orderlies, 165 students, 80 maintenance workers and 300 clerks and technicians. It had also become the centre for cancer treatment for Southern Alberta, and had expanded beyond the Grey Nuns' capability to administer it. The small community of 18 Sisters could no longer cope with the complexities of running a major hospital, and appointed Dr. Irial Gogan as the hospital's first lay Medical Director.

Innovations in 1958 included a new Emergency Department, a Disaster Program, and a Staph Infection Committee, which was charged with the



X ray department, 1948.

seemingly hopeless task of controlling the killer staph aureus rampant in most hospitals at the time.

Cardiovascular surgery began in 1958 with the first operation performed by Dr. George Miller, a 1945 intern of the hospital. A new cardiac unit opened in 1958, and, in 1960, the Calgary Associate Clinic donated a heart-lung machine, paving the way for open heart surgery. (Holy Cross, the only hospital willing and equipped to provide support for a cardiovascular program, was designated the Cardiovascular Centre for Southern Alberta, in the early '70s)

The hospital made headlines in 1962 when Hazel Donlin, a 17-year-old visitor from California lost an arm in a freak accident at the Stampede midway. A team of skilled surgeons at Holy Cross replaced her severed arm, a first in Canada.

With the '60s came still more changes. Such items as Bird respirators, intensive care units, disposable needles and syringes, and prepared enema sets became a commonplace part of patient care. The age of disposables had arrived.



The lab staff, with Dr. Riley, 1951.

In 1965, construction of a new, \$5 million Holy Cross began. During the two years of building, the adjacent residence shook and rattled, and potted plants fell off their shelves. Somehow, everyone survived the noise and confusion of demolition and construction, and the hospital opened in 1967, Canada's Centennial Year. The 1950 wing now became the "Y" wing, in tribute to Mother d'Youville, foundress of the Grey Nuns. The new hospital boasted a conveyor system, wall suction and oxygen at every bed, and an intercom system linking patients with the nurses' station. Capacity was now 491 beds.

The continual growth and expansion of the hospital was a tribute to the vision of the Grey Nuns. Beneath those cumbersome, outmoded habits were modern women with keen minds, loving hearts and skilled hands. In the late '60s, their costume caught up with the attitude of the women wearing it; the nuns adopted first a light-weight veil, then a trim suit or jumper outfit, and finally, were permitted to abandon wearing their veils entirely.

When the first Holy Cross was built, construction costs for a hospital were estimated at \$400 a bed; in 1967, they were \$15,000. Although the Grey Nuns retained ownership of Holy Cross, they required capital and operating funds from both the Federal and Provincial Governments.

It had become impossible for the dwindling numbers of Grey Nuns to maintain all their hospitals across Canada and, in May 1969, Sister Ferdenande Dussault, vice-chairman of the Hospital's Board of Directors, announced their decision to give up operation of Holy Cross.



Sister Rita Coulombe.

“Following much heart searching,” she said, “the Sisters have made a decision to initiate negotiations to transfer assets to a government-appointed body. This action is being taken because the Order feels the necessity of consolidating its decreasing personnel resources and cannot accept the responsibility too much longer of operating a hospital of the magnitude of Holy Cross in Calgary.”

Sister Rita Coulombe, the first graduate of the Holy Cross School of Nursing to become the hospital’s Director of Nursing Service, also became its last Sister Superior when she turned over its operation to Calgary Rural and Metro Hospital District #93 on December 16, 1969. Most of the Sisters left Calgary for work in other Grey Nuns institutions and a loving rule of seventy-eight years was over. But cherished memories of these dedicated women will continue to enrich the lives of all who knew them during their years at Holy Cross.



Demolition of the 1892 wing in 1966.

They had laid their foundations well and, even without their guidance, the hospital continued to grow and prosper.

In the '70s, metric measurements were adopted throughout the system. In 1974, renovations to the 1929 wing provided one hundred additional beds, emergency services, and a new mental health wing. This wing was named for Dr. D. S. Macnab, a remarkable surgeon who had served the hospital and its patients for over forty years.

Calgarians were incensed to learn that these renovations plans called for destruction of the historic chapel — to make room for a gymnasium and psy-

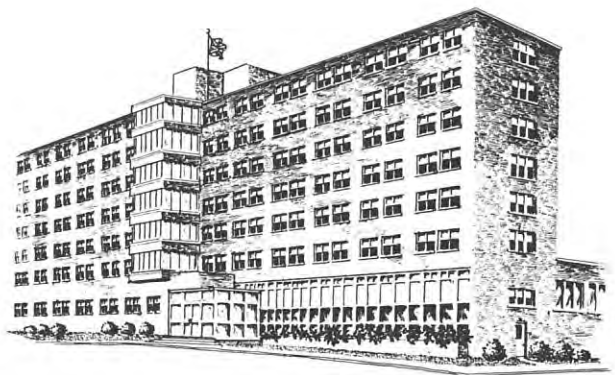


Capping ceremony in the chapel, 1958. The chapel was converted into a gymnasium in 1974.

chiatric treatment area. Unfortunately, in spite of pleas and petitions, economics dictated that the chapel had to go. Marble altars and statuary went into storage as the gym and offices were constructed.

Due to declining enrollment, the Holy Cross School of Nursing closed in June of 1979. In its seventy-two years, the School had educated 2,409 graduates, all proud to wear the gold cross pin earned in their three years at Holy Cross. The empty residence soon became offices for a variety of health care services, and has been renamed *The Grey Nuns Building*.

From its humble beginnings to the present, Holy Cross has grown in service and stature. One of the finest hospitals in Western Canada, it now has facilities to care for 514 adults and 82 infants and offers many out-patient services as well. It is a non-denominational institution now, but one of the agreements of sale stipulated that the name, *Holy Cross*, would be perpetuated. The illuminated Celtic Cross high on its west wall will continue to glow in the skies of Calgary — symbolic of Mother d’Youville’s love for all mankind.



1957 residence becomes Grey Nuns Building in 1982.

Sisters Superior — Holy Cross

1891-1907	Sister Agnes Carroll
1907-1909	Sister Alphonsine Bissonnette
1909-1910	Sister Mary O'Brien
1910-1910	Sister Marie de la Presentation
1911-1916	Sister Priscille Desmarais
1916-1922	Sister Albertine Duckett
1922-1931	Sister St. Jean-de-l'Euchariste
1931-1935	Sister Alphonsine Lethiecq
1935-1941	Sister Victoire St. Simon
1941-1947	Sister Alice Herman
1947-1950	Sister Loretta Mansfield
1950-1953	Sister Lydia Noel
1953-1956	Sister Rose Letellier
1956-1959	Sister Claire Gauthier
1959-1965	Sister Delia Clermont
1965-1971	Sister Rita Coulombe

Administrators

1965-1971	Dr. Irial Gogan, first lay Administrator
1971 (April to September)	— F. W. Lamb, acting administrator, Executive Director, District #93
1971-1972	R. Schellenberg
1972-1974	G. K. Moreton
1974-1979	R. W. Foreman
1979-	Dr. J. D. Manes

Hospital Chaplains

No records have survived, at either St. Mary's Cathedral or Holy Cross Hospital, of the priests who served as chaplains at the hospital in its early years. However, it has been verified that many newly ordained priests of St. Mary's were assigned to the hospital until a new church was available for them in the area.

The priest's day began early, as a six o'clock mass was offered daily in the hospital's lovely chapel. His faithful congregation was made up of nuns, students, and neighborhood Catholics.

Following the service, the priest, assisted by a nun or two students, administered communion to Catholic patients throughout the hospital. Not all his duties were pleasant, as he spent much of his time comforting the dying and bereaved.

To the students, the chaplain offered spiritual guidance and boundless support and encouragement.

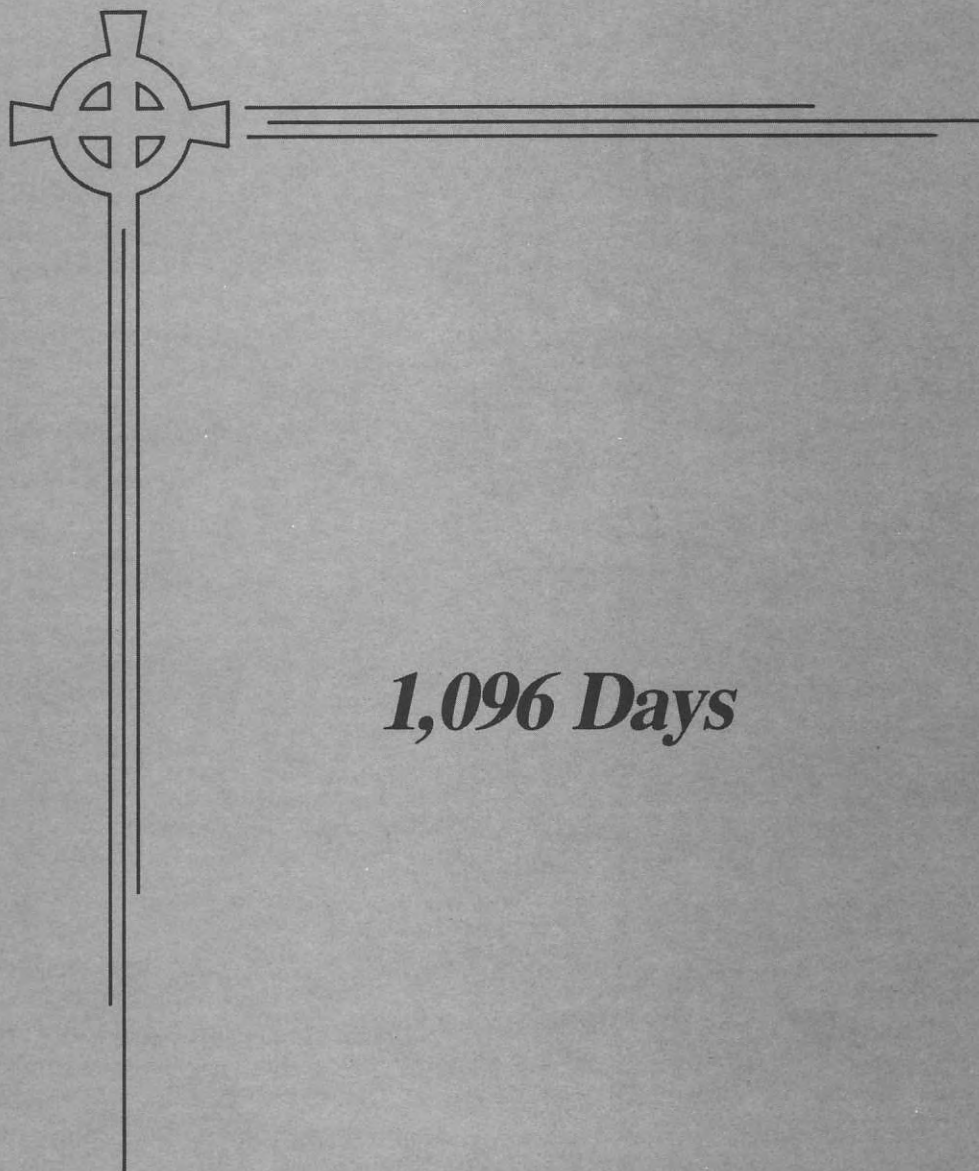
From 1891-1913, the hospital was served by the Oblate Fathers from St. Mary's, Calgary. Some of these early priests were: Fathers Albert Lacombe, A. Andre, J. Lestanc, L. Fouquet, A. Lemarchand, A. Jan, and A. Leparoux.

Diocesan clergy assumed charge of St. Mary's in July 1913, and the following priests were chaplains at Holy Cross:

1913	Rev. A. Bernard Macdonald, D. D.	1940-44	Rev. Patrick O'Byrne, Rev. P. Tessier,
1914-	Rev. Paul Meyer		Rev. Wm. Leonard
1916-17	Rev. Emmet Dougan	1944-50	Rev. Francis MacKay
1918	Rev. Albert Rouleau	1951	Rev. Louis Don Malo
1919-20	Rev. Henry A. Boltz	1952	Rev. Patrick Cramer
1920-22	Rev. Colin F. Ross	1953	Rev. Louis Connelly
1922-25		1954	Rev. Denis Fleming
1925-27	Rev. A. MacAdam	1955-60	Rev. Edward Flanagan
1927-30	Rev. Henry A. Boltz	1960	Rev. John Kraemer
1930-32	Rev. John Cunningham	1963	Rev. John Palardy
1932-34	Rev. Arthur Anderson	1964-68	Rev. Cornelius Boeren — first resident chaplain
1934-36	Rev. Clarence Lyons, Rev. Bernard Holland	1968	Father Gerald Fitzpatrick
		1969-70	Father Paul Greuter



Holy Cross Hospital, 1950.



1,096 Days

*"I hear — and I forget
I see — and I remember
I do — and I understand"*

Chinese Proverb

Home For Three Years

The Sisters of Charity, who founded Holy Cross Hospital, were its only nurses until 1907, when the first lay students arrived to help the overworked nuns.

Student nurses' helping hands were a blessing, but lay students also brought a few more worries for the Sisters. For one thing, the girls needed beds and at least a modicum of privacy. Accommodations on the top floor of the hospital were prepared for the first six students.

Alma Martin Maguire, member of that long-ago first class, recalls their 1,096 days together. "We lived in the hospital library but slept in a dormitory with screened-off beds, upstairs in one wing of the hospital.

"We worked from seven to seven. Got up, made our beds, had breakfast in the basement and then went up onto the wards. We worked seven days a week but, when the wards were quiet, we got a half-day a week off.

"The meals weren't too bad but we always had bologna on Thursdays for dinner. So I always tried to have my half-day on Thursdays so I could eat at a friend's."

Her happiest memories of training were of the close friendships that developed in their little group. "We had a lot of fun. We'd go downtown on our 'day off' and look at every nose in town. Elsie Black was very conscious of her nose and we'd try to decide if hers was worse or better.

"We used to borrow each other's clothes when we went out. I had a white fox fur stole that all the nurses borrowed and one of the doctors finally said, 'Who really owns that fur?'

"Luckily, things were very cheap then because we got poor pay. But movies were just 10¢, and we could always go to church. Anyway, you couldn't do much with the hours we had — but, believe it or not, we were happy."



Ready for Bed — E. Tyson, 1917.

Tea at Rochon's, with its home-made candy, was another favorite pastime of the early Holy students.

As time went on, more students were accepted into the School, and the dormitory overflowed into housing in the basement or billets in nearby homes.

During WWI, while renovations were being completed, all the girls lived away from the hospital for a few months, either at their homes or in neighborhood houses.

Florence Hill Fitzpatrick of the class of 1918 recalls those days. "Training was pretty hard and

many didn't finish. We worked twelve-hour duty with an hour off every day and a half-day off, from two to seven, every week."

Like all student nurses, her classmates were exuberant and fun-loving on their off-duty hours. "We could go out for dinner or to the movies, and we always had a lot of fun. We used to walk downtown and come back singing, *The Elephants Walked in Two by Two*.

"In residence, we were always telling jokes and we shared food from outside, treats from home. We had no clubs or organized entertainment — we just got together and told jokes and laughed. Oh, how we laughed.

"Oh yes, we did have one party — just the one — all women. It was a costume party for the whole school on Valentine's Day in, I think, 1916."

As for food, a consuming interest of young nurses, "It wasn't too bad, though someone once sent a barrel of fish and we got awfully sick of fish, fish, fish."

The Sisters were very strict and even lectured the girls for standing with arms akimbo; smoking or cutting hair were even less ladylike and were punished by instant dismissal.

A new residence was the talk of the training school for many years before it became a reality. It wasn't until 1920 that Waterloo Hall and the Forbes home, neighboring apartment buildings north of the hospital, were purchased and remodelled into a nurses' residence. The two buildings were joined together with the addition of a large reception area, which was furnished by the Sister Superior's family.

In 1921, seventy-five young women moved into



1918 Valentine's Party. Top Row: J. Overguard; ; M. Mostad; Miss McCullough; ; ; Miss Muldoon. Next Row: ; ; I. Walker; Miss Tyson; M. Fowley; J. Howard; L. Anthony; ; Miss Lynne. Next Row: S. Bernstein; ; Miss Pelletier; Miss Glavin; ; ; ; F. Hill. Front Row: ; ; A. Banton; Miss Waygner; ; . Taken in Study hall in basement of hospital.

their new quarters, which were reputed to be the finest in the Province. The annals of the School described the new residence as having: "a large reception hall, lounges with large verandahs, sports grounds and facilities facing the river, bathrooms with good water pressure, kitchenette, solarium, small laundry, spacious basement for trunk storage, bathtubs, showers, direct steam supply and plenty of hot water from the central boiler room."

The publicity report goes on to say that bedrooms, with one, two or three beds, were "air conditioned." Students who lived in the residence knew better. The only air conditioning was supplied by windows that opened from both bottom and top.



Waterloo Residence, showing covered walkway.

The rooms had individual lockers, wooden "coffins" on castors that were stored under the cots to hold uniforms, and clothes cupboards that served as partitions between the beds. A covered sidewalk protected nurses from the elements as they dashed back and forth to the hospital. This was the Waterloo Hall that was to be home for Holy students for the next thirty-five years.

In August 1921, Sister Alexina Houle was appointed "housemother," a first for Holy Cross. Among her many residence rules was one requiring all students to wear high-necked, long-sleeved nightgowns. On one occasion, Sister called everyone together and told them that in future, there would be no red light bulbs used in the girls' rooms. They might look cozy . . . but . . . Some of the more naive students hadn't realized the significance of red lights.

Sister, ever "on duty", would visit the students' rooms to see if the girls were studying and to be sure they weren't trimming their hair — and that they were brushing it one hundred strokes nightly. In the twenties, haircuts were still strictly forbidden.

Classmates from 1923 remember that hospital



Ladies don't smoke! 1925. M. McKenzie, G. Cowan, D. Kearney, M. Miller (Class of 1926).

meals weren't wonderful, but "we had the confectionery store on the corner of Fourth Street that made the best date pie with whipped cream topping, and hot chocolate . . . It was hard on the pocket book, and a little rich, since we weren't used to such food."

As was ever the case, students visited each other to share food packages from home. Perhaps the cake crumbs accounted for a visitation from mice, which Sister ruthlessly trapped. A nurse's day started when she heard the handbell that was jangled outside her door. If you were late for seven a.m. shift in those days, you couldn't use the excuse that your alarm hadn't gone off.

Students in 1923 still worked twelve-hour shifts with a half-day off a week and one late leave until 11 p.m. once a month. Their usual curfew was 10 p.m. In the late '20s, privileges included two 11 o'clocks a month.

Residence was an unhappy place in July 1926. Bobbed hair was the latest fad, and one the nuns were very much against. A special meeting was called and students were "asked" to sign a promise that they would abide by the current rules, which stipulated that hair couldn't be cut during their three years in training.

Later that evening, the girls rebelled. "Rules are meant to be broken", was their rallying cry, and many congregated in one room to defy the nuns. According to one witness, "One by one they sat on a high stool, two students with bandaging scissors, one on each side, took a handful of hair and — Whack! The tresses fell to the floor. Black, brown, blonde, red, straight and curly locks all fell in a sad heap."



Up on the Roof Top — M. Cullen, M. Campbell, 1939.

It was late when the defiant deed was done and there was no time for trimming or styling before going on duty the next morning.

Breakfast prayers were a disaster; the Sisters were furious. The bobbed-hair girls were not allowed to go on duty and many were dismissed outright. Others were allowed to go home until their hair grew out, then return to the hospital, making up the time lost at the end of their training. The hospital was short-staffed for many months following the short-lived rebellion.

Discipline became more lenient in the 1930s. Sister Chauvin was in charge of the residence and Miss Gorrie was the housemother who checked the girls in and out of residence and inspected their rooms. It was not uncommon for the nurses to find slightly cryptic notes regarding the condition of their rooms when they came off duty. Written in a familiar hand were messages such as: "Dust board around room side of dresser you can see for yourself" or "Your floor requires to be dusted." or "Tuck the blanket in at back of bed don't leave them hanging on the floor." or the dreaded "You must stay in tonight and give your room a thorough clean. It will be inspect it after."

At this time, late leaves had been extended to 11:30 p.m. Duty hours were 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with two hours off, which was often spent in class. Free time was too precious to waste it on housecleaning!

The big excitement around the residence in 1930 was an infestation of bed bugs, brought into the home in students' trunks and clothes. Fumigators to the rescue!! Because bugs don't care for starched uniforms, they didn't spread to the hospital and the Holy's reputation was spared.

In 1931, an addition increased capacity of Waterloo Hall by twenty-two beds.

There was very little spare cash in the '30s, and most entertainment was of the homegrown variety. After evening lectures and study, off-duty nurses gathered in the rec hall for singsongs and dancing to the music of some talented nurse/pianists. Ruth Turnbull often entertained with her hilarious "chicken songs" — tunes sung in the "puk, puk, puttie-yuk" of a chicken. A new radio donated by the Alumnae brought many hours of pleasure.

Initiation parties ended the probie days, with probationers walking across peanut shells in their bare feet or dressing in sackcloth dresses or long underwear. "Females only" parties were held at Hallowe'en and Christmas with organized entertainment which included musical numbers by hillbilly bands, vocal solos, comical skits and, of course, a chicken song or two. The Sisters provided lunch for these soirees and Santa managed to find his way into No-Man's-Land at Christmas.

Isabel Sandeman, a 1932 grad, was housemother for six years during the 1930's. Those who trained during her days of velvet discipline agree, "She was a real doll."

If several seniors had "time" to make up after graduation, probies sometimes arrived to find there was no room in residence for them. Three green probies in 1937 were billeted in the basement of the hospital, in a room near the morgue. Some fiendish seniors passed along words of wisdom to the new recruits. "When a patient dies, you hear a loud, howling noise as the lungs collapse." It was hardly cheering news for a bunch of nervous probies.

One night, while taking a shower, one of the girls heard a piercing scream. Clutching her towel, she ran to their room and, in a shivering voice cried that the dead were howling. The frightened trio later learned it was only a vocal maternity patient admitted through the ambulance entrance.



Oh, what is so rare as a "half day off"? H. Olmshank, M. Kubic, M. McCulloch. (Class of 1940.)



Tire Troubles — C. Young, H. Morrow, E. Wilson — 1931 gals.

At the request of the students, the tennis courts were repaired in 1937 and off-duty nurses could once again enjoy fresh air and exercise on the banks of the Elbow River. A tennis tournament was held, with a dance at Penley's, 25¢ a ticket, following. Lillian Krause, tournament champion, was presented with an engraved cup.

In 1938, a "Go-Getter Club", devoted to "The Art of Entertaining", was organized by Miss Sandeman and Miss Corkery, an instructress. A weekly physical training class was begun, and a dance was held at the Y with the good-natured Sandeman and Corkery chaperoning. Winner of the "lemon dance" was asked to eat a few bites of the lemon before claiming her prize. Sister Mansfield, Director of Nursing, supplied more appetizing refreshments later for this first Go-Getter's Dance.

Students' rooms lost their barracks look when rules were relaxed to allow rugs and curtains from home. Pictures were permitted, but only if you could figure out a way to hang them without leaving a hole in the wall. There was only one telephone in this houseful of popular young women, and pages were "hollered down the hall". If there was no answer, a message was left on the bulletin board near the phone.

For a number of years, it was forbidden to associate with students outside your own class, or to go into another girl's room. Students went so far as to arrange secret meetings away from the hospital in order to visit with friends in other classes. They then re-

turned to residence at different times. When an unexpected room check by the housemother stranded a visitor in an off-limits room, the offender often hid in a locker until the "all clear".

In 1939, as had been the practice for years, students steeled themselves for morning inspection by Sister Mansfield. The day began at 6:45 with girls scurrying into the rec hall for the Lord's Prayer. They stood with their classmates — seniors in front, probies at the back — then marched down the stairs two-by-two, under the eagle eye of Sister, who never missed a crumpled apron or a dirty shoelace. (Students were expected to press their own heavily starched aprons between launderings).

Seats in the dining room were also arranged according to classes. Outside the dining room was a small room with numbered cubby-holes. (Each student was "numbered" when she came in training. This all-important numeral identified uniforms, mailbox, exam results, ward postings and dishes. It's a rare Holy Cross grad who can't recall her number at her twenty-fifth reunion.) The slot contained cutlery, tumbler, cup, saucer, and plate, which the nurse washed after each meal and replaced. This somewhat unsanitary practice continued until a semi-automatic dishwasher was installed.

It was found that uniform collars were becoming very soiled from the oil in the students' long hair, so, in the spring of 1937, the girls were at last allowed to cut their hair. Another first in the annals of Holy Cross.



Bathing Beauties, circa 1930.



One day in 1939, a dark cloud hung over Waterloo. The stately Eaton's Beauty doll, attired in a 1930 uniform, fell from her pedestal in the reception hall. The broken pieces were tenderly placed in a box and buried with full services behind the residence. Her place was soon taken by another Eaton's Beauty — this time in a 1939 uniform.

The smoking room, or blue room, so called because of the quality of its air, not the color of its walls, was a popular meeting place from 1938 to the opening of the new residence. No smoking was allowed in bedrooms and no uniforms were to be worn in the "smoker". Only street clothes or housecoats allowed; no patient was to be subjected to the stench of second-hand smoke on the uniform of a Holy nurse. Vents from the smoker opened into the bedroom above, and its innocent occupants were always being accused of smoking in their room. The smoker closed at "lights out" and an extra puff was sometimes taken out on the verandah, a risky but common occurrence.

The first Students' Council, an august body charged with enforcing residence rules, was formed in 1940.

In the mid-'40s, rooms accommodated either one, two or three students, but there was a long wait for a private. Closets were either massive old wardrobes in crowded large rooms, or modern closets located across the hall from small rooms. "Coffins" were still kept under the beds. Lockers were in the halls, as were bathrooms, one tub and two sinks to serve twelve to fifteen girls. This was a sure source of frustration and short tempers at 6:00 a.m.

The housemother's headquarters was at a small wooden desk in the downstairs hall, strategically

placed so she could watch all exits, stairways and entrances. Students were expected to sign in opposite their numbers every evening. This could be a challenging exercise after a taste of the grape, as the sequence of the numbers was changed frequently and it was hard to hold your breath long enough to sign your name in the correct place. Sneaky housemothers!

Night nurses weren't allowed out of residence until 3:30 p.m., except for 1:00 p.m. classes, which most, numb after only four hours' sleep, slept through. Due to changes in Alberta labor regulations, days-off finally became a full day off a week in 1947.

The rec hall had a piano and kitchen with lockers for food. This was a popular spot for sharing a slice of bread and jam or loot from home. Triumphs and sorrows were also shared. Here jokes were told, boyfriends giggled over, and supervisors and Sisters cheerfully ripped to pieces.

The laundry room in the basement consisted of two tubs for handwashing, two irons and ironing boards. The hospital would do laundry if it was in a clearly marked bag and could be tossed into commercial machines. A whole load of laundry would be tinted a delicate pink if someone left a lipstick in her pocket.

Except on Mother and Daughter Tea days, the

formal reception area downstairs was as dim and deserted as a mausoleum. Only visitors sat on its prim sofas and chairs. Visitors were not allowed in the students' rooms at that time. Girls who were exceptionally popular sometimes ended up with two boyfriends eyeing one another across the reception room. Honesty was forced on the most devious siren when she had to face them both and apologize for a mix-up in dates.

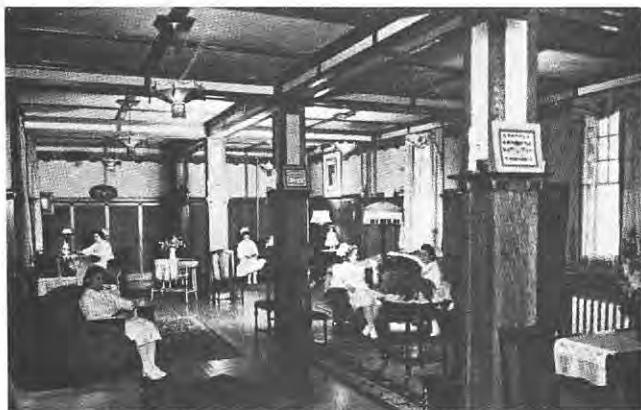
In the late '40s, radios were finally allowed in the bedrooms, as long as they weren't played until night nurses woke at 3:00 p.m. Modest sunbathing was allowed, but only in seclusion at the back of the residence. Many a beet-red back suffered torture under starched uniforms after a snooze in the sun.

Peeping Toms were an eternal problem for girls with rooms on the north lane. Male footprints were often discovered in the snow outside the windows and once there was even the mark of a chair, left by a short voyeur who had climbed up for a better "peep".

However, students had no desire to have the lower windows boarded up; they were too handy for sneaking out and in at night. Long-suffering residents of the ground floor not only had their rooms turned into minor freeways after hours, they also were asked to deliver lunches to girls whose curfew had forced them to miss a snack with their dates. Hamburgers, pies and sandwiches changed hands at darkened windows. One memorable night, a live chicken arrived with a loaf of bread tied to its leg along with a note reading, "Make your own darned sandwich!"

Gatherings after lights-out were commonplace. Housemothers no longer slept in residence, and the elderly Sisters left to mind the store were usually conveniently deaf to giggles and the pit-a-pat of bare feet on linoleum.

In the late '40s, the newly formed Sodality hosted its first Mardi Gras party. These pre-Lent parties were for students only.



Prim and Proper Reception Room.

A second phone was installed in Waterloo, to be used for outgoing calls only. The ten minute time limit was strictly enforced, if not by the housemother, then by the impatient line of fellow students waiting their turn. A buzzer replaced the old "holler down the hall" system of paging.

During WWII, servicemen, mostly airmen, were invited to dances and matched with girls without escorts. Dating a Holy nurse called for an intrepid character. Girls hung out the windows that bordered the main entrance; some whistled to embarrass the red-faced blind dates, others tried to sneak a quick look at their date for the evening.

"It was like walking the plank to call for a date," one fellow recalled.

First they encountered the housemother or Sister who answered the doorbell. Escorted into the sitting room, they were deposited in an uncomfortable silence, hoping that someone, somewhere was trying to find their date. They suffered while females tripped by, craning their necks to see who was waiting. This inspection was usually at the request of a roommate who preferred not to be "at home" for a particular caller. Only the hardy or lovelorn returned for a second date.

In the '50s, changes were many and rapid — and shocking to grads of earlier years. Big sisters were assigned to welcome the incoming probies. They provided a shoulder to cry on, advice, and someone to share treats and successes with. It was a real departure from the rigid discipline of "respect all seniors".

St. Gertrude's Residence, a wing of the 1907 hospital which was transplanted nearer the river in later renovations, became home to probies in the '50s. They felt ostracized in the rickety, three-storey building with its flimsy partitions between tiny rooms. Mrs. Swingle was housemother until lights out, when another conveniently deaf Sister slept in the residence as official chaperone. Memories of St. Gerts are of the scuttling of mice, ugly spiders, and chocolate cake feasts at midnight in the smoking room/kitchen.



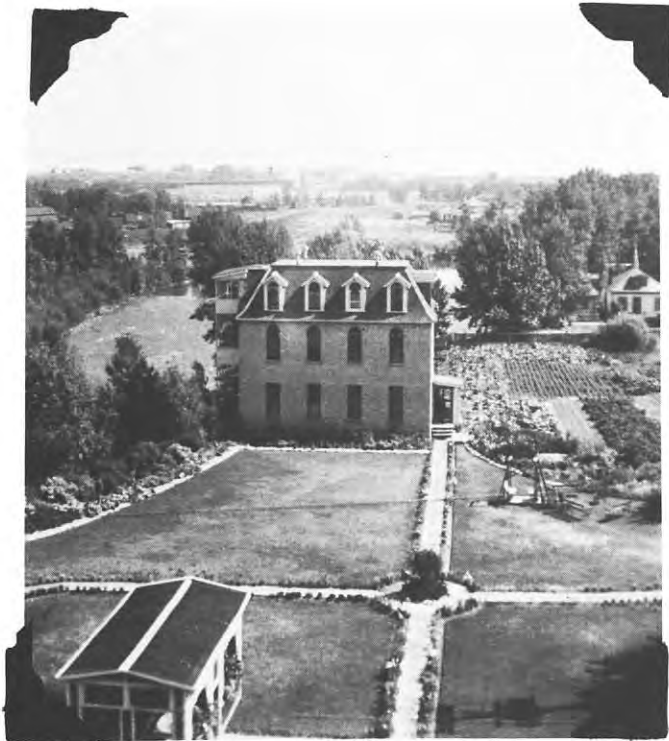
Rec Hall.



Main Entrance Waterloo, where boy friends "Walk the Plank".



Graduation Dance, 1943 — most dates in uniform.



St. Gertrude's Residence for Probies in the 1950's.



Probie Party — 3rd Floor St. Gert's, circa 1954.



St. Joseph's Statue arrived at Holy Cross in 1928; Probies arrived in 1950. (L. to R.) A. Bridarolli, B. Holmes, St. Joseph, J. Sheridan, D. Paulhus.



Forbidden Sweets — Smoking in the Park, circa 1938. (L. to R.) M. Porritt, M. Keeley, M. Cullen, E. Duncan, S. McLennan.



The Annual Cigar. (L. to R.) M. McCormack, S. Sproule, J. Cloarec, 1946.



Boating at Bowness. (L. to R.) V. Boomer (1944), H. Peters (1946), J. Smith (1947), A. Kalmikoff (1945), J. Chollak (1945).

A threatened students' strike in 1951 caused a furor. It began informally one evening as students were gathered in the lounge, curled up on the chesterfields with their hair in pincurls. They were complaining about the restrictions in their lives when someone mentioned the reactionary word "strike". A lively discussion rocked the room until lights out. No one ever discovered the hot line to Sister's office, but in the morning, they found there was one. They were informed that letters had been sent to the parents of the class of '53, threatening expulsion of the entire class. Girls who had been on duty at the time of the "meeting" were especially surprised to find that they had been labelled "ringleaders" of the infamous strike.

When the dust settled, everyone had escaped expulsion and a few more privileges were granted. More sleepouts and late leaves made life a little more bearable for those post-War girls, who weren't used to such a circumscribed existence. Seniors were even allowed to live out for their last six months in training.

Students worked eight-hour shifts now, so there was time and energy to spare for parties. They were encouraged to stage plays and concerts, which were sometimes held at St. Mary's Hall and open to the public. Bequeathal parties, where seniors passed gifts of sentimental value on to someone in the inter-

mediate class, were a new and popular feature of residence life. Crowning of a Queen at the fall dance began in 1954 and became an annual event.

Introduction of the Block System meant no more evening classes for nurses working on the wards; still more social functions were organized to fill the free evening hours. Informal weiner roasts, sleigh rides, trail rides and barn dances were organized, in addition to four formal dances held annually. Most programmes of the early '50s starred the popular singing trio — Greene, McKinnon and Squire of the class of '53.

Intramural baseball began in 1954 with games against the General Hospital nurses. Later, the league included the High River High School, the High River Ladies, and the Holy Cross interns. This eventually expanded into Interhospital Week, with a marathon, swim meet, track events, cheerleaders, bed races, basketball and powderpuff football — and, of course, a dance. Holy feet were never too tired to dance.

The second floor rec hall and kitchenette were re-decorated and a home committee was set up to control their use. North Hill Lions donated the first residence TV and a coke machine was installed; a radio-record player and records came from Alumnae. An Honor Board of students, established in the



Singing Trio — P. Squire, R. McKinnon, D. Greene, Class of 1953.



May Queen — M. Hauck (1961) crowned by Aileen Fish. Runner's up left: J. Tanner and right: B. Wotherspoon.



First Baseball Team, 1954. (L. to R., Top) M. Corns, S. Thielen, M. Paul, Coach Maroney, B. Tindall, K. Betts, M. Dick. (L. to R., Bottom) D. Deck, M. Lewicki, A. Collier, M. Csepe, K. Anderson, L. Gray.

'50s, decreed punishment for the dozens of misdemeanors that fellow students could perpetrate.

By the mid-'50s, Waterloo Hall had become decrepit. The only ghost of its former glory was its still-intimidating reception room. Students were allowed to paint their rooms in the soon-to-be demolished Waterloo. Colors chosen ranged from kelly green to ebony — technicolor proof that the Sisters had been wise to stick with a neutral beige all those years.

The class of 1960 was the only one to live in all three Holy Cross residences — St. Gertrude's, Waterloo Hall, and the new residence which opened in 1957.

The basement and first floor of the new eight-storey, \$1.5 million residence held lecture rooms, demonstration rooms, labs, faculty offices, beaux rooms for visitors, a chapel and auditorium. Nuns quarters were on the seventh floor.

Amenities on the other floors included kitchens, laundry facilities, phones and lounges on each floor, and a private room for every student.



Cheerleaders, 1954. (L. to R., Back Row) Miss Malchow, M. O'Connor, A. Barrett, A. Reiffenstein. (L. to R., Front Row) A. Colton, P. Martin, P. Tumoth.



M. Morrison, 1956 — Turning first sod for 1957 residence.

1957 Residence

SOD TURNING CEREMONY FOR THE NEW NURSES' RESIDENCE

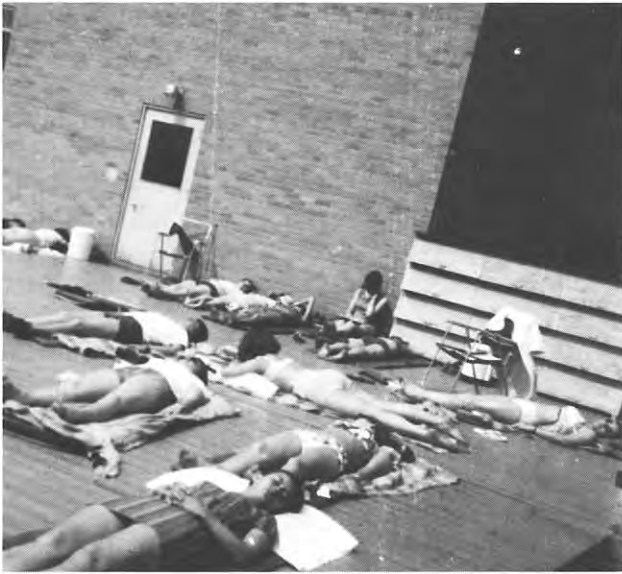
will take place on Monday March 19 at 3.00 p.m.
All student nurses are cordially invited to attend,
in complete nurses uniform with cape:right side pinned
over the shoulder or in class room uniform for preliminaries.
Glee Club will be together and sing according to the program.
Program will be posted Monday a.m.
Refreshments will be served in Assembly Hall to the guests,
but not to the students.

So E. L. L.

Invitation to a sod turning.



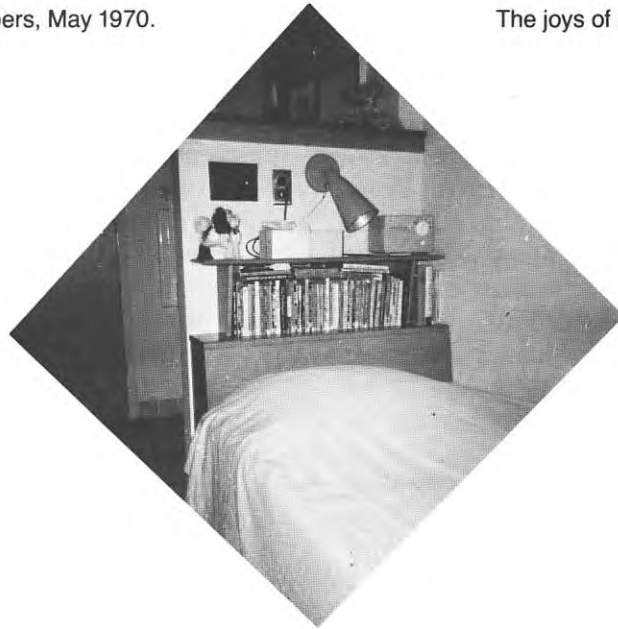
1957 Residence



Resident sun worshippers, May 1970.



The joys of residence phone calls.



Room in 1957 Residence.



Best Decorated Lounge, circa 1960.

Gone was the twenty-four-hour-a-day sharing with roommates. Gone too was some of the camaraderie of earlier years. Students no longer shared one lounge and one smoker, so consequently, it was only through work they became acquainted. Compulsory monthly "home nights" were organized in an attempt to instill more school spirit, and the first formal dance was held in the residence.

For several Christmases, competitions were held to see which floor had the best-decorated lounge. Sitting rooms became giant Christmas parcels, greeting cards, winter scenes or creches as students vied for the toaster that was the usual prize. One group used red lighting, and the red light issue reared its head again. Shades of the 1920s!

In 1965, Interhospital Variety shows became a yearly competition and Mardi Gras, fashion shows and teas were held. Nursing school dances were discontinued. Students now had two days off a week.

When the 1970 class came in training in 1967, they were on the Honor System — no curfews, but a responsibility to maintain good grades.

The sale of the Holy Cross to the Province in 1969 brought major changes to the residence. Doris Stevenson became the first lay Director of Nursing Education; Liz Stileman was appointed Residence Director. The House system, or Students' Advisory Council, which had paid advisors and assistants from each floor, was used to direct residence activities. The council also did good works on behalf of the students — collecting for Christmas hampers for the needy, and adopting a child from Lesotho. Policy changes and punishment now came from this group, which was at least as tough as any nun. The social traditions of the School continued, with first-year

parties, second-year parties, 100-days-to-go parties, pizza parties, coffee parties, Junior and Senior Banquets, and hootenannies.

