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Goodrich, Annie Warburton, 1866-

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H I S T O R Y

of the

ARMY SCHOOL OF NURSING.

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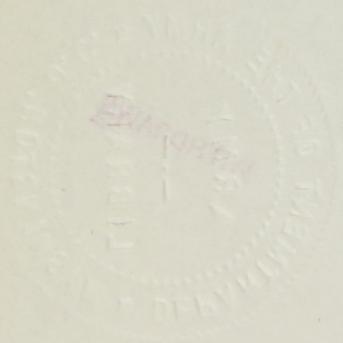
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Department  
of  
Nursing and Health

U.S. Army School of Nursing

WITHDRAWN

My dear General Ireland:

In compliance with the request conveyed through the circular letter relating to the Medical History of the War, I have prepared and am forwarding the history of the Army School of Nursing. I regret exceedingly that the completion of the work should have been so delayed.

My sincere appreciation of the privilege of preparing a history, makes me the more profoundly conscious of this crude, inadequate, and yet I fear, prolix presentation of the subject.

To a limited extent I have ventured to use the brief presentation, which I prepared for the annual report, but my belief that the experiment justified itself seems to demand a fairly detailed account of the various stages of its achievement, if it is to be of value, should the future bring a similar emergency.

I most earnestly hope that the history of the school, or some part of it, will find a place in the history of the war.

I have the honor to be,

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ Annie W. Goodrich.

Major General Merritte W. Ireland,  
Washington, D. C.

W 744HC 19-76

Prosp. Legat. 8/12/59



THE HISTORY OF THE ARMY SCHOOL OF NURSING

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St Col Garrison  
Army Med Dept

Introduction.

The recommendation of Surgeon General William S. Gorgas for the establishment of an army school of nursing as the method of providing for the rapid expansion of skilled nursing service that the continuation of the war would inevitably demand was approved by Secretary of War Baker, May 25, 1918.

To understand the plan and purpose of the school and the justification of its creation in the midst of the great war, compel a backward glance at the nursing care of the sick and wounded in previous wars, in this country at least, to see the situation which led to the step.

The history of the nursing profession following the entrance of the United States into the conflict, presenting as it does the immediate demand for a nursing personnel in definite ratio of 10,000 nurses to 1,000,000 men: the rapid enrollment through the Red Cross Reserve: the numerical strength attained when hostilities unexpectedly ceased, gives convincing evidence of the place that the nursing profession has attained in the community during its less than fifty years of existence. Not only for the first time in the history of wars in this country, was it possible to provide care for the sick and wounded through a professionally qualified nursing personnel, but for the first time also was there a demand for this personnel, in numbers in any measure approximating the personnel that would be required by a similar emergency in the civil community. The Medical and Surgical history of the Civil War presents some 2,000 women as rendering assistance, concerning whom it is reported as follows:

"Female nurses were borne on the rolls of many of the hospitals. According to the testimony of all the medical officers who have referred to this point their best service was rendered in connection with extra diets, the linen room and laundry. Male help was preferred in the wards save in special cases of prostration and suffering where particular care was needful in the administration of dietetic or remedial agents." (1)



With but a single exception such other reference, scant at best, as is made to the nursing care, evidences only too clearly the dependence on enlisted men whose preparation was mainly through their own sickness experience, their fitness through their unfitness for other and much preferred services. (1)

But if there was a failure to appreciate the place of women in the wards of the military hospitals of the Civil War, attributable mainly, perhaps, to the complete absence of opportunities for preparation for the nursing field, no clearer or more comprehensive portrayal of the function and result of skilled nursing could be found, than the following almost prophetic presentation by the Medical Historian. Says this writer treating of the continued fevers:

"In fact, the closest study of the record fails to show that the disease was influenced beneficially by any system of medication, or even that individual remedies had a notable effect on the result in individual cases. . . . It must not be supposed, however, that professional care was valueless in the treatment of the continued fevers. Regulation of the diet in the late as well as in the early stages of the disease no doubt saved many lives by lessening intestinal irritation and promoting the cicatrization of ulcerated patches. The administration of suitable nourishment at regular times saved the strength of the patient. Watchful care and control during the period of delirium not only preserved the patient from direct and immediate actual death, but prevented that involuntary violence of action and those unconscious exposures which would have tended to death by subsequent exhaustion or local congestive processes. The removal of retained urine by catheterization sometimes quieted delirium, relieved hypo-gastric pain and prevented local injury. Careful nursing economized the patient's strength by affording assistance in all his desired and permitted movements. The use of the bed pan certainly decreased the fatality of continued fever. Exhaustion was rapid in cases associated with active diarrhoea, when, from want of facilities the patient had to leave his bed on every alvine movement. Moreover, sudden death was not uncommon among asthenic patients who made the effort to attend their neces-

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(1) Annual Report Surg. Gen. U.S. Army, 1896-98, p.121



sities in this regard. Careful nursing also protected the fevered soldier during the night when a pneumonic complication might have resulted from a continued displacement of the bed clothes; and by constant attention and regular change of position and pressure, it prevented the development of exhausting and distressing bed sores, keeping the skin of the patient clean, his bedding fresh and the air in his vicinity comparatively pure." (1)

At the outbreak of the Spanish war, the then Surgeon General enrolled some seventeen hundred trained nurses, and at the close of the war paid tribute to their services as follows:

"During our Civil War female nurses . . . served at many of the large general hospitals. . . but male help was preferred in the general wards, and the sphere of the women was usually restricted to the extra diets and supervision over the linen, the laundry,

Since then, however, the systematically educated and trained female nurse has been developed by the medical profession to insure expert attendance on the patient during the absence of the physician or surgeon. . .

