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The Morning Call

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The Allentown Morning Call 12-5-1913

SEVENTEEN NURSES GRADUATED FROM HOSPITAL TRAINING SCHOOL

Splendid Addresses Mark the Event---Interesting
Statistics From Report of Secretary

1913 GRADUATING CLASS, ALLENTOWN HOSPITAL



Top row reading from left to right: Ida Lonacher, Edna Robbins, Cora Hershberger, Bertha Henry, Sarah Miller; middle row, Sara Thomas, Claudia Barnes, Clara Rottet, Mary Singleton, Lena Brientein, Stella Priest; bottom row, Adelle Macquiken, Angellina Oberholtzer, Lula Lentz, Alma Viedorfer (directress of nurses) Florence Helmbach, Anna Frankenfeld and Anna Heywood.

Seventeen young ladies, the largest class that has ever graduated from the Allentown Hospital Training School for Nurses, last evening held its commencement exercises before an audience of friends of the hospital and the nurses that practically filled the large Y. M. C. A. auditorium, a crowd that by its size and interest in the proceedings throughout manifested the increasing loyalty of the community to its principal eleemosynary institution.

It was the first commencement that has been held in the Y. M. C. A. hall and there has never been one with quite the cordiality of feeling displayed. The audience was loth to leave after a program of unusual merit and interest. After the benediction had been pronounced many hundreds of people remained to congratulate the young ladies who, after the three addresses of the evening, in which the profession of nursing was highly eulogized, held a higher position in the esteem of their friends and of the community than ever before and had been given a new vision of their careers and their purpose.

Chiefly instrumental in conveying an idea of the lofty life of the true nurse was Dr. Edgar Fahs Smith, president of the University of Pennsylvania who in an address that was a gem of thought and diction laid down lines of action for the nurse-morals and axioms that every auditor in turn applied to himself.

Some of the brilliants which Dr. Smith had mined from his experience and philosophy and formed into a coronet to adorn the brow of the nurse who is true to her calling were as follows:

Rely upon your own energy and do not wait upon other people to help you.

Cling with all your might to your own highest ideals and do not be led astray by false ideals of wealth, position or popularity. Be yourself.

Your worth consists in what you are, not in what you have.

Never regret, repine or envy. Do not make yourself unhappy by comparison of your lot with others. Make the most of your opportunities. Associate with the best people. Read the best books. Know the mighty, but learn to live alone. Do not believe all heroism to have been in the past but discover, worth, beauty and heroism in those around you.

Be on earth what you expect good people to be in heaven. Remember that heaven itself can be nothing but the intimacy of pure and noble souls.

Do not shrink from any useful or kindly act, no matter how repellant. The merit of acts is measured by the spirit in which they are performed. Count each day lost when no advancement has been made.

Seek enjoyment in energy, not in dalliance. Work is the natural outcome of character, so develop character.

Be on good terms with yourself. Look for no reward for goodness, but goodness itself.

Give aid to every institution that is working for good.

Never be satisfied until you have come to understand as far as you can the meaning of the world and have reduced it to a natural cosmos and until you have come to understand your own purpose.

These gems of thought were the climax of a talk in which Dr. Smith brought out what a spirit of the highest religion pervades the great doers and thinkers of the world. He brought out that the striking fact in the lives of the finest men lie not so much in their achievements as in their sense of indebtedness to an overruling providence, their intense religious nature.

"Vital moments come to nurses, such as come to no other persons: times when you speak direct to the heart; when you enjoy confidences such as the clergy and most intimate friends do not receive and a word, a thought may go into eternity. Words from your lips would be heeded when from others' they would not be heard."

For the reason that nurses come in to this relation with life, Dr. Smith urged their complete consecration to a life of high thinking and noble acts so that they may improve their opportunity of doing good to mankind.

The address was the feature of a featureful program. The Allentown Band under the direction of Martin Klingler rendered enjoyable numbers during the evening, and Miss Elizabeth Haas, one of the undergraduate nurses, rendered two pretty contralto solos, accompanied by Harold Marks.

The devotions were led by Rev. C. A. Snavely, of Zion U. B. church and Rev. R. M. Kern, of St. Andrews Reformed church.

Secretary A. Samuels, of the board of trustees, presented the statistics of the year, which in spite of being figures which are thought to be dry, proved very interesting, giving a splendid idea of the work the hospital is doing.

Hon. Chas. D. Schaeffer, chief surgeon of the hospital, made an excellent address in announcing the graduation of the seventeen young ladies and then presented each with her diploma and with a pin of the training school.

Rev. C. E. Schaeffer, secretary of the board of home missions of the Reformed church, spoke, outlining some new phases of the ideals of the modern nurse. The address was striking and daring in its handling of some important modern topics.

The commencement was easily the prettiest the school has ever had. The nurses all garbed in their professional habits, were seated upon the stage with the trustees of the institution, the hospital superintendents and graduate nurses and former internes. With the speakers and others participating in the program were Dr. C. J. Otto, assistant surgeon at the hospital and Dr. Henry I. Klopp, of the Rittersville Hospital.

James F. Hunsicker, president of the board, presided throughout the session.

Mr. Samuels' report for the year, in addition to showing the work done by the institution, reported the following indebtedness against the institution: For maintenance in former years, \$15,000; furnishing account, \$9,000; building, \$56,948.28. Mr. Samuels estimated that if this account were wiped out, the saving in interest charges would bring the cost per patient to a little over a dollar a day or a lower cost than that achieved by any hospital in the state. It was announced as the aim of the board of trustees to

VENTEEN NURSES RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

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an endowment fund so large that the institution shall be self-sustaining. The report of Mr. Samuels was as follows:

Receipts.