In 1969, the sixth floor was opened for rental to college students; later, the interns had rooms in the residence. Nursing students objected to a double standard for the interns and, after much discussion, men friends were allowed in the girls' rooms, and liquor could be consumed by of-age students. More raised eyebrows in Alumnae!

In order to compete for students, rules at Holy Cross were relaxed even more. Holidays became first four weeks, then eight, then twelve. Marriage was permitted at any time (most waited for third year). Students could live out (few did). However, enrollment continued to decline and it was decided to close the School with the graduation of the 1979 class.

By 1970, the faculty no longer supervised the students' health. Students reported illnesses to the hospital health nurse and were responsible for their own general health.

The stipend was discontinued in 1970 and students bought their own texts and uniforms, and paid \$125 tuition. Due to hospital budget cuts, they no longer received free board and were expected to pay for their food in the cafeteria. Pay for carrot and raisin salad!!!

A tradition was broken in 1978 when the Holy Cross admitted its first male student. This called for a few adjustments in the residence rules. A second male student graduated with the last class in 1979.

Although the final classes came and went with little fanfare from the hospital, they too graduated with enough happy memories of residence life to last a lifetime.



Hallowe'en Party, 1959, Class of 1961.



Birthday Girl — M. Vandervalk, 1962.



Formal, 1957.



M. McGrath, C. Colton (1960) go Hallowe'ening — class 1963.



6-month party, 1970, class of 1972.



Hallowe'en, 1979.

We Remember — The Residence

The uniform of 1922 consisted of — a bib, an apron containing two yards of material, a long-sleeved white dress, a clerical collar and a slip, which was a “must”.

One day, Sister Tougas lifted the hem of a student's dress and discovered she wasn't wearing a slip. The student was sent back to residence to put one on. Thinking that Sister would never think to check her again, she returned to the ward, still without her petticoat. She was checked, reprimanded and sent back to complete her uniform. Upon her return, she was wearing the slip, but still defying Sister. When she put the slip on, she had removed her panties! (1922)

* * * *

Many times when buns were served for breakfast, a few would be left and we would put them in our saucer and cover them with our cup. This was soon discovered and we were told, “The Lord always provides for the next meal.” (1924)

* * * *

The first breakfast, I was sent back to wash off my make-up. When I got back to the dining room, I soon lost my appetite. We were served baked beans and an apple. (1931)

* * * *

Sonny Fry played at all our dances. (1939)

* * * *

It was a day to remember when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth came to town in May 1939. A number of Holy Cross students, in uniform, were placed along the parade route, to render any necessary first aid. (1940)

* * * *

We were promised we could go home on our first Christmas in training, then at the last minute, told we couldn't. A bunch of us consoled ourselves at the Top Hat, then burst into tears when the juke box played, “I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas.” (1947)

* * * *

The Racquet dance after the tennis tournament was the first ever held out of residence. (1939)

When you picked up your collars, belts and caps from the Chinese laundries, you were known by your hospital number, not your name. (1940)

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Slacks were a no-no, even in the residence. (1940)

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Rusty, who owned the store on the corner, was so kind to broke and depressed students. (1940)

* * * *

On pay day, we hurried downtown to the fish and chip shop for a 5¢ or 10¢ bag of chips. That was our wild late leave! (1940)

* * * *

On Christmas Eve, the beauty of the chapel at Midnight Mass was enhanced with the red of poinsettias. Even Protestants attended — no doubt influenced by the hot chocolate and doughnuts served after mass, and by the 2:00 a.m. bedtime. (1940)

* * * *

We could have a sleep-out over Christmas or New Year's. Two out-of-province students had nowhere to go on New Year's Eve, but weren't about to waste that sleep-out. They rented a hotel room for \$2 each but, since it was against the rules, they were afraid to go out of their room, and spent the “festive holiday” in the confines of the Wales Hotel. (1940)

* * * *

How could you tell an off-duty Holy Cross nurse? By her smell! In 1940, there were no showers in residence and only one bathtub per corridor. The smell of chloroform penetrated the pores of our skin and, when on “civie street”, the smell was definitely noticeable. (1940)

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During the War, we turned in our ration books and had butter only on meatless days — Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. (1947)

* * * *

Our housemother only knew how to treat diarrhea and menstrual cramps and we had to fit our ailments into those categories if we wanted help. (1947)

Monthly weigh-ins were a sign of the merits of a high-starch diet. (1948)

* * * *

How we enjoyed the old swimming hole in the Elbow, and the Tarzan swing. (1950)

* * * *

How about the Glacier skating rink? Or the Model Dairy with its mammoth cones? The Top Hat? The Tivoli? (1951)

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We had an annual outing to Lindsay's Castle where we cooked weiners, and a classmate smoked her annual cigar. (1951)

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It was against the rules to leave the residence while wearing slacks. (1951)

* * * *

Our linen was changed every three weeks and then you rotated your top sheet down to the bottom and changed only the top. (1952)

* * * *

When one of the probies fell down the steep, narrow steps in St. Gertrude's, her head went through the wall. Mrs. Swingle's initial reaction? "Look what you've done to the wall!" (1953)

* * * *

We hitchhiked home when there was no money for a Greyhound . . . It was strictly forbidden, of course. (1953)

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Operating rooms were designed so doctors would have a pleasant view from their lounge. Students were soon barred from sunbathing behind the residence when it was discovered that the view was much too pleasant. (1953)

* * * *

Father Malo sang "Louise", and later, Father Connolly could make even the residence piano come to life. (1953)

* * * *

How you moaned over the "change list" when you found that you were going from five week's night duty on St. John's to seven-to-seven on Youville. That's when you needed a friend. (1954)

* * * *

We blossomed on our off-duty diet of chocolate milk, toast and peanut butter. (1954)

During Interhospital Week, a Holy student took a wrong turn in the relay race, and left her teammates stranded at three block intervals, along 9th Avenue from the Cecil Hotel to the Palliser. (1954)

* * * *

Our float took a first-place ribbon in the Stampede Parade. (1955)

* * * *

We enjoyed Rock 'n'Roll roller skating at the Corral. (1956)

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The *Avenue Ballroom* was off-limits, so we told the stag line we were from the General. (1956)

* * * *

Famous last words: "I have to be in by 10:30!" (1956)

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We scrubbed the bathrooms sparkling clean in the new residence because we didn't live up to Sister Leclerc's expectations of Seniors. They were never so clean again! (1958)

* * * *

A Mae Britt statue was parked against the light standard outside the residence, courtesy of the SAIT boys. She was never seen again. (1960)

* * * *

The only kind of jam we ever saw was red — apple and strawberry. (1962)

* * * *

Birthday girls got the tub — clothes and all. (1962)

* * * *

We won the S.N.A.A.'s Southern Alberta Talent Show with our "Can-Can". (1964)

* * * *

We lost our intermediate pins the day after we got them because of the infamous water fight between 5th and 6th floors. (1964)

* * * *

At the first dance in residence, the Twist and the Beatles were the rage. (1967)

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Margaret Blake was one of two students chosen to represent Calgary at a display in *Man and His Health*, a pavilion at Expo '67, in Montreal. (1967)

A senior, Lynda Stewart, was presented with a commemorative bracelet at a special meeting of the medical staff. She was credited with saving a man's life at the scene of a Calgary traffic accident. (1969)

* * * *

On finishing day, we not only burned our blazers, but diapered the "*Brotherhood of Mankind*" statues in front of the Board of Education Building. (1970)

* * * *

When you turned 21, your room was turned upside-down by residence "friends". There was honey on every handle, and scotch tape over the faucet guaranteed you'd have a surprise shower. (1970)

* * * *

Don Luzzi, a Calgary Stampeder player, sent a black carnation to the coach of our football team after we lost two years in a row to the General. (1974)

To raise Grad funds, we acted as hostesses at the opening of Bow Valley Square Two. (1977)

* * * *

Meals were no longer free in the hospital cafeteria, so we existed on Kraft Dinner and take-out food. (1977)

* * * *

We found solace for all problems at the Gasthaus. (1979)

* * * *

On February 6, 1970, Pat Murphy was named the first Miss Hope of Alberta, in a contest sponsored by the Cancer Society. In 1976, Wendy Cairns was selected for the honor, and Heather Becker was Miss Hope in the final year of the competition. (1970s)

* * * *

Who can forget the excitement generated by a new diamond in the residence? (1907-1979)



Sleeping on the sun porch in Waterloo, circa 1939.



D. Timmins was the horse's neck, N. Smith wasn't — Halloween. Circa 1948.

Housemothers



Miss Goudy.



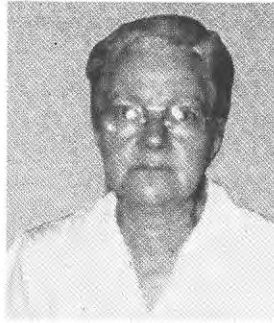
Miss Sandeman.



Mrs. House.



Mrs. Brady.



Mrs. Brown.

Sister Alexina Houle
Miss Gaudy (or Goudy)
Miss Gory (or Gorrie)
Miss Sandeman
Miss Murphy
Mrs. House
Mrs. Hall
Mrs. Swingle
Mrs. Crowdes
Mrs. Brady
Mrs. Brown
Mrs. Michaels
Mrs. Schriefels
Miss Mayes
Mrs. Foley
Miss Stileman, Residence Director



Mrs. Swingle.



Mrs. Michaels.



Mrs. Schriefels.



Miss Mayes.



Mrs. Foley.



Miss Stileman.

Bequeathal

This rather bedraggled Little Deer is typical of the tattered gifts bequeathed to the intermediates by the graduating seniors, a practice that began in the 1940s. Little Deer was first bequeathed in 1958, with each senior adding a note of encouragement to her intermediate. The note written by Doug Tedrick, lone male student of the final graduating class, had joined the twenty others pinned to Little Deer's tail when this relic found its way into the Alumnae Archives.

His note read: "Goodbye, Little Deer", As I am of the last-class-ever for this residence and school, I have no one behind me who needs you for luck and strength. As I look at your face, I wonder what those

red, soulful eyes of yours have seen over the last twenty-one years: tears of fear and sorrow; laughter of joy and achievement; grimaces of anger and frustration; smiles of happiness and strength.

"Little Deer, I'm sure you have seen it all, from late boyfriends to tough exams, from tough instructors to uncooperative patients.

"I will miss you, Little Deer, you and this school; but mostly, I will miss the friendship that went with this place. But we must grow and expand; I only hope that I can keep at least some of the friends that I have made here.

"Goodbye, Little Deer, and thank you,
Douglas Tedrick, 1979"



Little Deer

From Starch to Polyester

In 1860, Florence Nightingale's nurses were vastly different from the slovenly ones who staffed the ordinary hospitals. Her women wore a uniform — brown dress, snowy cap and apron. According to one observer, "They looked like bits of extra light as they moved cheerfully and noiselessly from bed to bed."

A new uniform designed by Miss Nightingale arrived in North America in 1889. This consisted of a grey and white striped cotton dress, white apron with a square bib, black stockings and black high-topped shoes. A lovely fluted lace cap, awarded at the end of the probationary period, crowned the angel of mercy.

The Holy Cross was one of more than a thousand training schools in North America when it admitted its first students in 1907. Their original uniforms were similar to those designed by Florence Nightingale, and not unlike the habits of the Sisters who directed the School.

Students applying for admission in the first class were issued patterns for the uniforms they would wear after they got their caps. In the meantime, they would wear blue striped dresses issued by the hospital.

Later classes supplied their own uniforms from the beginning. These were comprised of long-sleeved blouses and skirts made from white cotton sheeting ordered from the Eaton's catalogue. The voluminous skirts covered a lace-trimmed petticoat, garter belt or girdle, white lisle stockings and the tops of high black boots. These layers were then topped by a broad, heavily starched bib and full apron. High, rounded collars, like clerics wore, cuffs of celluloid, and three-inch starched belts completed the ensemble.

Each student also sported a dark brown mark around her neck, courtesy of the constant rubbing of the high collars, which were kept stiff by the Chinese laundry on Second Street.



Glenbow Archives

Grad and Undergrad, circa 1918.

After a three-month probationary period, the student nurse's first achievements were rewarded with bestowal of a small white cap without a crown, worn high on the head. This was the final addition to the uniform until a plain gold cross pin was awarded at graduation.

Caps were presented without fanfare and, as late as 1925, student probationers went to bed capless and woke in the morning to find the hard-earned caps on their night tables. If there was no cap to be found, the girl quietly packed her bags and went home.

In the earliest days, girls received their caps complete with black bands. Students in 1915, convinced that their caps looked just like the stovepipe worn by a popular comic strip character, named their caps "Happy Hooligans" after the clown. They were changed soon after, and black bands were removed. Holy grads wore plain white caps until 1924, when the custom was revived.



Nurses 1929 — note variety of shoes.



Glenbow Archives

Uniforms, circa 1917.



Operating Room, 1929, with Sr. Mansfield.

In the School's first decade of operation, a small, rounded crown was added to the "stovepipe" and white shoes were an optional part of the uniform. All students wore their long hair "up", and were forbidden to cut it.

During the roaring twenties, Holy students weren't exactly allowed to roar — but their hems were raised to eight inches from the floor. Shoes, either black or white, with Mary Jane straps could be worn on duty, and caps were now slightly winged.

Long hair was still de rigueur. A student entering with short hair was required to wear a switch and net until her own hair grew, and then it was not to be cut during her three-year training period. Students who went on a hair cutting spree in 1926 were severely disciplined and allowed to remain only if they promised to let their tresses grow again. It was a bitter defeat for girls living in the days of flappers and bobbed hair.

One method of discipline, used through the years, was to confiscate a student's cap if she made a silly mistake; major mistakes weren't tolerated. As the cap was symbolic of maturity and professionalism, students found this a particularly degrading and embarrassing punishment.

In 1922, for the first time, red and gold Semper Fidelis pins were presented at half-time. Six months later, seniors received black velvet ribbons to put on their caps. The class of 1923 was the first to order School rings — an oval gold face with H + H on it. The next class chose black onyx with gold letters.

Enter the thirties. The cap now had a square crown and wings folded close to the head. High collars were replaced by v-necks, and skirts finally moved up, to fourteen inches from the floor. White



C. Young, 1930, — note black shoes.

shoes were now mandatory and, for the first time, uniforms were issued by the hospital. Each day, when students gathered for morning prayers, they were inspected to be sure they were wearing full uniform. This included a watch, scissors, hypo set and thermometer.

The School pin was changed without warning in 1935 and dismayed graduates received a new, smaller gold cross encircled by the words Holy Cross School of Nursing. In 1937, a change in policy allowed students to cut their hair. Many made a beeline for the nearest barber shop and returned fashionably shorn. A smaller version of the cap still worn by 1979 grads perched on the stylish new haircuts, its wider wings adding to the perky effect.

The advent of WWII brought a shortage of cotton fabric, so bulky bibs and aprons were discarded in favor of a fitted, long-sleeved, button-down-the-front dress. The uniform ended at mid-calf and had a pointed collar, narrow belt and two pockets. A scarcity of stockings prompted enterprising students to mend holes in their heels with adhesive tape. In an emergency, the versatile tape could also be used to hold those same stockings up.

In the mid-forties, attractive navy melton capes lined with scarlet and emblazoned with gold H+H on the collars were purchased by incoming students. These covered the uniform for public appearances. However, rules stated that uniforms were not to be worn on the street, except when the student body was representing the School at an official ceremony, so the capes got little use until after their owners had graduated.



D. Gammon, 1929.



G. Gow, V. Praeker, M. Geelan, Probies 1939.



Summerhouse in the winter. (L. to R.) M. McLeod, J. Brown, C. Dobesh, J. Lawrence, circa 1938.



Bibs and Aprons — graduation 1941. C. Bishop, F. Tennant, M. Manning.



Capes, 1946. (L. to R.) S. Sproule, J. Cloarec, M. McCormack.



St. Joseph and L. Phillips, 1946.



Class of 1948 — Juniors.

In 1947, at the Fortieth Anniversary Celebration of the School, the first capping ceremony, under the direction of Sister Lapierre, was held. During the ceremony, each student lit a candle from a single large one and recited the Florence Nightingale Pledge.

Women were still expected to cover their heads while in chapel in the 1950s, and Catholic probies were issued with white "beanies" to wear until their caps were earned. The capping ceremony now moved into the chapel, with a processional march, chaplain's address and recitation of the Nightingale Pledge. Uniforms were short-sleeved with Peter Pan collars; students had name pins, and rank could readily be determined by checking for an intermediate or senior pin. Each class designed its own unique intermediate pin from 1940 to 1955.

The classes of 1952 were the first to go back into a bib and apron, which were worn over a blue and white striped, short-sleeved dress. Once again, mornings became a battle with starched collars, belts, buttons and pins. Small gold crosses held the starched, winged cap together, and Semper Fidelis cufflinks were worn in the cuffs of grad uniforms.

The 1956 class was proud to wear the navy blazer, white blouse and grey skirt that were its "civies". The neatly groomed students of the late '50s and '60s looked impressively collegiate in class.

The senior Semper Fidelis pin was mounted on a bar for the 1958 class, and the original, plain gold cross grad pin was re-introduced. The School was highly regarded in this era and, in 1964, seventy-six students, largest class ever, celebrated graduation.



Candlelighting and Capping, 1954. (L. to R.) M. Corns, M. Snider.

In the '60s, the last capping ceremony took place. Short-sleeved nylon uniforms were issued to replace the bib and apron and in 1969 the probation period was eliminated. Caps were simply handed out on admission to the School. Finishing students had a bonfire in the residence barbecue pit and burned their blazers and skirts. And they'd been so popular just fifteen years before!

The one-piece, white nylon uniform was standard and caps were removed from the dress code in 1977. Pant suits were added and classroom attire included denim.

In the final days of the School, uniform policy was left to the discretion of the individual. Only hair, which had to be neatly groomed and two inches above the collar at the back of the neck, was regulated.

The Holy Cross School of Nursing ended with its final graduation in May 1979. The sixteen young women graduated in long-sleeved, polyester dresses, and caps with black bands. The male graduate wore a white, short-sleeved suit. All received the coveted gold cross pin symbolic of the three enriching years they had spent at Holy Cross.



Change of Uniforms. (L. to R.) Mrs. G. Radjo, P. Murphy — 1967 Uniform.



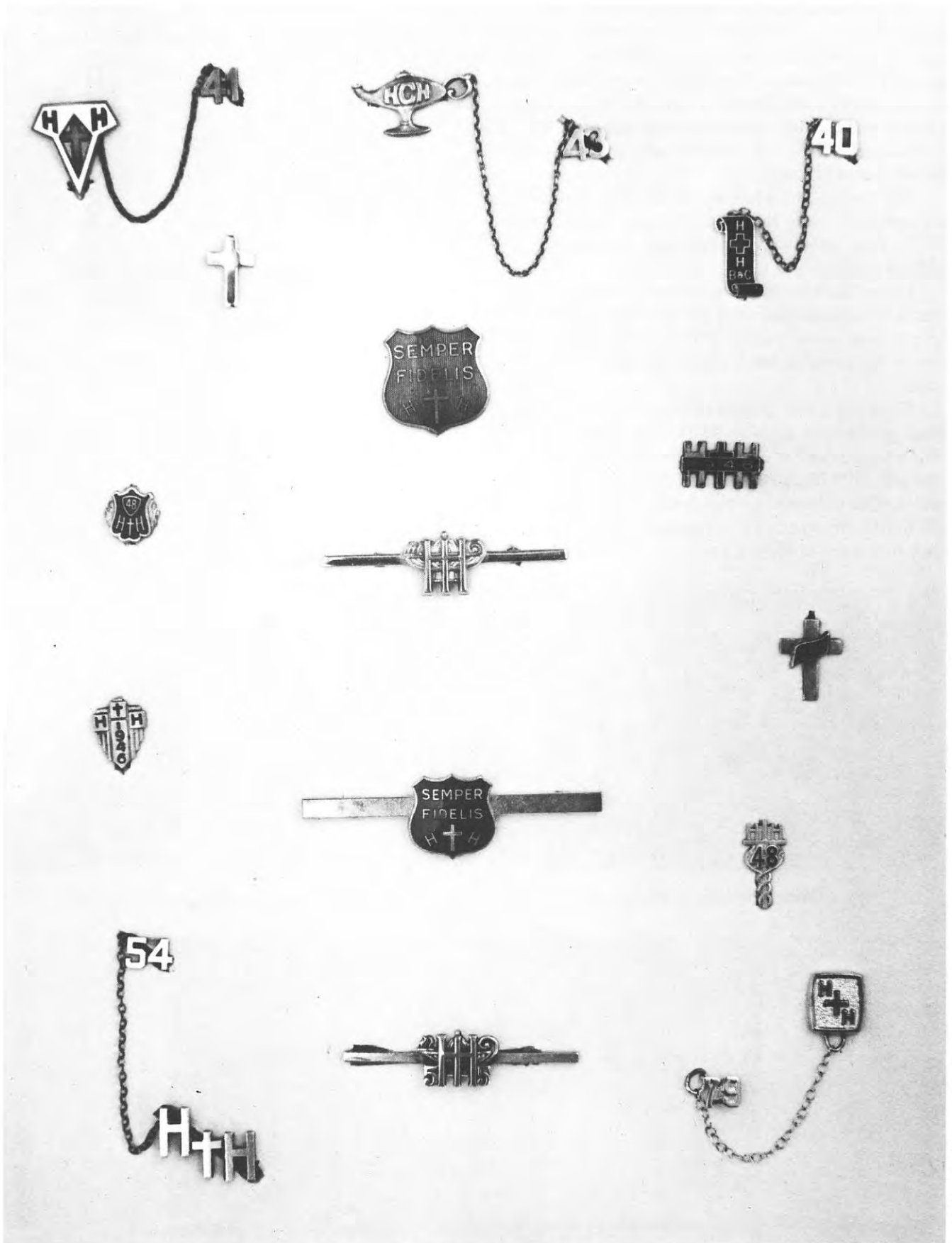
Classroom Uniform, 1963.



Pant Suits — M. Keenan, 1979.



Short Uniforms in Vogue, 1972.



Intermediate Pins surround: small gold cross cap pin; Semper Fidelis half time and senior pin; intermediate bar, standardized in 1956; senior pin 1957-1979.



Display of uniforms through the years. Models (L. to R.) — F. Parslow (Tennant 1941), J. Roberts (Forest 1924), E. Stephenson (Weirtz 1927), F. Rowe (1940), M. Curr (Tidsbury 1928), T. Brown (Wannop 1938), L. Loughheed (Thorne 1934), T. Fisher (Eirikson 1949).

Student Nurse

Who once was thin
And neatly trim
And shapely fore and aft,
Is shapely now
As is a cow
And better should be halved.
Whose once firm skin
Was girdled in
A girdle, worn with ease,
Now she can't shove
The thing above
Her soft and flabby knees.
And when her weight
Was one-oh-eight
She was a sight to see,
Now like a whale
She mounts the scale
The dial reads three-oh-three.

The students' paper, December 1954

The Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt have nylons with runs, or no nylons at all.
2. Thou shalt have large piles of dandruff on blazer.
3. Thou shalt have long stringy hairs down to what used to be your waist.
4. Thou shalt not stand up when instructresses enter.
5. Thou shalt leave all rooms and windows open while out.
6. Thou shalt smoke in your room.
7. Thou shalt "park" in the parking lot.
8. Thou shalt not get caught sneaking in or out of residence.
9. Thou shalt not keep more than one man at a time in your closet.
10. Thou shalt have regular and planned water fights after 10:30 p.m.

Class of '65

The Holy Cross Nurse

A uniform clean, a thick underskirt;
One acre of smiles, one-tenth grain of flirt;
One bushel of heart, one mile of tact;
A brain that can grasp each medical fact;
Five feet of poise, not a cent in her purse . . .
This, folks, is a typical Holy Cross Nurse!

Probie Song (1953)

Put on de hot plate, put on de pan
Probie's gonna make a little toast and jam
Dat ain't all they're going to do
Probie's going to make a little coffee too.
Opened up the 'frigerator, looked in the door,
Of the chocolate milk, there was no more
Dat ain't all dat wasn't there
The darn ol' jam it weren't nowhere.

Chorus:

Swingle's little Probies love eating, eating
Swingle's little Probies love eating, too.

Went to the kitchen, lit up a fag
Probies' going to have a little social drag
That ain't all they're going to do
Probies' going to do a little talking, too.

Chorus:

Swingle's little probies love talking, talking
Swingle's little probies love talking, too.

Ten o'clock come, the lights grow dim,
Probies know it's time to turn in,
Hear the door shut see, Swingle go —
Up jumped the Probies and down below.

We heard the stairs creak and a mouse ran by,
All the little Probies were scared, Oh my.
Back to bed to try to sleep
But they were afraid the mouse might squeak.

Chorus:

Swingle's little Probies love sleeping, sleeping.
Swingle's little Probies love sleeping, too.

Class of '53

Tune: *Shortnin' Bread*

Capping Song

Up in the morning, out on the job
Work like a devil for my pay
While that lucky old Grad has nothing to do
But sit and drink coffee all day.

Good Lord above can't you see I'm pining
Corns all over my toes?
Send down those shoes with the cushioned lining
And I'll forget my woes.

Show me graduation, give me my pin
And I'll be on my way.
Like that lucky old Grad, I'll have nothing to do
But sit and drink coffee all day.

Class of '64 Tune: *Lucky Old Sun*

School Song (1918-1954)

With clasp of hand and friendly greeting
O come and join our festive song.
This joyous hour, come haste 'tis fleeting,
Will in our memory linger long.

What tho' in life our path divided,
We wander far from this loved home
We all in heart and mind united,
Will hold thy honor as our own.

We pledge anew our fond devotion,
We pledge our loyalty sincere,
We will be true to thee our mother
Holy Cross to us all so dear.

Chorus:

Oh Holy Cross, Oh Holy Cross
Our Alma Mater dear,
We will be true to thee our mother
Holy Cross to us all so dear.

School Song (1954-1979)

Oh Holy Cross we owe to thee
Our future and our praise
Of high ideals and charity
This day our voice we raise.

Oh Holy Cross to thee we give,
Our future promise true
To love, respect, uphold and guard
The name we leave to you.

The day will come when each of us
Will bid our last adieu
In joy we feel these will reveal
The hint of sorrow too.

The happy hours we share with friends
The priceless times we know
Are treasures dear, Oh Holy Cross
That we all owe to you.

Tune America. Words by Monica Bruder
and Marian Jorgensen, class of 1954.
(They were awarded one extra late leave
for their efforts)

The Stipend

The Nuns looked on it as an allowance; students considered it pay; patients called it a "crime". Although much-maligned, the stipend, an antiquated tradition of nurses' training, survived for most of the years that the School was in operation.

In her speech to a 1917 convention, Sister Weekes, Director of the School, said of this allowance, "In most hospitals the student nurse receives from five to seven dollars per month during the first and second years and ten dollars per month during the third year. This would seem a small but fair allowance to help defray her expenses, such as the buying of books, uniforms and replacing of all articles broken or destroyed, belonging to the hospital."

Sometimes it seemed that the allowance was given only so it could be reclaimed in the name of discipline. In the late '40s, one girl received her envelope marked, "You owe us 16¢."

When movies were 10¢, \$10 was a fair stipend. In the fifties, it was laughable. In the sixties, it was an insult. Throughout the years, students received few raises. In 1923, they were given \$4 the first year, then \$6 and \$8 per month. The stipend in 1925 was \$8 for juniors, \$10 for intermediates and \$12 for seniors. During the Depression, the girls received no al-

lowance the first year, and \$5 monthly thereafter. In the '40s, pay was \$7.50 per month throughout. Probies in the '50s received no allowance, but they weren't charged for breakages; once they had their caps, students were given \$7.50, \$10 and \$12. By 1955, seniors' allowances were increased to \$15 and, in 1964, girls received \$10, \$12 and \$15.

The practice of paying stipends was discontinued in 1970, in hopes that it would help to dispel the students' "Cinderella" image. "Poor little me" had no place in the education of a modern-day nurse.

MISS L. PHILLIPS		
OCTOBER ALLOWANCE		\$2.85
Mer.	.20	
Brk.	.35	
S.F.	.10	
Nts.(Obs.)	.25	
Book	3.50	
Stamp	.25	
		<u>4.65</u>
		7.50

Pay envelope 1945.



Capping, 1955.

Bed Pans and Fallen Arches



In the O.R., circa 1916.



O.R., 1926.

All the hours in the classroom mean little until the day the nurse arrives on her first ward, the place where knowledge, skill, stamina, common sense and sense of humor are all put to the test. Weeks of theory, years of dreaming become reality on the day she meets her first live patient.

Sometimes, unfortunately, reality is not as romantic as the dreams, and most graduates admit that they would have quit training a dozen times, if it hadn't been for the warmth and support of fellow students to help them over the bad patches.

The hospital is a tough proving ground even today, but when the Nursing School opened in 1907 the six inexperienced students spent their first day at the hospital caring for patients. They were nurses before they knew what a nurse was. They learned as they went, from Sisters on the wards, from Sister Marie du St. Sacrement, their classroom instructress, and from the doctors.

The Holy had several excellent doctors at that time, and Alma Maguire (Martin 1910) remembers Dr. McEachern as being one of the best. "He performed the longest operation I saw when I was in training," she recalls, "five hours to remove tubercular glands from the jugular."

Scrubbing in the O.R. was Alma's "long suit" so she was allowed to spend much of her time in training in that specialty "I loved it," she says. "It was the one time that people weren't suffering."



Classroom, circa 1935.



Sunday in the O.R. — B. Ellis, 1937, watching the autoclave.

She is less enthusiastic about the time she spent on men's medical, where she nursed several prominent Calgarians through their D.T.s. She sniffs, "That wasn't my idea of nursing. I liked women patients better."

Emergency cases weren't much different from today's, though the treatment has changed. "Our Dressing Room was always open, and one day, an eight-year-old boy arrived on horseback with a piece of string around his arm for a tourniquet. He'd lost the end off his finger and had brought the piece in to be sewn back on. It worked too!"

She admits that nurses didn't know as much then as they do now, but points out, "Things were different then. There were no drugs, and pneumonia cases were nursed by bathing them all the time to keep their temperatures down."

When her class graduated in 1910, the year that Florence Nightingale died, nursing as a profession was less than forty years old.

The students of 1914 composed the following song "while we should have been stretching gauze". It gives a little insight into the lot of the students during WWI.



The Nursery — A. Pask, 1944.

The Song of the Nurses

We're the nurses of the Holy Cross
A merry band are we.
Rising in the morning
When the bell says, "Hear you me".
Working through the livelong day
From morning until tea
While we are nurses in training.

Chorus:

Hurrah! Hurrah! We must wear a pleasant look.
Hurrah! Hurrah! Never read a story book.
We learn to sweep and dust and sew
We're going to learn to cook
While we are nurses in training.

We enter for a three year course,
We know we'll like it so —
Before we serve our first three months,
We're not so sure, you know.
An hour at class in each forenoon
But come not late, Oh No
While we are nurses in training.

We got our cap and we're so proud,
For we are Juniors now.
But as the months go slowly on
We lose our pride somehow
You see, we make a few mistakes,
We're scolded often now,
While we are nurses in training.

Our rules they are just twenty-two,
They're very hard to keep,
And we are always breaking them
Except when we're asleep.
We're sometimes naughty, we admit,
But our faults are not deep
While we are nurses in training.

We spend some time in special too
And also some on Gauze
Then comes the Operating Room
Where we fly around because
The doctors walk right over us
As if we're only straws
While we are nurses in training.

The Sisters give us a grand fete
To help to make us gay
And in the distance we can see
Our graduating day
We love the place in spite of all
That we may sometimes say
While we are nurses in training.

Tune: "Marching Through Georgia"

Olive Zimmerman (1916) recorded her impressions of her first days at the hospital:

"On August 1, 1913, a luncheon was being given at the hospital in honor of the Bishop of Calgary. Sister Weekes, Director of the School of Nursing, was helping with the luncheon and had no time for me. As a result, my first three days were spent on St. Mary's Ward in the semi-private on your right, beside a very sick patient who had been moved over from d'Youville, suffering from a brain abscess. Her doctor was J. S. McEachern. She passed away on my third morning. Can any one of our nurses boast of a more nerve racking experience for her first three days in training?

"But Sister Buckert came in and put her arm around me and said she was sorry and it softened the blow a little . . .

"So I received my first lesson, a nurse's duty in the presence of death."

In addition to their nursing duties, students were expected to wash windows and clean the patients' rooms, but the nuns also turned their hands to any chore, no matter how menial. At one time, scrubbing the entryway on her hands and knees was the responsibility of Sister Superior, Sister Carroll.

Florence Fitzpatrick (Hill 1918) went on wards as soon as she arrived at the hospital. "I even gave a hypo with no practise," she marvels now. "Codeine and morphine were our only medicines and we used rubbing and heat for arthritis and bathing was our treatment for pneumonia and typhoid."

Few changes were made in nurses' training during the '20s and '30s. Nursing remained an "instant vocation", according to Dorothy Jackson (Gammon 1929):

"When we reported at the hospital, we went on duty the following morning with no preparation, and were assigned to various wards and placed with a nurse senior to us. We were immediately at work.

"I well remember being sent to St. Anne's, a male medical and surgical ward. I was put under the supervision of a classmate who had been there three months, in the ten bed solarium at the east end of the ward. She told me to bath a man at one end of the ward and I asked, "How do I do that?" I was given a basin of water and told how to proceed and how far to bath, etc., and was left on my own. Luckily, he was suffering from an electrical shock and not really aware of his surroundings. By the end of my first day, I too was in a state of shock. Most of the patients in the ward were senile, up wandering around in their little short shirts, incontinent, etc. A rude awakening for a shy girl just out of school.

"As the days progressed, we learned quickly. We were soon given classes in practical nursing and many procedures, and were also indoctrinated with all sorts of rules and regulations.

"I was given my cap after two months and was assigned a probationer to assist me with a four-bed ward and a semi-private. In the semi-private, I had a gall bladder patient. Following surgery, he had been in bed for three weeks, and now was ready to be getting up. He had his feet hanging over the side of the bed when I took over, and I helped him to the chair. All went well until I went to put him back to bed and he suffered an embolism and died. I almost died as well. I didn't even know what an embolism was and thought I had done something wrong. I almost went home that night.

"My next assignment was night duty on the Children's Ward which was in the southeast wing of the hospital, on the third floor. It was the spookiest place, with sky lights and dormer windows which rattled and squeaked. We were completely shut off from the rest of the hospital as the entrance door to the ward was kept shut. I was alone there most of the time with fifteen or twenty patients from infants to young teens. At that time, there was a strangler supposedly



Diet Kitchen Class, circa 1956, M. Morrison and M. Johnson.



P. Scott, 1979 — Dressing Tray.



Dressing Room, circa 1953. (L. to R.) L. Ushida (1956), O. Keller (1954), M. Holden (1955), F. Quaife (1941).

loose in the city and any unusual noise was scary. I was afraid he might come up the fire escape . . . When the new wing was opened in 1929, the Children's Ward was moved there and the old ward became the Sisters' quarters. I often wondered if they found it as spooky as I had."

Reminiscences of Thelma Brown (Wannop 1938) show that training was not so very different nine years later:

"We did twelve-hour shifts and during the year, we worked two five-week shifts on nights, without a night off. We would often be wakened during the day for a class from noon to one, and another from three to four. Sometimes there was a doctor's lecture in the evening as well. Many times we were called back to the floor at 9:30 or 10:00 a.m. to reprint a chart for a critically ill patient. We sure did a lot of charts.

"In our training, we looked after the patient's room and kept it spotlessly clean; flowers were put in the hallway at night, filled with water and returned to the room in the morning. (It was believed that flowers robbed the air of oxygen at night.)

"We were responsible for patients' preps before surgery and for compresses and fomentations. You would put compresses into the sterilizer to heat and come back to find them gone. Some crafty nurse had taken yours and left her own cold ones.

"In the days before penicillin, we nursed pneumonia patients with the windows wide open — even in winter. We had "fun" making mustard plasters and saving them to reheat several times before scraping the goop into the garbage and sending the cloth down to be laundered.

"Probies worked under senior nurses for some months, though we spent most of our time feeding patients, cleaning cupboards, dusting and washing windows. We weren't allowed to give medications or injections until we had earned our caps. In class, we gave one injection to a classmate and, after practising on an orange, graduated to giving the poor patients their needles.

"We carried our syringes and needles in our pockets. When we needed to give a hypo, we boiled our needle in a spoon over an alcohol lamp. Only very ill patients received an intravenous and then it was a cut-down which sometimes seemed like major surgery.

"In 1937, our instructress, Miss Blake, set up the first Wanganstein suction, on a patient in Youville. This complicated piece of equipment was soon popular with the doctors, if not with the nurses."

Christine Dobesh, another 1938 grad, recalls her first patient:

"My first morning was on St. Ann's floor with Sister Noullet. We were carrying breakfast trays when one of the students slipped and tray and all went before her down the hall. The private room trays were special, with china and sterling silver. The most expensive room was \$5 a day; the nine-bed ward was \$2.75.

"That morning, Sister looked at me with a smile and said, 'You may feed Mrs. Jones.'

"I found her out on the porch where she lay as stiff as a board with her arms folded over her chest. All she could do was to move her head and let it be known what she needed. No matter how hard I tried, I just couldn't get the food into her mouth to please her. I learned later that if you were in a hurry to go to class, she ate all the food on the tray and then asked for more tea and cookies. If you had time, she would say, 'I'm not hungry, I'll have tea and a cookie.'"



Diet Kitchen, circa 1962. (L. to R.) P. Gordis (1964), J. Curtis (1963), R. Rackow (1963), A. Lesnik (1964).

Kay Hinckley (Bishop 1941) still remembers her earliest days on wards:

"All new patients had their temps taken q4h (every four hours) until they were normal for three days, so setting up the temp trays was a never-ending job. Thermometer wipes were cut from toilet tissue and the senior nurse was responsible for changing the bichloride of mercury solution used to sterilize the thermometers. The nurse assigned to take temps charted them promptly, then counted thermometers and signed a slip co-signed by the head nurse. Break-ages were charged to the nurse responsible.

"All routine meal trays were served from the ward kitchen; special diets came on trays from the Diet Kitchen. Dishes were placed in the warming oven for fifteen minutes before meals were served from the huge pots sent up from the main kitchen.



Cooling off in the O.R., circa 1940.

"When I got my cap, I was assigned two male patients, an older gentleman with a back injury and pneumonia and a younger one booked for a 10:00 a.m. tonsillectomy. As I hurried to the pharmacy for his pre-op sedation, I took note of the linen I would need for the beds — an extra draw sheet and rubber sheet for the anaesthetic bed, a pneumonia jacket and O.R. socks for the T & A.

"I returned to the room, bathed the pre-op patient and dressed him in his O.R. finery. I gave him his sedation, put his partial plate in a cup, and removed his signet ring.

"Before long, he was quite slaphappy and ready to ride to the O.R. in a wheelchair. I had hardly gotten his anaesthetic bed made when I was called to the O.R. where I was given a tongue-lashing because he had gone to surgery with his partial plate in. In his euphoric state, he'd put his plate in again — and put me in hot water with the Superintendent of Nurses.

"In the midst of my troubles, I had to care for my patient in the Balkan Frame as well — bed bath, mustard plaster, meals. Of course, no orderly was available when I needed him, so I warmed the bed pan and urinal and assisted my patient to use them.



Testing Gloves, D. Murray, 1943, M. Powers — circa 1942.

Eager to help me when no orderly appeared to take him off the pan, he turned onto his side and the ugly brown mess spread over his clean drawsheet.

"I kept for lunch and as I was dashing around with trays and feeds, one of the surgeons arrived to make rounds. I was nabbed to help him with a dressing. All was going fairly well when the patient cried out in pain as the doctor removed a clamp. The world began to whirl and I keeled over the foot of the bed.

"Sister gave me a glass of juice to revive me and, forgoing lunch, I slipped over to the residence. Just time to change my bib and comb my hair before class.

"I returned to ward at three to find that the seniors had done up my patients, bless their hearts. The head nurse asked if I would like to assemble and sign off a chart for a discharged patient. He'd been in the hospital for six months with osteo of the tibia and it was an hour's job to check, date and fill in case numbers on both sides of the hundreds of pages, and then to assemble them in the correct order. I had just returned to the ward from delivering the chart to the Record Office when the phone rang and I was called back to correct a minor error.

"By this time, I was ready to pack my bags. Was I really cut out to be a nurse?

"When I got back to my room in the residence that night, it was to find both my roommates in tears. They too had had miserable first days. One had thrown out a diabetic specimen — a crime that meant an automatic loss of her half-day off. The other had opened the bed pan sterilizer before it had finished flushing. Need I say more?

"Luckily, the two-and-a-half years that followed held better days for us all. I graduated, married that first tonsillectomy patient and continued to work in the nursing field for over twenty years."

Night duty in the '40s was a challenge too, according to Marje Jaques (Hutton 1948), another grad with a good memory:

"We reported on duty at seven p.m. and were given night report by the head nurse or Sister. At eight, one of us rang the visitor's bell and called out,



P. Van de Wark (Ellis 1939).

"Visiting hours are over." As visitors left, we placed the patients' flowers in the corridor.

"Alcohol back rubs and talcum powder dusting were next. Drawsheets were straightened and pillows fluffed. Fresh water at bedside — bed pans — radios off at ten — meds given — steam kettles filled — oxygen tanks checked and empties lumbered down to the ground floor for replacement.

"Time for charting, which was done in red ink with a straight pen and nib. Mottoes over every desk reminded us that, "The Patient's Record is a Sacred Trust". Charting was done while standing at a high desk. On female wards, this chore was often interrupted by a call for a bed pan and, more often than not, that meant peri-care. After night duty on St. Mary's or Mat, you could have screamed at the mention of a perineum!