American women may well feel proud of the record made by these nurses in 1898-99, for every medical officer with whom they served has testified to their intelligence and skill, their earnestness, devotion and self sacrifice." (2)

While issue may be taken with the historical accuracy of the statement relating to the source mainly responsible for the development of the trained nurse in this or other countries, it is true that in these few years the profession of nursing had sprung into existence.

Upon the entrance of this country into the world war, in order to meet the demand that the new appreciation of trained nursing service imposed, it became at once evident that a program must be evolved through which the nursing resources of the country should be inventoried, distributed and supplemented, in order to most accurately and advantageously meet the growing needs of the

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(1) Med. and Surg. History of the War of the Rebellion, Part 3  
Med. Vol. I, p. 533.

(2) Annual Report Surgeon General U.S. Army, 1899-1900, p. 23.



Early in the winter of 1917-18 the rapid transportation of men overseas, the heavy drafts entering camps in this country, with consequent outbreaks of epidemics, and enrollment of nurses that did not keep pace with the increase of the army, a growing public uneasiness as to the nursing care of the men in the camp hospitals, led to the following recommendations by the Committee on Nursing to the General Board of the Council:

"That houses be rented and transportation to the nearest town be provided when necessary to accommodate the nurses in lieu of available tents, barracks, or other temporary shelter;

That a regular quota of not less than one nurse to six acutely ill men be provided; and

That a reserve of not less than 25 over the prescribed quota be stationed at each hospital to meet emergencies and secure special training in the military establishment.

The committee further recommends that a tour of inspection be made by a qualified nurse to make observations regarding the nursing service in the military and naval hospitals in the United States. . . (1)

These recommendations approved by the General Medical Board and coincident with a recommendation of a member of the Hospital Division of the Medical Department that a staff of women inspectors be developed, led to the appointment, by the Surgeon General, of a chief and assistant inspecting nurse in February 1918. On reaching Washington these inspectors found that the threatened shortage of graduate nurses had led to the favorable consideration of a plan of supplementing the graduate force, similar to the English Supplement, known as the "V.A.D.'s", by enrolling through the Red Cross young women to be designated as nurses' aides, at a salary of \$30.00 a month. Believing that this step would inevitably deflect students from the nursing field, handicapping the hospitals still further and leaving the country at the end of the war to face the heavy demands of reconstruction with a reduced rather than an increased force of trained nurses (a professional group already inadequate to meet the rapidly growing needs of the country even in peace times), a stay of proceedings was requested until an inspection and report could be made.

This report of a joint inspection of five of the base hospitals presented a comparison of the military hos-

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(1) Report of the Chairman of the Committee on Medicine and Sanitation of the Advisory Commission of the Council of National Defense. April 1, 1918, p. 28.



pitals and the civilian hospitals maintaining the best standards, far from favorable to the former.

A few incidents selected from the many that offered, were cited in evidence of this fact. Patients, it was stated, were permitted to go to the lavatories and were given shower and tub baths that would not with similar sicknesses be permitted out of bed in civil hospitals; one patient fainting on returning from the lavatory one morning.

Again referring to the inadequate service of food in the wards:

"What occurs as the result may be illustrated by the following incident: a bowl of broth with a drinking tube was placed at the bedside of a pneumonia patient, who has just had an intravenous injection. The broth was rapidly cooling, the patient quite unable to help himself, and there was no one to assist him."

It was felt that these conditions might in no small measure account for collapse, complications, and reinfections - conclusions not the less interesting when read in the light of the deductions of the Civil War historian previously quoted, and that the failure to control them related directly to inadequate supervision, the authority vested in the head nurse and the ratio of nurses to patients. Referring to the general administration the report states as follows:

"In the civil hospitals the control of all wards is vested in the superintendent of nurses who acts through the head nurse in each ward. She is responsible to the superintendent of the hospital and to the medical staff for all matters relating to the nursing care of the patients and is charged with the oversight and control of the orderlies and maids.

The system in the base hospitals visited differs from this in that each ward is under the jurisdiction of a ward surgeon working through a head nurse and a ward master.