From the report of W. Samuels, treasurer, the following figures were given:

Receipts from pay patients: Dec. 1912, \$1,258.00; Jan. 1913, \$2,053.50; Feb. 1913, \$3,796.00; Mar. 1913, \$2,000.00; Apr. 1913, \$3,002.38; May, \$3,250.75; June, 1913, \$2,083.75; July, 1913, \$1,909.50; August, 1913, \$3,000.00; Sept., 1913, \$2,000.75; Oct., 1913, \$3,205.25; Nov., 1913, \$2,722.25. Total, \$29,814.13.

Receipts from part pay patients: Dec., \$8.00; Jan., \$10.00; Feb., \$15.00; Mar., \$15.00; Apr., \$11.00; May, \$12.88; August, \$6.00; Sept., \$7.00; Oct., \$7.00. Total, \$88.00.

Total of pay and part-pay patients, \$30,702.13.

Amount of money received from the endowment fund of yearly appropriation, \$17,000.00.

Total cost of maintenance and non-maintenance (which means the improvements within the building) \$58,000.00.

Therefore, amount to be collected in order to meet the expenses of the institution through Thanksgiving offerings must be \$11,264.87.

Up-to-date we have received through offerings contributions, the sum of \$4,125.00.

Hospital Population.

Number of patients remaining—December 30, 1912, 89; number of medical cases treated during year, 1,000; number of medical cases treated during year, 409; number of surgical cases treated during year, 1,800; total number of cases, 1,800; number of patients dying during year, 122; total number of patients discharged within twenty-four hours, 21; number of operations performed, 1,000; number of days of treatment, 59; average number of patients per day, 103,634; total number of days of treatment, 21; total number of patients in hospital 181; highest number of beds occupied in a day during year, 77; lowest number of beds occupied during year, 77; number of patients treated without charge, 1,223; average cost of patient for maintenance per day, \$1.43; cost of maintenance for the year, \$54,803.38; cost of maintenance for the year, \$2,000.00; mortality less 21, dying within 24 hours, 656; number of patients treated since the opening of the hospital, 13,783.

Religious denomination of the patients treated during the year was as follows: Catholics, 374; Lutherans, 374; Presbyterian, 50; Episcopal, 380; Evangelical, 87; Methodist, 53; United Brethren, 11; Syrian Chaldean, 1; Congregationist, 1; Gospel Chapel, 2; Mennonite, 1; Moravian, 13; Baptist, 34; Episcopal, 42; no religion, 248; Hebrew, 35; Greek Orthodox, 3; Church of Christ, 1; Holiness, 1. Total, 1,000.

Dr. Schaeffer's address was as follows:

They are about to send forth into the world a new service this body of white-robed queens to follow in the train of that long line of nurses stretching from Deborah, Rebecca's nurse, past Florence Nightingale, down to the last of this illustrious order. They are angels because they are ministering spirits.

Hospitals and nurses are a product of our Christian civilization. The heathen and ethics of the heathen do not originate them. Dr. Headland is authority for the most that there is no science in the world which is not the outgrowth of truth touched by the spirit and gospel of Jesus Christ.

It came to pass that early in the Christian era the care of bodies and souls of men was the recognized duty of the church. Hospitals and nursing orders were established as an expression of the spirit of helpful-

ness. They are coming more and more to

appreciate the value of the body. It used to be supposed that the body was the seat of all evil, and had to be kept under. The paler and more emaciated it was the better it was. Thus men tortured their bodies and thereby suffered pain so that the soul within might have free sway. But we know now that the body is holy, that it is the temple of the Holy Ghost, the chariot of the soul, and we minister to its health and strength.

Life has a physical basis, we are not all soul, we are some body too. Much of our efficiency and happiness depends on the body. A few notable exceptions, like Stevenson and others, are able to rise above the limitations and restrictions of the body, but as a general thing the body plays a most essential part in our life. Pascal observed that a grain of sand in man's flesh changed the course of empires.

Conservation of Health.

One of the outstanding movements of our modern age is that of conservation. We hear about the conservation of forests, mines, water works and other natural resources. There is a frightful waste in the world. But it is quite as important to conserve the health of our people.

There is a great fight on at present, a war against disease, and dirt and death. And these nurses have enlisted in this war. We have seen how unsanitary conditions, how tuberculosis and typhoid and many occupational diseases have been making wreck and ruin of our people, and so the great and good moved by philanthropic and Christian impulses have dedicated themselves to the alleviation of human suffering and woe. Could anything be more noble and praiseworthy?

Prevention Better than Cure.

It is one thing to cure disease, but modern philanthropists are not satisfied with this. They aim to prevent suffering and disease. They prefer to go to the root of the matter and lay bare the underlying causes of the maladies of men. This effort has given rise to an entire new feature in hospital work. Within the last five or six years there has come into vogue a sphere of service, known as

Social Service in connection with hospital work. The term social service is a very large and inclusive one. It is one of those big ideas that is persuasive in its character and makes itself felt in all lines of life. Our modern cities, our tenements, slums, poverty, occupational diseases, etc., all seem to demand a thorough inquiry into the cause of these diseases. Philadelphia has nineteen hospitals with which there is connected a

Social Service Department.

The Social Service worker is as much a part of the clinic as the doctor or the nurse. The first social service department was established in the United States in 1905. England has had it for quite a number of years. The purpose of it is to inquire into social conditions which cause sickness.

Unselfish Service.

The work of the nurses is most unselfish. They are always fighting against that which assures them their own living, the prevention of sickness, its speedy and perchance ultimate cure, rob the doctor and the nurse of their business. The crowning glory of our age is the revival of the spirit of unselfish service.