"Beginning at 11:30, we took turns going to supper in the cafeteria and, at midnight, we were expected to rotate for a two-hour sleep. There were two sleeping rooms set aside in the residence for this arrangement. We used a system of "musical beds", with the first group removing their caps, uniforms and shoes, hopping into bed and trying to get to sleep while ignoring the ever-present aroma of "smelly feet". The matron awakened us a few minutes before we were due back on the floors and we hated her and everyone else as we staggered back to work while the next shift took their turn in the same set of beds.

"Then came hourly rounds to check on your sleeping patients. If there was a lull, macaroons could be baked in the autoclave or a batch of fudge could be made in any handy container — even the enema cans, on occasion. All the while, the cooks were hoping that Sister's olfactory senses weren't working too well that night.



St. Charles Chart Desk, 1952.



Students Dining Room, 1948.

"Linen closets were locked at night and extra linen was placed in a small "Night Linen Cupboard". This supply was dependent on the largesse of the Ward Sister and it seemed we always had an ample supply of binders and sanitary belts, but very few of the necessities like gowns, sheets and draw-sheets. We bartered a gown for a drawsheet between wards and became pack rats who stored extra linen in any crook and cranny out of Sister's sight.

"At 5:00 a.m., we began to prepare the 8:00 a.m. cases for the O.R. Even that early hour was a late start if many needed a prep check, a douche, catheterization or enema. We weren't allowed to wear gloves for catheterizations, etc., but scrubbed for ten minutes in the hopper room and then had to do a juggling act with doors in order to get out of there and remain sterile until at the bedside. Half the time, someone came through the door just as you were coming out and contaminated you and you had to start the whole business over again. We had rough, red hands for the entire three years.

"At 6:00 a.m., we returned our surplus narcotics to the night supervisor, added new temp sheets to the charts, counted pill trays and medicine glasses — they all had to be accounted for before we went off

duty. We also had to prepare the patients who were receiving Communion, so they were awakened and given morning care. When the priest came on the ward, the accompanying nun warned us with the tinkling of her little bell. However, if you missed hearing the tinkle and were trapped in the hall, Catholic nurses knelt as the Host went by and Protestant girls dived into the nearest bathroom to avoid embarrassment.

"All our patients had 7:00 a.m. temps and morning care, consisting of a quick wash of hands, face and teeth. If they were too ill to do this for themselves, we did it for them.

"Finally, 7:25 came and we hoped to H___ that everything was done and we wouldn't be called back to the ward.

"Day staff reported on duty at this time and, before report, Sister led us all in morning prayers — and some days we felt we needed them badly.

"We were always surprised to make it through six weeks of this mad pace, twelve and a half-hour shifts, seven nights a week, with a three-hour relief from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. once a week."

By the 1950s, students were working eight-hour shifts and had a full day off a week. It sounded like a picnic to grads of earlier years, but was still a strenuous life that left many seniors drained and anaemic by the time finishing day rolled around.

In 1947, when the Block System was initiated, students no longer worked on wards at the same time they were going to classes. Lectures were scheduled in a "block" and students spent an eight-hour day in class, then, after block, returned to ward duty to put their theory to work.

Hypo and I.M. needles were still sharpened by the nurses (although, some patients argued that point). Alcohol lamps were no longer used to dissolve narcotics. Wrapped hypo sets with sterile metal cups replaced this archaic method. Spare moments on duty were spent folding gauze, or folding newspapers into litter bags to be pinned onto patients' beds — or wrapping v-pads, abds, or gauze for sterilizing.



Recovery Room, 1956.



Dressing Room, 1956.



"Scrubbing-Up".

Sucker tubing and rubber gloves had to be washed, tested for holes, patched, powdered and sterilized. (Or oversterilized — as the smell of burning rubber wafting from the autoclave room attested.) Overflowing re-cycled I.V. bottles sat under beds to collect catheter drainage and you could tell a St. Charles' nurse by the yellow stains on her shoes. I.V. tubing was washed and cut up for drinking straws. "Waste not want not" was still the motto of the Grey Nuns.

Doris Annear (Greene 1953) shares her memories of days at Holy Cross:

"Clinical experiences learned in probie block were a boon to harassed head nurses. We juniors came on the floor already prepared to make beds (open-closed-occupied), give bed baths, carry out various procedures related to bladder and bowel evacuation, administer oral or injectable medications and to balance a tray on our shoulder — perhaps our greatest accomplishment.

"In our junior year, we were initiated into the mysteries of evening and night shifts. Mrs. Van de Wark was the night supervisor and the only grad except for those in the Case Room. Nights were very busy and you learned to organize in a hurry.

"A major duty on nights was to make sure the pen nibs were changed and the inkwells filled. This seemed to be of great importance and, once that was completed, the night staff, a senior and a junior or intermediate student, would wait for the Sister to arrive. All stood at her entrance, then prayers and report — and home to bed.

"New skills learned in this period included: balancing compress and foment trays; scrubbing and circulating in the O.R.; cleaning rectal tubes; boiling sterilizers, with added vinegar to clean them; rinsing and cleaning rubber tubing used for blood transfusions. Cleaning remained the province of junior nurses.

"Receiving your intermediate pin meant more responsibility on the wards and more night duties, six weeks at a time, and floating — covering the other junior students on their nights off. Diet Kitchen experience was often received at this time and students were introduced to protein milk shakes, weighing and replacing diabetic returns, and the sight of 150 bald-faced eggs poaching first thing in the morning. On the other hand, we feasted on stolen fruit and steaks. We came off duty with stocking tops bulging with oranges and apples, peaches and pears and bananas too. Grapes were a little fragile for that kind of container.

"Senior term brought more of the same, especially responsibility, as seniors replaced head nurses and the night supervisor during their time off."

Sheila Roberts (McCullough, 1967) feels that the following story, by A. Born, sums up her three years in training:

"One day, a group of Seniors stood watching some of the new probies go by. As the usual chorus of 'poor kids', 'Boy, if they only knew', etc., died away, someone commented, 'What gets me is the big smiles of anticipation they all wear. If only they knew what they were getting into, they would quit right now. If I had known, I would have!'

"I wonder?

"If I had known that I would meet so much that was new and interesting; that study would become fascinating; that I would be so proud of my uniform; that I would kill myself laughing at our unprintable jokes and the tricks played on patients, interns and each other.



Pediatrics, circa 1955.

"If I had known that I would work nights on half my usual quota of sleep, and stay awake; that I would work overtime without pay; that I would spend more time cleaning in the O.R. than assisting doctors; that I could clean up a nauseating sight then go to dinner; that I could stand helpless while a man wept in pain; that I would see the Dark Angel come for the life of a little child and repeat with tears the question to which not even Job got an answer . . . 'Why, O Lord, why?'

"If I had known that I would thrill at being left in charge of a ward of sick people through the dark night; that I would actually help in saving a life; that I would have fun cleaning in the O.R.; that I would see the ecstasy of a mother with her newborn babe; that I would cherish a crude drawing because of the little girl it recalled; that I would see a young man return from the jaws of death.

"If I had known, would I have quit? I doubt it!"

By the time the seventies arrived, the approach to nursing education was less of long hours of service, and more of education. Students had a defined pa-

tient load; charting now included a lengthy detailed assessment of all systems. The school year was much like that of other schools — no weekend work, twelve-week summer break and very few shifts to work.

The probies of the seventies seemed a poised and self-confident crew compared to earlier classes, but Carol Wilson, a grad of 1979, assures us that they too experienced “fear and trepidation” at the sight of their first patients.

“My first day as a junior . . . 0700 hours: Down the elevator, through the tunnel and up the elevator to the floor I rush. Today — my first day as a junior on the wards after five months of classes.

“Have I got everything?? My pockets bulge with scissors, pen, Kleenex, drug cards and stethoscope.

“0715: Out of breath, I enter the report room. My eyes dart around. I locate an open chair. Scrap paper in hand, my pen poised for quick notes on my patients. The night nurse enters with Kardex files under her arm. Report begins for all.

“For me, this marks the beginning of a somewhat blurred day. I write down information and problems on my patients. The team leader then reviews each patient.

0740: Day staff pour out to start the day. With a deep breath, I follow. My scrap paper shoved into my already full pockets.

“Wake up, assessments, check I.V.s, N.G.s, Foleys, morning care, bed baths, breakfast trays.

“0800: Medications, bedmaking, instructor visits, questions, charting, quick coffee break, doctor visits, X rays, physiotherapy, supervision, pain meds, narcotic keys, supervision, injection, charting and more charting. Lunch trays.

“Lunch break. A time to collect my thoughts and to try to remember what I’ve forgotten. The constant din of the cafeteria rings in my ears.

“Back to the floor. Day almost gone. Back rubs, turns, team conference.

“1400: Meds, new I.V. bag, vital signs, re-assess, intake and output totals, charting.

“1500: Report.

“1600: Finally I leave the floor, my first day over. I walk slowly, feeling that I must have forgotten something.

“Will I get called back? Feeling fades as the residence comes into sight. the hospital is forgotten until tomorrow.”

1907 or 1979, a nurse is a nurse.

We Remember — The Wards

A new orderly came on night shift and that evening, an elderly patient passed away. We had him put on a stretcher bed and asked the orderly to take him to the morgue — but to wheel the body up and down the hall because it had to be cold before it was put in the morgue. He was kept busy half the night. (1923)

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A probie on her first day on men’s ward, was asked for a bottle. Mystified, she asked, “A bottle of what?” (1925)

* * * *

The day after we entered training, we were put on the wards. We were green as grass. The only stool we had heard of had four legs and you sat on it. (1926)

* * * *

While I was on St. Joseph’s, a new orderly was hired. He had very few instructions before coming on duty, and, when asked to give a high enema, gave it while standing on a chair. (1928)

Old Frank, the orderly, used to shuffle down the hall at 7:30 a.m. with a dirty sheet in his arms, muttering, “Here goes a baby lost because of no mother.” (1928)

* * * *

Miss Johnson (Johnny) was a permanent patient on St. Ann’s. One of her problems was arthritis and she spent eleven years at the hospital. Nurses gave her a capping ceremony to commemorate her third year as a patient. (1933)

* * * *

Mr. Hunt, our night orderly, was a wonderful person and a friend to the night staff. (1933)

* * * *

George, the O.R. orderly, was infatuated with Gracie Fields and Yorkshire pudding. (1936)

* * * *

One day, I encouraged a worried patient to drink so she wouldn’t need an I.V. I told her, “Drink the 900 cc’s in this jug and you’ll be home free.”

Later she confided, "Nurse, I don't think there are any cc's in this jug. It tastes like plain water." So much for metric! (1934)

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I was startled to find a patient washing the toilet seat with the peri-care tray. "Sorry nurse, I thought the sign said 'public' area," she apologized. (1936)

* * * *

George, the O.R. orderly had corns on his little toes, so he cut holes in his duty shoes to relieve the pain. (1936)

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One of the students sat down to do charts on nights and took her shoes off. Then she couldn't get them on her swollen feet. (1938)

* * * *

A junior student went out to prepare a patient for surgery. When she had been gone for an hour, the supervisor sent me out to see what was keeping her. I found her, shaving away with no blade in the razor, busily pushing up her glasses as they slid down over her nose. (1938)

* * * *

Mr. Hunt, the night orderly, was a trained nurse. We often made him eggnogs for a special treat. (1940)

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I remember giving my first enema and letting air out of the tube. "Miss X, you are supposed to give an enema, not wash the ceiling." (1940)

* * * *

We thought there was a bat in the linen cupboard. We wrapped our heads in towels and got a broom . . . turned on the light . . . and there was a tin with a loose label going flap, flap, flap in the breeze from the window. (1940)

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We could hear Leo the lion roaring at daybreak in the zoo. (1940)

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The night nurses napped in the bathtub on St. Mary's. The faucet leaked but that was remedied by using a catheter to connect faucet and drain. (1940)

* * * *

While on duty, we couldn't visit other floors. When Sister came along unexpectedly, a visiting nurse climbed into the "dumb waiter" and there she crouched while Sister made an interminable round. (1940)

On nights on St. Mary's, you were so busy and so hungry that the nurse sent up an extra lunch from the kitchen. One night, an extra sandwich arrived on the "dumb waiter", but the prankster had sent a dead mouse for filling. My screams brought the night Sister. (1940)

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We had five sets of twins in the nursery at the same time. Talk about double trouble! (1941)

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Miss Gilbert, in the Record Office, could always find at least one mistake in your laboriously assembled charts. (1941)

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Jack Durroch, the night switchboard operator, loved to play tricks on the nurses. One night, he called up to warn of an emergency admission. When the stretcher arrived, the groaning patient was none other than . . . Jack. (1941)

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Charlie, the orderly, rode his bike in the halls at night. (1946)

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Sometimes a night nurse would slip out of the residence during her sleeptime and go joy riding with the ambulance drivers for two hours. (1947)

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We'll never forget Murphy drips; sitting with anaesthetic patients in the days before the Recovery Room opened, and Miller Abbott tubes. (1948)

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An historic moment occurred when the Calgary Highlanders flooded home from the War. Elated, proud Calgarians welcomed home their native sons, with the result that Maternity Ward was soon inundated with urgently expectant mothers, many of them lined up on stretchers in the hallways, waiting for space in the Case Room. Running a hectic marathon with the stork made for some of the happiest and most colorful days and nights of our training. (1949)

* * * *

One day, we had a celebrity on our hands. The 1948 Grey Cup game was in progress between Calgary and Ottawa, and the wife of star Paul Rowe was producing twins on our Maternity Ward. Excitement was at fever pitch on the ward — and on the radio, where both the game and the birth were being covered. (1949)

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Wooden sideboards, held on with ropes, made keeping a bed neat a neat feat. (1949)

The Diet Kitchen cooked diabetic liver in mineral oil, turning it green! Poor diabetics. (1951)

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The Kardex left tell-tale marks if you had a snooze on its hard cover. (1953)

* * * *

A junior on nights told Neil, our popular night orderly, to give a B&O suppository to a private room patient. Poor Neil searched under the covers with his trusty flashlight and was embarrassed to discover that the patient was the senior nurse, who was feeling under the weather and enjoying a nap in the empty bed. (1953)

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On nights, the student on Youville made tea for Mrs. Timmins (Timmy), the night switchboard operator. (1953)

* * * *

Oh, the injustice of working your finishing day in the Diet Kitchen — on a split shift — making salads! (1953)

* * * *

Christmas scenes were painted inside-out on the ward windows. All doors in Holy Angels had their windows painted like Christmas cards. (1953)

* * * *

I scrambled eggs with buttermilk and accidentally coated the liver with Bon Ami, instead of flour. (1955)

* * * *

The patient was on the pan faithfully, qlh, until

her nurse discovered that B/P qlh meant blood pressure — not bed pan. (1956)

* * * *

Mrs. Van de Wark (Ellis 1939), assistant night supervisor, retired after thirteen years. I'll never forget the feeling of relief when she arrived at the bedside of a critically ill patient. The weight slipped from your frail shoulders to her capable ones. (1957)

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I asked at the C.S.R. for a fallopian tube. (1957)

* * * *

Basins and gowns sat outside dozens of rooms during the Staph Aureus epidemic that swept through the hospital in the late fifties. Once again, nurses' hands were scrubbed raw as we tried to prevent the spread of the killer, "Golden Staph." (1958)

* * * *

We accidentally sent a stretcher through the chapel door. Thank goodness students didn't have to pay for breakages in our day; the replacement had to come from Italy! (1960)

* * * *

One of our classmates filled her steam kettles with DRX. Instant bubble bath! (1970)

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Someone gave a suppository with the foil on. (1970)

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One of our classmates clamped an enema set with her scissors. (1974)

* * * *

A tired night nurse signed off her chart, "Sputum O'Connor, S.N. (1975)

Rules and Regulations 1938

1. Open door for instructress.
2. Leave door open until instructress comes.
3. Stand until instructress is seated.
4. Remain silent after instructress leaves room.
5. Accept rules as necessary.
6. No familiarity with patients.
7. No jewellery, rouge, lipstick.
8. Change dress twice a week.
9. Press apron every day.
10. Don't sit on apron.
11. Change shoes every day.
12. Keep room clean.
13. Be quiet in dining room.
14. Be quiet in hospital.
15. Older nurses first.
16. Remove uniform when off duty.
17. Duty shoes not to be worn on the street.
18. Notify Miss Sandeman if sick.
19. Write examinations with pen.
20. Use number and not name for examinations.

Maintenance
Pharmacy
MAIDS
Gardeners
Admitting
Reception
Switchboard
X-RAY
Engineers
PORTERS
LAB
LAUNDRY
Respiratory
Physio
Medical Records
Housekeeping
CSR staff
Office
Housemothers
Dietary
CNAs
Ward Clerks
Orderlies
Discharge

To all the Staff
For all the Help
Through all the Years

We thank You,
The Nurses

The Nuns We Knew

We were surprised to come in training and discover that not every nun was a carbon copy of the saintly ladies in "The Bells of St. Mary's". Our Sisters had tempers and fears and idiosyncrasies. Our nuns were human!

They agonized over a dying child, rollerskated in the privacy of their community, and attacked formidable doctors in our defence.

They mothered us more than we cared for — and demanded more of us than we cared to give.

They scolded and molded and prodded until they were satisfied that we were worthy of their Holy Cross Pins.

Then, after we had graduated, they became our friends.

We Remember — The Nuns

We worked closely with the nuns, and they were wonderful. Sister Blakely, in charge of the nurses, was the greatest influence in my life, after my mother. She made me very orderly. (1910)

* * * *

We made fudge and lemon pies on night duty, and ice cream with Eagle Brand. When we were discovered by Sister Lawrence, her comment was, as she backed out of the kitchen, "I think I'm sticking my nose in where it isn't wanted." She was a dear. (1931)

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Enjoying prunes and cream and toast while on duty, I had my sleeves rolled up and was sitting on the corner of the table. In walked Sister Superior. She walked out without a word and nothing was ever said about the incident. (1931)

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On night duty on St. Mary's, there were three students on duty. Dr. McEachern's thyroids were on forced fluids and we decided to see if we could drink the required fluids in twelve hours. This experiment called for many trips to the bathroom. We were running silently down the hall for a last bathroom break when the Sister appeared on the floor. We were severely reprimanded and threatened with a visit to the Superintendent. (Incidentally, none of us could drink the required amount.) (1929)

When I came for my interview, I told Sister that I was nineteen going to be twenty in September. Really, I was going on sixteen. Sister Weekes said, suspiciously, "You'll be a wiser girl by the time you are twenty!" I graduated when I was just eighteen, but I was quite mature. (1918)

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We were fond of dear Sister Lawrence and Sister Noullet. (1936)

* * * *

Sister Ferland on morning rounds said "Good Morning, Good Morning, Good Morning" over and over. She also said, "Oh, mon Dieux," regardless of the answer. (1936)

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The one time the Catholic nurses were invited into the Sisters' quarters, we were told we could play the gramophone. We were shocked to find "Barnacle Bill the Sailor" on the turntable. (1936)

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One of the students with scarlet fever fainted in the bathroom and another pulled the toilet door off its hinges so she could go in to help her. She was reprimanded for damaging property — no doubt the costs were deducted from her monthly allowance. (1937)

Sister Mansfield seemed to know intuitively when I had committed any infraction of the rules. As I look back, the lady may have been trying to help me to be a better person — and what I took as stern discipline may have been her way of pointing me in the right direction. I first realized this when I was honored to make the inaugural flight of Trans-Canada Airlines and Sister, although she was ill, arrived at the ceremony to bring me congratulations and a bouquet of roses. (1938)

* * * *

We used to fall asleep in Mass. Once during the Gospel, I fell sound asleep on my feet and had to be pulled down when everyone else sat. The nuns would have been furious if they had seen me. (1938)

* * * *

Sister Mansfield had a terrific memory. Once she had heard your name, she remembered it. (1938)

* * * *

Breakfast after night duty was a hilarious time, until Sister Mansfield came down and said, "My, my. You're ladies now. I can hear you all the way upstairs." (1938)

* * * *

After patients' meals, Sister Lawrence would feed the crumbs to the birds. The nuns were noted for feeding the poor at the kitchen door, and there was no hospital charge for the poor. (1938)

* * * *

Sister Gertrude, in the gauze room, had conversations with St. Peter when she was going to give us cookies. He was always sent behind the door or into the other room while she "sinned". (1940)

* * * *

According to Sister Mansfield, I had my cap on straight twice. At capping and graduation. (1940)

* * * *

In the winter, colds were prevalent and to sustain her staff, Sister Cummings, fondly called "The Galloping Goose," made her staff morning cocoa in the sterilizer. How sweet it was. (1940)

Cloth to make mustard plasters was hard to come by. One morning, Sister Cummings, with tears in her eyes, held up her new apron. There was a large square hole cut out of it. Some patient had a very special mustard plaster. (1940)

* * * *

Dear Sister Gertrude made the gauze room bearable with her stories of modern girls. (1941)

* * * *

Sister's inspection — "Miss X. You positively wiggle when you walk. Are you wearing a girdle?" (1947)

* * * *

Sister Boulet called me back at night to finish cleaning a private room which she said was "disgusting". I'd left something on top of the dresser that belonged in a drawer. (1947)

* * * *

Sister Tetrault fussbudgeting her way through clean uniform day was an aggravation then, but is a fond memory now. (1953)

* * * *

We now realize the tremendous dedication of the Grey Nuns. It never occurred to us that our safety (earthly and immortal) was a constant worry to them. (1953)

* * * *

On Pediatrics at 2:00 a.m., after feeding the little ones, I became very sleepy and told my junior that I'd love to lie down in an empty crib and have a snooze. She dared me to try to fit into it. When I was nicely settled, with my feet up so that I didn't dirty the sheets, in walked Sister Richard. She was like a spirit, making no sound to warn me. (I think they wore *Hush Puppy* shoes.) I figured I had had it — I'd be expelled. But, lo and behold, she laughed and walked out. Not even a reprimand. (1955)

* * * *

I had back surgery years after I was out of training. Sister Richard was still at Holy Cross and she was so kind to me. I marvelled that she could still remember me. (1960s)



Sisters Weekes, Descoteaux, Task, Gerin (L. to R.).



(L. to R.) Sister Tougas, not identified.



(L. to R.) Sisters Dakota, Richards, Quenbelle, 1918.



Sister Laverty, 1926.



Sisters Drouin, Bertrand (L. to R.), circa 1925.



Sister Mansfield with 1926 students (L. to R.) Miss Giroux, M. Ennis, J. Parker, F. MacDonald, A. Johns.



Sister Lawrence — nun on right not identified.



Sister Dakota with 1921 students — E. Proulx and S. Bella, 1921.

Sisters who worked as Nurses at the H.C.H.between 1923-1971:

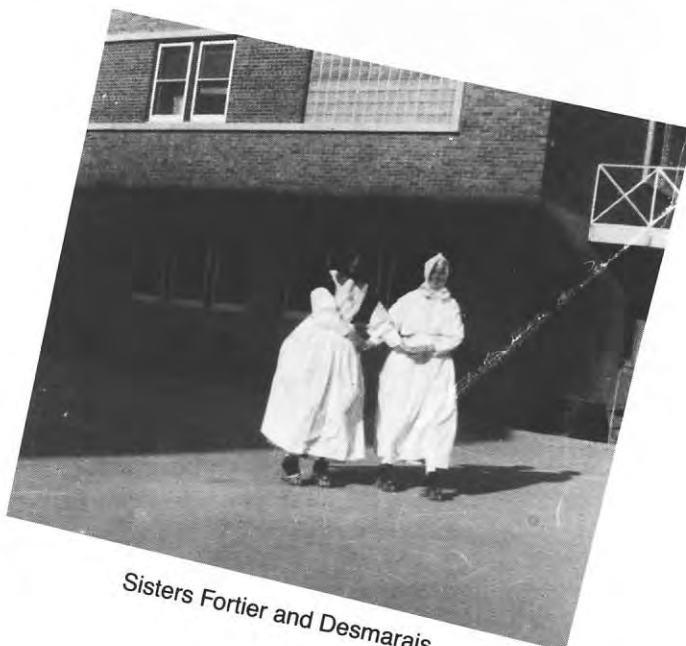
Sr. Clarilda Fortin	1923-1929	Sr. Hélène Bellec	1955-1957
*Sr. Ovilia Bédard	1920-1945)	Sr. Léontine Mongrain	1941-1942
	1949-1954)		1948-1952
Sr. Euphémie Boisvert	1924-1926	Sr. Jeanne Quintal	1944-1947
Sr. Jeanne St-Louis	1927-1930	Sr. Hélène Archambeault	1948-1953
Sr. Juliette Landry	1930-1932	Sr. Annette Paquin	1950-1953
Sr. Apolonia Ste-Croix	1938-1941	Sr. Noemie Dion	1949-1951
Sr. Jeanne Forest	1943-1947	Sr. Aurore Marien	1943-1946)
Sr. Lucienne Garneau	1948-1961		1965-1966)
Sr. Bernadette Gravel	1951-1952	Sr. Simone Mageau	1960-1961
Sr. Pauline Lemieux	1953-1955	Sr. Bernadette Bézaire	1938-1942)
Sr. Rose Letellier	1953-1956		1949-1950)
Sr. Marguerite Létourneau	1959-1961)	Sr. Lydia Noel	1950-1953
	1963-1968)	Sr. Mélina Trottier	1952-1954
Sr. Yvonne Daigle	1966-1969	Sr. Hélène Desmarias	1955-1965
Sr. Loretta Mansfield	1928-1943)	Sr. Fernande Champagne	1956-1965
	1946-1950)	Sr. Germaine Héту	1955-1958
Sr. Elizabeth Meyer	1938-1943)		1960-1963
	1961-1970)	Sr. Yvonne Bézaire	1944-1946
Sr. Gabrielle Noullet	1940-1959		1954-1958
Sr. Cécile Leclerc	1952-1963	Sr. Rita Coulombe	1947-1950
Sr. Lucienne Lapierre	1938-1940		1959-1963
	1943-1948		1965-1971
Sr. Annette Lachance	1941-1947	Sr. Alice Romanchuk	1967-1970
Sr. Délia Clermont	1959-1965	Sr. Marie Nadeau	1956-1965
Sr. Louise Boulet	1942-1949)	Sr. Julia Richard	1950-1955
	1954-1959)		1962-1970



Bottom Row, L. to R.: Sisters Cardin, Gravel, Noel, Boucher. Top Row, L. to R.: Sisters Sauve, Plotkin, Comeau, Richard, Mongrain, Noullet, Laforce, Boutin, Mageau, Marquis, Boulet, Bergeron, Lemieux, Tetrault, Garneau. Circa 1952.



Sister Fortier, M. Mooney (1957), Sister Desmarais, Sister Garneau, S. Thielen (1955).



Sisters Fortier and Desmarais.



S. Thielen, Sisters Vinet, Garneau, Desmarais, Bezaire, Fortier, Laforce, D. Deck (1955), F. Kowenko (1955).



A rare outing — Lake Louise, 1958. (L. to R.) Sisters Ratte, Nadeau, Morin, Leclerc, Desmarais, Violini, Therrien, Noullet.



Sister Boucher.



Sisters Roy (above), and Mageau.



Sister Meyer.



Sister Trottier.



Sister Letourneau models old and new habits, 1966 and 1968.



Vacations

Students were entitled to an annual two-week vacation from the time the School opened. By 1929, these had been increased to three weeks during their second and third years, but a 1933 student recalls that holidays were only one and two weeks during the Depression. In 1939, probies were given one week at Christmas and two weeks during their first summer, then three weeks in subsequent years, a practice that continued until the 1960s.

Of course, not all the holidays could be squeezed into the summer months, so, many a student drew her three weeks in early spring — and spent them snowbound at home on the farm. It wasn't ideal for sun tanning, but any change from Holy Cross routine and cooking was welcome.

Holidays were four weeks' long in 1968, eight in 1970 and scheduled in summer months only. By the time the School closed in 1979, students enjoyed a twelve-week summer break.

Discipline

The gentle Sisters of Charity could be as unyielding as master sergeants, when it came to enforcing discipline in their schools. Presumably, if you could stay out of trouble when off duty, you could keep your patients out of trouble when you were at work.

Rules were many and inflexible and probies were well indoctrinated into the intricacies of hospital etiquette before they were allowed out of the classroom. A student nurse, if she ever had time to sit down, lept to her feet in deference to — a doctor, a nun, a supervisor, an instructress, a graduate, or a senior student. Sometimes, it hardly seemed worth the effort of finding a seat in the first place.

When on duty, all nurses, even best friends, called one another by their surnames. You could work with a nurse for years and not know her christian name.

The Age of Chivalry never penetrated the big glass doors of Holy Cross. Student nurses were expected to defer to doctors at all times. Doctors walked into elevators first, up stairs first, through doors first, and, one supposes, out of the building first in case of fire. Such class restrictions may have been good for the students' immortal souls, but they were hard on their earthly tempers.

The few hard-earned privileges that a student enjoyed could be cancelled for minor infractions of rules. Late leaves were lost if uniforms weren't complete at morning inspection. (1934) They were also lost for coming into residence late, lights on after "lights-out", and being in a room not your own. (1940)

Caps could be confiscated for minor mistakes.

Sleep-outs were cancelled for failing exams, late case studies and minor medication errors. (1953)

With establishment of an Honor Board in the 1950s, students were sentenced by their peers for misdemeanors. However, since the Honor Board was supervised by the Sisters, the system of crime and punishment remained virtually unchanged. A new refinement, C B 's, or confined to barracks, was introduced and remained in vogue throughout the '60s. Students were expelled for many reasons — inefficiency, poor class work, consistently breaking rules, unsatisfactory record on wards, marriage, pregnancy — or cutting hair, in the case of the 1926 class.

According to the 1964 book of Rules and Regulations, a 35-page opus prepared in 1957 and revised in 1961, rules were many and punishments were rigidly enforced: smoking outside the smoking area rated a week's CB and two weeks of 9 o'clocks; indiscreet use of alcohol — one month CB and two weeks 9 o'clocks; washing hair after hours — two nights of 9 o'clocks; sneaking out — one month CB and one month 9 o'clocks; "parking" on hospital grounds — two weeks of 9 o'clocks, and "parking" in a car while in uniform — three weeks of 9 o'clocks.

In the 1970s, the faculty maintained discipline for the School, and "mid-term massacre" marked the end of training for students unable to make good grades in their probie term.

Discipline for the residence was handled by the Students' Advisory Council, composed of two students from each floor, with Miss Stileman, residence director, as advisor. The council handled enforcement of residence rules for the School's final years.

“Our” Doctors

They taught us, lectured us, berated us, praised us, ignored us, reported us, supported us and forgave us.

We cussed them, respected them, discussed them, admired them, resented them, feared them, laughed at them — and, sometimes, even had a crush on them.

Woe betide the unthinking nurse from another hospital who belittled them; they might not have been perfect, but they were OUR doctors.

We Remember — The Doctors

Doctor Learmonth gave his patients lump sugar and orange juice one hour pre-op. We thought he was odd, but he was proved to be thirty years ahead of his time. (1928)

* * * *

Dr. Macnab would say, “You’ll use your brains or your feet.” (1938)

* * * *

Dr. Cabot used to sing all kinds of songs, such as “The Old Grey Mare,” while doing a local T&A (1938)

* * * *

We’ll never forget Dr. Jennings’ diabetic specimen routine. (1940)

* * * *

The morning rounds of the Macnab Clinic were an event. (1940)

* * * *

Who can forget the sight of an elegant Dr. McEachern in tails for his Sunday morning rounds?

Or of an irate Dr. McEachern jumping up and down on his little stool in O.R. when we wiped his brow and accidentally knocked his glasses? (1940)

* * * *

Dr. Riley occasionally treated new students to a post-mortem. He operated while singing “Roll Out the Barrel.” The case was a success if one or two nurses fainted. (1942)

* * * *

A student asked Dr. Pilcher if it was true you could get gonorrhea from a toilet seat. His reply? “Honey, only if two people are sitting on the seat at the same time.” (1942)

* * * *

Dr. McEachern asked for “Mop!”, meaning his forehead, and the circulating nurse ran for a floor mop. (1944)

* * * *

Dr. Macnab had a warmed blanket thrown around his shoulders as he emerged from surgery. (1947)

Dr. Osborne gave a graphic description of child-birth. Holding a plastic babe in the correct position, he concluded, “ and with a shriek of terror, the babe is born!”

* * * *

Dr. Riley advised us to interrogate our escorts on their blood groupings on our very first date! If our Rhs didn't match, neither should we. (1947)

* * * *

The morgue walls were hung with Dr. Riley's cheerful oil paintings of the Rockies. (1947)

* * * *

When we came in training, our instruction book warned us to “avoid men of questionable character, doctors, orderlies, interns, etc.” (1947)

We made the interns cocoa out of breast milk one night and one of them threw it up when he found out. (1947)

* * * *

Dr. Ingram called for “Mop!”, meaning his forehead, and the circulating nurse ran for a floor mop. (1953)

* * * *

We will never forget Dr. Boyd's elephantitis lecture — or Dr. Gallie congratulating us on being the first class to sleep through ALL his lectures — or Dr. H. V. Morgan walking into the broom cupboard on his way out of the classroom. (1960)



Drs. D. S. Macnab, Dr. G. D. Stanley.



Dr. H. C. Swartzlander, not identified.



Drs. Peter Jaron and Don McNeil at weiner roast, circa 1937-40.



Dr. C. Walsh.



Dr. D. S. Macnab.



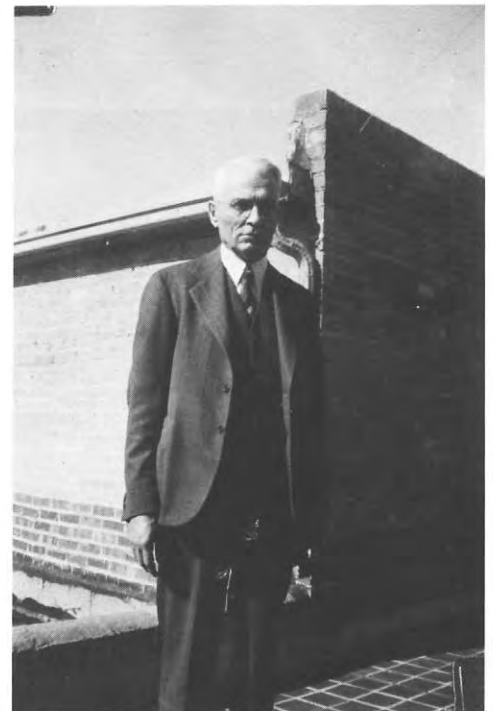
Dr. H. V. Morgan.



Dr. Fred Pilcher, Dr. W. Stark.



Dr. H. Osborne.



Dr. Willis Merritt.



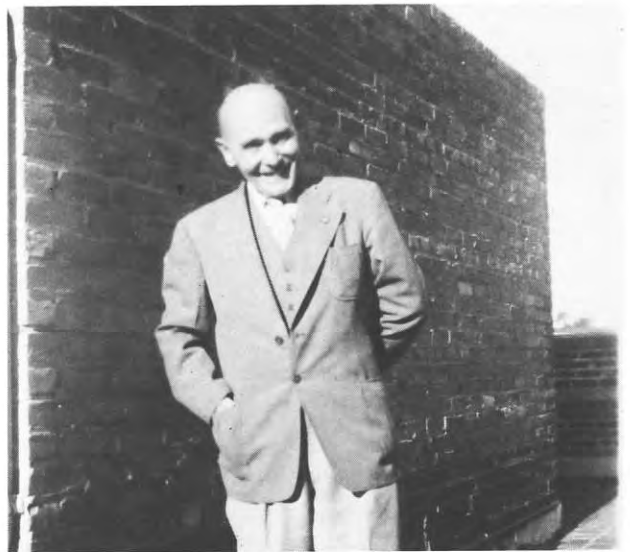
Dr. A. E. Wilson.



Dr. A. E. Aikenhead.



Dr. Gordon Townsend.



Dr. Houghtling (intern).



Dr. R. C. Riley.



Dr. "Pinkie" McFarlane.



Dr. B. Humphrey.



Dr. E. P. Scarlett.



Dr. Peter Jaron — 1st new car after interning, 1940.



Dr. K. G. Calvert.



Dr. D. McNeil.



Dr. H. Stuart.



Dr. W. E. Ingram.



Dr. Irial Gogan.



Dr. S. H. Cameron.



Dr. M. A. Vernon.



Dr. J. C. Morgan.



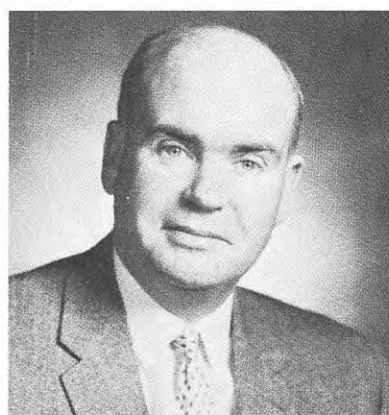
Dr. H. H. Atkinson.



Dr. D. Cadger.



Dr. J. Manes.



Dr. A. D. Muldoon.

No Time To Spare

A schedule of twelve-hour shifts, with only one half-day off a week, left students with little time or energy for off-duty activities. For thirty years, there were no extra-curricular organizations for Holy students.

The Children of Mary, an off-shoot of a club at St. Mary's School, had followed some of its members into a nursing career. However, it wasn't until 1939, when an understanding housemother, Isabel Sandeman, organized the Go-Getter Club, that the Protestant girls had an organization they could share with the Catholics. The Go-Getters was formed in order to teach students how to conduct meetings and how to entertain in their future homes. Guest speakers on such subjects as fashions, and "The Duties of Hosts and Guests" were highlights of the meetings.

Although students had more free time after the advent of eight-hour shifts, full days off, and the Block System, they still weren't "joiners", and only a few clubs met with their approval. Perhaps because their lives were over-scheduled during hours in class and on wards, Holy students weren't enthusiastic about structured organizations in their free time.

The **Sodality of the Blessed Virgin** was organized in 1938 under the direction of Father Bernard Holland, hospital chaplain from 1938-1943. Its purpose was "to guide and direct Catholic students in the right path", and students were told, "The Christian

Faith is a grand cathedral, with divinely pictured windows. Standing without, you see no glory nor can possibly imagine any. Standing within, every ray of light reveals a harmony of unspeakable splendor."

In 1939, Sodality president Helen Olmshank had the opportunity to travel to Chicago to attend the Summer School Catholic Action Convention as one of two thousand delegates representing schools and colleges in twenty-seven states and Canada.

Sodality became a strong force in the lives of, not only Catholic students, but, the whole student body. Its members organized many of the School's social functions.

In 1956, Sodality became the **Damien Club**, named after the saintly Father Damien who had nursed the lepers on Molokai. The aims of the club became: to develop Christian character, to foster devotion to Christ through imitation of His Blessed Mother, and to cultivate the lay apostolate. A highlight of the Damien year was a twilight retreat, held at Mount St. Francis, Cochrane, where students enjoyed an opportunity to renew their faith, and to eat some memorable meals.

A major activity of the club during the years 1962-68, was the support of Father Abraham's St. Alphonsus High School in Darjeeling, India. The girls shared in the activities of his school through monthly letters and photos sent by Father Abraham.



Sodality, mid 1940's.



Sodality Tea, 1946. (L. to R.) P. Kloepper (Gilker 1923), M. Cairns (1947), I. Schmaltz (1947), D. Craemer (1947), A. Langin (1947), T. Hourihan (1948), B. Mosley (Thorne 1940).

When the hospital became non-denominational in 1969, the Damien Club was gradually phased out. In 1970-71, it became part of the **Residence Christian Fellowship**.

* * * *

A Protestant counterpart of the Damien Club, the **Nurses' Christian Fellowship** was formed in the late 1950s in order to introduce student nurses to a true Christianity, giving them higher goals of service."

The club was very active throughout the 1960s, providing stimulating discussions and study hours on topics of Christian concern. It also sponsored several purely social events — waffle suppers, corn roasts, skating parties, probie parties, and a Christmas banquet.

Joint meetings were often held with members of the Damien Club, and, in later years, Catholic and Protestant students enjoyed combined retreats at Mount St. Francis.

As school enrollment dropped, it became the **Residence Christian Fellowship** and was affiliated with the University Christian Fellowship.



Sodality Banquet, 1951.

Known as the S.N.A.A., the **Student Nurses Association of Alberta** was established in 1954 under the auspices of the A.A.R.N. At the time, there were twelve schools of nursing in the Province, each a very separate entity. The director of nursing of each school, with or without assistance from her instructresses, made the rules regarding discipline, dress and deportment, and students either accepted them or withdrew from the program.

By 1953, shortened work hours gave students more free time to become interested in their futures, not just as nurses, but as well-rounded personalities. They were making nursing a career, but knew there had to be more to becoming a nurse than just work and study; they were determined to develop their full range of abilities.

It was a time of growing discontent in all the training schools. Some of the affiliations which had been a highlight of training were discontinued at this time and, when affiliation at the Alberta Sanatorium and the Ponoka Mental Hospital were cancelled, students became openly rebellious.



Mount St. Francis Retreat House, 1967.

Directors of nursing at several schools, recognizing the unrest among their students, suggested the formation of a Student Nurses' Association, to encourage interschool activities.

Although the idea didn't meet with acceptance by all directors of nursing, a council of the A.A.R.N. met with representatives from all the schools to discuss formation of such an association. Pat Farrell (1955) and Shirley Coote (1956) were the representatives from Holy Cross when the association was formed at the 1954 annual convention of the A.A.R.N. Ann Reiffenstein (1956) was elected vice-president of its first executive.