The personnel of the resident medical staff of these hospitals numbers nearly a hundred men from various medical schools and hospitals. The nursing staff represented, in no Base hospital visited, less than 40 training schools. The ward masters have many of them never had any previous hospital experience. This leads to a variety of



standards and methods. The failure to place the entire responsibility of the nursing care of the patients and the order and cleanliness of the ward upon the head nurse results in a constant shifting of responsibility, duplication of work and general inefficiency. In many wards inspected in the early morning hours when the orderlies would ordinarily be attending to their cleaning duties, the ward master who belongs to this group, and if not supposed to do this work should have at least been overseeing it, was entering data in his record book. The service rendered by the ward masters and hospital corps men, constantly changing in numbers and personnel, is but little better and in some instances inferior to the ordinary orderly services in civil hospitals. A large part of this work is relegated to the patients.

And again referring to the ratio of nurses to patients:

"On the day of inspection the number of patients was 884, the total number of nurses 95, making a ratio of 1 nurse to 9 patients. This ratio of nurses provides good nursing care for the acutely sick patients. It still leaves, however, nine wards without any nurse in the day time, and only seven that have the full time of a nurse at night.

The provision that all acute medical and surgical cases shall be transferred to certain wards, brings to these cases the best nursing care with the smallest number of nurses. We are, nevertheless, of the opinion that complications, relapses and reinfections would be lessened and better methods and order be maintained by a ratio of nurses that more nearly approaches the ratio found in civil hospitals of Grades A and B. This number would, however, be wasted until the present confusion as to the duties and power of a head nurse and her assistants is definitely determined. Whether through observation, direct questions or casual conversation, the reasons are sought for the prevailing lack of standardization of ward procedures and the failure to maintain methods generally accepted as good, the almost invariable conclusion is that it is due to the constant misunderstanding concerning the administrative powers of the nursing staff.



It was stated by the Chief Nurse that she transferred a nurse from a surgical ward because as she was not permitted by the ward surgeon to assist at dressings and her work was almost exclusively limited to the making of beds, it did not seem advisable to permit her to remain.

Let a ward be standardized and the responsibility of the head nurse established, a new ward surgeon with different methods and another attitude toward the ward master and hospital corps men, also possibly new, is put in charge, and the established system is immediately broken down. This leads to apathy and indifference on the part of even capable and well trained nurses. In order to proceed with the least possible friction, they wash their hands of responsibility which the welfare of the patients demands should be theirs. (1)

The report summarized as follows:

"The entire staffing of a hospital with graduate nurses has not been found to completely relieve the need of a supervisory staff under the most favorable conditions. In these hospitals such a staff is exceedingly essential and would rapidly, if interpreting their function intelligently, overcome much of the shortage of equipment, and prevent the breaking down of established methods and regulations. Nurses from many schools dropped into a system with which they are wholly unfamiliar and with no time to compare their own with other wards, are found accepting conditions that might be easily corrected.

In civil hospitals . . . most careful consideration is given to the selection of the head of the nursing staff, and women appointed of recognized professional preparation and experience and established ability.

We cannot speak in too high terms of the devoted and untiring service amounting in some instances to heroism, of the chief nurses and their staff. Nevertheless we believe that many of the conditions that have existed now for months could have been limited to weeks if not days if women of the type referred to had been

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(1) Exhibit 1. Inspection of Base Hospital, Camp Meade, p.1



selected, especially had they been known in the cities which are within a few miles from each one of these camps and could therefore have availed themselves of local resources and interest.

It will be noted that the base hospitals have not been favorably compared with the best civil hospitals . . . The contrast presented is a sharp one. In the civil hospitals . . . the bedside care of the patient is given by a carefully selected group of women students, under the constant supervision of highly qualified instructors and supervisors. Their instruction proceeds in orderly stages from the simpler to the more difficult and important procedures. Every effort is made to stimulate in the student an interest in the patient, in the varying phases of the disease, in the result of the treatment, in the improving of her own technique, and in increasing her powers of observation and her body of knowledge, all of which bring to the patient the most complete and intelligent nursing care.

In the base hospitals, the nurses, except in rare instances too few to give the bedside care demanded of the student nurse, must relegate the tasks, without time to instruct them, to the continually changing hospital corps men, who at best do not approach the task with any desire to excel in the field. The patient struggles to help himself or to help others in order to relieve both the nurse and the hospital corpsman.

The awakened interest in nursing through the war and the desire to render such care which is aroused in the minds of young women of education, should not be lost, but should be directed into channels through which they can render the widest and most enduring services. While the military hospitals could not provide a complete professional preparation for nurses, much valuable experience could be obtained and the remainder could be easily provided through civil hospitals. These hospitals offer no problems from the standpoint of maintaining a school that are not constantly met in civil hospitals. They offer certain advantages that will enable the bringing into existence of the most model schools of nursing that have ever been known. At this time the appeal of this service to the young women of the country would be great.



It is therefore recommended that an Army School of Nursing be created, and that we be permitted to present a detailed plan relating to the same.

That the Committee of Nursing of the General Medical Board of the National Council of Defense be asked to act as an Advisory Council in formulating a plan whereby such a school might be developed in the most efficient way." (1)

This report led to the calling of a conference to consider the recommendation at which the following officers were present:

Colonel W.H.Moncrieff; Colonel P.M.Ashburn; Colonel W.T.Longcope; Colonel Charles H.Mayo; Colonel Winford H.Smith, with Colonel Robert E.Noble, Chief of the Hospital Division, presiding.