An advisor, appointed by the A.A.R.N., met each month with the executive, encouraging the members, and listening to their problems. In 1955, the S.N.A.A. held the first of its annual meetings, in



conjunction with the A.A.R.N. convention. Each school had two voting delegates, but all students were encouraged to attend the meetings.

The S.N.A.A. was successful in fostering good relationships between the schools of nursing, and the general morale of Alberta's student nurses improved.

In Calgary, thanks largely to the efforts to the S.N.A.A., students from the Holy Cross and the General Hospital shared many years of interschool sports and social activities. Relay races across town from one hospital to the other, bed races, swim meets and baseball games were a popular feature of Inter-hospital Week. Shared social evenings, dances and annual talent nights, with entries from all twelve schools, became a valued part of training days. The fellowship fostered at yearly conventions resulted in many lasting friendships.



S.N.A.A. Convention. Holy Nurses — Far right, M. Christensen (1960); advisor F. Parslow (Tennant 1941).

However, even when they were able to present a united front, students found that school policies weren't easily changed. All recommendations agreed on at the S.N.A.A. meetings had to be presented first to the A.A.R.N. and then to the individual directors of nursing. Generally, once one school was granted a privilege, others followed suit.

Time off, hours of work and holidays were discussed and eventually became more uniform. The S.N.A.A. had a direct effect on privileges granted to Holy Cross students, and it was through its efforts



Sr. Leclerc — Roasting weiners, Intermediate Week, 1962.

that the class of 1955 was the last to work on specialties while in block. Affiliations were once again arranged — at the Children's Hospital and at the Provincial Mental Institute in Ponoka. In October 1956, students began affiliation in a doctor's office — at the Calgary Associate Clinic.

Meanwhile, other student nurses began to form associations across Canada. They received much help and encouragement from the S.N.A.A. and its advisor, Fran Parslow (Tennant 1941). In June 1958, Fran was responsible for chaperoning two elected representatives from each of the twelve schools in Alberta at the first national meeting of student nurses.



Holy Cross Representatives at S.N.A.A. Convention, 1961. (L. to R.) Back Row: J. Jensen, M. Birch. (L. to R.) Middle Row: M. Christensen, V. Liktör (president), M. Vandervalk. L. to R. Front Row: B. Luco, J. Armbruster.

A special C.P.R. railway car took off from Calgary with students from B.C. and Alberta on board. Along the way to Ottawa, students from Saskatchewan and Manitoba joined the ranks; in all, five provinces were represented at the meeting. It was the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Nurses Association (C.N.A.) and plans were drafted for a National Student Nurses Association, to be recognized by the C.N.A. The S.N.A.A. constitution served as a guideline for many of the new organizations.

In 1961, Vi Liktör from the Holy Cross was president of the S.N.A.A. and Holy students continued to take an active role in the activities of the association. The S.N.A.A., in turn, played an important role in the history of the Holy Cross School of Nursing.



"Can-Can" — Winner of Provincial Talent Show. (L. to R.) — C. Fulton, M. Shaw, D. Andrews, V. Liktör, M. McNeil, S. Kostenack, P. Walsh, M. Purdy, B. Kunz, L. Durrand, G. Zakariasen, L. Krause, F. Morris.



Football Team, circa 1971.

School Cheers 1960s

Don your caps and badges girls,
 We're from the Holy Cross
 When against the other,
 We will never suffer loss.
 Track and swimming, baseball too
 We'll show them who is boss.
 We are the girls from the Holy.

Hurrah! Hurrah! Here comes the red and gold.
 Hurrah! Hurrah! Our sign of spirit bold.
 Marching all together, we're a glory to behold.
 We are the girls from the Holy.

Tune: Marching Through Georgia

Klickity, klackity,
 Klickity, klunk.
 We're the team that's got the spunk.
 We've got the drive, we've got the spirit
 We've got the team, so let's cheer it.
 H-O-L-Y, H-O-L-Y, H-O-L-Y, HOLY!

Jokes and Verses

The one who thinks our jokes are poor,
Would straight-way change her views,
Could she compare the jokes we print,
With those we couldn't use.

From: *The Lamplighter*

A Scotsman, not feeling so well, called on his doctor, who looked him over and gave him some pills to be taken at bedtime. He also prescribed whiskey for his stomach — a small glassful to be taken after each meal.

Four days later, the patient was back, and feeling no better.

Have you taken the medicines exactly as I instructed," the doctor asked?

"Weel now, Doctor," replied the patient, "I may be a wee bit behind wi' the pills, but I'm, six weeks ahead wi' the whiskey!"

From: *The Lamplighter*

Surgeon: "Give me a piece of catgut,."

Nurse: "Chromic or plain, Doctor?"

Surgeon: "Anything you have."

Nurse: "On a round or sharp needle?"

Surgeon: "I don't care."

Nurse: "Single or double?"

Doctor: "Forget it, it's healed."

From: *The Lamplighter*

Ever had trouble reading a doctor's handwriting? After getting his medicine, one patient took his prescription and used it for years as a bus pass, twice as an invitation to a party, once as a complimentary theatre ticket, later as a recommendation from an employer, and in the evening, his daughter played it on the piano.

From: *The Lamplighter*

Father Malo Quips

To be or not to be,
That is congestion:
Consumption be done about it?
Of corpse, of corpse!

Wouldn't that jar your mother's preserves.

As the cow said as she stuck her head in the pail of milk,

"It all comes back to me now."

My sufficiency has been suffocified —
More would be obnoxious to my consumption.

Helpless 1929

It's hell to be helpless!

I'm laid up in the hospital
Where everything is serene.
My beef tea is brown when it goes down
When it comes up, it's green.

I'm tucked up in my little bed
Unhappy as can be.
I cannot take my bath alone,
I must have help to pee.

I've stitches in my abdomen —
My appendix out, you see.
But what's the use of all of this
If I must have help to pee?

My head is splitting with the pain.
My eyes can hardly see.
This trouble wouldn't trouble me
If I could only pee.

My feet are cold and clammy wet,
As cold as cold can be.
I wouldn't care a little bit
If only I could pee!

* * * *

Oops

"Next wash the patient's groins and genial organs, before doing the legs."

"The patient is in grave danger if his nurse is not sterile."

"The best treatment for shock is to rape the patient in blankets."

"The eye should roll around the face while it is being irrigated."

"The large intestine terminates at the anus where it is guarded by a spinster."

"The patient was admitted suffering from a swollen scootum."

"Obese muddle-aged women are prone to diabetes."

From: *Really, Nurse!* and *Wake up, Nurse!*

Learning to Care

For many years, nursing schools were established solely to supply a constant stream of gentle hands and strong backs to care for the patients in the sponsoring hospital. The Holy Cross School of Nursing was no exception.

At the turn of the century, in the frontier town of Calgary, there were few women and even fewer trained nurses. Eleven Grey Nuns, none of them graduate nurses, comprised the staff of the Holy Cross when Sister Duckett, a graduate of Notre-Dame Hospital in Montreal, arrived in 1899 to study the feasibility of opening a school of nursing in Calgary. Help was on the way for the hard-pressed nuns.

In 1902, Sister Duckett was replaced by Sister Marie du St. Sacrement, and the following year, after a visit from Mother Mailloux, Assistant-General of the Order, an experimental program was initiated with three Grey Nuns as its only students. It was decided that these first three student nurses would earn their diplomas by passing tests set by the examination board of either Notre-Dame Hospital or the St. Boniface Hospital in Manitoba.

When St. Boniface agreed to set the examinations, Sister du St. Sacrement organized a course of studies patterned on that school. Her students, Sisters Anna Sansoucy, Cecilia Dougherty and Alice Prono, began their training in 1903. All were familiar with the hospital and its routines — Sister Sansoucy had been at Holy Cross since shortly after its opening; Sister Prono arrived in 1901, and Sister Dougherty in 1902.

The energetic trio provided a formidable example for the lay students who were to follow. They spent twelve-hour days on the wards, where they were taught by the doctors and by Sister du St. Sacrement, studied from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and then went back on duty until work on the wards was completed —

usually “quite late in the evening”, according to the annals of the School.

All three successfully completed the course in 1906, an achievement attested to by the records of the St. Boniface General Hospital School of Nursing. Records dated 1905-1906 show that:

“Sisters Dougherty, Prono and Sansoucy were certified correct in the following subjects, after careful examination by Doctors of the St. Boniface Hospital, St. Boniface, Manitoba.

Hygiene and Sym-		
toms	Dr. W. R. Nichols	June 2, 1905
Anatomy and Surgery	Dr. J. O. Todd	March 14, 1906
Pediatrics	Dr. J. R. Davidson	May 1906
Infectious Diseases	Dr. J. McKenty	June 1906
Materia Medica	Dr. W. G. Peatman	June 1906
General Practice of		
Medicine	Dr. J. Jones	July 1906
Gynecology	Dr. J. A. MacArthur	July 1906

Marks were also given for the average number of notes on every subject for the year.

Each Sister attained General Proficiency in all subjects.”

The three nuns were to continue to serve at Holy Cross for several years after their graduation in September 1906. Although Sister Prono stayed only until 1907, Sister Dougherty was at Holy Cross until 1912, and Sister Sansoucy was a respected supervisor at the hospital until 1915.

When the Grey Nuns officially opened their training school at the Holy Cross in 1907, their aim was “to give the best care, physical, mental and spiritual to the sick, aged and helpless — irrespective of race, creed or social status.”

The first lay class was committed to this philosophy. The six, Marie Berg, Elsie Black, Margaret Brown, Blanche Currence, Alma Martin and Nellie Whalley, ranged in age from eighteen to their late twenties. Elsie Black came to Holy Cross from the United States, Margaret Brown was a Calgarian, Alma Martin was raised in Wetaskiwin and the others were country girls from rural Alberta.

Although they attended lectures by Sister du St. Sacrement and the doctors in the evening, most of their education was gleaned while working on the wards, where they spent twelve hours a day.

During their three years of training, the girls wrote a series of examinations, set by the doctors who lectured them, and graduated in 1910 with diplomas, pins and red roses — and the skills to bring the Holy Cross style of nursing to those needing their help.

After postgraduate studies in Edmonton, Nellie Whalley returned to the Holy as an instructor in obstetrics in 1911, but a Holy grad's maternity experience remained theoretical until the hospital's first maternity department opened in 1913.

With the formation of the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses (A.A.R.N.) in 1916, education became standardized. In the act which incorporated the Graduate Nurses of Alberta, *The Registered Nurses Act*, the following qualifications for membership were stipulated:

"Every applicant for registration as a registered nurse shall

- 1) have received at least three years' training in medical surgical and obstetrical work at a general hospital or hospitals recognized by the Senate of the University of Alberta.
- 2) pass a qualifying examination . . .
- 3) pay a fee of five dollars."

Any resident of Alberta with at least two years training in a recognized hospital, and a certificate of

graduation, was exempt from the examination, but required to pay the fee if she wished to become a Registered Nurse.

Under the Act, the Senate of the University of Alberta had authority to:

1. satisfy itself that girls entering training schools had a minimum of grade eight education.
2. fix standards of training — bed capacity, classes, lectures, etc.
3. refuse recognition to hospitals not consistently observing these standards, and
4. prescribe the scope and subjects of qualifying examinations, and to appoint examiners.

Even while complying with the guidelines set down in the Act, training schools were able to continue to send their students onto the wards as soon as they arrived at the school. The girls received their only formal lectures during their off-duty hours in the afternoon, or in the evenings after their twelve-hour shift was finished. Since a similar practice was followed in all schools of nursing in the Province, Holy Cross students didn't consider themselves underprivileged.



Horseplay in O.R., circa 1914.

Glenbow Archives



Glenbow Archives

Holy Cross Nurses, circa 1916.

Sister Josephine Weekes, Director of Nurses, speaking to a convention in Edmonton in 1917, outlined the education curriculum followed at the Holy Cross. For two or three months, her probies learned bed making, nursing principles, hygiene, materia medica, chemistry and physiology and dietetics. Junior students spent even more time in the diet kitchen and also learned bedside nursing skills. During intermediate year, they studied medicine, anatomy and physiology, principles of aseptic surgery, surgical emergencies, bandaging, and more nursing principles. Senior students studied diseases of children and child nursing, obstetrics, general surgery, gynecology, and infectious diseases.

The first Province-wide examinations were held in 1919, and students were tested in obstetrical train-

ing, medical training and surgical training. Examinations were in two parts — written and oral. The orals, or practicals, included a section on improvisation; that is, preparing treatments from material found in the home. This would indicate a nurse's competence for specialising in the country without familiar hospital equipment. The first examinations were set by doctors, but soon they were set and marked by instructresses from Alberta training schools.

Holy Cross students proved the excellence of their School by placing first in the Province in 1924, 1925 and 1927.

The Sisters were still the only instructresses in 1927 and, with doctor's lectures to supplement their efforts, they offered a course of studies consisting of: history of nursing; nursing ethics; first year nursing; primary studies; bandaging; anatomy and physiology; surgery; obstetrics and gynecology; ear, eye, nose and throat; pediatrics; diet and nutrition; materia medica, and medicine. The first lay instructress, Lucille de Satge of the class of 1919, was hired in the late 1920s. She continued teaching until 1933, when postgraduate study became a requirement for instructresses.

In 1930, the R.N. examinations included:

1. Obstetrics, gynecology and urinalysis
2. Medical nursing and materia medica
3. Surgical nursing and bacteriology
4. Pediatric nursing and nutrition
5. Hygiene, communicable diseases and community health
6. Anatomy, physiology and professional problems.

A Provincial committee was established in 1932 to inspect training schools. Made up of the Registrar of the University of Alberta, an educator from the university, a representative of the Medical faculty, and a representative of the A.A.R.N., the committee carried out an annual inspection of all Alberta schools of nursing.

The schedule for students writing their R.N.s in 1933 was a guarantee of early grey hairs and ulcers. For three days in a row, students wrote a three-hour-long exam in the morning, and then spent three hours in the afternoon taking a practical examination in the same subject. The medical nursing exam covered hygiene, communicable diseases, materia medica and physiology; surgical nursing included anatomy, dietetics, bacteriology and ethics, and obstetrics was combined with pediatrics and urinalysis.

SURGICAL NURSING INCLUDING ANATOMY, DIETETICS, BACTERIOLOGY AND ETHICS

Wednesday, April 19, 1933.

Morning, 9:00—12:00.

Values.

10. 1. Give a description of the main constituents of the blood.
15. 2. (a) Mention three diseases requiring special diet.
(b) Give outline of type of diet for each.
5. 3. (a) What do you understand by aseptic technique?
5. (b) Name the common sources of wound infection.
8. 4. (a) Who were: Jeanne Mance; Florence Nightingale; Norah Livingstone; Mary Agnes Snively?
7. (b) What influence did these women exert on the profession of nursing?
40. 5. Enumerate briefly the special points in the post-operative nursing care of the following:
(a) prostatectomy;
(b) nephrectomy;
(c) gastro-enterostomy;
(d) perinoerrhaphy.
10. 6. (a) Classify burns.
(b) Describe the emergency treatment of a severe burn of the lower extremities.



Students "operating" on fellow student, circa 1926.



1927 — O.R. scene.



The O.R. in 1931.



Students in the O.R., 1931.



B. Thorne making solutions, circa 1939.



Students with George Bingham, 1940.



Chocolate milk break in O.R., circa 1943.



Miss Kimmett and "Jimmie", circa 1929.



The old Dressing Room, circa 1937.



The Diet Kitchen, circa 1938.

In 1933, Grace Blake was the only instructress in the School. A graduate of the Toronto General, Miss Blake was a most charming young woman and a popular mentor with the girls who trained during her tenure.

By 1933, requirements for enrollment in the program had been raised to grade eleven, and age nineteen. Affiliation with the Victorian Order of Nurses was offered to a few students and the school library contained approximately 100 reference books and nursing journals. Clinical services included 100 days in the operating room, 110 days on obstetrics, 30 days in the nursery, 60 on pediatrics and 14 in the diet kitchen, preparing infant feeds.

Students were expected to have mastered a total of eighty-six nursing procedures before graduation. These were performed under supervision in the classroom and on wards before the student was permitted to do them on her own.

Thanks to recommendations made following the annual nursing school inspections in 1938, a lab was equipped for the students' use and a second instructress, Ethel Ralston, joined the staff. Grade twelve was now an entrance requirement.

Julia Sorby and Catherine Feisel were the instructresses for the class of 1940. This was the first September class to write R.N.s in the spring, before finishing. This meant that, in some cases, students wrote the exams before they had had ward experience in the subject. They were given crash courses in maternity and psychiatry, and had compulsory study in the classroom across the hall from Sister Mansfield's office.

Margaret Whitford joined the staff of the School in 1943. She worked with the students for nearly thirty years, first as secretary to five Directors of Nursing, then as School librarian, from 1963 until her retirement in 1972.

Two new nurses joined the faculty in 1945, Patricia Boyle, a graduate from St. Catherine College, Halifax, and Anna Kapuscinski, from the University of Alberta. In 1947, after postgraduate studies in Edmonton, Lois Kremer (1943), became the Holy's first clinical instructress. It was Lois who introduced the Block System to the School and to Alberta.

The Block System heralded a new era for student nurses. No more twelve-hour night shifts, with sleep interrupted by several hours of classes and study during the day. Students received four blocks of classes during their three years of training — probie, junior, intermediate and senior. While in "block", they were given a concentrated program of study and lectures, with no ward duties to distract them. Between blocks, clinical instructresses held "clinics"



Nursing Arts — with instructress Miss Huck.

on the wards to augment classroom work, and students submitted case studies monthly.

In a presentation to the School of Nursing Committee of the Medical Staff on August 5, 1947, the following explanation was given for changing to the new system.

“Failures in examinations and in R.N.s, illness among nurses, lack of interest of the students in their studies, and, finally, poor nurses.

“At present, our students work 48 hours on the wards besides their classes. They are on duty from 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with three hours off, when they get off on time. During these three hours, they must attend one or two classes and very often a third one after 7:00 p.m. They have to rush from duty to classes and from classes to duty. You will agree that this is quite a heavy load for young girls of 18 to 21. It is also unsatisfactory for the instructor or lecturer. When these girls finally sit down in class, they feel more like relaxing and sleeping than listening to a lecture, however interesting it might be, especially when, on night duty, they have to get up at half past twelve to come to class.

“Last year, we gave under these conditions, 1,275 hours of classes — 382 to preliminaries; 607 to first year nurses; 186 to second year nurses and 98 to senior nurses. No wonder that with such a regime, we had an average of seven days illness per student during the same period.”

By this time, due to a 1947 change in Alberta Government labor regulations, students enjoyed a full day off a week. Student nurses were rejoining the human race.

Because there was a desperate shortage of nurses following the War, entrance requirements were lowered to grade eleven once again.

When Sister Jeanette Forest set an examination for the R.N. exams of 1947, she was asked to prepare one containing six questions — three of the objective type, and three essay-type, with a total examination time of two hours. The objective questions were to be: true or false, completion, selection, matching and multiple choice. The paper was in booklet form, with all questions to be answered in the booklet. Diagrams and drawings were to be used to vary the questions — anatomical drawings in the anatomy paper, for example.

In 1951, nursing schools in the Province agreed to use examinations set by the American League of National Nursing Education, but based on the Canadian course. These “Stateboards” would free the local instructresses from the responsibility of setting and marking the Province-wide exams. These standardized exams were made up of multiple choice, true or false and matching-type questions, and were machine marked. “Studying for Stateboards” became an unpopular pastime of graduating students in the '50s and '60s.



Baker Memorial Sanitorium, 1952.

In the early '50s, students affiliated at the Central Alberta Sanitorium, the Ponoka Mental Hospital and with the City Public Health Department. A few lucky girls spent a week at the Hudson's Bay store with Mona Sparrow (1918), the first industrial nurse in Calgary. Several students affiliated from Ponoka, their crisp blues, white bibs and aprons, and black shoes and stockings provided a welcome contrast to the basic white of Holy students.



Ponoka Residence — S. Gwin, 1972.



Ponoka Mental Hospital, 1961.

Eleanor Bland, a graduate of Brandon General, joined the faculty as Assistant Director, in 1951. She remained at the Nursing School until 1969, guiding the studies of more than 1,000 of the 2,409 graduates of the School.

Classroom discipline was strict in the early '50s, with students sitting in alphabetical order and standing when the instructress or lecturing doctor entered the room.

The full course of studies for a grad of 1953 was:

Preliminary Block: anatomy and physiology; drugs and solutions; health education; history of nursing; microbiology; normal nutrition; nursing arts; professional adjustments; sociology, and religion.

Junior Block: anaesthesia; diet in disease; pathology; medical diseases and nursing; operating room



Classroom, 1957.

technique; dressing room technique; surgery and surgical nursing; pharmacology; oral hygiene; religion.

Intermediate Block: communicable diseases; dermatology and siphology; ethics; ear, eye, nose and throat; health teaching; religion; nursing in children; obstetrics and nursing; psychology; mental hygiene; tuberculosis; urology.

Senior Block: community health; emergency and first aid; orthopedic nursing; psychiatry and neurology; professional adjustments II, and religion.

By 1955, students were offered four affiliations — at the Cancer Clinic, the V.O.N., Pre-Natal Clinic, and the Alberta Red Cross Hospital. The Ponoka affiliation was cancelled for several years because of that hospital's abortion policies.

When the new nurses' residence opened in 1957, classes moved from cramped quarters in the hospital to spacious lecture theatres, labs and a library in the residence.



Nursing Arts, 1957.

In a 1957 brochure for prospective students, the objectives of the School were listed as:

1. To prepare young women of good moral character and sound physical and mental health for the profession of nursing, according to a Christian philosophy of life.
2. To prepare nurses who will give intelligent and skilled nursing care to the patient and who will promote by their example and teaching the standards of health in our modern civilization.
3. To give students a basic professional and practical preparation for good bedside nursing necessary to answer the various health needs of our modern community and sufficient to admit them into more specialized fields of nursing.

Students were expected to have a good standing in grade twelve before entering the School and, in the sixties, a passing grade in the School was 70%. However, students were to maintain a 75% average. Between blocks of lectures from the sixteen full-time instructresses now employed by the School, students continued to attend daily ward clinics, and to complete monthly case studies. During block, assigned study periods were mandatory from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.



The Search for Knowledge.



Study area in new residence — S. Sharpe, 1960.

The last spring class graduated in 1964, and after that, one large class was admitted in the fall of the year. The whole class attended lectures together during the first six months of classroom experience, then it was divided into three parts. Two sections worked on the wards while the third attended classes.

Students affiliated at Ponoka for six weeks, Baker Sanatorium for four, Red Cross Hospital for four, the V.O.N. for one week, The Bay for one week, and spent one day in a doctor's office at the Calgary Associate Clinic.

As more and more nurses were added to the faculty, fewer doctors were asked to lecture to the students, and were called upon only on rare occasions after 1967.

Doris Stevenson, a Calgary General graduate, became the first lay Director of Nursing when she replaced Sister M. Letourneau in 1968. The following year, the hospital and School were sold to the Province. Emphasis then switched from "training"

the nurse to "educating" her. Although nursing education had changed little from 1907 through the 1950s, space technology of the '60s and '70s brought corresponding advances in medical technology and, in order to contribute to the rapidly advancing field of patient care, the nurse of the '70s and '80s required new skills, new knowledge.

Students spent more time in classes, less on wards doing repetitive tasks, the theory being, — when you've emptied one bedpan . . . Between 1968 and 1971, there were major changes in curriculum, and courses were arranged in semesters that allowed all vacations to fall between May and September. Eventually, vacation time was extended to twelve weeks annually, to bring nursing in line with the university year. While nurses and administration of the hospital saw this as a radical move, the faculty felt it was necessary if the School was to compete for students with colleges and universities.

The aim of the School was to prepare hospital nurses skilled in the bedside nursing of the acutely ill. A major precept of the student's education was that "there is no task too menial for the nurse."

In 1969, for the first time, the students wrote the Canadian Nurses' Association Conjoint Nursing Graduate and Registration Examinations.

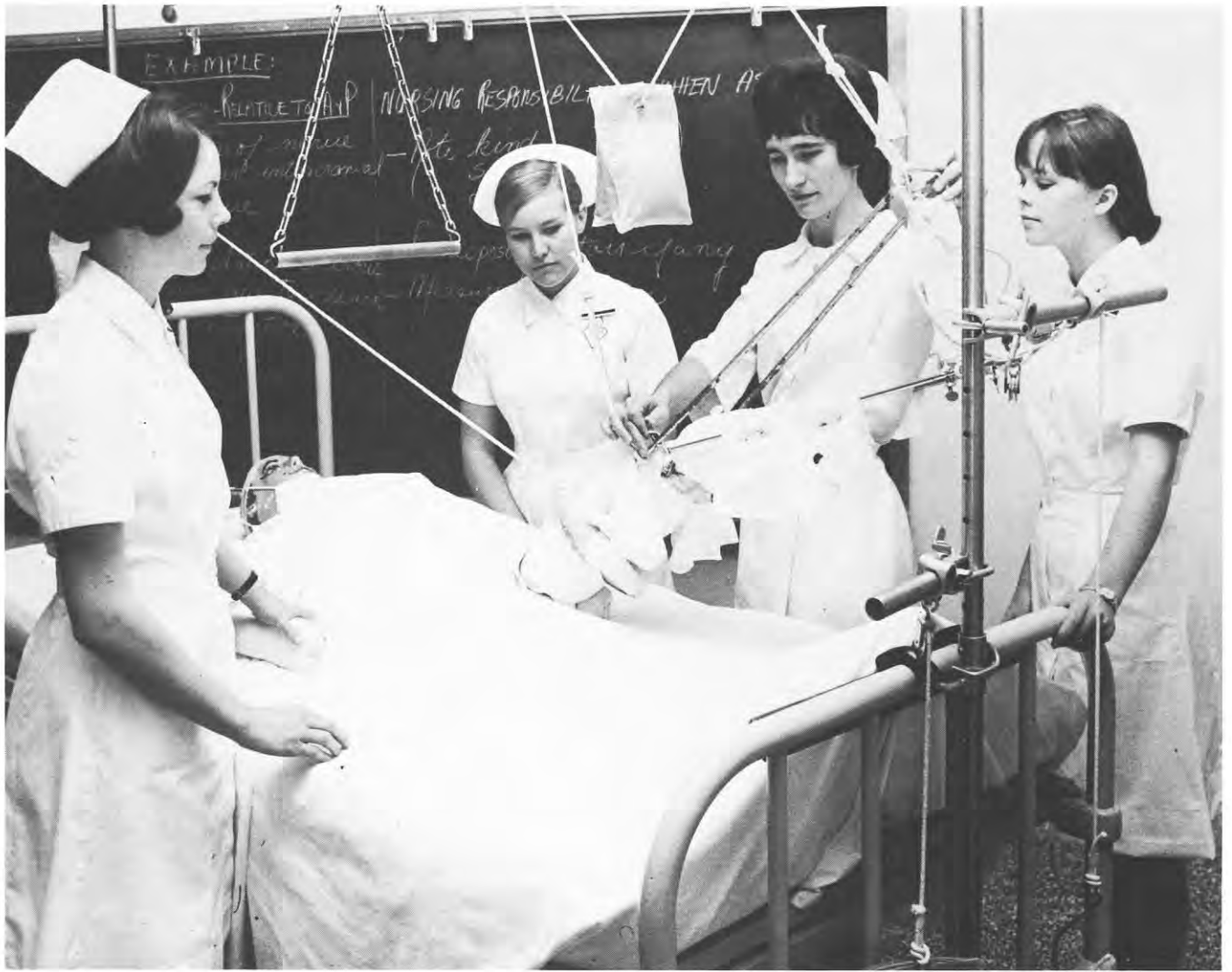
The Fast Report, a position statement regarding the provision of education in the nursing and allied health fields, was compiled and published in 1971-72. Dr. Fast advised a rapid phase-out of all hospital schools of nursing, a recommendation that met with bitter opposition from many existing nursing schools. This gave rise to a task force, which carried out another study and reached a similar conclusion — hospital-based schools of nursing were no longer adequate, and all nursing education should be established as a component of the advanced education system. Doris Stevenson, of Holy Cross, was a member of the task force and, under her direction, the School was gradually phased out.

The Holy student of the '70s was educated to be a hospital nurse, alert to the patient's needs as a member of a family, a work force, and a community, and the School offered a complete course of studies until the final student graduated in 1979.

After 1975, when the faculty set up a comprehensive psychiatry course that included use of facilities now available in the hospital's Macnab Wing, the students no longer affiliated with Ponoka. Their only affiliation was with the Children's Hospital. Operating Room experience was deleted from the course because it was felt there was a greater demand for nurses familiar with Intensive Care — I.C.U. experience was upgraded. The hospital was not able to offer O.R. training as an option, so students had only a



D. Stevenson Garner, congratulates B. Violini — 1972.



Orthopedics, 1970.

glimpse of the drama of the Operating Room — as a part of their “follow-through” on one surgical patient. The long vacation period was designed to cut into long weeks previously spent on medical and surgical floors; it did not curtail experience in such specialty areas as obstetrics, pediatrics, emergency or the recovery room.

Doris Stevenson Garner resigned as Director of Nursing Education in 1978, and Betty Millham, graduate of Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, took her place for the remaining year that the School was open. Mrs. Garner feels that closure of the School was an evolutionary thing, “a survival of the fittest.” In her opinion, the School closed because:

- Enrollment showed a steady drop, due in part to the consciousness-raising of the '70s. If young women were to invest three years in a course, they expected more than a diploma for their efforts.

- There was a push from the profession for nurses to upgrade their education to a baccalaureate degree by 1990, with the result that university and college programs became more appealing than the three-year hospital programs.
- With the change in hospital administration in 1969, the School lost its unique flavor. Roman Catholic girls felt they might better go to university and work toward a degree.

Despite the apparant logic behind the closure, there wasn't a dry eye in the house when the students of the last graduating class received their pins, on the stage of the Jubilee Auditorium in 1979. And there wasn't an alumna without a lump in the throat as the end drew near for that much-loved School. For more than seven decades, Holy Cross nurses had made a respected contribution to the health care field in Alberta. Sometimes, logic is no substitute for sentiment. We miss you Holy Cross.



"Jasper" and Nursing Arts Dolls, circa 1961.

Directors of Nurses 1907-1957

Directors of Nurses 1907-1957

1907-1910	Sister Marie du St. Sacrement
1910-1911	Sister Cecilia Wagner
1911-1912	Sister Julia Blakely
1912-1913	Sister Dosithee
1913-1917	Sister Josephine Weekes
1918-1920	Sister Clara Tougas
1920-1921	Sister Lydia Quenneville
1921-1923	Sister Fafard
1923-1927	Sister Laverty
1927-1929	Sister Antoinette Chauvin
1929-1930	Sister St. Simon
1930-1931	Sister Clara Tougas
1931-1932	Sister Anna-Maria Robert
1932-1943	Sister Loretta Mansfield
1943-1948	Sister Lucienne Lapierre
1948-1952	Sister Léontine Mongrain
1952-1954	Sister Melina Trottier
1954-1957	Sister Cecile Leclerc

Directors of Nursing Service

1957	Sister Simone
1957-1965	Sister Lucienne Garneau
1965-1971	Sister Rita Coulombe
1971-1976	Evelyn Dragojevitch
1976-1980	Acting Directors: Flora Quaife Margo Horne
1980	Arlene Devrome

Directors of Nursing Education

1957-1963	Sister Cecile Leclerc
1963-1968	Sister Marguerite Letourneau
1968-1978	Doris Stevenson Garner
1978-1979	Acting Director: Betty Millham



L. de Satge, 1919.



V. Molesky, 1944.



J. Corkery, circa 1938.



E. Bland, circa 1960.



Instructresses, circa 1934. Standing (L. to R.): Connors (Diet Kitchen); L. Attriux (Obstetrics). Sitting (L. to R.): I. Sandeman (Nursing Arts); M. O'Donnel (Lab); E. Schmidt (O.R.)



E. Millham, 1979.

We Remember — The Classes

Mrs. Chase, that stoical and uncomplaining soul with the floppy hip, was our first friend in training. (1942)

Sister Lapierre, in a speech to her faculty, expressed the same sentiments expressed I'm sure by the first Florence Nightingale graduate (and they'll be expressed by the grads in 2010). "It is felt that students nowadays have not the same spirit towards nursing as before. They need a keener spirit — nobler attitude." (1947)

San. affiliation was a "holiday" — good food, slow pace and no housemother! We weren't allowed to rub male patients' backs in case we "aroused their emotions." Such femme fatales! (1951)

"Block" included evening courses. Emily Post was given by Flossie Thorpe of the Bay and Aileen Fish taught us deportment. Long suffering St. John Ambulance people gave a know-it-all senior class their First Aid. (1953)

An ink bottle was kept in the hall outside the classroom so we could fill our fountain pens before class. (1953)

During each block, a few unfortunates found themselves working nights on a specialty when schedules conflicted. They were on duty from eleven to seven, then dozed through classes until four. Their only horizontal sleep came between five and eleven before they went on duty again. And somehow, they had to find time for meals and study; social life was non-existent.

Night duty on Pediatrics meant suffering through the granddaddy of all short shift changes. Students there worked three to eleven on Saturday, seven to three on Sunday, then went back on duty at eleven for nights! (1955)

Male student posed a problem. Who had to give John Guy his mandatory bed bath?

Seniors told us freshmen that Mrs. Stevenson (Garner) had been in the military and we should stand and salute when she came into the room. She looked

stunned when greeted that way — and as last class, we had no one to pull a similar trick on. (1979)

We took all the mannikins, dressed them in class uniforms and sat them in anatomy class. One of them diligently raised her hand at every question (thanks to a complicated system of strings). Mrs. Francis finally had an intelligent student. (1979)

Trainex films were a sure cure for insomnia. (1979)

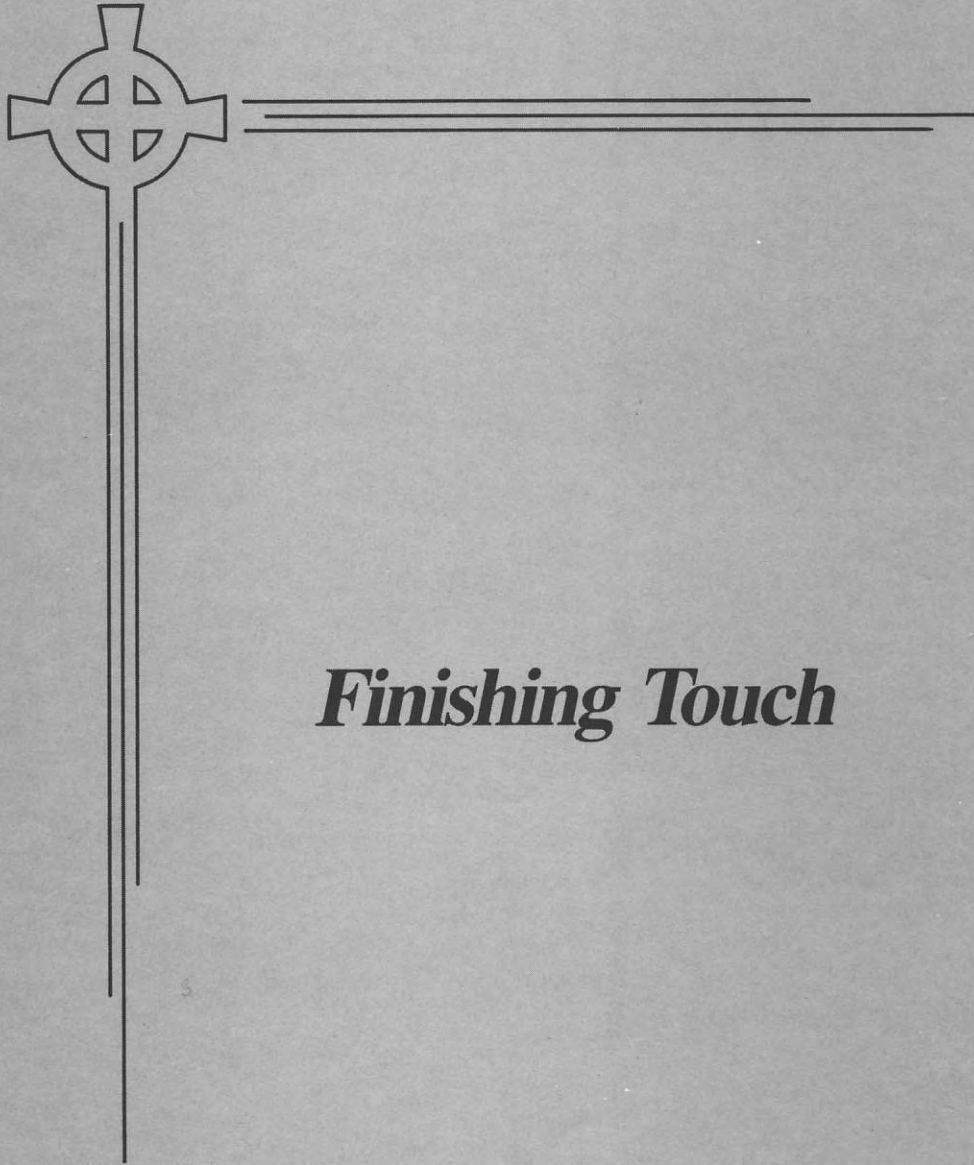
The Damien Prayer

God, give me eyes that I might see
The work that can be done by me.
God, give me ears that I may hear
The cries of those that need me near.
God, give me lips that I might speak
Comfort and peace to all who seek.
God, give me a mind that I might know
To help the ones that need me so.
God, give me hands that I might do
Some large or simple task for You.
God, give me prayer that I may pray
For help and guidance every day.
And these things all else above —
God, give me a heart that I might love.

Morning Prayers (circa 1965)

Dear Lord, I begin my day of duty with the hope that I shall serve Thee faithfully. I have consecrated myself to the service of Thy sick and suffering. I have pledged my loyalty and devotion to the noble principles of my calling.

Each task I offer with the sincere hope that it is prompted by my love for Thee. I shall not shirk any duty however unpleasant. When I cool the fevered brow, moisten parched lips or comfort the aching body, I shall remember that I bring comfort to Thee. Help me find in every patient another soul created by Thy infinite love. I pray that my calling may find me always a real lady, kind, courteous and considerate of those who face the trials of sickness. Besides, I shall find hope in the thought that the more perfect my service, the more genuine my sacrifice, the more I shall be like to another Lady — the Lady you honored in such a striking way as to call her, Mother.



Finishing Touch

*“ . . . let today embrace the past with
remembrance and the future with
longing.”*

Kahlil Gibran



Graduation, 1949.

The Florence Nightingale Pledge

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping, and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.

* * * *

This pledge, a tribute to Miss Nightingale, was drawn up at the old Harper Hospital in Detroit, Michigan and first used in that hospital in 1893.

The Jeanne Mance Pledge

That I may be strengthened in my resolve to model my life of duty after that of Jeanne Mance, the first lay-nurse of my beloved Canada, I place myself in the presence of God and I pledge myself, with the help of His Grace, to be faithful to the following ideals:

I will be true to the practice of my Religion, which is the inspiration of my noble vocation, and while administering to the body, I will serve the soul by observing the principles of right Ethics and Nursing Honour.

I will be devoted to the Profession that is mine, obeying the physician within the sphere of his authority, and I will make my work a labour of love rather than of profit, whenever the service of God or Country requires it of me.

* * * *

A tribute to Jeanne Mance, first lay nurse of Canada

International Nurse's Pledge

In full knowledge of the obligations I am undertaking I promise to care for the sick with all the skill and understanding I possess, without regard to race, creed, colour, politics or social status, sparing no effort to conserve life, to alleviate suffering and to promote health.

I will respect at all times the dignity and religious beliefs of the patients under my care, holding in confidence all personal information entrusted to me and refraining from any action which might endanger life or health.

I will endeavour to keep my professional knowledge and skill at the highest level and to give loyal support and co-operation to all members of the health team.

I will do my utmost to honour the international code of ethics applied to nursing and to uphold the integrity of the professional nurse.

* * * *

First used, at a Holy Cross graduation, in 1966.

Today I heard an old man laugh,
 I saw a young man dying,
 I helped restore a soul to life
 I watched a brave girl crying,
 I also made a dozen beds,
 And water fetched for drinking.
 I talked and listened all the day
 Of others only thinking.
 I held a hand that needed holding
 And cheered who needed cheering.
 I turned an ear to a quiet plea
 And traded facts for fearing.
 Yes, I was busy all today
 Tonight my feet are aching,
 But thank you, God, that I'm a nurse
 And in Your work partaking.

Oh Happy Day!

After three years of struggling up the hospital hierarchy, most nurses find graduation to be a pleasantly dizzy height. No longer everyone's dogsbody, they have the right to wear a black band and grad pin — the right to the aura and responsibilities of the graduate nurse. Happy day!

The story of the 2,409 graduates of Holy Cross began in 1907, when six quaking young women entered the newly-formed Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing. They studied and nursed, nursed and studied until, three years later, six confident nurses emerged to become the School's first graduates.

On February 8, 1910, five of the graduates, wearing the stiffly starched uniforms and caps of their profession, sat on the flower-decked stage of St. Mary's Hall and received the diplomas and pins that signified they had completed their training. The sixth, Melitta Berg, missed the exercises in order to go home to nurse her mother.

Elsie Black delivered the first valedictory address to assembled friends and families of her class. All but one of the grads carried a big bouquet of roses; Alma Martin's flowers had been delivered to the General Hospital by mistake.

Chairman for the evening was Calgary lawyer P. J. "Paddy" Nolan. His superabundance of Irish wit

and good humor lightened the emotional occasion. When introducing the soloist, he remarked, "I have great pleasure in presenting to you Mr. Green. Another solo will be sung by Mr. Blue. One of the young ladies in the graduating class is Miss Black; another is Miss Brown. There seems to be a great deal of local color here tonight."

Dr. Egbert, Acting Mayor of Calgary, extolled the value of a graduate's contribution and advised the five nurses that the work of "ministering angels" was as important as that of the physicians.

During the years that followed, many entered the training program; fewer ministering angels graduated. The hours were long, the work demanding, and graduation, for those who went the distance, became an exciting finale to three years of dedicated and rigorous training.

Sometimes, if classes were small or funds tight, the ceremony was a low-key affair held in the hospital or nurses' residence, but a public graduation was held for the fourteen students of the class of 1916. This was celebrated with representatives of the clergy, the City and the medical profession in attendance. Along with their simple gold cross pins, graduates received large rolled diplomas tied with gold ribbons. By this time, the School had its motto, *Semper Fidelis*, and official school colors of red and gold were used in decorations.



Grad pins (L. to R.) 1910-1935; 1935-1957; 1958-1963; 1964-1979.

Because of the war, in 1918 no graduation exercise was held for the seven finishing students. In fact, they simply left when their three years were completed and their names were included in the graduation list a year later. In 1919, twenty-four nurses received their pins and diplomas in the study hall of the residence. One student, Lucille de Satge, who had married a soldier and left the Edmonton General's program, completed her training with the 1919 class but her classmates didn't feel she should be allowed to participate in graduation. Ironically, she became a popular instructress at the School in the 1920s and early 30s, and a prominent member of the Alumnae.

After the War, graduations became an ever-greater celebration of accomplishment. In the 1920s, the Sisters rented the Al Azhar Temple on Seventeenth Avenue for the occasion, and each grad was allowed to invite ten guests to the large hall.

There were fittings and rehearsals for the big event, then the graduates, all on a day off, marched two-by-two from the residence to the Temple.

The nuns insisted that the 1922 graduation be "private and sacred", with exercises in the study hall and no invited guests except for the few doctors who chose to come. The disappointed graduates were consoled with three days off — one for Mass and the exercises, the next for a dinner with the doctors and Sisters, and the third a free day. At the dinner, each grad had a dish named in her honor — a horn of plenty named for Miss Horne, for example.

The whole celebration was so private that no photos were taken, but, three months later, Mr. Oliver, a Calgary Herald photographer, posed the girls in front of the residence and recorded the 1922 class for posterity. The thirteen grads scurried around the hospital, plucking blossoms from the patients' flowers; these were tastefully arranged into small bouquets which they tucked into their belts for the photo.

In 1923, the newest grads were feted at a "bountiful dinner" provided by the Sisters. The rolled strawberry sandwiches, tied with a gold ribbon, were a highlight of the dinner; tasty food after three years of institutional fare really impressed the post-War grads.

Several traditions were born at the 1925 graduation. At one time, students received their black bands either when they came in training, or after their probie term. This year, they received their precious bands at graduation. The Florence Nightingale Pledge was first recited at this time, and it was also the occasion when M. Towers was presented with the first Provincial Nursing Award. Two more Holy graduates, M. Kilgannon in 1925 and Alice Short in 1927,



Lane's Photo Studio

Medals — first awarded at 1924 exercises. (Clockwise from top:) Theory; bandaging; high ideals of service; general proficiency.



B. Holbrook, 1926 graduate, showing "dance slippers" worn for graduation in the mid-1920s.

also received this honor, an indication of the academic excellence of the School.

The glamorous graduates of the mid-1920s were permitted to wear high-heeled white dance slippers (for this occasion only) and to carry six dewy-fresh red roses.

The class of 1928 had been diminished by the "bobbed hair incident" of 1926, and only eleven girls graduated. For the first time, a Highest Standing in Theory pin was awarded — to an overwhelmed Marguerite Walker. This became a tradition, and other awards were added in future years.

When the new chapel was opened in 1929, its beautifully proportioned marble altars and oak pews became a part of graduation. An annual graduation mass, celebrated by the Hospital Chaplain, was attended by students of all denominations. After this uplifting experience, the Sisters entertained the graduates at a special breakfast.

The grim reality of a depression curtailed festivities in the "dirty thirties". The class of '33 was entertained by the Alumnae, but at a coffee party rather than a banquet.

In 1934, Dr. Taylor, who instructed classes in bandaging, awarded a gold and a silver medal for excellence in his subject. This was the last class to receive the large gold cross pin that had been presented to every graduate since the School opened. Ceremonies were held at Penley's Academy.

The class of '35 received a new-style pin. The small gold cross encircled by the words Holy Cross School of Nursing identified Holy grads until 1958, when the simple cross pin was adopted once again.

In 1937, graduation was held at the Palliser Hotel, while the 1938 exercises took place on the stage of the Grand Theatre. The 1937 grads wore the first one-piece dress uniform.



S. McLennan and E. Duncan, 1939, Finishing Day.

The class of '39 found itself financially embarrassed and held a tea in the residence to raise money to print the invitations. At 25¢ a ticket, the tea was a huge success.

Dressed in new uniforms, new caps with black bands and new shoes, these grads passed by Sister Bresque for a final inspection, then filed onto city buses and rode — standing up — to the Capitol Theatre. No creases on those uniforms!

Their festivities included sleepouts on Sunday and Monday (a first) then Monday off for tea with their mothers at the Palliser and a dance in the evening. The traditions of Grad Dance and Mother and Daughter tea had begun.

Then, like starched Cinderellas, the Fall '39 class reported back on duty on Tuesday, returning their pins and diplomas until finishing day, but holding their black-banded caps high.



Bishop Carroll and Father Malo celebrating Graduation Mass, 1957.

During the late '30s, Bishop Francis P. Carroll, newly appointed to the Diocese, was a newcomer to the celebration of graduation. This tall, imposing man was to contribute a scholarly address for the next thirty years. His careful choice of words, polished style and eloquent delivery made him "one of the seven greatest orators in Canada", according to the *Toronto Saturday Night Magazine*. Holy grads would have given him an even higher standing.

The grads of 1940 received a couple of unprecedented perks — a free portrait, and \$2 off permanents worth \$5.50 and \$6.50 from local merchants. They were also the first to write their RNs before completing their specialties. It was possible to graduate, then fail your RNs and be forced to rewrite them. Fortunately, this was a rare occurrence.

During the '40s, turning the residence upside-down became a feature of graduation morning. Alarms wakened the graduating students at 4:45 and they then proceeded to spill every other student in the residence out of her bed in a frenzied farewell to residence life.



The Glee Club provided entertainment at forty years of graduation. Shown at 1968 graduation.

The School of Nursing Glee Club was a staple at graduation for nearly forty years. Earlier exercises had featured musical selections by student nurses then, in the early 1940s, the Glee Club was formed. It was originally made up from girls who also sang at mass in the chapel, then later expanded to include Protestant students. The Glee Club was organized each year in time to allow for rehearsals before graduation, and often entertained at other school functions as well. Several talented local musicians acted as its directors over the years. These included Mrs. C. Pettigrew, Margaret Robinson Berry (more famous for her work with the Bay's Christmas Choir), Blaine Chapman, and Keith Wood. In 1969, Residence Director Liz Stileman became director. As there were too few Juniors or Intermediates to make up a Glee Club in the School's final years, Bishop Darryl Sherwood sang two selections at the 1978 graduation, and the Calgary Chamber Singers entertained at the final exercises.

The first Year Book, an outgrowth of the student's paper, *The Waterloo Advocate*, was published in 1948. These books, which were later renamed the *Lamplighter*, became a fitting tribute to the graduates and a treasured keepsake. Thirty years of yearbooks record the preservation of time-honored traditions; early rising, bedlam in the residence as grads struggle into grad attire, mass in the chapel, breakfast with the chaplain and instructresses, and, finally, starry-eyed graduates filing onto a brightly-lit stage to be honored by church, civic and hospital officials.

Because not all the girls could afford to carry flowers, 1951 saw all the roses lined up along the front of the stage of the Capitol Theatre.

The graduates of 1954 rebelled at wearing uncomfortable, military-heeled shoes and wore flat shoes instead. Diplomas and pins were presented by the Most Reverend A. A. Jordon, Bishop of Prince Rupert, an uncle of two of the graduates.

The stage of the Jubilee Auditorium, built to commemorate Alberta's 50th Birthday, became the dramatic setting for the exercises from the late '50s to the final graduation in 1979. In 1958, Sister G. Hetu became the first Grey Nun to join her classmates and take part in the Holy Cross graduation exercises.

The 1960 graduation, one of the few held in the fall, proved that, in spite of months of preparation and rehearsals, the best laid plans can go awry. The honored students were presented with medals engraved in Quebec. It was discovered at the ceremony that the medals carried not only the name of the coveted honor, but also all of Sister Leclerc's directions to the jeweller — in English!

Then, shortly after the excited grads had assembled on stage, organizers realized that nobody had a copy of the Florence Nightingale Pledge. A hasty reconnaissance by the Health Nurse uncovered an "old grad" at the rear of the auditorium who recalled "bits and pieces". A hasty version was written and rushed to the chaplain, who led the grads in reciting their pledge. This well-rehearsed function also ended up with an empty chair, obvious as a missing tooth, in the front row. So much for long-term planning.

The 1964 class was the largest ever to graduate from the School. Seventy-six girls with stylish bouffant hairdos recited the Jeanne Mance Pledge at graduation for the first time.



1924



1929



1933



1934



1935



1938



1939



1940



1941



1946



1946



1948



1948



1951



1952-71



1972-79

Graduation rings.

Two years later the International Nurse's Pledge was recited and an afternoon mass, celebrated in St. Mary's Cathedral, replaced early morning service in the chapel. Married students, mothers, and a number of transfer students from other schools took part in the graduation exercises of the late '60s. The times they were a-changing.

An era ended in 1969 when the Sisters of Charity sold the Holy Cross; 1,994 nurses had graduated under their guidance. The historic chapel was closed in the 1970s and mass was replaced by an ecumenical service in the residence. Although the Lamplighter

still included a message from the Bishop, he no longer attended the exercises, nor was the mayor invited to speak. The address to the graduates, traditionally given by a doctor, was now the privilege of either a professor from the university or a professional woman.

In 1979, the School fell victim to a national trend of decreasing enrollment and the Holy Cross School of Nursing closed after seventy-two years of operation.

With the addition of a final seventeen names in 1979, the list of Holy Cross graduates was complete.



Finishing Day, 1962 — Saying goodbye to an Intermediate buddy. (L. to R.) K. Barry, P. Oliphant, E. de Boice, L. Durand, L. Kuntz, R. Blake; G. Manders in front.

Songs and Verses

Message from a Graduating Class to the Intermediates

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When your funds are low and your debts are high,
When you want to smile, but have to sigh,
When care is pressing down a bit,
Rest if you must, BUT DON'T YOU QUIT!

Graduation Ditty

It's a long way to graduation,
It's a long way to go.
It's a long way to graduation,
To the sweetest day I know.
Goodbye, Holy Cross,
Farewell Sisters dear.
It's a long, long way to graduation,
But, thank God, it's here!!

Tune: *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*

Probie/Grad Song

Hey, look us over, lend us an ear
Fresh out of high school, wet behind the ears.
Can't dump a bedpan, can't catch a man.
Wherever we go, whatever we do,
There is always something new to do . . . so
Hey, look us over, Class of '65
If we last till capping, then we should survive.
Meat and potatoes, pound after pound,
Can't you see us growing round and round and round?
Hey, look us over, help us to be
Nurses with all the finest qualities.
We're a little short of the knowledge,
But we're surely having fun.
So look out wards . . . Here we come!

At Graduation

Three years are over, now we are done.
Let's shed our blues now, then we'll have some fun.
No more blue sheets, no more patient days
Now we are finished, we'll soon be on our way.
So goodbye to the Holy and the students who must stay
To each and every one of you, you soon will have your day.
We've gained a lot of knowledge and we're really on our way
So, look out world . . . Here we come!

Class of '65

Tune: *Hey, Look Me Over*

Finishing Song

Come take my hand, walk with me down life's road.
Share with me sorrows and fears.
We've only just begun to live our dreams of caring and of tears.
Together.
White camps and candles, and love in our hearts,
With courage strong we will go,
We'll show the world we care, we'll learn of life,
We'll reach and touch and grow.
Together.
There'll come a day when we must say farewell
To friends who have walked by our sides.
Remembering the years, those memories that we will keep with pride
Together.
The Holy Cross will remain in our hearts no matter what the years may bring.
Although we're last to go,
Forever may we hear our voices sing.
Together.

Class of '79

Tune: *Changes*

Graduation Photos

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Class of 1910 — A. Martin, E. Black, B. Currence, M. Brown,
N. Whalley. (Inset M. Berg, circa 1910).

1911
No Students
Graduated

1913

Graduates
L. Baillie
I. Martin
D. Patrick
A. Swanson

No Photo
Available



Class of 1912 — K. Dickson, H. Foster, L. Foster, A. Willison,
E. Willison.

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Class of 1914 — J. Cowan, K. Cracknell, N. Cullen, A. Doyle, P. Gilbert, M. Kilroy, J. Longoz, M. Lucas, Sister C. Landrey, J. MacDonald, H. McPhelan, A. O'Neil, C. Rooke, H. Stooke.

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Class of 1915 — M. Bolger, Sister Eva D'Avignon, M. McDugal, C. Fergusen, M. Martin, M. Noble, Mrs. Purdy, D. E. Taylor.

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Class of 1916 — N. Ballard, M. Farr, J. Ferguson, G. Ferris, M. Kelly, M. Murphy, G. McCulloch, D. Pelletier, D. Rheaum, C. Richardson, I. Richardson, M. Thompson, O. Zimmerman.



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All students in Training 1915-1918.

Class of 1917 — L. Baptie, M. Carlin, A. Crehan, C. Glavin, A. Lee, K. Lynn, S. McLennan, E. Tyson.

Class of 1918 — A. Banton, S. Bernstein, M. Fowlie, F. Hill, J. Howard, M. Mostadt, N. Muldoon, J. Overguard, M. Sparrow.

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Class of 1919 — L. Anthony, E. Bellamy, Mrs. L. de Satge, A. Kennedy, M. Pelletier, E. Sharp, V. Wagner, I. Walker, H. Wharton.



Class of 1920 — F. Chamberlain, K. Dougherty, L. Frigon, D. Lynn, M. Olin, M. Smart, D. Swanson, F. Turnbull.

Class of 1921 — S. Bella, O. Christopherson, S. Craig, M. Keefe, M. Murray, E. Proulx, M. Sutherland. **No Photo Available.**



Class of 1922 — K. Bakos, H. Bella, E. Best, M. Chambers, A. Elverum, A. Emmett, T. Giguire, A. Gilker, I. Grandison, M. Grier, A. Horne, E. Ingram, F. Lockie, P. Lonzo, A. Maloney, M. McMillan, L. Olsen, E. Prette, E. Third, E. Vipond, L. Ward.



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Class of 1925 — L. to R., Back Row: K. Watson, C. Fox, J. M. Knights, M. O'Donnell. Middle Row: F. Morrison, A. Armstrong, J. McDermott, B. Stenberg, D. Ennis. Front Row: L. Barre, E. Thom, H. Boyes, E. Lockeridge, J. Hennesey, S. Lamb, M. McRobbie. (Missing: Sister O. Bedard.)

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Class of 1926 — L. to R., Top Row: E. Nelson, D. Dockerty, B. Holbrook, F. McLean, M. McLean. Centre Row: M. MacKenzie, T. O'Brien, V. Weatherhead, L. Piper, M. Popson, M. Millar. Bottom Row: M. Morrow, D. Kearney, G. Cowen, D. Witts, C. Terca, E. Bannon. Missing: A. Armstrong.



MAUD ADAM



KATHERINE POPSON



MARIE AUDREY BONSER



THELMA EILEEN WILLIAMS



EVA MARIE CLARK



EILEEN MARGUERITE WEIRTZ



MILDRED MARTIN



BLANCHE ALBERTA ADAMS



FLORA MAE MCLEOD



MARY SELINA HASLATT



ALICE MARY GOSLEY



DORETTA MARIE MARTINEAU



ALICE MARIE GATLEY



IRENE JACKSON



OLIVE PALMER GOODWIN



ALICE MARIE SHORT

NURSES GRADUATING CLASS
HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL CALGARY
1927

Kodak

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Medal Winners: Gold Medal — H. Gotheridge; Bandaging — gold — C. Henderson; Silver — R. Sanford.





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General Proficiency — V. Donnelly.

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MAY B. STEELE



MARY A. WEBB



ELIZABETH T. FAIRWEATHER



MARGARET E. PORTER



MARGARET E. ENGLISH



RUTH E. WEATHERHEAD



GWENDOLINE R. MILLER



HAZEL C. ANDERSON



19



LUCILLE de SATGE



33



ALICE L. ANDERSON



FLORENCE E. PETERSON



MURIEL J. GORDANIER



MARION G. MACDONALD



KATHERINE N. DYER



EVELYN J. SCHMIDT



MURIEL M. HUSTON



MARION I. KING



MARY A. MCCUE



HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL Calgary Alberta



*Courtesy of
St. Mary's Hospital*

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Medal Winners: General Proficiency — M. McCue; Bandaging — gold — C. Dyer; Silver — M. Gordanier.

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Theory — E. Payne; Bandaging — gold — L. Hansen; Silver — G. Thorne.



General Proficiency — J. Hockstein; Bandaging — gold — E. Murphy; Silver — B. Scott.

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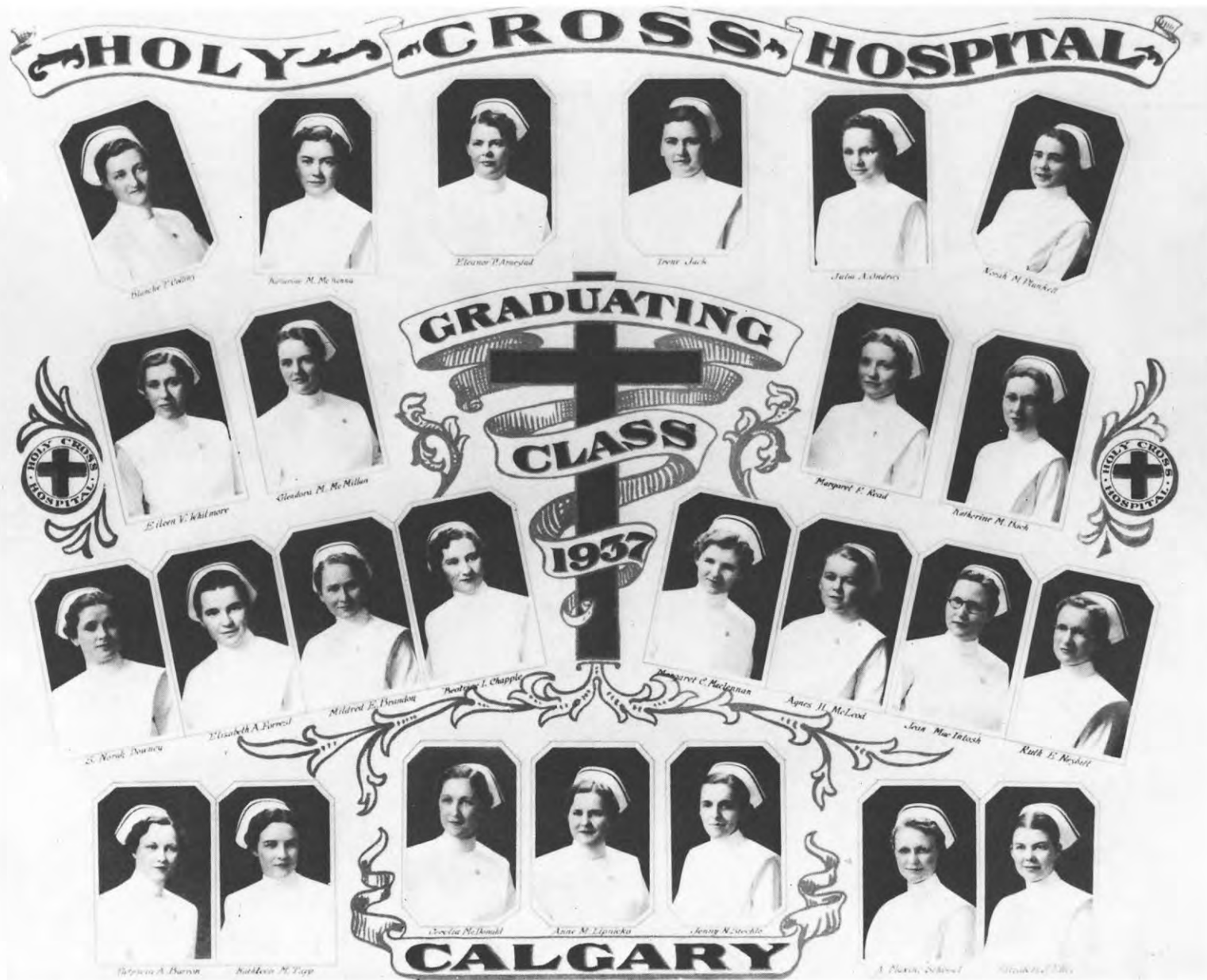
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Gold Medal — V. Ingraham.



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General Proficiency — J. Ondrus; Theory — J. Ondrus; Theory — silver — M. Schissel; Executive Ability — R. Nesbitt; Bandaging — gold — P. Barron; Silver — M. Read.

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General Proficiency — T. Wannop; Theory — R. Turnbull; Bandaging — gold — C. Lymburn; Silver — R. Turnbull; Executive Ability — C. Dobesh.



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General Proficiency — M. Harrison; Theory — R. Cassidy; Executive Ability — G. Cullen; Bandaging — gold — J. Hamilton; Silver — V. McFadyen.





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General Proficiency — N. Gardner; Executive Ability — G. Coughlin; Theory — A. Estabrooks.



Semper Fidelis



Semper Fidelis

							
<i>Gertrude A. Gow</i>	<i>Mary Louise Standen</i>	<i>Mary Jane Geelan</i>	<i>Beaulah H. Bergh</i>	<i>Marion Thackeray</i>	<i>Lillie A. Arntsen</i>	<i>Eileen F. Lynch</i>	<i>Viola A. Pracker</i>
							
<i>Lillian M. McDonald</i>	<i>Ruth M. Fath</i>	<i>Helen C. Bella</i>	<i>Florence D. Dobbin</i>	<i>Helen G. Reid</i>	<i>Anna V. Lapeter</i>	<i>Alice M. Hughes</i>	<i>Bernice E. Murphy</i>
							
<i>M. Stephany James</i>	<i>Olive L. Stauffer</i>	<i>Louise Gusterson</i>	<i>Laura M. Aitken</i>	<i>Jean M. Perkin</i>	<i>Helen P. Clancy</i>	<i>Jessie D. Edworthy</i>	<i>Doris M. Renwick</i>
							
<i>Elizabeth F. Brown</i>	<i>Eileen G. McFurlane</i>	<i>Maud Pearson</i>	<i>Miss O'Brian Instructress</i>	<i>Miss Huck Instructress</i>	<i>Madeline S. Marquand</i>	<i>Helen M. Fischer</i>	<i>Marion L. Keast</i>
							
<i>Valorie M. Kay</i>	<i>Hughena I. Warden</i>	<i>Jean E. Hugg</i>	<i>Lillian C. Russell</i>	<i>May E. Gummow</i>			
							
<i>Anna B. Elerington</i>							

1942 **Graduating Class** **1942**
HOLY · CROSS · HOSPITAL
CALGARY · ALBERTA.

Theory and Best School Spirit — O. Stauffer; General Proficiency — V. Praeker.



General Proficiency — E. Winter; Theory — G. Watchorn; Executive Ability — L. Kremer.

1945 GRADUATING CLASS
HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL
WR STILLINGS STUDIO

R. Greenfield
N. Anderson
V. Campbell
V. Hoy
*Mrs. R. M. Huch
Instructor of Skills
of Nursing*
*Mrs. B. Carson
Instructor of Nursing
Sciences*
M. M. Cormack
H. Newman
M. Fitzgerald
E. Dayman

L. Hansen
E. Jorgensen
J. Zorko
*R. M. Mullen
Vice Pres.*
*D. Corcoran
Pres.*
*A. M. Andrews
Sec. Treas.*
A. Kalmakoff
L. Bauer
M. Diggle

E. Doenz
R. Jeffrey
M. Evans
M. Bachman
J. Kennedy
A. Annon

E. Ferguson
M. Smith
E. Prior
J. Tallman
K. Metz
V. Robertson
V. Hemslock
J. Bieraugel
E. Cush
E. Spires

L. Tough
J. Chollak
K. Dier
R. Chierwinski
S. Kaupp
J. Podlubny
E. Corcoran
H. Rice
D. Bailie

General Proficiency — N. Anderson; Theory — M. Bachman; Surgery — M. Fitzgerald.

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S. SPROULE



M. MCGILLIVRAY



R. NIWA



R. ROBINSON

P. BOYLE B.Sc.
NURSING ART. (Nt)A. KAPUSCINSKI B.Sc.
SCIENCE (Nt)

R. HOLLADAY



J. CHRISTIANSON



J. SMITH



B. OPGARDEN

9



R. MCCANN



L. MACLEAN



J. WILSON



W. MOON

J. CLOAREC
VICE-PRES.B. WELLS
PRESIDENTH. PETERS
SEC. TREAS.

F. SCHEUERMANN



M. GALLOWAY



A. SVEINSON



H. WEYER

4



O. FRASCH



M. ROBERTS



M. DOLE

GRADUATION CLASS

1946

HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL



M. MCLAGAN



A. CYR



B. MCINTYRE

6



M. FARNALLS



H. WAGER



F. CULLEN



N. MORPHY



A. TAYLOR



E. NUGENT



H. BENSON



J. McALLISTER



E. DEERING



F. CHRUSCIEL



J. FRASER



N. MCPHERSON



C. SAMARA



E. BILLIESBERGER



M. MARQUART



B. WAINE



B. SPRAGGE



R. D'AMICO



M. YOUNG



M. STORY



L. PHILLIPS



P. VELKER



M. MCCORMICK

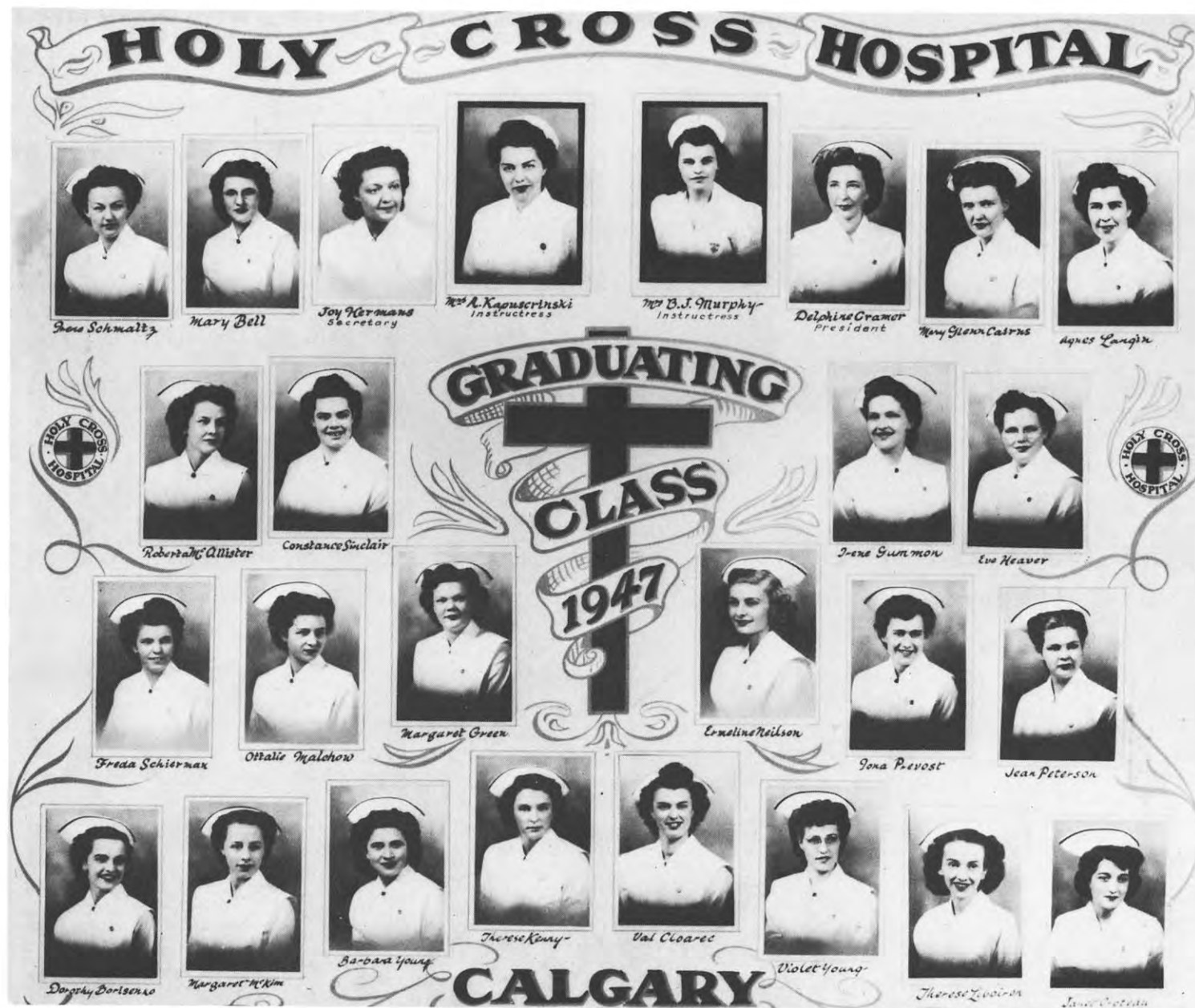


SMITH



M. MACLEAN

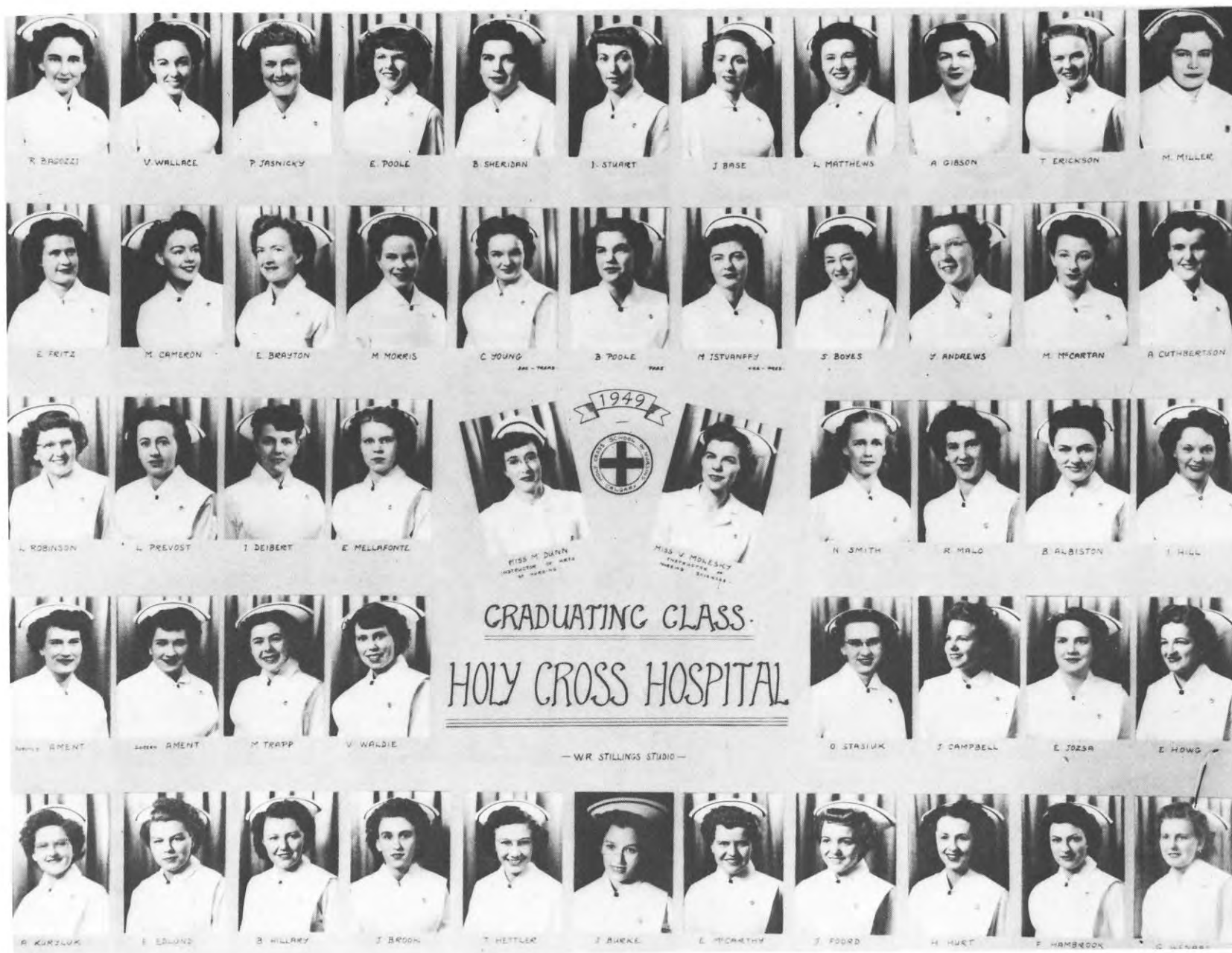
General Proficiency — W. Moon; Proficiency — M. Story; School Spirit — B. Wells; Surgery — J. Cloarec; Theory — B. Opgarden.



General Proficiency — F. Schierman; Theory — E. Heaver; Surgery — V. Cloarec; School Spirit — D. Cramer; Charting — M. Cairns; Bedside Nursing — M. Bell; Surgical Nursing — M. McKim.



General Proficiency — L. Willeson; Bedside Nursing — R. Jacobsen; Theory — E. Peterson; Surgery — C. Aldridge; Obstetrics — B. Schmaltz; Charting — S. Murray; Best School Spirit — M. Flanagan.



General Proficiency — Y. Andrews; Bedside Nursing — N. Smith; Theory — E. Mellafont; Surgery — I. Stuart; Obstetrics — A. Gibson; Aseptic Technique — M. Morris; Good Conduct — B. Poole; Spiritual Activities — O. Stasiuk.



R.O'BYRNE



M.CHICK



M.BLASIAS



M.NOLAN



L.MILLER



B.MORRIS



P.KELLY



G.WOLFF



G.WILD



I.HENRY



J.JACKSON



M.DEITZ



A.BACKMAN



M.LUNDEEN



L.WHITE



E.GERLITZ



J.CHARLTON



C.SAWERS



B.LANGHREN



A.NILSEN



D.HARRIS



T.NERLAND



S.DUNNE



K.HUIZDOS



M.BERZE



V.KEENAN
NURSING ARTS INST.



L.MACKINNAN



A.WALLACE



H.ELLIOTT



M.DUNN
SCIENCE INST.



P.NIELSEN



B.LUTHER



C.MATTHEWS



M.HUTCHINSON



L.RIEGER



C.TYEEs



M.EVANS



I.McCALL



M.SANDILANDS



E.ZIMMER



A.MARGETAK



R.KELLY



I.ARNOTT



J.ELLIOTT



K.STOPFORD



J.McCONKEY



F.JONES



Y.LAMBERT



L.JOHNSON



M.HENRY



M.WAGNER



J.STEELE



J.McMILLAN



R.PARKER



J.ELLIFSON



R.DRINKWATER

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS



1950

General Proficiency — K. Stopford; Bedside Nursing — M. Lundeen; Theory — M. Sandilands; Surgery — E. Gerlitz; Obstetrics — M. Henry; Aseptic Technique — C. Sawers; School Spirit — R. Drinkwater; Pediatrics — M. Deitz; High Ideals and Moral Ethics — M. Berze.

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1951 **Holy Cross Hospital** 1951

GRADUATING CLASS



General Proficiency — M. Hall; Theory — P. Peterson; Surgery — L. Chatterson; Obstetrics — M. Fridgen; Aseptic Technique — M. Hawkey; Pediatrics — I. Ritchie; Technical Skill — H. Planicka; Moral Ethics — K. Benoit.

1



V. AIELLO



K. TUNBRIDGE



S. FULLERTON



T. DAVIDSON

D. RUSHTON
VICE - PRES.M. FAIRLEY
PRESIDENTS. DODDRIDGE
SEC. TREASURER

M. HOGGARTH



M. MICHALIK



S. EDWARDS



J. ALLORO

9



D. AUNE



B. BERTSCH



L. BLUE

Holy Cross Hospital

1952 GRADUATING CLASS 1952



E. BUGSIS



E. BURNSIDE



H. CAPLING

5



M. CATON



D. CHAMBERLIN



D. COTE



E. CROSSMAN



C. EDWARDS



R. GELINAS



E. GRAFENHAUER



V. HILBERT

2



B. HOOVER



H. IZYK



R. KINNIBURGH



R. KLEMM



A. KLOEPFER



J. KNISS



V. KOMAR



L. KONDO



M. KUBIK



J. LEATHER



F. LINSTED



A. MANN



L. MARSHALL



M. MARSHALL



P. MATKIN



A. MATHEIS



M. MIQUELON



K. MORRIS



J. MCFAYDEN



J. MCINENLY



E. MCLEAN



B. NEVILLE



J. ODELL



E. OXTOBY



P. PODMAROFF



M. RITCHIE



P. SCHWARTZ



R. SHAW



J. STANFORD



M. TEIGEN



W. THORPE



B. TOMPKINS



A. WATANABE



D. WATRIN



S. WATSON



S. WILLIAMS

General Proficiency — J. Alloro; Theory — L. Kondo and P. Matkin; Surgery — D. Aune; Moral Ethics — V. Aiello; Pediatrics — P. Schwartz;
Aspetic Technique — R. Gelinas; Obstetrics — J. Leather; Technical Skill — B. Hoover.



General Proficiency — J. Douglas; Bedside Nursing — A. Bridarolli; Theory — B. Holmes; Surgery — S. Hanson; Moral Ethics — J. McLeod; Pediatrics — B. Rupp; Aseptic Technique — I. Purdy; Obstetrics — A. Ginther.

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Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING



CLASS 1954



4



General Proficiency — M. Jorgensen; Bedside Nursing — M. Dick; Theory — M. Fridgen; Surgery — M. Velker; Aseptic Technique — E. Ross; Pediatrics — G. Velker; Obstetrics — S. Roskin; Moral Ethics — H. Hourihan Prof.



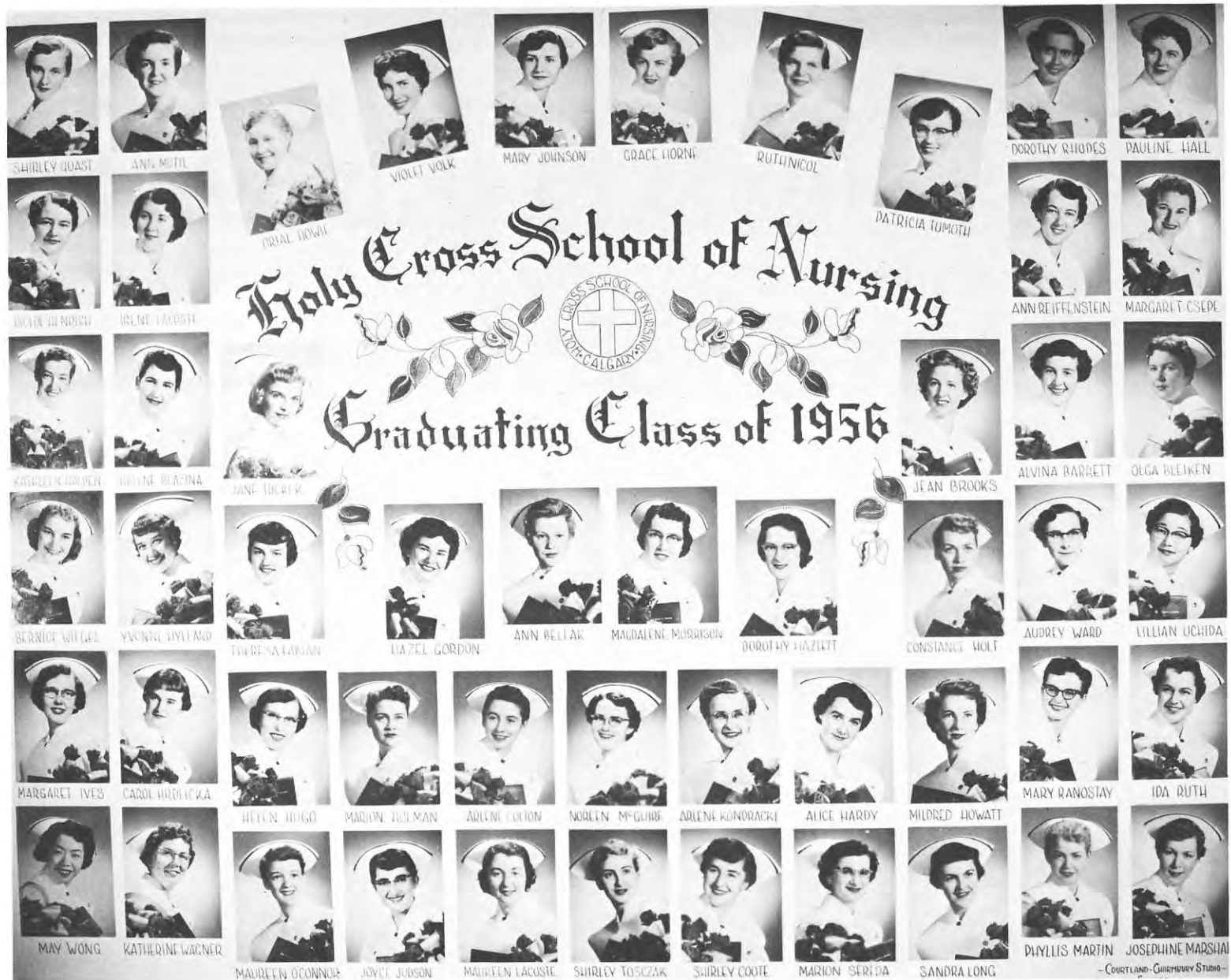
General Proficiency — J. McMullen; Bedside Nursing — G. Munro; Theory — S. Thielen; Surgery — I. Nykolaychuk; Aseptic Technique — M. Vrolson; Pediatrics — E. Manolson; Obstetrics — L. Jorgensen; Moral Ethics — F. Kowenko; High Ideals of Service — P. McMillen.