There were also present, Jane Delano, Chairman American Red Cross Nursing Service; Dora Thompson, Superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps; S. Lillian Clayton, President of the National League of Nursing Education; Elizabeth C. Burgess, and Annie W. Goodrich, Inspecting Nurses.

As a result of this conference, the chairman of the Red Cross Nursing Service, the superintendent of the Army Nursing Corps, and the chief inspecting nurse were appointed a committee to prepare a plan for the suggested school.

The committee after consultation with the nurse members of the committee on Nursing of the Council of National Defense, reported as follows:

1. The committee appointed by your order has interpreted its purpose to be:

The creation of a plan whereby through an Army School of Nursing the most complete nursing care may be provided for the sick and wounded soldiers at home and abroad, for the period of the war and for as long thereafter as the Government may decree. Also nurses for such other health fields as may be developed by the medical department.

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(1) Exhibit 2. Summary of Findings and Recommendations relating thereto, based on the inspection of the Base Hospitals of Camps Taylor, Sherman, Devens, Upton and Dix. pp.2,4,6,12,13,14.



The plan to provide for an easy, constant and almost unlimited expansion of training fields and consequent increase in student and graduate nurses, in order that the arising demands of the service be fully met.

Through the provision of the student body to have in the process of training large groups becoming increasingly competent, thereby enabling the release of the most experienced nurses for the foreign and other demanding fields without lowering the efficiency of the base hospitals.

To immediately raise the standard of the nursing care of the sick in the base hospitals by the provisions of an increased number of persons to render such care.

2. The plan as presented provides that the school, to be known as the Army School of Nursing shall be located in the office of the Surgeon General. Through this office the enrollment of the students will take place and all matters relating to the general management of the school shall be dealt with. The faculty presided over by the Dean of the school is to determine all questions relating to the course of instruction; the general administration of the school being entrusted to the Dean. It is suggested that an Advisory Council be appointed composed of members of the Medical Department, the superintendent of the Army and Navy Nurse Corps, the director of the Department of Nursing of the American Red Cross, the presidents of the American Nursing Association, the National League of Nursing Education, the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, the Dean of the School of Nursing, and other members of the nursing profession conversant with the problems of nursing education to make recommendations concerning the appointments of the faculty, the relations between the military and civil hospitals and other matters relating to the general policy of the schools.

The course of training will be given in the various base hospitals assigned as training camps, each one of which will be



a complete unit, having its own director, its staff of lecturers, instructors and supervisors and its teaching equipment. These units will be developed as rapidly as the needs of the service demand. The directors and such members of the teaching staff as shall later be determined shall be members of the faculty.

The course leading to a diploma in nursing shall extend over a period of three years. The experience in the military hospital will provide surgical nursing, including orthopedic, eye and ear, and nose and throat; medical, including communicable diseases and nervous and mental diseases. Experience in children's diseases, obstetrics and public health nursing will be provided through affiliation.

It is believed that the complete course will attract the most intelligent and largest number of women to the school and will result in a more efficient service both in the military hospitals and in such public health fields as the Medical Department may assign nurses to.

Upon the completion of the course the students would become members of the regular Army Nurse Corps in the order of the vacancies, or should there be no vacancies, they would be placed on the list for appointment as vacancies occur.

They would be eligible for state re-education, for membership in the American Nurses Association, the National Organization for Public Health Nursing, enrollment in the nursing service of the American Red Cross and for advanced courses in the teaching administrative and public health fields.

A detailed outline of the plan is herewith presented together with recommendations concerning the necessary circular and forms that will enable the immediate development of such a school if the authorization for its establishment is granted.

(Signed) Doris Thompson, (Supt. Army Nurse Corps.)  
Jane Delmo, (Director, Bureau Nursing American  
Red Cross).

Annie W. Goodrich, (Chairman, Chief Inspecting Nurse.)



OPPOSITION TO THE SCHOOL

The plan as presented was recommended by the Surgeon General for the approval of the Secretary of War, but a vigorous opposition brought to bear by certain of the civil community, and purporting to voice the opinion of the hospital authorities, the nursing profession, and the young women to be enrolled as students, delayed its acceptance, a fact of too much historical importance to be entirely passed over.

Endorsement of the Nurses Organizations.- While the matter was still under discussion in the War Department, the three national nursing organizations convening in Cleveland, Ohio, the plan of the school was presented by Colonel Winford H. Smith, of the Surgeon General's office, and a plan for the use of aides for the sick and wounded in the military hospitals, by Dr. S. S. Goldwater of New York. This enabled an open and full discussion of the question with the result that each of these organizations passed a resolution in favor of the establishment of the school.

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Endorsement of Junior League. - At one of the meetings a forceful and eloquent presentation of the desirability of the school from the standpoint of the volunteer worker, known as the aide, was given by Mrs. Chester I. Bolton, a young Cleveland woman, prominently associated with the public health field.

Mrs. Bolton through Mrs. Alfred Brewster - also actively interested in National and State war work - obtained the opportunity of presenting the matter at the National Conference of the Junior League, then convening in Cleveland, an organization largely representing the so called Volunteer Aide Group, with the result that a motion in favor of the school was passed by the delegation.

The Montreal (Canada) Junior League representatives reported:

"That the young women who have served in the Voluntary Aid Detachment since the beginning of the war find themselves without a recognised profession, and urge that every possible effort be made in this country to give the young women going into nursing service proper training, with the resulting certificate or diploma."

A strong letter of approval was later received from Ella Lowell Lyman, secretary of the Junior League of Boston. Says Miss Lyman in closing:



"The aides at present are untrained, untried and not needed. Nurses are still a vital need. Would not any young woman who is truly in earnest and wants to be of service to the country in caring for the sick, enter one of these training schools, and when the war is over have a training which will always be useful whatever walk of life is hers?"

Official telegraphic information on the disapproval of the school by the General Staff (1) resulted in the appointment by the joint boards of the three nursing organizations of a committee, with Mrs. Clarence Brewster as chairman, to obtain a rehearing of the case by the Secretary of War.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Bolton and Mrs. Brewster acting for this committee further consideration was given the matter, and on May 25, 1918, the following memorandum was approved by the Secretary of War.

1. As the result of the conference called by you and held in your office yesterday afternoon, May 23rd, you approved in principle of the establishment of an army school of nursing for the purpose of providing a large body of young women who may be trained to render adequate and skilful nursing services to the sick and wounded soldiers and as supplementing the supply of trained nurses who are available.

2. It is my understanding that you approve of the army nursing school plan; that you prefer to have these pupil nurses paid a small monthly allowance similar to the custom in civil hospital training schools, this to be in addition to the uniforms and books which will be supplied by the Government; that the Surgeon General is authorized to proceed at once to inaugurate the plan and to establish at first a limited number of schools in order that the plan may be demonstrated as workable before proceeding to the establishment of schools in all or as many of the military hospitals as may be necessary

3. I have already put the machinery in motion and steps are already being taken looking to the starting of the first school at an early date.

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(1) Exhibit 4. Telegram from Surgeon General.







copy of which is appended: "that the Surgeon General is authorized to proceed at once to inaugurate the plan and to establish at first a limited number of schools in order that the plan may be demonstrated before proceeding to the establishment of schools in all or as many of the military hospitals as may be necessary."

3. It was felt that in order to properly test the plan, both as to the response from the women of the country and as to the effect on the civil hospitals, it was necessary to proceed as though the plan were in full operation. It will be apparent that anything short of this program, as for example the announcement that a limited number of schools were to be established, would fail to bring the universal response from all parts of the country and would prevent any accurate judgment as to the response and the effect on the civil hospitals.

4. It is always in our mind that you do not wish to work undue hardship on the civil hospitals and that we are to proceed cautiously. I assure you that our actions are governed accordingly, and that you need feel no concern in the matter. The School plan will cause less disturbance in civil hospitals than any other which has been offered. This statement is supported by the fact that the plan was unqualifiedly endorsed by the American Nurses' Association, the National League for Public Health Nursing, and the National League for Nursing Education in joint session, held recently in Cleveland. These organizations are composed of the superintendents of nurses and training schools of the civil hospitals of the country and they are the people who would be most affected by anything which curtails the supply of nurses to civil hospitals. The civil hospitals are co-operating splendidly, and, on the other hand, every precaution has been taken to protect the civil hospitals. Our application blanks require a statement to the effect that the applicant has no connection, actual or tentative, with any civil hospital. Many have been refused who have had such connection.

5. It is our belief that adequate measures have been taken to safeguard the civil hospitals. Through the efforts of the Nursing Committee of the Council of National Defense, several thousand more pupils have entered civil hospitals than in any previous year.



Vassar College and two or three other universities are recruiting and giving intensive probation courses to prospective pupils of civil hospitals as well as the Army School. Vassar, alone, now has five hundred pupils in training, all of whom are signed up to enter civil hospitals in the autumn.

6. We have arranged through the Nursing Committee and the Women's Section of the Council of National Defense, for a campaign to be carried out next month for the purpose of enrolling 25,000 women who agree to accept training in nursing either in the civil hospital training schools or the Army Training School, depending upon the needs of each. This plan is well developed, comprehensive, and it is confidently believed will safeguard the entire situation, both from the civil and military standpoint.

7. I have gone somewhat into detail in order that you may know that we fully appreciate your interest and your desires and are co-operating in every possible way. We are sure you need feel no anxiety concerning the effect on the civil hospitals any more than to realize that they are bound to be affected by the war in spite of anything which can be done, not so much from the nursing side as from the lack of employees, due to the withdrawal of the man power of the country from civil occupations.