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General Proficiency — C. Hrdlicka; Bedside Nursing — M. Howatt; Theory — J. Brookes; Operating Room — L. Uchida; Aseptic Technique — P. Tumoth; Pediatrics — J. Judson; Obstetrics — M. Johnson; Moral Ethics — K. Halpen; High Ideals — G. Horne.

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B. SCHMALTZ L. LACHARITE D. NOBERT



B. MOULTON M. MOULTON V. ZANNY



I. BRIDAROLI J. MCGOWAN



A. VALENTINE



E. MACMANUS



M. MOONEY



K. ANDERSON



E. ELLIS



H. BROWN



D. SUTOR



M. PHILLIPS



H. NICOL



A. NICOL



M. STEPHENSON



D. CRETIN



J. GOURLEY

Graduating Class 1957

Holy Cross School of Nursing



C. MORIHIRA S. CALDWELL G. KENNEDY



C. UMBACH M. TALLON M. SNIDER A. PETRUSKA



J. THOMAS M. JARRETT M. STANG



R. HNATIUK E. SIKORA T. CHUMIK S. HOTSENPILLER M. PLUME M. NACTEGALE M. ORCHARD A. OSTROWERCHA A. GALVON J. VANSTONE E. JOHNSON M. JOHNSON



G. CELLI D. CHADUT I. KULSKY P. DEBALINHARD G. RITCHIE S. SMITH S. WIIG B. NICHOLSON M. SEREDYNSKI G. PATTISON M. GERMAINE C. SCHMALTZ

General Proficiency — E. Sikora; Bedside Nursing — G. Pattison; Theory — M. Plume; Operating Room Technique — M. Phillips; Pediatrics — A. Petruska; Aseptic Technique — J. McGowan; Obstetrics — M. Stang; Moral Ethics — A. Galvon; High Ideals — M. Mooney.

1



B. HESS



V. BERGSTRESER



A. HRNCIRIK

GRADUATING CLASS 1958



E. WHITEHEAD



C. STANG



M. OLSON

9



I. WEEKS



M. KILAR



E. GIBEAU



D. WILLIAMS



J. CONNOLLY



D. TENCH



D. ANDERSEN



J. GREINER



N. WILSON



B. STEVENS

5



G. JOHNSON



J. BEAUDIN

Holy Cross Hospital

SCHOOL OF NURSING



E. FRINGER



N. MANION

8



P. VOLK



J. STIANSEN



M. EDDLES



C. TWETEN



D. LEITCH



J. INGLIS



I. LYNCH



M. THOMAS



R. CAMERON



J. SMITH



P. RICHARDSON



S. VROLSON



B. GILCHRIST



A. SILBERNAGEL



P. MAHURA



I. FAUTH



K. ROMAN



M. BEAGLE



M. LEROUGE



H. GREGORY



E. HENRICKS

General Proficiency — I. Lynch; Bedside Nursing — D. Williams; Theory — M. Thomas; Operating Room Technique — Sr. Hetu; Pediatrics — R. Cameron; Aseptic Technique — M. Beagle; Obstetrics — J. Inglis; Moral Ethics — D. Leitch; High Ideals — J. Stiansen.

Graduating Class 1959

Holy Cross Hospital

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Students (from top to bottom, left to right):

- D. BENNER, B. MCCARTHY, I. ROBERTS, F. BETTIN, J. LANDELS
- E. LEAHY, V. LECH, M. WILSON, F. JACKSON, J. LANDELS, I. MIKLOSEK
- O. PASHULKA, B. LOHR, M. MacMILLAN, D. THOMSON
- J. SMITH, I. BOHACHIK, R. KUBIK, M. HERTZ
- M. KLOPPENBURG, E. NESSELBECK, M. CURRIE, P. JOHNSON, J. STEVENS, D. BRUNING, B. RABIN, P. ABLONCZY, M. JONES, J. GROVES, D. DAVIS
- A. NIMSICK, E. MCCARTHY, A. MUNRO, P. STROUCKEL, M. FLETCHER, D. KERR, S. SWAN, M. BRADSHAW, V. WOODS, C. DAWSON, H. ZIOLKOSKI

General Proficiency — F. Bettin; Bedside Nursing — D. Bruning; Theory — A. Munro; O.R. Technique — B. McCarthy; Pediatrics — R. Kubik; Aseptic Technique — C. Dawson; Obstetrics — I. Roberts; Moral Ethics — E. Leahy; High Ideals of Service — V. Lech.

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H. ATKINSON



N. BANISTER



A. BASSIL



M. BESTIANICH



A. BONOGOFSKI



D. BOYCHUK



C. CLARK



M. COOKE



E. CRAWFORD



A. COTTON



M. DANNAWALD



E. EDGAR



E. FALASCONI



K. GIBSON



B. GIECK



G. GLANDVILLE



S. GEORGE

YR. BK. EDITOR



L. COLPITTS

B. BARRETT
PRES. FEB. CLASSS. FREE
PRES. SEPT. CLASS

VALEDICTORIAN



I. CRAWFORD



M. GORDON



D. HARWOOD



J. HOURIHAN



A. HUSTON



M. INGALLS



J. KONDO



E. KOZMA

Holy Cross Hospital

SCHOOL OF NURSING

GRADUATING CLASS 1960



A. LAROUGE



C. MORGAN



R. MATHESON



M. MERCHANT



M. McNEIL



M. MCGRAW



M. SCHEUERMAN



S. SHERLOCK



M. NELSON



T. NELSON



G. O'CONNOR



P. PATTERSON



E. RIMMER



F. RANDELL



M. ROBBINS



H. STANDISH



J. STELMACK



E. STOLSON



J. STOREY



A. SWAN



S. SHARP



M. THOMPSON



D. SWANSON



E. WHITE



B. WILSON



E. WOITTE



C. WAMBEKE



B. VELKER



B. LARSON



M. LONGMAN



B. LONG



D. MACDONALD



M. MICHEL



M. MOIR



M. SKARZYNSKI



I. SANDEMAN



S. SCHAFER



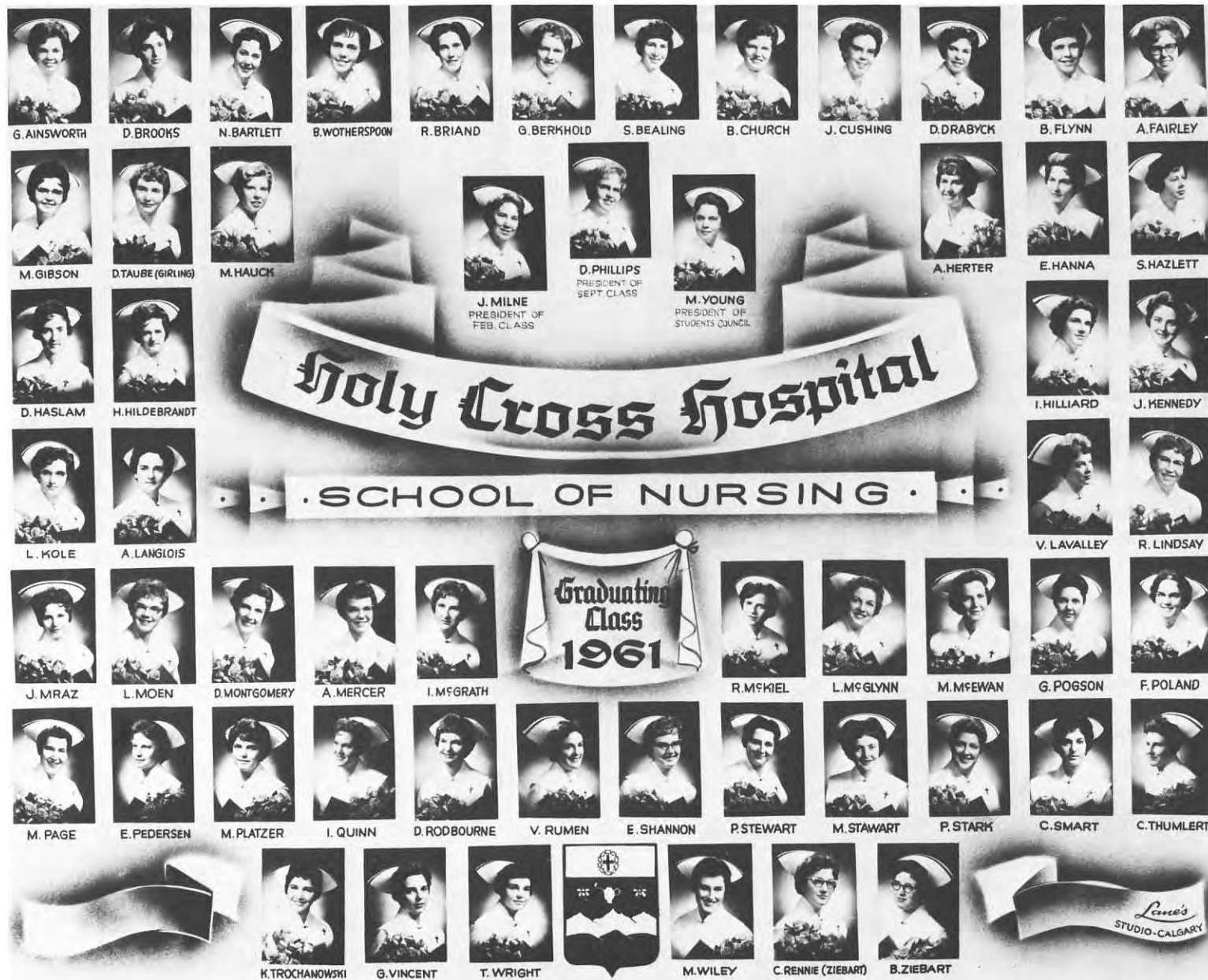
L. THOMAS



M. UNIACKE

Lane's Studios

General Proficiency — E. Rimmer; Bedside Nursing — L. Thomas; Theory — M. Michel; O.R. Technique — D. MacDonald; Pediatrics — S. Free; Aseptic Technique — M. Ingalls; Obstetrics — E. Crawford; Professional Ethics — M. Thompson; High Ideals of Service — J. Kondo.



General Proficiency — M. Page; Bedside Nursing — N. Bartlett; Theory — A. Fairley and B. Church; O.R. Technique — M. Young; Pediatrics — V. Lavalley; Aseptic Technique — R. Lindsay; Obstetrics — D. Haslam; Professional Ethics — D. Montgomery; High Ideals of Service — I. Quinn.

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C. ANDRESEN



J. ARMBRUSTER



K. BARRY

B. STREET
VICE PRESIDENT
STUDENT COUNCILM. VANDERVALK
PRESIDENT
STUDENT COUNCILP. PRIESTNALL
PRESIDENT
FEBRUARY CLASSM. BIRCH
PRESIDENT
SEPTEMBER CLASSE. SULLIVAN
VICE PRESIDENT
STUDENT COUNCIL

J. BLACKWELL



J. BLAIR



R. BLAKE



B. COWIE



A. DALLAS

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS



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M. de BARATHY



E. DeBOICE



G. DICK



R. DITCHBURN



L. HEBERT



J. HEEMBROCK



C. JACOBSEN



L. JEMPSON



H. GRANT



L. DURAND



E. FORREST



C. FULTON



M. GUENETTE



L. HAWKINS



J. LEVESQUE



V. LIKTOR



M. INGRAHAM



N. McAVOY



N. MURPHY



D. KAUFMANN



S. KOSTENACK



L. KRAUSE



L. KUNTZ



C. LeLIEVRE



C. LeROUGE



R. PORTER



C. SIMM



K. LLOYD



E. STANDISH



C. STEWART



M. McDONALD



SISTER MARY JEAN



W. NIVEN



P. OLIPHANT



J. PERRY



J. PLOMP



A. ROUSSEAU



M. CHRISTENSEN



L. SPENCER



B. GODLONTON



L. BLUE



J. TANNER



H. WHITE



D. YATES

General Proficiency — M. Ingraham; Bedside Nursing — H. White; Theory — Sr. Mary-Jean f.c.s.p.; O.R. Technique — C. LeLievre; Pediatrics — C. Andresen; Aseptic Technique — M. Guenette; Obstetrics — L. Hawkins; Professional Ethics — I. Jempson; High Ideals of Service — V. Liktov.

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3

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS

1963

Linas Studio - CALGARY

Students and their roles (where noted):

- D. ALLAN, P. BATEMAN, B. BROCKWAY, I. BROWN, D. BUDD, C. COLTON, J. CURTIS, P. DALMAN, M. EISLER, M. FARK, E. FAUBERT
- R. GILMER, D. GOODER, D. HALL, E. HUNTER (PRESIDENT FEBRUARY CLASS 63), J. LEIER (VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT UNION), I. NOWICKI (PRESIDENT STUDENT UNION), R. LONG (PRESIDENT SEPTEMBER CLASS 63), T. KERFOOT (VICE PRESIDENT SEPTEMBER CLASS 63), S. HARTWICK, S. HAY, M. HEEMBROCK
- M. HOFFMANN, T. ITO, J. JENSEN, A. JERRETT
- P. JORDAN, E. JONSON, I. KAHLER, C. KENNEY, M. KELLY, M. KROMM
- S. KRUGER, A. LABENTSOFF, B. LUGO, G. MANDERS, C. MARRIOTT, J. MCCOOMBS, C. OLSTAD, L. McDONALD, M. McGRATH, M. O'GORMAN
- M. O'NEIL, D. PREFONTAINE, R. RACKOW, SISTER REWEE, M. REVITT, C. MORAN, M. MURPHY, M. SHANNON, SR. SYLVIANNE MARIE, D. TUSON, T. TURNER
- F. ROTHFUS, S. SALT, H. SCHNELL

General Proficiency — H. Schnell; Bedside Nursing — J. Jensen; Theory — A. Labentstoff; O.R. Technique — R. Rothfus; Pediatrics — M. Kelly; Obstetrics — M. Shannon; Professional Ethics — E. Faubert; High Ideals of Service — R. Rackow.

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JUDITH ALLAN



ILLA ARNFINSEN



JEANNETTE ALLARD



MARGUERITE BAXTER



MARGARET BOYCE



MARLYN BOWMAN



JOYCE BISHOP



VIRGINIA BOHONIS



DOREEN BURCH



S. CARR-DAVIS



MARILYN CARR



LORNA CONGDON



JOANNE COONEY



KATHLEEN CUNNINGHAM



LORETTA CLARY



LINDA CLARK-BECKLUND



SUZANNE THOMAS
HONOR BOARD PRES.



PAT DILLON
VICE PRES. STUD. COUNCIL



GAIL ZAKARIASEN
VICE PRES. SEPT. CLASS



ELAINE STEPAC
PRES. STUDENT COUNCIL
AND Valedictorian



J. HAMBLING-SORBY
PRES. FEBRUARY CLASS



DIANNE CLARKE
VICE PRES. FEB. CLASS



ANNETTE CAMPBELL



SHEILA CARLETON



EVELYN DAVIDSON



JEANNE DUBOIS



BARBARA ELLIOTT



SUSAN ELLIOTT



NORMA GIBSON



V. GINGRICH-SORBY



PATRICIA GORDOS



M. HERLE-FONTEYNE



L. HEISLER-BAKER



SHIRLEY HILL



CHRISTINA MACBRIDE



KATHLEEN MCINTYRE



MARGARET MACDONALD



EDWINA SHACKLETON



TERRY STEPHENSON



DANNA STILLMAN



CAROL HODGKINSON



LOKRAINE KRUSE



BETTY KUNZ



MAUREEN KNIVEL



ANITA LESNIK



E. LETKEMAN-HAUSER



G. LARSON-HOFFMAN



GAYLENE LEWIS



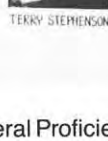
MAUREEN MCNEIL



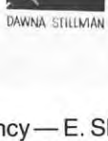
JOAN MCQUINN



D. TIFFANY-SLETTEIDE



MARY TOTH



ISABELLA THOMPSON



J. MCKAIN-EVANS



JUDY MORTON



DONNA MUNRO



ISABELLA NIWA



JOANNE NEWMAN



LEONA PARRY



PATRICIA PESZAT



S. WIIKEM-GOODFELLOW



ARLENE VIKSE



HELENE WILKINSON



RENEE WUEST



PATRICIA WALSH



KATHLEEN WALSH



MAUREEN YOUNG



MYRNA PURDY



M. RISDON-BELL



MARILYN SHAW

Ruby Cross Hospital

1964

GRADUATING CLASS

Lane's Studio

General Proficiency — E. Shackleton; Bedside Nursing — V. Gingrich; Theory — L. Heisler; O.R. Technique — H. Wilkinson; Pediatrics — P. Dillon; Obstetrics — E. Davidson; Professional Ethics — I. Thompson; High Ideals of Service — L. Clary.



LOIS AUSSENHUS



MARLENE BERGH



LORRAINE BISCHOFF



ANNA-MAE BONERTZ



KATHLEEN BOSCH



CHARLOTTE BOYDEN



EVELYN BRILZ



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LOURINDA CONKLIN



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ELIZABETH GRUTCHER



JUDITH DAHL



CHARLENE DAVIS



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19



DEIRDRE FOX
PRES. STUD. ASS.



EILEEN KOSIOR
CLASS VICE PRESIDENT



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65



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JUDITH FRASER



DIANA FURUKAWA



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DONNA RISDON



VICTORIA SCHEUERMAN



DIANA LUDWIG



LORRAINE MASTEL



ROSE MARIE MASTEL



ELEANORE MOLLAND



SANDRA MACKINLAY



PATRICIA MACLEAN



GLENDA MCLENNAN



ANNE SPAETGENS



BETTE-JEAN TELFORD



MARY THIESSEN



ANNE THORSEN



GAIL TOSO



ANN VANDER PLOEG



DOREEN WADDY



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ORA LANDEEN



MARGARET MCNIVEN



LYNN MCPHERSON



GAYLA O'RIORDAN



ELIZABETH WARDLE



CATHERINE WEST



DIANE WILLIAMS

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9
6
5

General Proficiency — E. Molland; Bedside Nursing — M. Bergh; Theory — E. Kosior; O.R. Technique — S. Grimshaw; Pediatrics — V. Scheuerman; Obstetrics — J. Dahl; Professional Ethics — C. West; High Ideals of Service — M. Gibson.

1



J.J. ALBRECHT



SISTER MARY ANTHONY



J.K. BAIRD



L.R. BARRETT



I.M. BRUMMUND



A. CLANDFIELD



M.A. COHOE



M.A. COLES



L.G. CORMIER



G.S. de MILLE



R.V. FAUTH

9



D.L. FELIX



M.J. FLANAGAN

19

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66



H. FUJITA



SISTER GERALD

6



J.M. GROVES



C.L. HENSING

Holy Cross Hospital

6



J.J. HUNTER



C.P. IRONS



C.Y. JOHNSON

SCHOOL OF NURSING

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S.J. LYNCH-STAUTON



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C.A. MOSIER



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M.L. McARTHUR



J.D. McCUMBER



M.E. KAEMPF



J.M. KIMBER



D.E. KLEIN



J.C. PURASK



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B.E. SAUTER



P.J. SCHEUCHNER



G.K. SMITH



N.M. STRANKMAN



J.L. TAIT



R.M. TRUYAERT



M.G. McDERMOTT



P.C. NESBITT



S.M. PENTELEKU



M.F. TWETEN

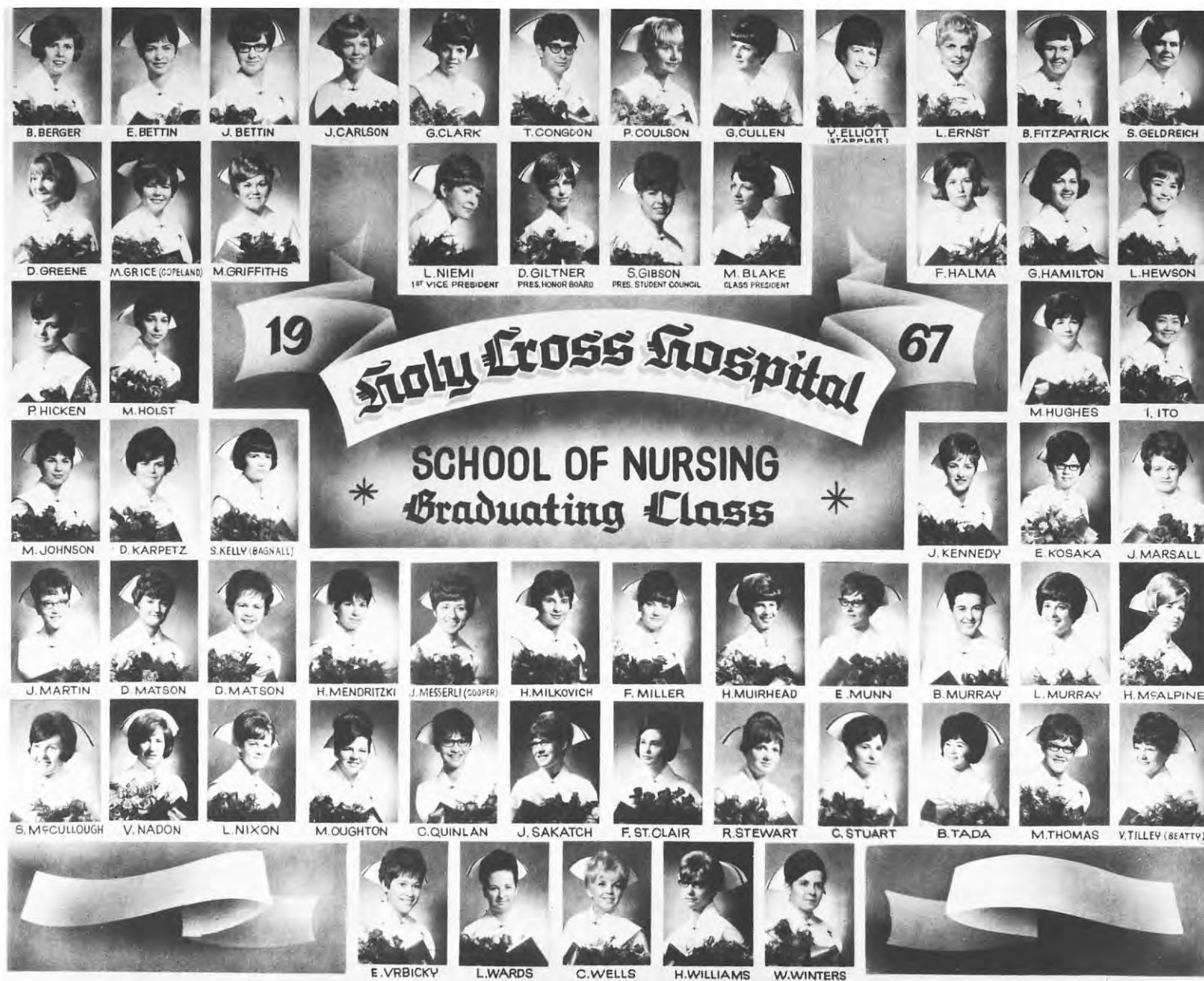


B.L. WEBER



M.M. ZABOROWSKI

General Proficiency — M. Smithwick; Bedside Nursing — C. Irons; Theory — F. Carr; O.R. Technique — M. Kaempf; Pediatrics — M. McDermott; Obstetrics — N. Strankman; Professional Ethics — B. Sauter; High Ideals of Service — A. Phillips.



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General Proficiency — J. Saktatch; Bedside Nursing — J. Messerli; Theory — F. Miller; O.R. Technique — S. Gibson; Pediatrics — M. Johnson; Obstetrics — M. Grice; Professional Ethics — L. Ernst; High Ideals of Service — D. Giltner.

1



VIVIAN CALLAGHAN



SHERRY CULLER



SUZANNE DESLAURIERS

TERESA TODD
HONOR BOARD PRESIDENTPATRICIA SIMPSON
CLASS PRESIDENTJUDITH DANNATT
PRESIDENT STUDENTS COUNCILJOANN WORTON-KENT
1st VICE PRESIDENT

SISTER LINDA DOBNI



JUDITH DUFFIN-BALLARD



MARJORIE FARIS

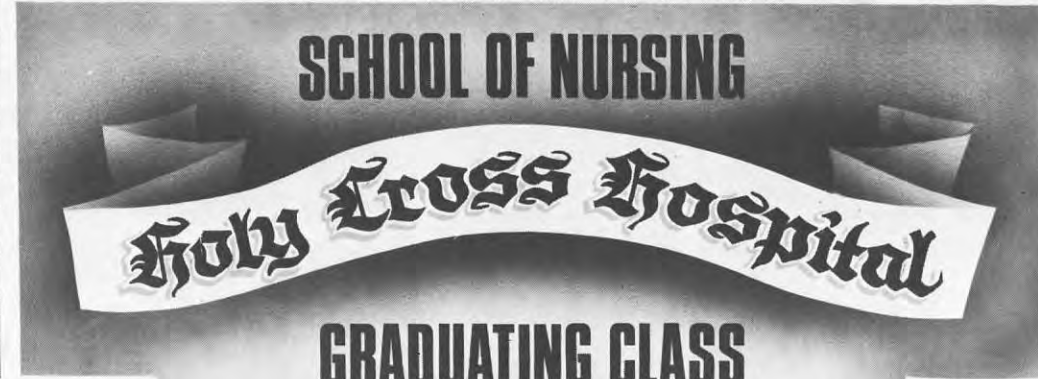
9



SANDRA FOSS



NANCY GEREIN



JANE GOETTLER



MARJORIE HOOD

6



JOANNE JOHNSON-MANN



GWEN KIRKPATRICK



JULIAINE LENZEL-HAMER



SANDRA MICHIE

8



PATRICIA MORPHY



JOAN MRAZ-DREVENAK



CAROLYN MCBEE

19



LESLIE MCCREARY



ROBERTA MCROBERTS-GREEN



PATRICIA NYULI

68



CANDACE ORTMAN



BEVERLY BUNCH-RADIO



ROBERTA RICH



BERNADETTE ROBERTS



JANET ROKOSH



GAIL SARGENIA



J. ROSS SMALLENBURG



ADRIANA SARACENI



VERONICA SCHUH



KAREN SHAW-SCHUEYERMAN



PENELOPE SPURR



JANET STEVENSON



JUDITH STURDY



ANN THOMAS



SHARYN TOUSIGNANT



KATHERINE WESTON-MCKELLAR



THERESA ZIMMERMAN

General Proficiency — J. Worton; Bedside Nursing — J. Mraz; Theory — N. Gerein; O.R. Technique — C. Ortman; Pediatrics — A. Saraceni;
Obstetrics — P. Simpson; Professional Ethics — P. Morphy; High Ideals of Service — J. Stevenson.



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General Proficiency — L. Stewart; Bedside Nursing — S. Gyorfi; Theory — L. Gibson; O.R. Technique — B. Soady; Pediatrics — K. Spalding; Obstetrics — C. Schmidt; Professional Ethics — A. Van Haaster; High Ideals of Service — K. Lubbers.

1



L. Anaka



P. Baird



R. Ballantyne



L. Braa



P. Brosz



M. DePape



M. Dumesnil



A. Eckman



N. Edmondson



B. Edwards

9



D. Gabert



D. Grafton



D. Green

SCHOOL OF NURSING



S. Hcallek



D. Hamilton



A. Hill

7



L. Hubka



C. Hunter

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS 1970



J. Kehoe



Sister M. Kelly

D



C. Kennedy



P. Lindsay



M. Lloyd



M. Maloney



S. Michael



M. Mitchell



D. Morison



P. Murphy



D. Orton



S. Rasmussen



T. Richter



D. Roh



S. Rosgen



R. Sautner



S. Selinger



C. Shepherd



F. Siewert



B. Smerek



R. Smith



M. Spady



J. Tingley



M. Drabec



E. Wagner

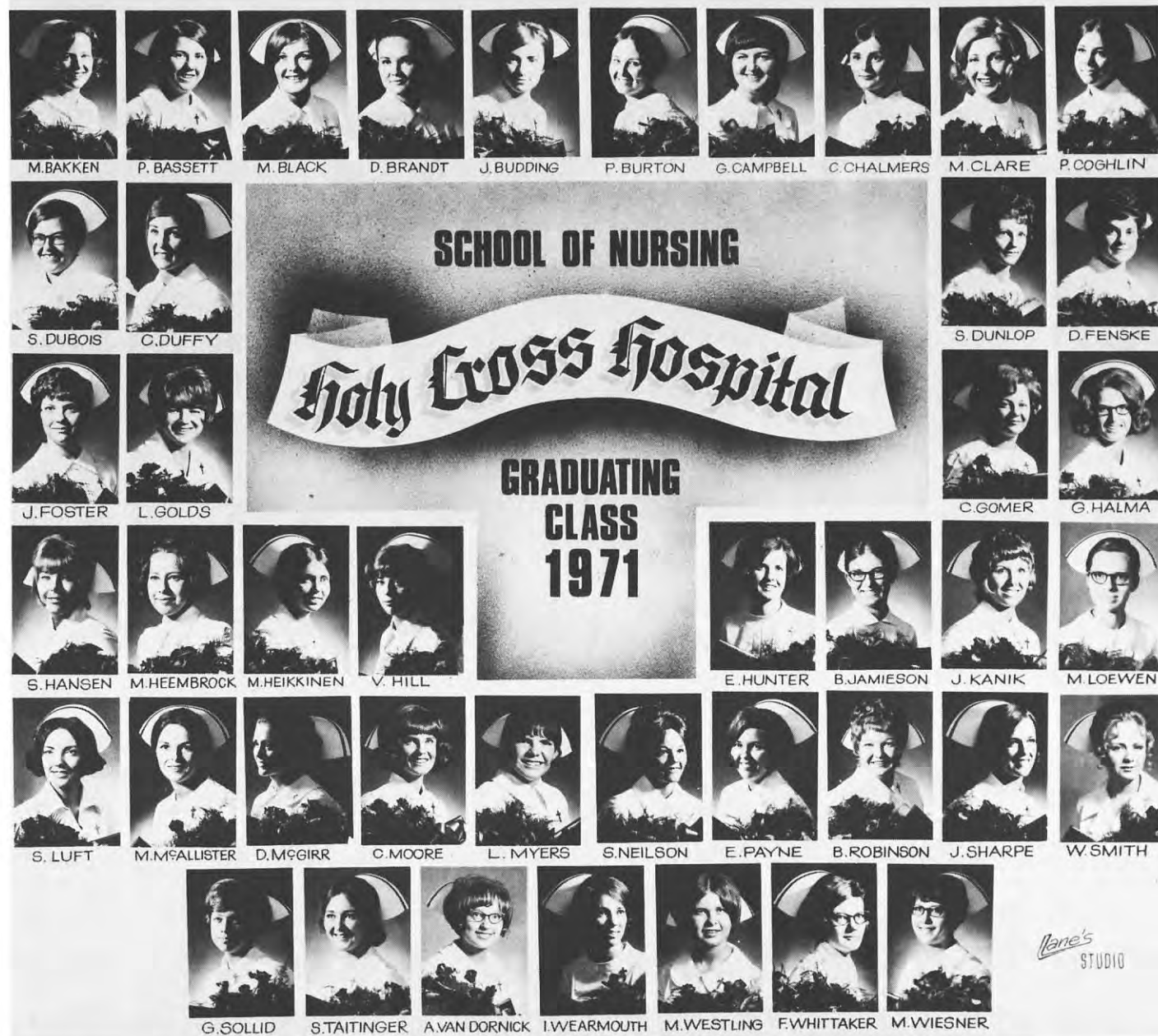


A. Wallebeck



J. Windle

General Proficiency — C. Shepherd; Medicine — M. Mitchell; Surgery — D. Orton; Pediatrics — J. Tingley; Obstetrics — B. Edwards; Theory — B. Smerek.



General Proficiency — R. Clare; Medicine — M. Bakken; Surgery — F. Whittaker; Pediatrics — V. Hill; Obstetrics — D. McGirr; Theory — F. Whittaker.

1



W.M. ANDERSON



J.M. ANTON



S.R. BAKOS



S.M. BANNICK



T.L. BOYDEN



L.C. BRIAN



G.M. BUYE



M.J. DONLEVY



B.J. DOYLE



C.L. DUNCAN

9



P.L. EVANS



J.I. GUTERSON



S.J. GWIN

H+H SCHOOL OF NURSING



S.A. HENRY



J.M. HUBKA



A.A. HUSEL

7



L.A. JARVIS



C.M. KEENAN

HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL

GRADUATING CLASS 1972



K.M. LEIER



P.M. MAKI



N.L. MATTSO



J.E. MAY



L.C. KLIPPERT



P.M. KOPPE

2



P.A. KOSTICK



M.E. LEBLANC



V.G. NEGREY



J.L. O'DELL



D.C. OSTWALD



E.B. PEAKE



A.E. PITSTRA



J.C. RUSLER



M.C. MOTT



M.K. McAVOY



K.L. McLEAN



M.J. McNAIRN



S.V. SKINNER



P.L. STROMSMOE



S.J. STROPLE



T.M. VAN WIFREN



R.T. VINIINI



C.M. SASSO



S.L. SCOLLEN

12nc's studio
Calgary

General Proficiency — K. McLean; Medicine — J. Anton; Surgery — G. Buye; Pediatrics — S. Bannick; Obstetrics — A. Husel; Theory — J. Jarvis.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS 1973

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B.M. HARVEY J.M. HOLMBERG J.M. JENKINS H.L. KELLY

FAY. LEBOURGEOIS B.M. LOWE M.A. MacDONALD B.L. OLSEN C.A. PROULX D.J. SCHELLENBERG

W. SYTMA L.J. TAYLOR Y. TUNG L.P. WRIGHT D.M. YOUNG M.R. WEBSTER

Lane's Studio

General Proficiency — J. Blumell; Medicine — B. Lowe; Surgery — D. Golby; Pediatrics — D. Young; Obstetrics — J. Cross; Theory — M. MacDonald.

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M. D. ADAMS



I. M. AMANN



S. E. BERRY



L. M. BERTIE



G. A. BLAIS



T. L. BROOK



L. J. BROWN



M. L. R. CANTIN



P. L. M. COMEAU



C. M. COTTER



T. M. DABROWSKI



J. DESLAURIERS



S. A. DICKSON



M. D. DIPPEL



D. A. EDE

SCHOOL OF NURSING



M. L. EYDT



M. R. K. HOWARD



S. G. JENSEN



D. M. KELLY



M. L. LINDWALL



C. A. MACDONALD



D. J. McDONALD



J. C. PENWARN

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS 1974



C. L. MEHALCO



G. E. MILLER



J. M. NESBITT



S. B. OSZ



S. L. PENFOLD



J. M. PENWARN



J. C. PENWARN



J. M. S. PERRAULT



D. B. POFFENROTH



L. A. PORTER



J. A. REDMOND



N. L. REIMER



C. M. RICHARDSON



J. A. RODE



B. C. RUSSELL



I. D. SAUTER



C. E. SEMMENS



J. L. SISK



M. L. STANHOPE



E. I. SULLIVAN



P. A. TAPUSKA



M. L. TRACHYK



S. A. TOMA



V. J. TOUGAS



J. L. TRAQUAIR



J. G. TYCHON



M. J. WATTS



V. R. WEGREEN



D. F. WILLBERG



P. WINNICK



Lanes
STUDIO

General Proficiency—D. McDonald; Medicine—M. Watts; Surgery—M. Howard; Pediatrics—D. Kelly; Obstetrics—S. Jensen; Theory—V. Tougas.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Holy Cross Hospital

GRADUATING CLASS 1975

P. A. BAKER G. G. BOUWMAN S. A. BRUINSMAN R. A. CLAVELLE P. L. COTE S. F. COUCHMAN H. A. DAVIDSON M. L. DUNN R. G. EICHORN

B. M. FARNHAM Z. A. GOGAL C. M. HAMEL L. L. HAUSER K. S. HIRD A. L. HOPPINS M. L. KLESSENS M. J. KOCIOLKA

S. M. LUCY D. L. MALCOLM J. A. MARASCO B. L. MCINTOSH M. E. MCINTYRE R. NAKAZWE J. G. NASH B. P. NEUFELD S. J. O'CONNOR C. P. O'DONOGHUE M. M. PALMIERE G. L. QUINLAN N. M. REILANDER D. L. RICHARDS

V. E. SCANLON V. G. SOMMER M. C. TEICHROEB D. L. TERLSON C. J. WAGG S. E. WALLACE C. M. WIEMKEN B. J. WRIGHT M. P. WRIGHTSON

lane's

General Proficiency — J. Marasco; Medicine — B. McIntosh; Surgery — M. Dunn; Pediatrics — C. Wiemken; Obstetrics — V. Sommer; Theory — P. Baker.



B. BEREZUK



L. CLEVELAND



T. CRAWFORD



M. DAUBERT



D. DE BEAUDRAP



S. DIETZ



N. DOERKSEN



S. DOWHANIUK



R. FILTEAU



J. GILLIS



S. GUTSCH



P. HAMILL



K. HANSON



D. HEDLEY



D. HENDERSON



K. KARY



V. KRIZSAN



L. LOTHIAN



M. MARTIN



P. MATHESON



L. MATTHEWS



K. MCINTYRE



J. MCKNIGHT



J. McLANE



D. McMANUS



L. MORRISON



L. NEIS



M. OGLE



D. OLIPHANT



R. RISTAU



F. ROBINSON



L. SCHMITZ



J. SCHOLZ



L. SMILEY



D. SMITH



P. SMITH



E. VISSER



L. WHITE



L. WILCOX

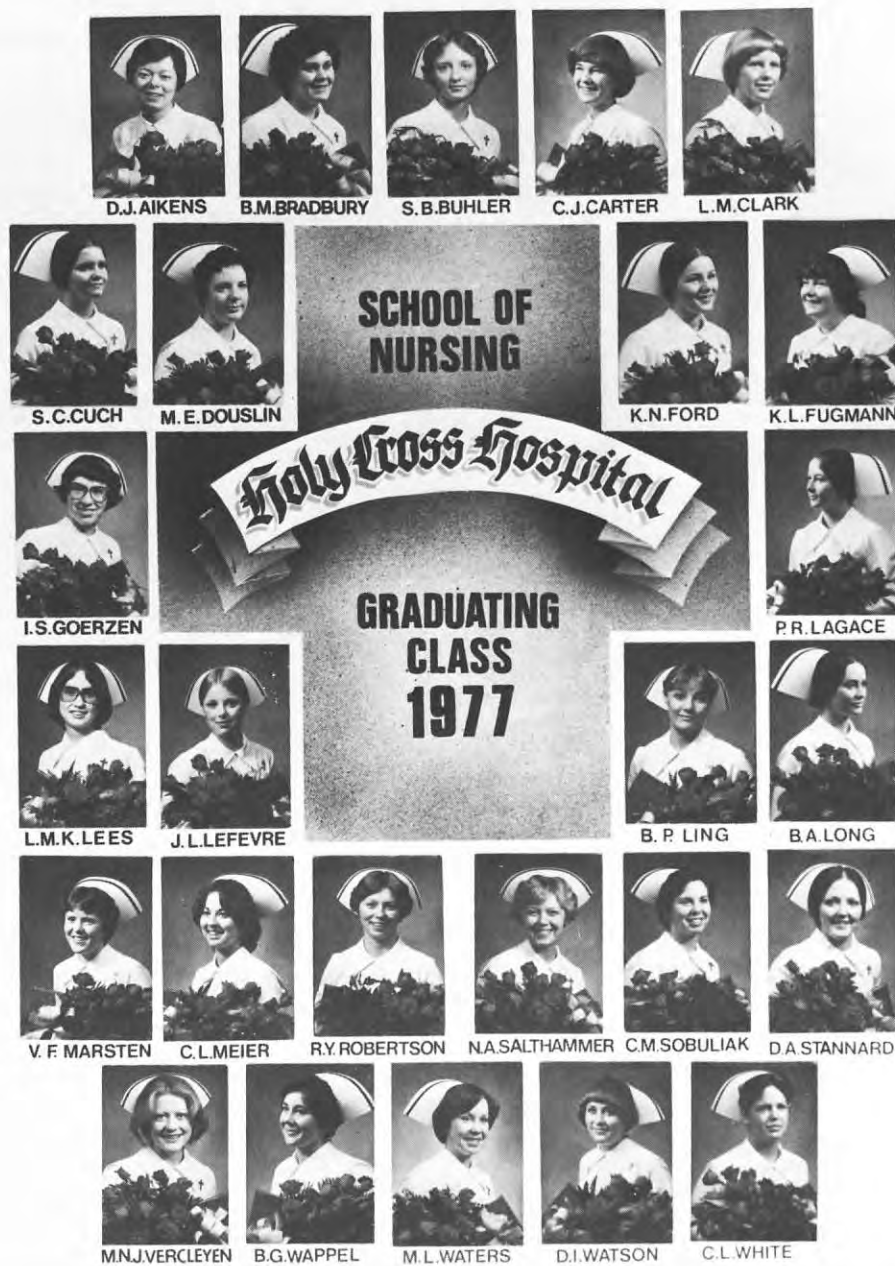


K. WILMOT



D. WOOD

General Proficiency — T. Crawford; Medicine — B. Berzuk; Surgery — D. Smith; Pediatrics — K. Hanson; Obstetrics — D. Wood; Theory — D. Oliphant.