8. At a recent meeting where the Army Nurse School plan was presented, there were three distinguished medical officers of our Allies, including Sir Arbuthnot Lane and Colonel Bruce of the English and Canadian Armies. They not only approved the plan, but a request has just been made through the British Embassy, for details of the plan to be furnished those officers for consideration in their own Armies as they consider it far superior to any other plan yet proposed or adopted.

9. It may interest you to know that as the result of no great effort at publicity, already, in a little more than three weeks, between five thousand and six thousand letters of application or requests for information and necessary papers have been received. The first school will be opened at Camp Devens about July 15th, and then others at Walter



Reed Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio, Camp Wadsworth, S.C., Camp Meade, Md., and Camp Dodge, Iowa. These will demonstrate the practicability of the plan and others will only be established if found to be a practical solution of the problem, and as the need arises.

Respectfully submitted,

W.C.Gorgas,  
Surgeon General, U.S.A.

This recommendation was returned by the Secretary of War with the notation: "Read with interest and approval." The tension was much relieved when in August General J.M.T. Finney, reporting for the medical department of the A. E. F. brought a request for a student body as a supplement to the graduate nurse force, General Finney emphasized the need of an expansion of nursing service far exceeding the original estimate, and at this time the definite quota was fixed upon of 25,000 graduate nurses enrolled in the Army Nurse Corps, with 5,000 students on duty by Jan. 1, 1919, and a nursing personnel of 50,000, 15,000 of which were to be students by July 1, 1919.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL

The authorization of the establishment of the school, brought into immediate existence a division in the Surgeon General's office, designated as the Army School of Nursing, and administered by the chief inspecting nurse, under the title of Dean, who was directly responsible to the Hospital Division.

The work fell into three bureaus: General Information, Credentials, and Inspection, with a professional personnel of nine and a maximum clerical staff of thirty.

Bureau of General Information.-- This bureau directed by Ellen Stewart, R.N., for many years superintendent of the Clarkson Memorial Hospital and Training School, Omaha, Nebraska; was flooded with inquiries following a brief announcement of the school in the official bulletin, and an excellent and widely disseminated article in the press by David Lawrence. Through the Committee on Nursing of the National Council of Defense, 25,000 announcements of this school were issued by a private printing company within a week, (1) and the

(1) Exhibit 5. Announcement of the Army School of Nursing.



the small printing department at the Walter Reed Hospital put out 10,000 each of the various forms required by the applicant for admission, within a few days thereby enabling a rapid enrollment of students.

Bureau of Credentials.-- The requirement of four years secondary work or an educational equivalent for admission to the school, and the giving of credits for advanced work, demanded careful and accurate evaluation of credentials. For the direction of the bureau the release was sought and obtained from the Red Cross office, Washington, of Helen Scott Hay, a graduate of the Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill., and the Illinois Training School, Chicago; a woman of long and wide experience in teaching and executive branches of the nursing field. Assisting her were Mary A. Samuel, recently superintendent of nurses of the Lakeside Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio, and Evelyn Howard, formerly superintendent of the New London Hospital, Conn., together with several college women of the Clerical Staff.

Through the courtesy of the United States Commissioner of Education, the privilege was accorded of consultation with Dr. Samuel Capen, concerning the status of the various schools and colleges.

Bureau of Inspection.-- The bureau was charged with the standardization of nursing care and equipment for the military hospitals, where students were to be placed, the maintenance of the educational standards of the school and the reports on civil hospitals and other institutions in connection with student affiliation.

Pending the decision as to the creation of a school the inspection of the base hospitals was continued by Elizabeth C. Burgess, Inspector of Registered Training Schools of the Department of Education of the State of New York, released for this service for the period of the war. At this time Miss Burgess made twenty inspections, each one strengthening the opinion that the school would not only prove the most effectual supplement of the graduate nurse staff, but would be an important factor in raising the standard of nursing care.

The extent and variety of the field demanding not only hospital experts but training and experience in inspection, the release was sought and obtained of Anna C. Jammé, Director of the Bureau of Nursing Registration of the California State Board of Health, and Inde L. Albaugh, Secretary of the Board of Examination and Registration of Nurses of the State of Connecticut. One hundred and twenty-six inspections and visits were made in this county during the year, the



signing of the armistice, with a consequent rapid decrease in the nursing service, obviating the necessity of the inspection of the military hospital overseas, originally included in the functions of this bureau.

The Advisory Council.- In accordance with the plan of the school, the Surgeon General appointed an advisory council, on which sat - representing the medical department of the Army - Colonel C. L. Furbush, Colonel W. T. Longcope and Colonel Winford H. Smith, and later Colonel William Welch and Colonel R. B. Miller; representing the nursing profession were M. Adelaide Nutting, chairman of the Committee on Nursing; Jane A. Delano, chairman Red Cross Nursing Service; Clara D. Noyes, president of the American Nurses Association; Lillian Clayton, president of the National League of Nursing Education; Lillian D. Wald, hon. president of the National Organization of Public Health Nursing; Lena S. Higbee, superintendent of the Navy Nurse Corps; Dora S. Thompson, superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps; Anna C. Maxwell, superintendent of the Presbyterian Hospital Training School; and Annie W. Goodrich, Dean of the Army School of Nursing.