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General Proficiency — I. Goerzen; Medicine — J. Lefevre; Surgery — L. Clark; Pediatrics — B. Wappel; Obstetrics — K. Ford; Theory — B. Long.

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M. Aitken



C. Boomer



A. Borkent



C. Boyd



M. Dawson



E. Falk



D. Fisher



K. Giese



G. Goodfellow



J. Guy

Holy Cross School of Nursing

Class
of
1978

Waco Studios



P. Jensen



S. Kovachik



G. Leshosky



S. Lieper



E. Livingstone



N. McRae



N. Mitchell



M. Nauta



S. Offredi



D. Ohreen



J. Patey



H. Roberts



C. Rust



C. Schoenroth



F. Sherritt



E. Smith



D. Taylor



P. Vogt



A. Wegh



M. Whalen

General Proficiency — D. Fisher; Medicine — H. Roberts; Surgery — M. Whalen; Pediatrics — S. Offredi; Obstetrics — M. Nauta; Theory — A. Borkent.

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H. M. BECKER



M. J. BURBACK



E. R. CAMPONI



K. A. COX



J. M. DEKORT



J. E. GIBSON



P. D. GILLOTT



K. A. HUTCHEON



M. A. KEENAN



E. M. MENEGOZZO



P. J. SCOTT



K. M. SHANNON



C. A. SOWA



C. L. STEVENSON



D. L. TEDRICK

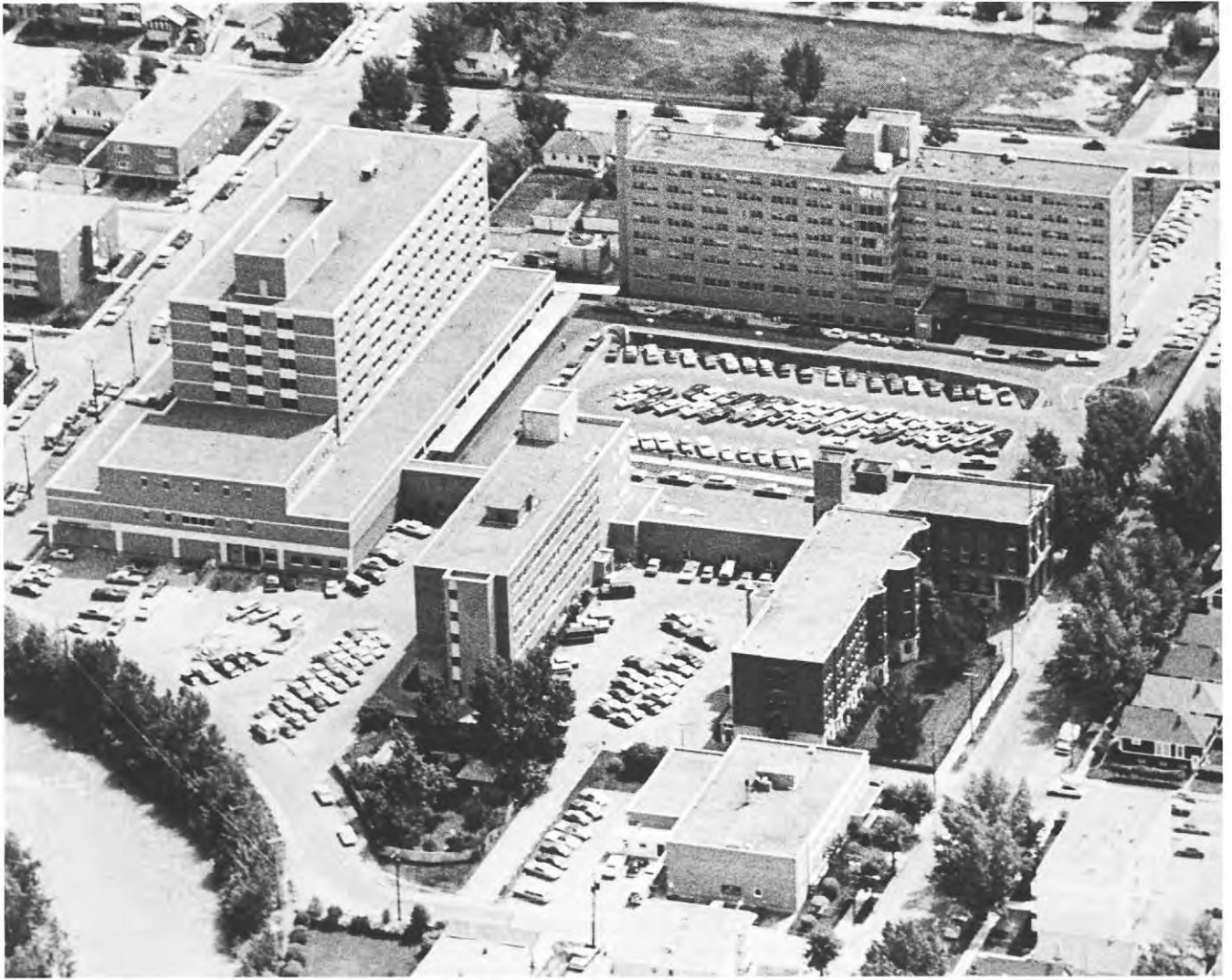


C. A. WILSON

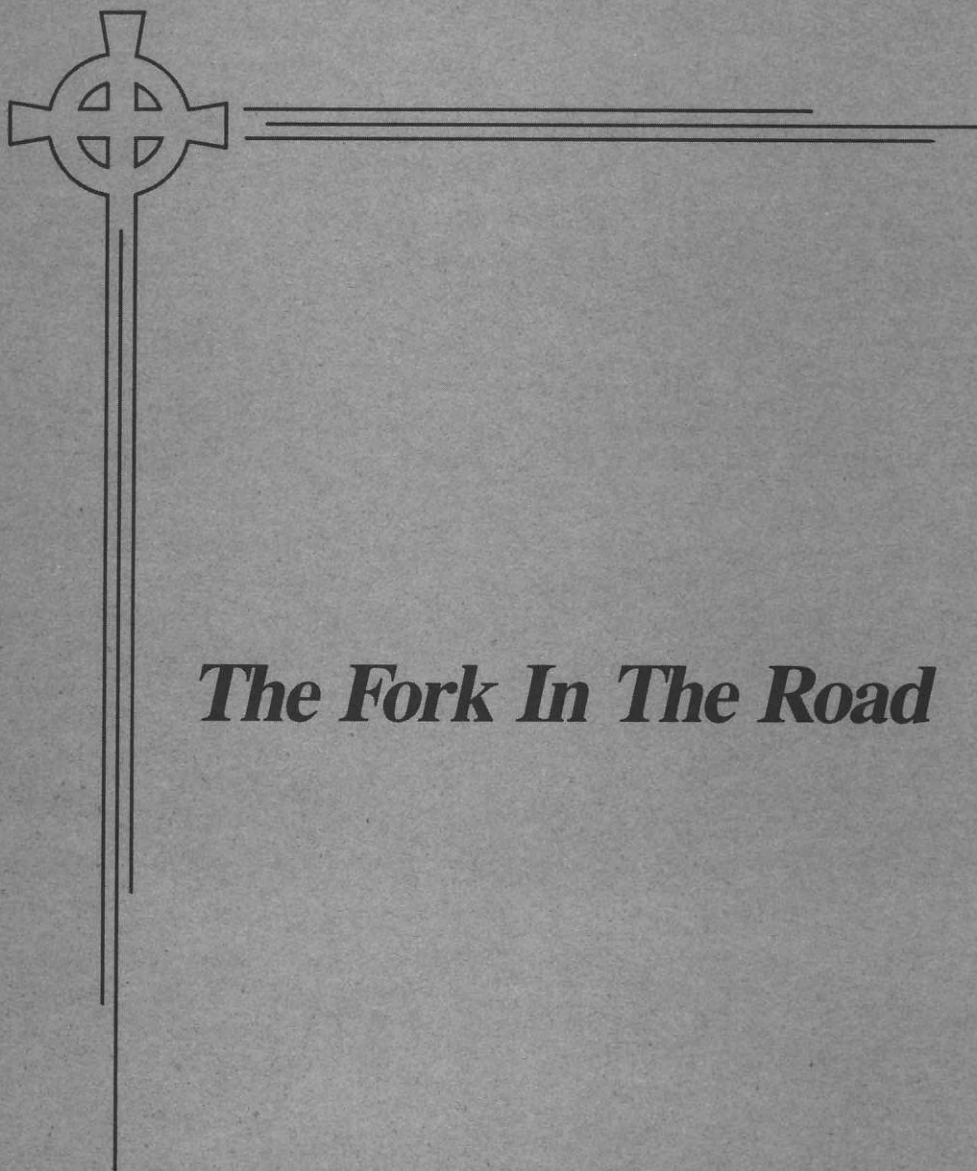


J. M. ZINTER

General Proficiency — M. Menegozzo; Medicine — K. Neufeld Cox; Surgery — P. Gillott; Pediatrics — K. Shannon; Obstetrics — E. Andrus Camponi; Theory — K. Hutcheon.



Holy Cross complex, 1972.



The Fork In The Road

*“Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.”*

Robert Frost

On Our Own

"Tonight is only the beginning of a promising and rewarding future . . ."

"This is not an end, but a beginning . . ."

"The doors to the future open tonight . . ."

Sentiments such as these were expressed in every graduation address, but somehow, the students didn't take them very seriously until finishing day arrived and the business of getting on with life began.

Although every nurse lived for the day when she finished training, she still found it a frightening experience to venture through that "door to the future". The world outside the hospital was a mighty big place after three years of relatively cloistered living.

Many followed the traditional path — general duty nursing for a few years, then marriage and family responsibilities. These women often became the unpaid neighbourhood nurses, experts consulted on all matters medical, and first to be called in case of an accident. A few, like Alice Downey (Estabrooks 1941) of Carseland, were officially recognized by their communities and allowed to carry emergency drugs such as sulpha, penicillin and stimulants for their First Aid Service. Some never nursed professionally again; others were back in their white duty shoes as soon as family commitments allowed.

A few adventuresome souls elected to forego the pleasures of marriage and family, or at least to delay them, in favor of the rewards found on less travelled paths. Some chose to serve overseas during the World Wars; others dedicated themselves to hospital nursing, while still others chose the role of nursing educators. An occasional, especially hardy girl ventured into frontier nursing, while others pioneered in different fields — as industrial nurses, air stewardesses, public health nurses and missionaries around the world. Many served as matrons in Alberta's rural hospitals; a few established private hospitals. Holy grads also found fulfillment in fields unrelated to nursing, as community volunteers, artists, nuns, writers, lawyers, realtors or in the "oil patch".

Graduates from the first class found a variety of jobs to do. Margaret Brown became the first nurse in

the Calgary Separate School System. Alma Martin did home nursing; Melitta Berg went overseas in WWI; Blanche Currence owned and administrated the hospital in Claresholm; Nellie Whalley established the Holy's first maternity department and Elsie Black nursed in Wetaskiwin.

Girls who graduated in 1918, in the midst of the 'flu' epidemic, were offered \$25 a month by the Alberta Government if they would set up hospital care in country points. In 1928, salaries at rural hospitals were \$65 monthly, plus room and board. Nurses graduating in the Depression years found lots of work — but few pay checks. Home nursing rates were \$5 for eighteen hours work, and duties included housework if it was "mother" who was ill.

Mickey Bullock (Morrow 1931) tells of one of her memorable home cases. "It was a pneumonia case on a farm. The mother was ill and I had to do all the cooking, see the three children off to school, do the washing and be on 24-hour duty with my patient. The doctor ordered a Murphy drip (rectal feed), so I used a hot water bottle with a clothespin to control the flow. I was there for three weeks and got paid in young pigs. My father took them home until they were ready for market. I eventually got \$10 for all my work — and felt almost rich."

In 1944, specials were still earning \$5 for a 12-hour shift; general duty grads in 1946 earned \$90 a month. Salaries improved gradually until, in 1963, starting pay was \$300. In 1972, it was \$550 and, in 1981, following a Province-wide strike, starting salaries jumped to \$1700. Of course, inflation galloped ahead of salaries, and the girl in 1931 who felt "almost rich" on \$10, may have been the last nurse to experience such a feeling while cashing her paycheck.

In spite of the notoriously low salary that is their compensation for the three years they invested, most graduates feel that the training is a valuable one. Whatever her choice of career after graduation, a Holy nurse is equipped with skills and discipline that prove invaluable throughout her busy life.

The Ultimate Service

The history of the Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing would not be complete without mention of the many nurses who volunteered to serve in the armed forces, both during and after the world conflicts. They served in the army, navy and air force, and it is with pride that they are mentioned in this book.



Phyllis Gilbert — WWI army uniform

World War I

Melitta Fletcher (Berg 1910) served overseas in France. Both she and her husband survived the gas used as a weapon to debilitate the Allied troops.

Irene Watson (Martin 1913) and Alice Ironside (Swanson 1912) went overseas in the first years of WWI, and served with distinction, caring for Canadian and British wounded. Alice served from 1915-18 with the Third Nursing Unit of the Canadian Army Medical Corps, which was headed by Dr. Frederick Banting. She was Dominion President of the Overseas Nursing Sisters Association from 1936-40 and, in June 1939, was presented to Their Majesties, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. Alice passed away in 1981, shortly after her 100th birthday.

Maud Smart (Lucas 1914), Phyllis Gilbert (1914), Betty Galloway (Taylor 1915) and Georgina McMillan (Ferris 1916) also served overseas in the first World War.

World War II

When the three services called for volunteers, they had many replies from Holy Cross nurses. First to enlist in the army were Aileen Kent (Fears 1938) and Eva Wannop (1939), who served with the No. 1 Neurological and Plastic Surgery Unit in England. Barbara Vidal (1938) and her sister, Teresa Gallacher (Vidal 1939) joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (R.C.A.M.C.) as nursing sisters and went overseas in 1943. They were attached to the #4 Canadian General Hospital stationed at Farnborough, England for the duration of the War.

Mary White (Bower 1938) and Isobel Reinhardt (1940) served both in Canada and in England, at the Red Cross Hospital at Cliveden with Unit #7.

Jean Elleker (McIntosh 1937) and Ruth O'Driscoll (Turnbull 1938) were with the South African Military Nursing Sisters for part of their time in the army. Jean was with the First Division and Ruth with the Second, on loan from the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps. Jean served at the Pietermaritzburg Natal Military Hospital and Ruth was at the Turbull Durban Military Hospital.

Rosetta Kirby (1934) served in Sicily and Italy with the R.C.A.M.C.



Lieutenants Fears and Wannop — WWII army uniforms.

Most nurses in the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force remained in Canada. Navy nurses were stationed in naval hospitals in Halifax or Victoria; air force nurses served in station hospitals at Elementary Training Schools, or Bombing and Gunnery Schools, where they nursed Canadian, New Zealand, Australian and British airmen.

Margaret Bella (1936) chose the navy as her lifetime career, joining in 1938, and retiring in 1963 after twenty-five years of service.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to tell the experiences of all those who were in the forces, but the following stories are a sample of the adventures experienced by overseas nurses.

Recollections of the R.C.A.M.C. by Eva Wannop (1939)

My years in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps now seem like a dream. I had five years of service, three of which were overseas.

My initiation into army life was at Currie Barracks Hospital in Calgary where Aileen Fears (1938) and I were stationed until we went overseas in January 1942. We had many delays while all arrangements were made for departure. I could write a book on "How We Got to England." On our arrival in Halifax, a pullman coach at the back of the C.N.R. station became our temporary home.

On January 25, we boarded the *George Washington*, an old vessel captured by the Americans from Germany during WWI. There were about 4,000 on board, 101 of them nursing sisters, 3 of us from Alberta.

For days we sailed around Bedford Basin to test the rickety ship. Boilers would burst periodically, and heat and water were scarce. Some nurses had to rescue luggage from water which was rising under their berths. Riots were reported among the troops, as they became restless and unmanageable because of crowded living conditions. The Captain, according to rumor, refused to sail and risk the lives of so many people in a ship that wasn't seaworthy and, on February 11, we were taken ashore to await further orders.

On the last day of February, we boarded the *Orion*, a beautiful luxury liner built for tropical countries. Our convoy consisted of two ships, the *Orion* and the *Cameronian*, and two Canadian destroyers that were to escort us safely across the Atlantic. Two planes also accompanied us for the first three days. Because our ship was light, it rolled considerably, and, as our course had to be altered every ten minutes, we zig-zagged the whole journey. In rough weather, the furniture would slither across the lounge. We had been advised to pack a "blitz bag" containing woollens, chocolate, etc., in case of emergency, but arrived at Grenock with blitz bags intact after eight days at sea.

Aileen and I went to Basingstoke's Park Prewett Hospital to become part of the Canadian plastic surgery team and work with patients who were mutilated or seriously burned. This, the first plastic surgery unit in the history of the R.C.A.M.C., was formed in October 1941.

The dining hall was a five minute walk from the hospital and was lined with rows and rows of long tables. We never lost interest in the many types of uniforms and various head dresses worn by the staff. Our first meal in this dining room was "tripe" cov-



Christmas in the Plastic Surgery Unit.

ered with a grey sauce — a rude introduction to civilian rations in an English hospital.

In May 1943, our unit joined the Canadian Neurological Hospital and became known as the No. 1 Neurological and Plastic Surgery Unit.

Work in plastic surgery was most gratifying, as we actually witnessed miracles being performed. To see a jaw remodelled with bone from another part of the body; to see a smashed nose rebuilt or to witness a facial reconstruction was thrilling. In many cases, the patients were hospitalized from one to two years, so we got to know them very well, and the rigid routine of hospital ward was replaced by a more relaxed atmosphere. The spirit of the boys was usually high. They took courage from seeing others worse off than themselves and helped one another.

“The incredible work performed by the plastic surgeons, the anaesthetists and the dental surgeons, and the courageous spirit of the patients, always seemed miraculous to us. We felt privileged to be a part of the team.”

In The Army — World War II

Mary White (Bower 1938)

During the War, a large prison camp for German prisoners of war was established by the Government near Lethbridge, Alberta. One day I was sent there from the military hospital at Red Deer. The prison hospital overwhelmed me with a sense of unreality. When you were making rounds at night, you could look out at barbed wire entanglement and see the full prairie moon glinting on the fixed bayonets of the guards patrolling the grounds.



Mary Bower preparing the new drug penicillin.



Isabel Reinhardt on duty in England.

My stay in Lethbridge wasn't long and soon I was on duty in the Canadian Red Cross Hospital at Cliveden, England with Unit #7. While there, I was instrumental in catching a spy. Isabel Reinhardt (1940) and I had gone to London and were returning from Paddington Station on a little English train in a compartment so small you played kneesies with your neighbor. Isabel was wearing civilian clothing; I was in my uniform. We shared our compartment with a man of considerable age who spoke with no particular accent. A true Englishman would never strike up a conversation without an introduction, even if you travelled all over England in the same car, but this man was a charmer and when he said he had accompanied the Royal Family on their most recent trip to Canada — on and on we gabbed.

Somehow, we got into a discussion of the War and, in my soap box manner, I said, "there will never be an end to wars until all the young people around the world simply refuse to fight."



Mary Bower with T.B. patient.

Upon hearing that, he withdrew something from an inside pocket and handed it to me. It was a key ring and on it, among his keys, was a man's signet ring with the Nazi crest, the black perverted cross. Fear gripped me and I handed the key chain back to him. We continued to talk, and he invited me to visit him at his estate the following weekend. I agreed in order to get his name and address to give to our security officer. As soon as we got back to our unit, I did this, and was told that I would probably be asked to keep the rendezvous. Shades of Mata Hari! But for King and Country, I would do it!!

The next morning, two gentlemen from Scotland Yard arrived to question me and said, to my mingled relief and disappointment, that they could never consider using a Canadian Nursing Sister as a decoy. They would arrange something else. Several months later, I learned that the man had indeed been a spy.

Nursing Sisters WW I

1910 Class	Melitta Berg Fletcher
1913 Class	Irene Martin Watson Alice Swanson Ironside
1914 Class	Phyllis Gilbert Maud Lucas Smart
1915 Class	D. E. (Betty) Taylor Galloway
1916 Class	Georgina Ferris McMillan

Nursing Sisters WWII to Present

1927 Class	Olive Goodwin	Italy
1931 Class	Mildred Legatt Brice	Air Force
1934 Class	Rosetta Kirby	Army
1936 Class	Margaret Bella (retired after 25 years)	Navy
	Penny McDonald	Air Force
1937 Class	Babe MacDonald Learment	Army
	Jean McIntosh Elleker	Army
	Julia Ondrus	Air Force
	Jennie Steckle Davidson	Army
	Margaret Read	Army
1938 Class	Mary Bower White	Army
	Aileen Fears Kent	Army
	Pauline Scott Jessup	Army
	Ruth Turnbull O'Driscoll	Army
	Barbara Vidal	Army
	Betty Dunning Stanway	Air Force
1939 Class	Brenda Forsyth Convey	Air Force
	Mary Nesbitt MacDonald	Army
	Alva Peterson	Navy
	Claudia Tennant	Navy
	Theresa Vidal Gallacher	Army
	Eva Wannop	Army
1940 Class	Mary Blacklock Hassard	Army
	Beryl Carr Wilson	Air Force
	Beulah Griffin Johnson	Army
	Mary Jo MacDonald	Army
	Gertrude Murphy	Army
	Isobel Reinhardt	Army
1941 Class	Olive Bowman Sinclair	Army
	Margaret Blacklock	Air Force
	Jeanette Cyre	Army
	Cecilia Rimmer Mulloy	U.S. Army
	Frances Tennant Parslow	Air Force
1942 Class	Mary Geelan Crain	Army
	Alice Hughes	Army
1943 Class	Evelyn Cochrane Tyseling	Army
	Catherine Cush Wassard	Army
	Betty Keene Cush	Army
1946 Class	Phyllis Velker Silk	U.S. Navy
1957 Class	Betty MacManus Armstrong	Navy
1976 Class	Pat Hamill	Air Force

Active Overseas Nursing

Jean Elleker (McIntosh 1937) joined the Canadian army as a lieutenant in November 1941 and was attached to the South African army. She was one of fifty nurses from across Canada who were sent to South Africa in the first contingent.

After a happy week spent exploring New York, the nurses embarked for Africa on an Egyptian ship, the only ones on board, except for five missionaries and an engineering student from Constantinople. The ship docked at Capetown on Christmas Day and, a week later, the nurses travelled by train to Durban, across the great Karoo. Sweltering heat was made even more unbearable because of their uniforms — white aprons over a copen blue dress with collar, cuffs, leather belt and white veil. Along with nurses from the English army, English navy and South African army, they worked in South African hospitals, nursing natives in the military, Boers, and “Tommys” (English soldiers), wounded in the Egyptian campaign. The wounded had a cast slapped on in Egypt, then were sent in convoys by sea to South Africa.

Jean spent a year in South Africa, then returned to Canada where she nursed with the army in Red Deer for a year, before being shipped to France. There she was with the #10 Canadian General Hospital, and was in the second group of Canadian nurses on the Continent.



En route to Africa — Jean McIntosh far right. Group represents nine provinces of Canada.

They were responsible for setting up their own hospital at the Caen airport, the #3 Casualty Clearing Station. “It was a tough life,” Jean remembers. “We did everything with one helmet of water for the first three or four days. First we made tea, then washed ourselves, then washed our clothes. We were in front of the line and, although they shot over our heads, somehow very few nurses were killed in action.”

While in France, the nurses wore khaki battle dress and a brown cotton turban while on duty. “We lived in tents and never sat down for a minute while we were on duty,” Jean recalls. “We worked eight hours on and eight hours off, and tried to get some exercise in our free time. Walking was unpleasant, though, as there were always human intestines hanging on the fences.

“When there was a break in the War, a group was sent to Paris or Rouen. I spent a few days in Paris.”

She was sent on to Belgium for the Battle of the Bulge, but didn’t ever feel she was in danger. “We didn’t have to be evacuated from the area, and we didn’t suffer except from poor food.” Jean was a girl who could recognize poor food. Christmas dinner in Africa had consisted of cabbage and greasy bacon on an old tin plate, along with a bottle of beer. “The locals had never heard of turkey.”

Demobilized in 1945, she now says with a laugh, “I wouldn’t have missed those wartime experiences. I see everyone from the casualty clearing station every week on M*A*S*H.



On leave in “Paree”.

Somewhat Special

Nuns and Nightingales is dedicated to the nurses who have graduated from Holy Cross, and is a tribute to the zest for living that they have brought to their life's work, whether it was done quietly within their family and community, or on a larger scale with public recognition of their talents. Most of the more public figures were reluctant to share their experiences for this book, feeling that others had made far greater contributions. However, they were persuaded that readers, classmates and friends would want to hear their stories and celebrate their successes.

The few representative biographies that follow have been included both for their human interest and their historical value.

Awards and Honors



Phyllis Gilbert.

Phyllis Gilbert (1913) Phyllis served her country in World War I and was awarded the Royal Red Cross. However, due to illness, she was repatriated home from overseas. Shortly after her return, she joined the staff of Holy Cross in the record office, where she remained until her retirement. She was a very colorful figure, well known in the halls and record room of the Hospital.

Jessie Watkins (Copley 1923) A native of Olds, Alberta, Jessie entered the Holy Cross School of Nursing on January 1, 1920. Shortly after graduation in 1923, she agreed to work in the operating room in

Claresholm. She was well prepared for this, having spent six months in the O.R. in training.

A new hospital was built in 1939, and Jessie continued to work in the O.R. until 1949, when she became matron, or director of nursing. Multiple injuries suffered in a car accident while enroute to an Alberta Hospital Association conference, forced her to retire in 1960.

At Lethbridge, in May 1980, she was presented with the A.A.R.N. Heritage of Service Nursing Award.

Now a resident of Porcupine Lodge, Claresholm, Jessie takes an active part in Lodge activities and is writing the story of her life.



Jessie Watkins (right).



Hazel Wagar.

Hazel Wagar (1946) Hazel is due to retire in the summer of 1982 after thirty-six years of service to the people of Alberta. Following graduation from the Holy, she worked at the hospital for some time, then did private duty nursing in Calgary and Edmonton. In 1948, she was staff nurse at Barrhead, then for three years was at Westlock at the Emaculata Hospital. In 1952, she moved to Brooks, where she did general duty on all services at the Municipal Hospital. Two years later, she was appointed assistant matron with responsibility for staffing patterns and development of an inventory and dispensing system for the pharmacy. She completed a Nursing Unit Administration course and presently holds a certificate in mid-management.

Brooks Municipal Hospital became Brooks General Hospital, and Hazel too received a new title — director of nursing.

As director, she established several programs: orientation; procedure and policy manuals; team nursing; infection control; nursing audit and inser-

vice, etc., and it was largely due to her efforts that the hospital obtained accreditation.

In 1979 when the new Brooks Health Centre opened — a complex comprised of an active treatment hospital, auxiliary hospital and nursing home — Hazel was named director of nursing for that facility as well.

Although she has devoted her career to hospital administration, Hazel is keenly interested in the patients, and visits each one daily.

For her exceptional service to Alberta nursing, in April 1982 Hazel was honored with the A.A.R.N. Heritage of Service Award.

Coral MacDonald (Sahara 1946) After marrying ex-Holy Cross intern Dr. W. J. MacDonald, Coral worked in Calgary and at the Mayo Clinic. They then returned to Calgary where “Mac” set up his practice and Coral became a homemaker.

As the mother of four, active children, Coral no longer had time to nurse professionally, but utilized her knowledge of hospitals and medicine in volunteer services. She was active on the boards of the Cancer Society, the Volunteer Bureau and the Recreation Board. As well, she has been president of the Alberta Hospital Auxiliaries Association, national vice-president of the Canadian Hospital Auxiliaries Association and president of the Holy Cross Hospital Auxiliary.

For many years, she was education director of the Alberta Hospital Auxiliaries Association, a position which entailed visits to Alberta hospitals, large and small. Her function was to organize hospital auxiliaries, setting up workshops and seminars for both active treatment hospitals and nursing homes.

Coral has been honored with life memberships in the Alberta Hospital Auxiliaries Association and in the Holy Cross School of Nursing Alumnae, of which she has been a president.

In 1977, Coral was awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal for her service in the health care field.

At Holy Cross

Flora Quaife (McLure 1941) Flora, a Calgary native, remained in the City for a few months after graduation, then married and moved to Lethbridge. There she was soon back in uniform, in private duty nursing at the Lethbridge Municipal and St. Michael's Hospitals.

In 1947, Flora and her family returned to Calgary and she once again nursed at Holy Cross, first on private duty, then on staff on Youville ward. She

accepted an assignment to Central Dressing Room in 1950, replacing the clinical in this area until 1956.

At this time, she went to nursing service, as assistant to Sister Leclerc until 1957, Sister Garneau from 1957 to 1965, Sister Coulombe until 1970 and Evelyn Dragojevich until 1976. Although Flora was not the first Holy Cross lay graduate to work in nursing service, she was the only one to serve for over twenty years in this capacity. She became acting

director for nine months when the Sisters sold the hospital, and again in 1976.

She has enjoyed retirement since 1977, and is an avid cross country skier and hiker.



Flora Quaife.



Evelyn Dragojevich.

Sister Rita Coulombe (1950) Sister Coulombe was the first graduate of the Holy Cross School of Nursing to become the hospital's director of nursing service, holding this position from 1965-1971. She also became the first graduate to be its Sister Superior — and its last Superior, when the hospital was sold to the Province.

One of the few Grey Nuns to remain in Calgary after the sale of the hospital, she worked for a time as a parish visitor in St. Mary's parish in Calgary. Along with Sister Madeleine Therrien, she then established a rehabilitation centre for needy women, at Youville Memorial Residence in Calgary. For the past four years, they have been co-directors of the program. In 1981-82, Sister spent a sabbatical year in the religious study program at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

Evelyn Dragojevich (Graffenaure 1952) In 1971, Evelyn became the first lay director of nursing service at Holy Cross, a position she was well-qualified to fill. After graduation, she took a post-graduate course in operating technique at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, a BSc. in Nursing from the University of Alberta, and a Master's in Health Services Administration from U. of A.

She served as director of nursing until 1976, when she moved to Vancouver as vice president patient services at Shaughnessy Hospital, a large complex with 450 acute care patients and 600 long-term residents.



Sister Rita Coulombe.

Pioneers

Margaret Brown (1910)

When hired by the Separate School Board in 1917, Maggie became the first nurse in the Calgary Separate School System. One of her duties was to issue cards for dental work, eye and ear tests, and minor operations, which were performed at the City Hall Clinic. She could be very stern with children who failed to keep their appointments.

On May 7, 1931, she chaired the organizational meeting of the Holy Cross Alumnae, and a month later was made an honorary member of the organization.

Her first love was dogs, and they enjoyed the freedom of her house and grounds. Much to the annoyance of Rev. W. E. Cameron, they sometimes spilled over into his yard across from St. Mary's Boys' School and were a constant threat to his prize-

winning dahlias. Maggie bred many of the famous R.C.M.P. dogs and was a past president of the Calgary Kennel Club.

She retired from the health department in 1946, after nearly forty years of service, and passed away in the spring of 1957.

Maud Smart (Lucas 1914) Maud was born on a farm near Wetaskiwin in 1886 and no doubt her friendships with the Hobbema Indian children during her childhood influenced her choice of nursing fields.

She entered Holy Cross School of Nursing in 1911, and during her training days, met such notables as Bob Edwards, Father Lacombe and Reverend John McDougall. Following graduation, she joined the staff of the Wetaskiwin hospital, then in 1917 enlisted in the army nursing corps. Most of her years in the service were spent in Wales.

Upon her return from overseas in 1919, she took a post-graduate course in general nursing at Bellevue Hospital, New York, and, after nursing in Billings, Montana, returned to Canada in 1925.

At that time, she joined the Department of Indian Affairs, and her duties took her throughout Alberta, Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Due to the high incidence of tuberculosis among the Indians, Maud, at the request of the Government, took a postgraduate course in the treatment of T.B. at St. Agathe, P.Q. She then returned to her work with the Indians and in 1930, when a smallpox epidemic broke out, the schoolhouse on one of the reserves became the isolation hospital, staffed by Maud alone. She vaccinated 165 patients and had the disease under control in six weeks.

While ministering to and teaching the Indians, her veterinary skills were often required. After making the diagnosis that a herd of cows had "lost their cud", she ordered each animal to have two pounds of epsom salts — dissolved in water — by mouth. This was done by inserting a long-necked bottle or a curved cow horn down the cow's throat. Not one of the fifteen cows was lost.

Maud's mode of travel as a frontier nurse varied — boat, dog team, snowshoe, saddle horse, horse and buggy, and car. The most novel was being pulled on a toboggan across freezing ice-floes on a northern river.

On one occasion, while nursing a female pneumonia patient to whom she was giving sips of brandy, Maud proved she could handle a dangerous situation without panic. The patient's husband, much the worse for liquor, came home and demanded, at knife point, a drink of brandy. Maud assured him that when she left, she would give him some. And she did — a trace of brandy laced with three tablespoons of castor oil. The patient was improving the following day, but her husband was in rough shape.

Improvisation was a way of life for Maud, and she once administered coal oil to a diphtheria patient who was experiencing difficulty in breathing. The child survived.

After nineteen years of service with the Department of Indian Affairs, she resigned to become matron of the Grande Prairie Hospital. A few months later, she married Archie Smart and embarked on a new career — marriage.

The life of this intrepid pioneer nurse drew to a close in December 1963.

Mona Sparrow (1918) Mona graduated in 1918 and for the next twelve years did general duty nursing in Winnipeg. On June 2, 1930, she joined the staff of the Hudson's Bay store in Calgary, thus becoming the first industrial nurse in the City. Her duties in-

cluded the care of employees and customers of the store. In her capacity as "official bell ringer" for the Hudson's Bay Christmas Choir (from its inception in 1931 to her retirement in 1963), she was affectionately nicknamed "the Sergeant Major" by all choir members. She was also coach and trainer of the Hudson's Bay Company Beavers basketball and baseball teams.

In 1939, in conjunction with Ford Motors, she organized and acted as paymaster for the Women's Auxiliary Motor Service. This later became known as the Alberta Service Corps. The corps trained in the assembly and dismantling of vehicles, under the supervision of the P.P.C.L.I.

In 1958, she organized the affiliation of the Holy Cross student nurses with the Hudson's Bay health bureau, thus enabling them to have a week's training in the field of occupational health. The president of her School of Nursing Alumnae for eight years, she was honored with a life membership at its 50th anniversary and reunion in 1957.

In 1963, she retired from the Bay, but worked for several more years in the administrative first aid post at the Stampede grounds, assisting Dr. L. G. Alexander, with whom she had worked for twenty-two years.

Mona passed away on February 27, 1974. Her gruff manner hid a ready wit and a heart of gold, and she has been missed by her friends and fellow Alumnae members.



Mona Sparrow.

Zuma Corbett (1924) Zuma, who received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from U.C.L.A., was a pioneer in industrial nursing in California. Past president of the Southern California Industrial Nursing Association, she was made a life national director of the Industrial Nursing Association in the United States.

Evelyn Elmore (Allen 1938) Evelyn tells of her experiences as a T.C.A. stewardess. "In 1939, a contest was held throughout Canada to select nurses for the new, Government-owned Trans-Canada Airlines, now called Air Canada. I was very pleased and excited to have been chosen for this new adventure. They selected nurses in case of problems during flight, which may not have been the most encourag-



Evelyn Elmore.

Lucille de Satge (1919) Lucille began her training at the Edmonton General Hospital, and with the Sisters' consent, transferred to Holy Cross as Mrs. de Satge, even though marriage while in training was against all rules. Because the 1919 class that she joined objected to a married woman graduating with them, she did not participate in the ceremonies.

After a short time in private nursing, she returned

ing approach as far as the passengers were concerned.

"The training was rigid and included such things as weather patterns, grooming, airplane function and emergency care, which was good, since passenger service was in its infancy. Weather detection was a new science and there were no real air controllers. Success of the flight was dependent upon the weather dispatcher and the pilot, who had the final word. Our training helped the airline and those it served immensely.

"We were required to be perfect hostesses at all times, in the air and on the ground. This included keeping the passengers comfortable and alleviating their fears of flying. It was necessary to know all the lakes and landmarks in the areas we serviced. If a flight was grounded, we were responsible for finding facilities for the passengers, including a place to stay.

"Besides being nurses, stewardesses were also required to have poise, comeliness and a good disposition. It was the first time in my life that being short was to my advantage. The height requirement was 5' to 5'5", and our weight was to be between 90 and 125 pounds. We were supposed to have a nice figure, and a pretty pair of legs was an added plus, since, in those days, the spar (a main part of the plane's structure) was exposed and had to be clambered over — an obstacle which had to be overcome, if not gracefully, then at least attractively.

"Many pictures and kind words appeared in the papers about the virtues of the new hostesses. It was enough to make any girl proud. Looking back on my classmates, I can see that nearly all of them lived up to their good press. However, I pinched myself and asked how I had ever been chosen. It may have been through a mistake, but I enjoyed being part of the adventure."

Evelyn was chosen to make the inaugural flight of the T.C.A. passenger service in April 1939.

After resigning from the airlines, she married an American boy who had interned at Holy Cross. When World War II broke out, he returned to the United States to join the military and Evelyn moved with him. She has lived in Wyoming since that time.

Educators

to the Holy, working first in the office, and then acting as assistant superintendent of nurses. She was nursing instructor from 1929-1933.

Lucille was active in the organizational meeting of the Alumnae of the Holy Cross School of Nursing, and was elected its first president. In later years, she was honored with a life membership in the organization.

She went to Vancouver after leaving the Holy and was active in the Red Cross there for twenty years.

Lucille passed away in February 1970, at the age of 81.



Lucille de Satge.



Alva Peterson.

Donna Humphries (1953) Donna worked as assistant head nurse on pediatrics at the Holy Cross, then obtained her diploma in teaching and supervision at the University of Toronto. After instructing students at Holy Cross and the Calgary General for several years, she attended university in Seattle, Wash., earning her BSc and Master's in Nursing.

When Foothills Hospital, Calgary opened, she became coordinator of its obstetrical department, then, in 1968, was appointed director of its school of nursing, a position she still holds.

She is active in the A.A.R.N. and in the Consortium of Senior Nurse Educators, and, for the past two years has served as chairman of the Committee on Testing Services for the C.N.A.

Diane Pechiulis (1951) From 1951 until 1956, Diane worked as a staff nurse in various hospitals in Alberta and Ontario. In 1954, she completed a three-month course in orthopedic nursing in New York. She obtained her teaching and supervision diploma from the U. of A. in 1957, then joined the staff of the Calgary

General Hospital as instructor and supervisor. In April 1963, she completed her B.Sc. requirement at U. of C. for the University of Alberta degree and then received her Master's Degree from the University of Colorado in 1970. Since that time, she has been on staff at the University of Calgary as an associate professor.

Diane is active in the A.A.R.N. and the C.N.A., having served on and chaired various task committees. Many local community activities have benefited from her active participation. She is also a past president of the Holy Cross Alumnae.

Alva Peterson (1939) Following graduation, Alva spent four years at Bassano Hospital, then joined the Royal Canadian Navy.

A postgraduate course in O.R. technique at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore followed her discharge from the navy. Following this, she enrolled in the nursing teaching and supervision certificate course at McGill University. Returning to McGill in 1949, she obtained her Bachelor's of Nursing. After one year as clinical instructress in the O.R. at Montreal Neurological Institute, she became supervisor of operating rooms and post-anaesthetic room at the Vancouver General Hospital.

In 1962, she joined the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) as nurse educator in the O.R. in Singapore, a position she held for four years. Following her return to Canada, she resumed studies at McGill, this time receiving her Master's in Nursing Administration.

She next spent three years as associate director of nursing service at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Edmonton and one year as director of nursing at Lion's Gate Hospital in Vancouver.

Alva is now enjoying life as an energetic senior citizen in White Rock, B.C.

Audrey Thompson (1951) For several years following graduation, Audrey worked as a staff nurse in hospital operating rooms in Olds, Colorado and California. She obtained a diploma in teaching and supervision from the U. of A. and returned to the Holy for two years, as an instructress in surgical nursing. After working in a plastic surgery unit in England, she joined the staff of the Lethbridge Municipal Hospital in 1957 as nursing arts instructor. From 1960-1966, she was associate director of nursing service for the hospital.

By attending night courses and summer school, she was able to earn her B.Sc. in Nursing in 1962. With the aid of the Abe Miller Memorial Scholarship, in 1966 she furthered her education in Seattle, Washington, where she received her Master of Nursing in 1968. She then returned to Canada as clinical nurse specialist in Red Deer.



Diane Pechiulis.



Audrey Thompson.

Audrey was named by the A.A.R.N. as the 1973 Nurse of the Year. In 1974, she was appointed associate director of nursing at Red Deer General Hospital. During this time, she was also extensively involved with the A.A.R.N. and was president of the association from 1975-77.