Two meetings of the council were held during the year. At the second in February 1919, a resolution recommending the creation of a permanent School by Congress was passed and referred for approval to the Surgeon General, together with a tentative draft of a bill incorporating the essential requirements for the establishment of a school of high standards and on a sound basis. (1)

Faculty.- The faculty which comprised the nurse directors and instructors, the medical lecturers and such other assistants as were required in the development of the school at the various military hospitals where students were placed, despite the handicap of continued changes, an inevitable concomitant of war, was, nevertheless, on the whole, a brilliant one; for gathered together in the military hospitals were highly equipped scientists and men noted in the various branches in medicine, many of whom gave most generously of their time to the student body.

Three conferences of the nurse members of the faculty were authorized by the Surgeon General, the last - of special value - being called in Chicago, in conjunction with the convention of the National League of Nursing Education, thereby making possible a discussion of nursing problems affecting both the civil and military schools, and strengthening the co-operation between the two. (2)

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- (1) Exhibit 7. Tentative draft of a bill to create an Army School of Nursing.  
(2) Exhibit 8. Minutes of second conference of Directors.



PROGRAMME OF EXPANSION

The first literature concerning the school was issued on June 7th., on June 17th., seventy-five applications had been filed. Applications continued to come in in increasing numbers, the maximum received in one week being 1,249 and by November 18th, the date of the signing of the Armistice. 10,689 had been received, of which 5,267 had been accepted, 3,185 declined, and 2,219 were still under consideration; - 1,099 students were on duty in twenty-five military hospitals, and 567 students were ready for assignment immediately upon the withdrawal, for overseas duty, of a sufficient number of graduate nurses to provide the necessary accommodations.

For a brief period, following the signing of the Armistice, the acceptance and assignment of students continued bringing the accepted applications up to 5,869 and the number of students on duty to 1,578 in thirty-two military hospitals on December 21st, 1918.

U. S. Student Nurse Reserve:- From the outset the Red Cross divisions rendered active assistance in recruiting students for the Army School, but the heavy enrollment of graduate nurses that the continuation of the war would inevitably necessitate and the importance of a largely increased student body both in the civil and military hospitals, in order that the release of the graduates be effected, without imperilling the sick in this country, made imperative a definite and extensive recruiting campaign. Such a campaign was undertaken by the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defence, "co-operating with the Surgeon General of the U. S. Army, the American Red Cross and the Nursing Committee of the Council," under the title of the United States Student Nurses Reserve. The programme, directed by Hannah J. Patterson, provided for an intensive campaign, extending from July 29th to August 11th, for the enrollment of 25,000 young women pledged to hold themselves in readiness until April 1, 1919, to enter either a civilian school of nursing or the Army School, if called, with the privilege of expressing a preference as to the school; only students meeting the age and educational requirements were, however, placed on the waiting list of the Army school.(1)

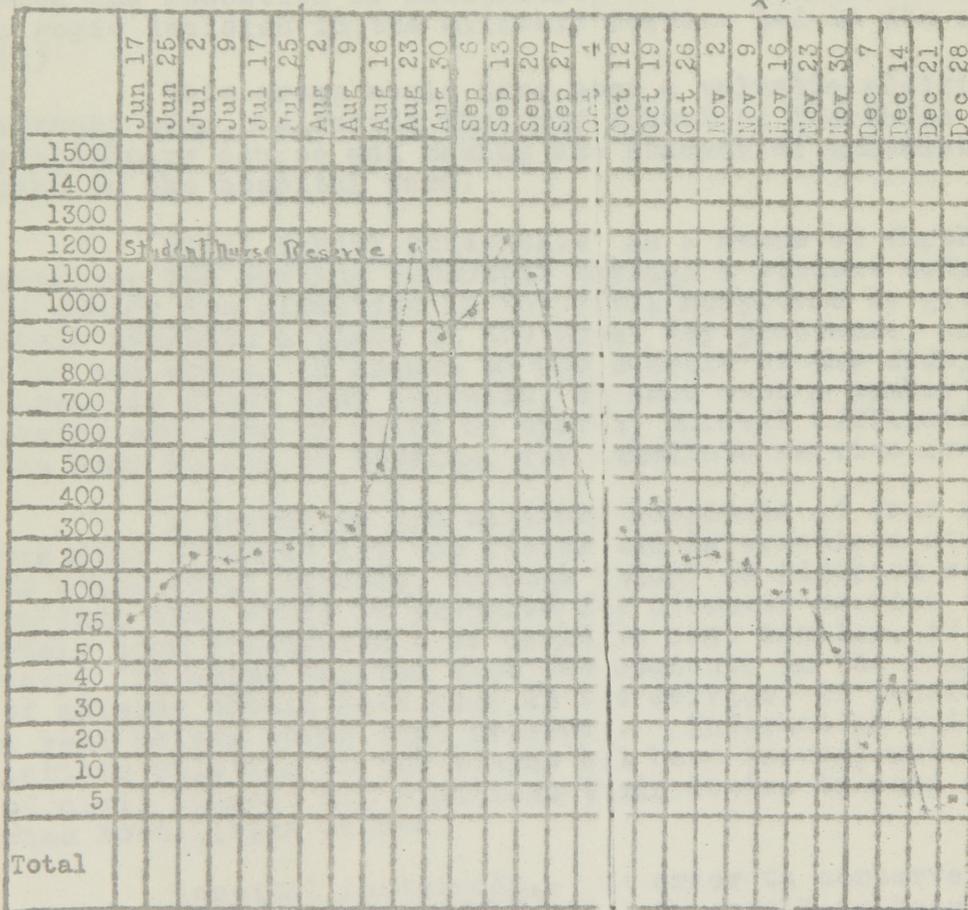
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(1) Exhibit 9. U. S. Students Nurse Reserve.