She has served on several Government committees, and at present is chairperson of the committee on nursing education of the Alberta Hospital Association. She is also an assistant executive director of the Red Deer Regional Hospital Centre.

In spite of a busy professional life, Audrey is active in her church and finds time to pursue her hobby of photography.

Public Service

Blodwyn Thode (Cole 1929) A native of Bankhead, Alberta, Blodie graduated from the Holy Cross in 1929. Following her marriage to Earl Thode, former championship bronc rider, she moved to Arizona.



Blodwyn Thode.

The onset of WWII, plus raising a family of two active boys, greatly changed her life style. She voluntarily taught home nursing for the Red Cross and organized the first Red Cross Blood Bank in the county. When necessary, she worked nights at the local "make-do" hospital. This prompted her to come to the aid of the Lion's Club in its effort to establish the Hoemaka Co-operative Hospital. This effort at times was almost single-handed. On July 6, 1954, when the twenty-bed addition was opened, Blodie's years of service were recognized. A plaque on the building reads: "Without her untiring efforts and generosity in time and labor, this hospital never would have become a reality. In heartfelt acknowledgment, we dedicate this building to Blodwyn Edna Thode."

She served as chairman of the hospital's board of directors for five years, and was also president of hospital district #1.

Blodie says that her interest in public health began at Holy Cross and that her life subsequently has been a constant challenge to overcome obstacles. In 1952, she was appointed to the Arizona House of Representatives and served for ten years. She chaired key legislative committees in public health, welfare and transportation, and sponsored bills that became law, relative to: drunk and reckless driving; welfare; mental health; homebound education; T.B. control; Workmen's Compensation, and community colleges.

Her untiring efforts to overcome accidents and health hazards, and to provide treatment facilities, did not go unrecognized. Plaques and awards have been bestowed by: the Future Farmers of America, the Arizona T.B. Health Association, and the National Association of Mental Health (for the revision of outmoded health laws in 1956). The Business and Professional Women awarded her their Woman of the Year Award in 1962, in recognition of a bill, sponsored to final passage, providing equal pay for equal work.

In 1964, she was elected as a Democrat to the Arizona State Senate (the only woman in the twenty-eight member Senate). During the eight years that she served in this capacity, she presented a bill to bring more effective control of health to Arizona, directed specifically against T.B. She was also largely responsible for obtaining a children's hospital in Phoenix, and a T.B. sanatorium in Tempe, and sponsored a "Structural Standards Act" which provides facilities for the handicapped.

Upon leaving the legislature, she accepted a gubernatorial appointment to pilot a home nursing

ombudsman program for Arizona. This arduous task was successful and the program is now operating on a permanent basis. She has also been active on a number of boards and commissions to public health. In 1981, she was the recipient of the Leadership Award of the West Pinal Family Health Center, and the Rural Health Advisory Council Award for dedicated leadership. As a representative of the Arizona Nurses Association, she is on the board of directors of "Surgicenter", a cost containment health center program.

In recognition of her significant contributions in the field of health, the Alumnae of the Holy Cross School of Nursing presented Blodie with a life membership in 1967.

She attributes her excellent health and eagerness to participate to the following message, written by Charles Kingsley and taped to her desk: "Thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle will never know."

Dorothy Gooder (Ottewell 1940) After graduation, Dorothy was employed by the Holy Cross and by Dr. McGuffin's Cancer Clinic. In 1942, she married into a ready-made family (one little girl), when she exchanged vows with Robert Gooder. The Gooders moved to Lethbridge in 1943, and here they had three more children, the youngest a mongoloid.

While visiting in Calgary, Dorothy read an editorial in the local paper regarding a group of people who were attempting to start a school for retarded children. She visited the school and was so impressed that, on her return to Lethbridge, she began a similar program. One hundred people attended the

first meeting and the outcome was the Lethbridge District Association for Retarded Children, with Dorothy as its first president.

On April 18, 1955, the first school for the retarded children of Lethbridge was opened with one teacher and five students — one of whom was Dorothy's son. Later that year, Dorothy's husband passed away, leaving her to raise their four children. She resumed her nursing career, becoming one of the first public health nurses in Lethbridge. In spite of an enormous workload, she continued to raise funds for the association and in 1959, a new building, consisting of eight rooms, was opened. It was named the Dorothy Gooder School for Retarded Children. In October 1966, a \$100,000 addition was completed. As a lasting tribute, a photographic portrait of Dorothy was donated to the school.

In May 1969, Oliver House, a residence for eight children and house-parents, was opened. This was one of Dorothy's last public engagements before her death later that year.

Dorothy crowded much into the fifty-three years that were allotted her. The following editorial appeared in a Lethbridge paper at the time of her death. "Her honored place in the community of Southern Alberta was assured while she lived. The grateful tribute on her death will come from thousands who have and will enjoy the advantages of facilities and programs she founded."

Esther Robins (Manolson 1955) Esther is coordinator of the CanSurmount Program, a support system of volunteers dedicated to helping newly diagnosed cancer patients and their families to better understand and cope with the disease. Members utilize the unique shared experience to provide support and encouragement for one another.

The initial pilot project for Canada, established by Esther, was instituted at the Foothills Hospital, Calgary, in April 1979. Since that time, chapters



Dorothy Gooder.



Esther Robins.

have been formed throughout Calgary, in the W.W. Cross Cancer Institute, Edmonton, and in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario.

Esther, who suffers from lymphocytic lymphoma, a malignancy of the lymph glands, is presently

provincial and national coordinator of CanSurmount. A recent biography in *Today Magazine* paid tribute to her indomitable spirit. Her dedication, and commitment to fellow cancer patients have made CanSurmount a successful and vital program.

Overseas

Peggy MacMillan (1948) Following graduation, Peggy worked in small hospitals prior to enrolling for bible college training in 1952. She realized an ambition she had held since she was fifteen when, in 1953, she was accepted to serve in the mission fields in Africa. Postgraduate work in T.B. nursing, tropical medicine and laboratory courses followed, and April 1954 found her on the high seas — destination Ethiopia.

After a brief stopover in Aden, she proceeded to Addis Ababa. Here, she worked in a leprosarium, and for nine months studied the main language of Ethiopia — Amhorec. She was then posted to her first station, Sha-Sha-Ma-Nee, a non-leprosy clinic. After a fifteen minute orientation of the white-washed, mudwalled, two-room clinic, she was on her own. It didn't take her long to discover that if the medicine didn't taste bitter, and the shot didn't hurt, then the treatment couldn't be very good. Injections were the treatment of choice for everything.

The staff of her station was headed by a chiropractor and consisted of two R.N.s, one of whom was trained in English midwifery. Peggy's clinic helper was an on-the-job-trained Ethiopian who was taught how to cleanse, soak and dress tropical ulcers.

Within a year, increasing patient load necessitated the building of a larger clinic. It boasted: a wooden examination table; antiquated O.R. table; mobile X ray machine; dark room; registration room, and a separate room for giving injections, dispensing medicines and doing dressings. There was a two-bed ward for the critically ill — a luxury indeed. The nearest doctor was some fifty to seventy-five miles down the road.

Routine medical practices included treatment of: V.D.; chest conditions; skin diseases; T.B. of the lungs, bones, skin and glands; and WORMS, pin round, hook and tape — plus all the various complications that worms present. Vividly etched in her memory is the day she saw a hand-wash basin half-full of round worms which a patient had just vomited. Common diseases were malaria, filaria,



Peggy with Ethiopian staff.

schistosomiasis, typhoid, typhus, dysentery, leprosy, trachoma and other terrible eye infections, tropical ulcers and abnormal obstetrical cases. Hardly a day went by that someone who had gotten into a drunken brawl did not require suturing.

Peggy's first surgery was on a nose. A merchant, sitting on top of a loaded truck, failed to see a wire stretched across the road. The wire almost severed his nose, and she was expected to do the repairs. Her mind flew back to the O.R. at the Holy; how she longed for the experienced hands of one of those noted surgeons! Because it was dusk, the O.R. was moved outside, with all eyes focused on the "new nurse". She scrubbed and anaesthetised the area quite professionally, but by the time she had put in eight sutures, and sat on a stool with her head between her knees between each suture, co-workers didn't know which patient they should treat first. Trying to persuade the merchant to stay overnight for observation proved to be hopeless. He had business to attend to! Six months later, he reappeared, with a small, fine, beautifully healed scar across his nose.

About a year later, she faced her first amputation, a man with a gangrenous foot. He had been transported by friends and family on a crude stretcher for

ten days and refused to travel further for medical attention. If the clinic wouldn't help, he would go to a witch doctor. Peggy, with one R.N. for an assistant and another circulating, amputated the leg about four inches below the knee. The relatives kissed her feet, a sign of sincere and humble thanks, and an artificial peg-leg was crafted for the patient by the Ethiopian who carved such prostheses for leprosy patients.

Due to the customs of the tribes, the witch doctor performed very crude surgery, removal of eye teeth and uvula, on babies. Many of these infants eventually came to the clinic suffering from raging fevers and diarrhea.

In Peggy's own words, "If you want hard, interesting work, grateful thanks, satisfaction, and appreciation for it — and not much monetary pay, go to a foreign country to nurse. You will be paid in eggs, chickens, money and most of important of all, in the satisfaction of knowing you helped someone to get better. I do not regret those nineteen years of hard slugging — I just wish I could return tomorrow. No, it was not all easy, it was so often heart-rending, but it was worth it all. I am not wealthy but I have the satisfaction of having done work I love and was trained for all those years. God called, and He enabled by giving wisdom and skill beyond my wildest dreams."



Her first amputation.

Carol Olstad (1963) "Ole", as she is known to her classmates, worked in B.C. and Alberta before taking Public Health Nursing at U.B.C. in the late 1960s. She spent two semesters at Acadia Divinity College prior to joining the Canadian Baptist Mission Service and has since served in Africa, Costa Rica and Bolivia. While home on leave from spring 1979 to June 1980, she travelled to England and studied tropical medicine for three months in Liverpool.



Carol Olstad, with Olga, in Bolivia.

Following this sabbatical, she returned to the Chapare area of Bolivia. In her first letter home to friends, she described the district as "beautiful with tropical green vegetation, bugs that bite, muggy days at 80F and 95% humidity — and this is winter!" Here she works in the native villages, helping to establish good health practices, and teaching first aid and nursing procedures to the natives.

Sister Lorraine-Marie Tinivez (1965) After graduation, Sister worked in St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver and Providence Hospital in High Prairie, Alberta. In 1968, after studying Spanish, she joined her fellow Sisters of Providence in the mission fields in Argentina. This entailed a flight from New York City to Buenos Aires, then another flight of 1,800 km south to Comodoro Rivadavia.

Sister says, "Nursing in Argentina was a challenge then. It wasn't considered a profession, and "good" girls just didn't become nurses. Patient care in the past was done by female prisoners, with no preparation. There are a few B.Sc. nurses being prepared now, but the majority of R.N.s then were girls with a sixth-grade education followed by the three-year Red Cross program. Their basic preparation left a lot to be desired. Most "nurses" were empirical workers but very devoted.

"I was working in a 200-bed Public Health Hospital, most of the time as Head Nurse in the O.R. and Case Room. We had some very good surgeons, and had a fairly busy operating schedule. Our biggest problem was lack of supplies such as gauze, alcohol, anaesthetic drugs, antibiotics, etc. The gauze was a real revelation to me. It comes in bolts like yard goods do at Silk-O-Lina! Yes, just like that! You open it out and start cutting with an ordinary pair of scissors and then you take each little piece and fold it."

Sister furthered her religious studies in 1972, after which she resumed her duties at Comodoro Rivadavia. In 1976, she received her basic B.Sc. in Nursing from the U. of A., and then returned to her work in Argentina for two years. She is now living in Calgary.

Nancy Gerein (1968) Nancy has been the recipient of many academic awards and scholarships: the Calgary Herald Scholarship, 1965; Highest Academic Standing at Holy Cross, 1968; Alliance Francaise Scholarship to Banff School of Fine Arts, 1965; Canadian University Service Overseas, 1971; Raya Pearlman Scholarship, 1975. Following graduation from Holy Cross in 1968, she worked in the O.R. in the Drumheller General Hospital for one year, then from 1969-71 was a CUSO volunteer in Patna, India where she was the only clinical instructor for one hundred students. During the last four months of her two-year term, she worked in refugee camps.

For the next four years, she furthered her education at the U. of A., where she obtained her B.Sc. in Nursing (cum laude). In 1976, she studied for a certificate in tropical community medicine and health from the School of Tropical Medicine in Liverpool, England, and in 1977 received her Master of Science in Health Service, Research, Planning and Administration from U.B.C.

Nancy joined the Canadian International Development Association in 1976 and went to the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia as health research associate working on the island's regional development study. As a health planner, she reviewed health systems in four provinces of Sulawesi.

She spent several months in 1977 in Africa, as part of a team of three planning a health project in Ghana and then as a volunteer in a mission hospital in Cameroon, planning the hospital's outreach program. Her duties in Cameroon, which she loved, included: training primary health care workers in villages; organizing maternal-child clinics; working with the mission agricultural services; reorganizing hospital staffs, and evaluating the mission's health care programs in English Cameroon.

She returned to Indonesia in April 1978 and in September of that year was appointed planning and

project officer on the Asia South Project for C.I.D.A. in Ottawa. Based in Ottawa, Nancy travels to Asia once a year for a month, which she maintains is "just enough to whet my appetite". She looks forward to returning to overseas work for another long-term assignment in the future.



Nancy Gerein.

"I am with an unhappy child being weighed in a UNICEF-supplied scale — rather like the sturdy market scales used everywhere in Sulawesi, but with a sling for babies rather than for fish or vegetables. This is part of a well-baby clinic, which includes kitchen gardens, communal cooking and eating of the produce, weighing and discussions on hygiene, good nutrition, sanitation and immunization. The mothers themselves noted that, besides the weight gain, their children, got sick less often (especially less diarrhea) and that they were much naughtier, or livelier. Another side-effect occurred in that, because the children got bathed and dressed in their best twice a week to come to the "feed-in", the incidence of skin disease went down."

In a Class by Herself



Claudia in China.

Claudia Tennant (1939) Although she would deny it, Claudia is one of the most illustrious graduates of Holy Cross. Past president of the A.A.R.N. and of the Alberta Cancer Society; nurse consultant with W.H.O.; volunteer nurse with the United Nations Development Program; director of nurses at the Galt and the Lethbridge Municipal Hospitals, and winner of an Alberta Achievement Award, Claudia has filled her life with service since her graduation in 1939.

She spent her first two years as an R.N. at Holy Cross, scrubbing for Doctors Macnab and Townsend, then went to the Galt Hospital, Lethbridge as night supervisor. Next, she was matron of the new Taber hospital for two years, leaving there to join the navy. She served for 1½ years as a sub-lieutenant at Halifax and Sidney, Nova Scotia. From the navy, she went on to McGill University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Nursing in School of Nursing Administration. She subsequently returned to Galt Hospital as superintendent of nursing, in charge of both service and education.

In 1953, Claudia was named Woman of the Year in Lethbridge, in recognition of her outstanding service to the community during a polio epidemic the previous year.

When the new Lethbridge Municipal Hospital replaced the Galt in 1955, she was named director of nursing service and education, a position that she held until 1968.

On retirement from the Lethbridge Municipal Hospital, she joined the staff of W.H.O. and was sent as a "short-term consultant in hospital services administration" to the newly independent country of Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean. She was to prepare staff for a recently constructed hospital. This proved to be a particularly difficult job as the Mauritians really did not want her advice. She had gone from a demanding job at Lethbridge to a post where she was not welcome, a tough adjustment. When she complained, her experienced supervisor advised her to stay for eleven months, and then things would get better. She was told it was going to take "patience, perseverance and a sense of humor" and luckily, Claudia had all three in abundance. She stayed despite her loneliness and the frustrations of her job. (Her supervisor gave her three additional pieces of advice that she also followed. "Keep your mouth shut. Keep your damned mouth shut. Keep your God-damned mouth shut!") At first, she wasn't allowed to do anything, but, in time, the natives grew to trust and respect her and asked her to stay on to supervise administration of the hospital and to teach nursing administration to the senior nursing staff. She obliged and was in Mauritius for nearly three years.

From there, she went to Botswana to direct the administration of the National Health Institute, then under construction. The N.H.I. was to be responsible for the training of nurses and paramedicals and to advise on and direct the education of all health care workers for the country. Here there was plenty of work, and she stayed for four years.

In 1977, she retired from W.H.O. and became a United Nations Volunteer. She was sent to the Yemen Arab Republic to try to assist with the operation of the Health Manpower Institute, which was built the year before and patterned after the National Health Institute in Botswana. While working in cooperation with Yemeni staff and the staff of W.H.O. in administration, curriculum planning and clinical teaching, she also taught pediatric nursing for two years.

To say that conditions in Yemen were primitive is to understate. The 300-bed hospital had no running water, infant mortality was a whopping 47% and the people died like flies from malnutrition, filth and hepatitis. Thirty-eight nationalities were represented in the hospital, and Claudia was the only one who spoke English.

She now feels that volunteers went into Yemen too soon, before the people were ready for outside

help — especially from Christians. She found her work in that country discouraging and was invalided home with a perforated gall bladder, a condition she was lucky to survive.

She next volunteered for work in the refugee camps and was appointed coordinator of health services for South East Asia in 1979. She worked out of Hong Kong where she set up public health services; the biggest camp cared for 17,000 refugees, with a well-baby and feeding centre, a sick baby clinic and an antenatal clinic.

Claudia says of her work in these four countries: “Mauritius was a lovely place to live, a difficult place to work. Botswana was a difficult place to live, but a lovely place to work. Yemen was no good for either, and Hong Kong was good for both.”

At present, she is in Bangkok, working under the United Nations as senior health coordinator. Here she assists in monitoring and evaluating health care services in refugee camps, assists in development of standard ward procedures for nursing service, and in the preparation of curriculum to be used in training refugee nurses and midwives.

In her “spare time”, she keeps in touch with her many ex-students and friends around the world, writing as many as ten to twelve letters a week. She is an avid walker, and belonged to the Natural History Society of Hong Kong. In less tropical countries, she enjoys handwork — both knitting and crocheting.

She is the recipient of many awards, among them honorary life memberships in the Alberta Cancer Society, the A.A.R.N., the Holy Cross School of Nursing Alumnae, and the Galt School of Nursing



Caring for an infant refugee with scabies — in Hong Kong.

Alumni. In 1979, she was presented with an Alberta Achievement Award for her exceptional contributions and achievements in the nursing profession — at the local, provincial, national and international level.

God Made a Nurse

God made — a nurse

He made her heart brave,

True and kind,

And like the mountain

Streams, her mind

As crystal clear, yet swift, and deep

As where their waters, rush and sweep

He made her hands strong, tender, skilled

Their touch with His own pity filled.

And gave to make his nurse complete,

A sense of humor, wholesome, sweet,

God made a nurse,

Thank God.

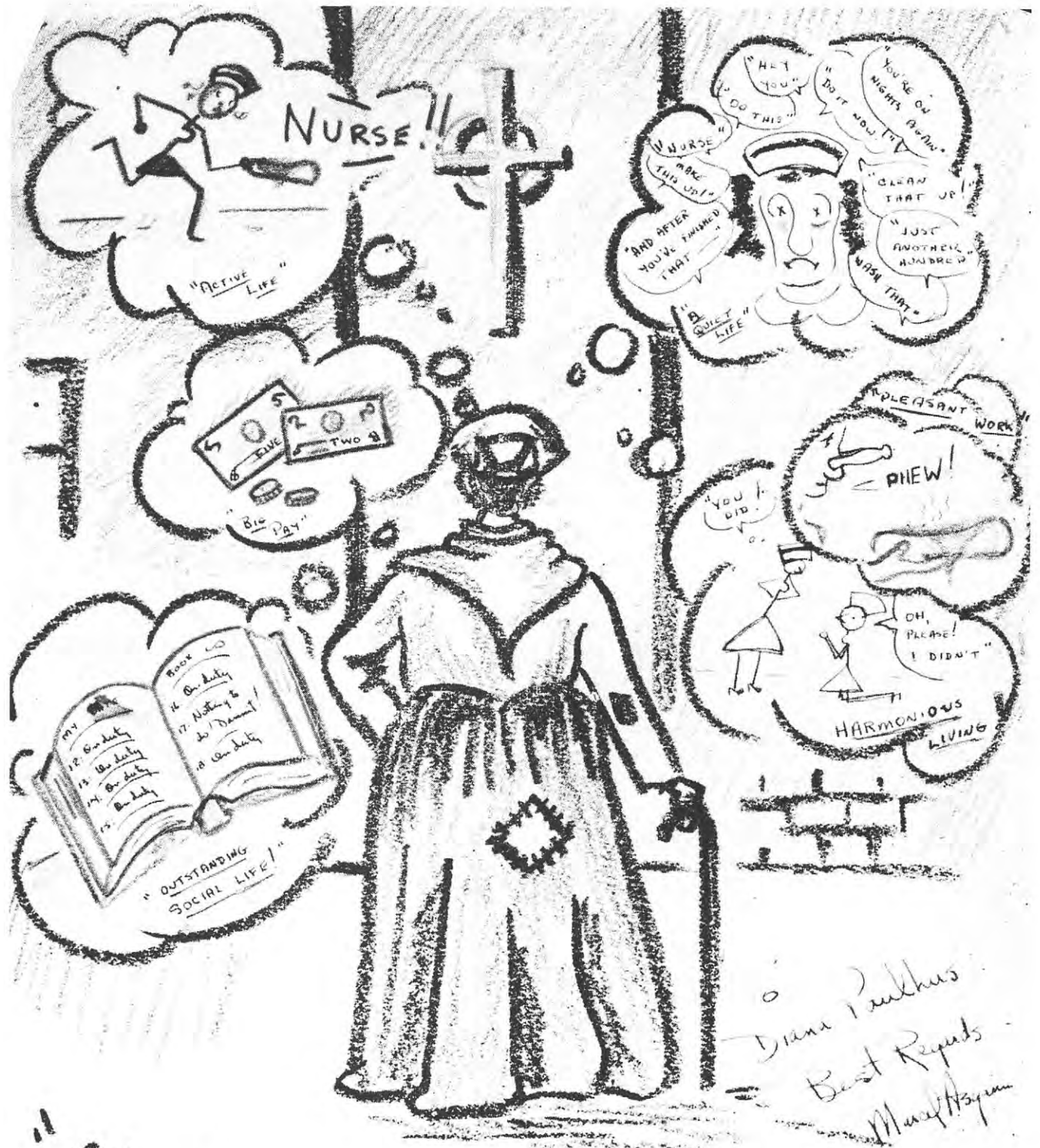
1948 Year Book

What Is A Nurse?

A nurse is a dedicated, compassionate woman who has chosen to express her femininity in the most beautiful way imaginable — by tending the sick.

Every woman is a nurse sometimes. Every woman has known the immense and immediate rewards of bringing relief and comfort to the injured, the afflicted, and the aged. But to make nursing your profession is to discover in yourself strengths and virtues that you may never even have dreamed you might possess.

(1979)



"AH —,
THOSE WERE
THE DAYS!"

Diane Paulhus
Best Regards
Mary Aspin

The Alumnae

Decibel levels reach alarming heights at Holy Cross reunions as chattering grads relive their three very special years of togetherness — years that formed steel-strong bonds of friendship between classmates.

Organizing these reunions has been one of the rewarding functions of the Alumnae Association of the Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing for the past forty years. Tireless Calgary grads have hosted five general reunions, welcoming graduates home for a few glorious days of “remember when”.

Active in spite of the closure of its alma mater, the Alumnae, now in its fifty-second year, is still holding reunions of “old” Holy grads. The 1982 get-together celebrated the 75th anniversary of its School of Nursing.

The organization began on May 7, 1931 when eighty-five Holy Cross graduates met in the lecture hall to form an association. Margaret Brown, first graduate of the School in 1910, chaired the meeting. At the third meeting, held on June 4, 1931, Lucille de Satge (1919) was elected president, and Margaret Brown (1910) was made the first honorary member. Fees were set at 50¢.

Objectives of the organization, as set down in the constitution were:

- a) The promotion of unity, loyalty and good feeling between Alumnae members and student nurses.
- b) The advancement of the interests and upholding the standards of the profession of nursing.
- c) The keeping in touch with our Alma Mater for our mutual benefit.

During its first year, the Alumnae invited the public to a coffee party at the home of Mrs. W. R.

Cope (McPhelan 1914) to raise funds for the fledgling association. Members, students and Sisters were invited to hear Dr. Lincoln, first of many doctors to lecture to the group, deliver a travelogue at a general meeting. Christmas donations that year included a bouquet for the Sisters, and \$5 each to the Lacombe Home and the Sunshine Welfare Fund. The sewing committee purchased flannelette for layettes, which were kept on hand for destitute patients and emergency Red Cross appeals, and a contribution was made toward purchase of a radio for the nurses' home. By September of 1932, there were thirty-four paid-up members and a bank balance of \$129.04.

During the Depression years, the membership fee of 50¢ was discontinued and an appeal was forwarded to Sister Superior asking that job preference be given to Holy Cross graduates. Fifty dollars was given to the Sisters to help to defray the graduation expenses.

A pattern of activities for future years was soon established. The membership would assist the students of their School, would respond to public appeals that pertained to the health field, would work with the Sisters to improve hospital care and would foster fellowship and loyalty among graduates of the Holy Cross.

Assistance to the students took many forms: first the radio for the residence and the donation toward graduation expenses — then social evenings, an annual banquet for graduating students and a gold medal for highest marks in theory, which was presented at graduation exercises. Yearbooks were supported with a full-page ad. In 1955, Alumnae covered the cost of a float entered in the Women's Jubilee Parade. The float, designed and decorated by the students, won first prize.



Mona Sparrow (1918) receives life membership from C. MacDonald, Alumnae President, 1957.



E. Moseson (Billsten 1929) presents painting on behalf 1929 class. (L. to R.) Sr. L. Leclerc, E. Moseson, T. Brown (Wannop 1938).



E. McQuade (Black 1910); C. MacDonald (Sahara 1946). Pour Tea, 1957.



Prize Winning Float. 1910 Graduate, N. Hunter (Whalley). 1955 Graduate, J. McMullen. Background, M. Holloway (McIlhargey 1936).

In 1954, a \$100 bursary was awarded to an alumnus for use in postgraduate studies. The following year, the amount of such bursaries was increased to \$250, and a scholarship fund was established in 1957 to assist members with further studies.

Response to public appeals was generous and the group supported activities at the Lacombe Home, Wood's Christian Home, the Salvation Army and the Providence Creche. During WWII, parcels were sent to Holy Cross grads serving overseas and members worked for the Red Cross at home. They were also active with the Blood Donor Clinic, Cancer Clinic and Civil Defence Board. the Alumnae actively supported the efforts of the A.A.R.N. and the C.N.A.

Tangible gifts of equipment and furnishings were made to the hospital as well. To celebrate the hospital's Golden Jubilee in 1941, a homecoming was arranged for all graduates, and a sterling silver tea and coffee service with tray was presented to the hospital.

The Alumnae was often featured on the society pages of local newspapers as members diligently raised funds for its many activities. Teas, home bake sales, garden parties, raffles, dressed doll sales, bingos, bridge parties, fashion shows, variety shows — all manner of ladylike schemes were explored in a search for money to carry out the Alumnae's good works.

The Sisters, in return for years of loyalty from



Vi Baay (Aiello 1952) presents cheque to Dr. Norman Wagner, U. of C. president, 1979

their grads, provided meeting rooms and kitchen facilities for functions and, for many years, granted hospitalized members a reduction in their bills.

In the fall of 1957, the Golden Jubilee of the School, graduates from across Canada and the U.S. gathered for another happy reunion, and a tour of the new nurses' residence, which had opened in August. Alumnae member Elsie McQuade (Black 1910), member of the first class, and Maureen Mooney, a 1957 grad, were chosen to unveil the plaque marking the opening of the residence. Following the reunion, almost \$6,000 was donated for furnishing the reception lounge in the residence.

In the 1960s, the Alumnae helped to alleviate a shortage of nurses by sponsoring refresher courses at the hospital so that older grads could "get a retread" and return to active nursing.

Support and encouragement of the students continued with donations of books to the library and binding of current nursing journals, a project of the '60s and '70s. Repairs were made to the tennis courts. At the suggestion of the School and students, the annual grad banquets were discontinued in the mid-'60s.

Another reunion was held in the fall of 1967 — a 60th anniversary celebration in Canada's Centennial year. A highlight of that occasion was the Alumnae's presentation of the massive celtic cross which is a feature of the new hospital, completed later that year. Made of pre-cast concrete, the cross weighs 1,160 pounds and had to be lifted 180 feet into the air by helicopter so that it could be bolted into place high on the side of the hospital.



Celtic Cross being airlifted into place.

Glenbow Archives



Paintings donated by Alumnae to residence.



In 1969, the Alumnae was disturbed to receive a letter from the Grey Nuns telling of the proposed sale of their hospital to the Province. Sister Fernande Dussault, Provincial Supervisor of the Grey Nuns, expressed their best thanks and warmest appreciation to all members. The Alumnae was to miss its enduring ties with the Sisters of Charity.

Another most successful reunion, which attracted nearly one thousand graduates and Sisters, was held in 1977. Surplus funds from the festivities, amounting to \$2,000, were donated to the hospital for purchase of pictures for the wards.

Members continued to enjoy their association with the student nurses until closure of the School in 1979. A graduates' luncheon was given for the final class and, at the 1979 exercises, the Alumnae's medal for Highest Standing in Theory was awarded for the last time.

Collection of the archives of the School of Nursing began with donations from various members over

the years. Photos, artifacts and memorabilia are now preserved in the Blue Room in the Grey Nuns Building, permanent home of the organization, while papers and records of historical significance have been donated to both the Glenbow Archives and the University of Calgary's Rare Books and Special Collections.

Although the Holy Cross Hospital School of Nursing is a part of history now, its Alumnae organization will continue to work for the improvement of nursing in the Province. A recent generous donation by the family of Melitta Fletcher (Berg 1910), one of the first six students at the hospital, will enable the association to continue its practise of awarding financial assistance to members wishing to continue their educations.

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the School in 1982, its history *Nuns and Nightingales*, was published as a final, loving tribute to the School and to the Grey Nuns who founded it.

Alumnae Entertainment

The Digitalis Band

Our name is Digitalis, we are the Nurses' band,
Although we're few in numbers, we think we're
simply grand.

We play at graduation and all the nurses' balls,
But when it comes to entertaining, we think we're
best of all.

Chorus:

Oh, the bed pans bang and the urinals clang,
And the lights they blaze away.
And is it any wonder

That we soak our feet each day?
We hustle and bustle, here and there
And isn't it simply grand
To think that we are members of the Digitalis
Band?

Right now we're entertaining for a very grand
affair,
The annual graduation, all the nurses will be there.
When Sister Mansfield hears of this, she surely
will exclaim
"I hope those Holy nurses do not put us all to
shame."

Tune: MacNamara's Band



The Digitalis Band — B. Mosley (Thorne 1940), pianist, C. Clark (Laing 1939), J. Roberts (Forest 1924), M. Legatt (1931), L. Loughheed (Thorne 1934).

Alumnae Presidents

Unfortunately, early records of the Alumnae Association are not available. Rather than estimate years that the first presidents served, we have listed them in their approximate order.

1931	Lucille de Satge (1919)
	Helen Cope (McPhelan 1914)
	Sadie Rooney (Laughren 1923)
	Philomena Kloefer (Gilker 1922)
	Laura Harrison (Freeman 1932)
	Irene Nield (Jackson 1927)
	Louise Loughed (Thorne 1934)
	Molly Drinkwater (Wardman 1924)
	Mabel Johnstone (Olin 1920)
1941	Ruth O'Driscoll (Turnbull 1938)
1943	Margaret Holloway (McIlhargy 1936)
1946-1953	Mona Sparrow (1918)
1954-1955	Elsie Seefeldt (McLean 1952)
1956-1957	Coral MacDonald (Sahara 1946)
1958-1959	Chrissie Hammer (Young 1931)
1960-1961	Thelma Brown (Wannop 1938)
1962-1963	Madge MacAdam (Campbell 1940)
1964-1965	Diane Pechiulis (1951)
1966-1967	Anne Cherry (Reiffenstein 1956)
1968-1969	Marjorie Deitz (1950)
1970-1973	Eve Templeton (Heaver 1947)
1974-1975	Gertrude Shaw (Kaup 1945)
1976-1977	Rita O'Byrne (1951)
1978-1979	Vi Baay (Aiello 1952)
1980-1981	Joan Scott (Bell 1953)
1982	Coral MacDonald (Sahara 1946)

Honorary Members of Alumnae

Miss M. Brown (1910)	Deceased	Mrs. B. Thode (Cole 1929)	
Mrs. M. Fletcher (Berg 1910)	Deceased	Mrs. I. Lovatt (Hornby 1929)	
Mrs. B. McKay (Currence 1910)	Deceased	Mrs. E. Walshaw (Shoeppe 1929)	
Mrs. N. Hunter (Whalley 1910)	Deceased	Mrs. B. Malo (Baxter 1930)	
Life Members of Alumnae		Mrs. C. Hammer (Young 1931)	Deceased
Mrs. E. McQuade (Black 1910)	Deceased	Miss C. Tennant (1939)	
Mrs. A. Maguire (Martin 1910)		Mrs. M. MacAdam (Campbell 1940)	
Miss M. Sparrow (1918)	Deceased	Mrs. D. Gooder (Ottewell 1940)	Deceased
Mrs. L. de Satge (1919)	Deceased	Mrs. C. MacDonald (Sahara 1946)	
		Miss M. MacMillan (1948)	

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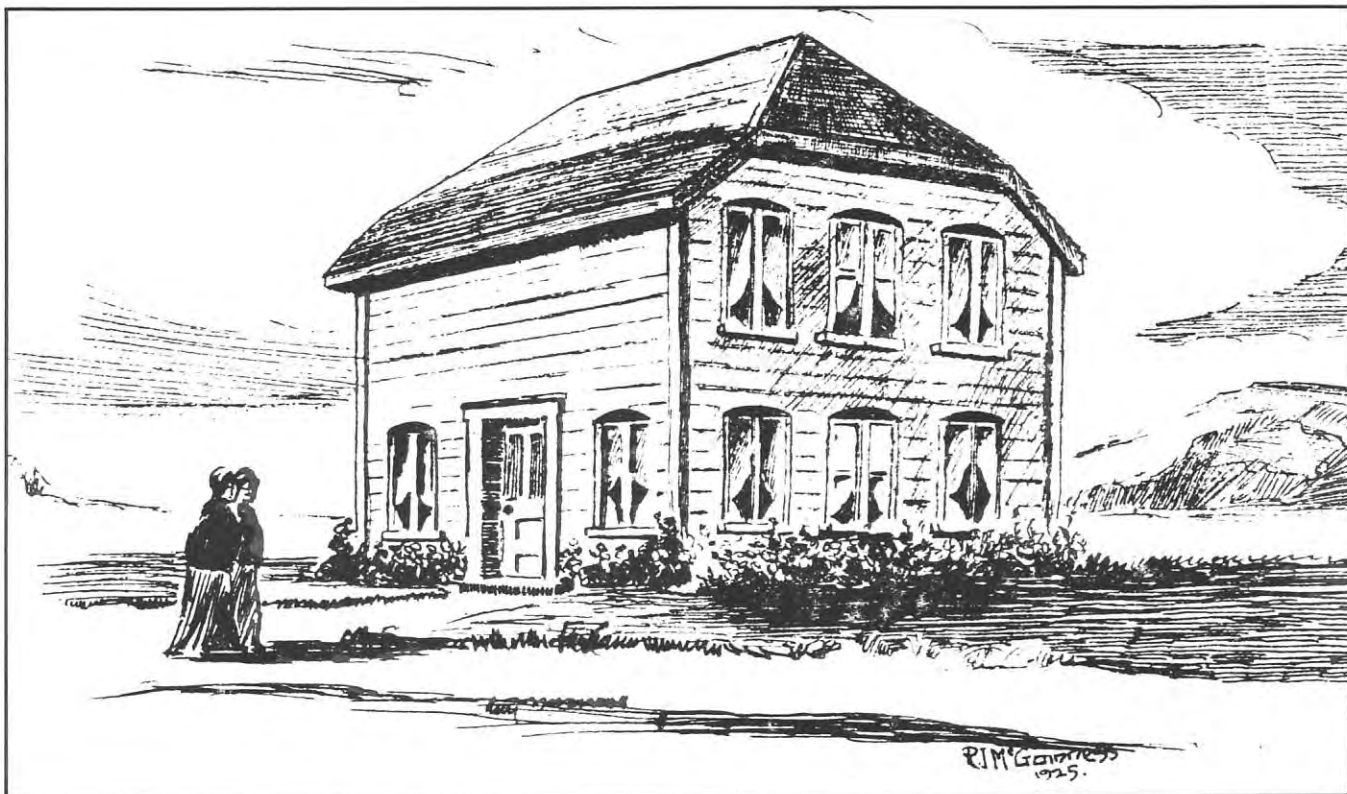
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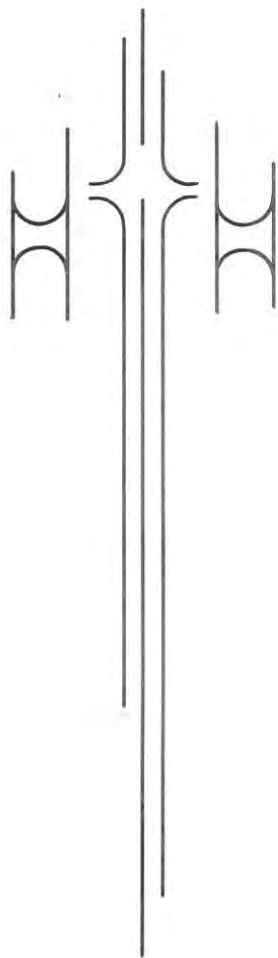
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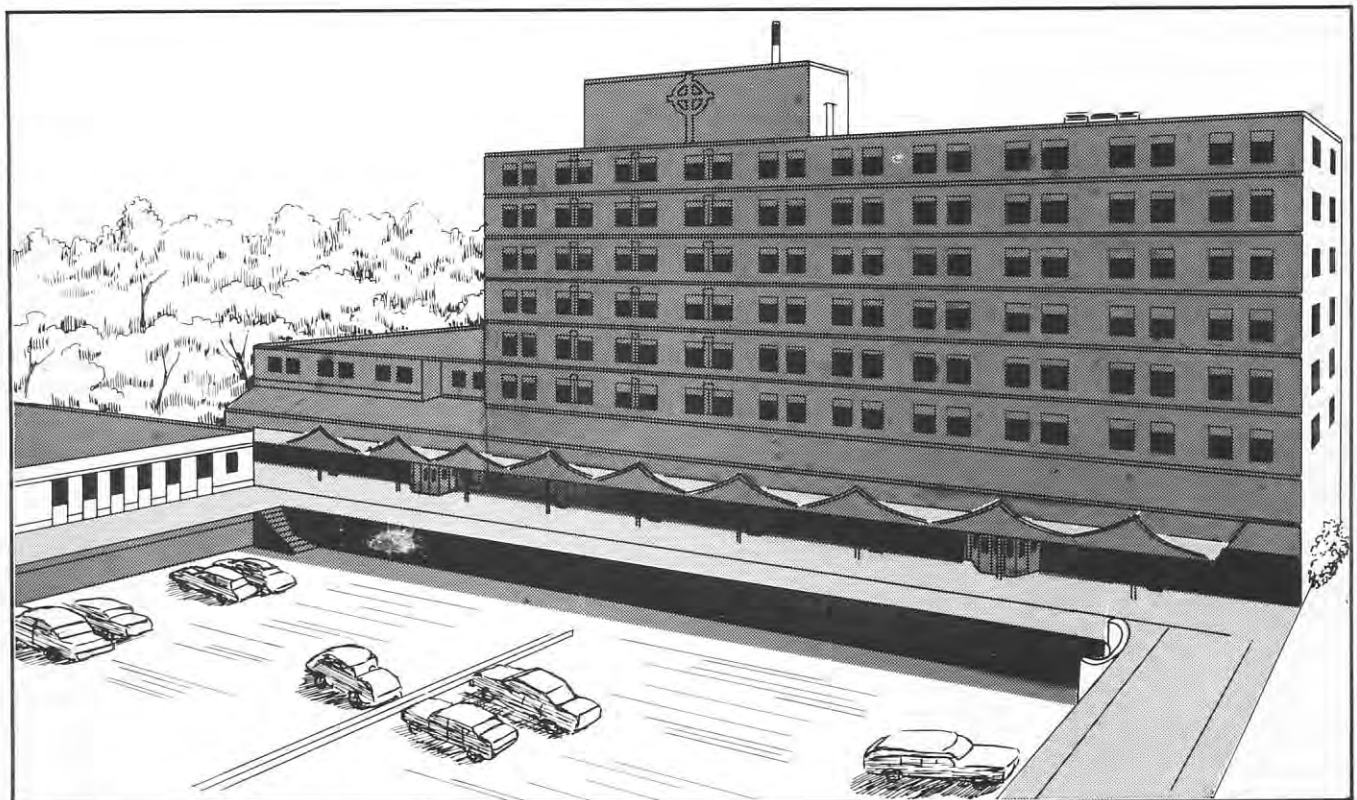
Temporary Hospital — opened April, 1891.



First Hospital on present site — opened November, 1892.



April, 1929 addition.



New Hospital — opened December, 1967.