The effect of the campaign upon enrollment in the Army school of nursing is shown by the following chart.....

A GRAPHIC CHART OF APPLICATIONS FILED WEEKLY



Note - Establishment of School authorized May 25th.  
First applications issued June 1st.



As the full quota desired was not realized within the period of time allotted, the various state committees were authorized to continue the enrollment until the need ceased.

College Preliminary Course. - A further and not less important plan was developed by the American Council on Education, at the instigation of Dr. Henry McCracken, president of Vassar College, with the approval of the Surgeon General, whereby intensive preliminary courses of twelve weeks following the Vassar plan were to be established at higher educational institutions, the American Council on Education undertaking to assist in recruiting students. The estimated quota was 2,000 students by October 1st, 1918; 4,000 by January 1919 and 5,000 by April 1919. A number of colleges had signified their readiness to give these courses, while others had the matter under favorable consideration, when the cessation of hostilities after definite evidences of a rapid decision in the military service led to its abandonment.

(1)

This group would have been a valuable addition to the student body, relieving the Army school of the three months preliminary course and making the student of immediate assistance in the hospital ward.

Civil School Students. - As a means of further increasing the nursing personnel through a student body, and to steady the situation in the civil hospitals by giving their students a place in the Great War programme, an opportunity was opened in August to the schools of the fifty base hospitals first sent overseas, to send such a number of their senior students as could be spared, through affiliation with the Army School of Nursing, for immediate service overseas.

A course in the military hospitals of four months was also arranged for the senior and intermediate students of other civil schools, through which, if adjusted satisfactorily, they would be prepared for overseas service immediately upon graduation - or could be sent earlier, if necessary; it being desired that the students in the Army school of nursing should have been in the service, if possible, a year before being sent overseas. Information and regulations relating to the course had been issued, and a number of civil schools had signified their desire to send students - when hostilities ceased.

Hospital Assistants. - In order to conserve all available material, it was also decided to enroll as hospital assistants, women disqualified for overseas service by marriage or over age, and therefore not eligible for enrollment as students in the Army School of Nursing or in the civil schools.

(2) Exhibit 10. American Council on Education.



It was believed that this group, of whom approximately 1,000 had applied, would well supplement the graduate nurses in the convalescent hospitals in this country, leaving the acute service for the student body. To avoid complications and confusion relating to eligibility and placement and to insure an increasing competency of service through instruction and supervision, this group was entered as a division of the Army school of nursing. (1)

Red Cross Aides.- The increasing shortage of nurses overseas, and the constant pressure for aides, due presumably to the failure of those in charge on the other side to understand both the potentialities of the school, and that the shortage related to transportation rather than an exhausted or inadequate graduate nurse supply, together with the anxiety caused by the influenza epidemic, led to the suggestion of the enrollment of practical nurses as less likely to affect the enrollment in the school. In reply to which Colonel Smith prepared a memorandum, which was endorsed by General Noble and which read in part as follows:

"I recommend against the enrollment of the practical and experienced nurses because they represent a class now more needed than ever in community life, because of the withdrawal of graduates. . . .

Rather than call upon the practical nurses so-called, I recommend:

1. Pushing the Army school of nursing which is the strongest part of our programme.

2. Calling upon the civil hospitals to send affiliating pupils, as many have indicated their desire to do.

3. Calling upon the civil hospitals to give preliminary training to hospital assistants, the group already authorized. This group to include married women between 21 and 40 whose husbands are overseas and single women between 35 and 45. This will establish the machinery for training a larger group should necessity arise. This course to cover six weeks or two months.

4. In order to meet the present emergency requirements I recommend that the Red Cross select with care 1,500 of their nurses' aides who have had the courses in home nursing and first aid



and who are between 35 and 45 years of age, and that these be sent at once overseas to supplement the nurses over there. This will meet the emergency and leave the field open here for the development of our program for the Army school and hospital assistants.

5. That an appeal be issued at once in the name of the Surgeon General to all young women of the country calling them to service, either through enrollment in the Army School or civil schools or as hospital assistants, according to the group in which they fall, and making plain to them that this is their greatest service and also emphasizing that the pupils will be sent overseas as soon as ready and as needed. (1)

At the request of the Red Cross the age limit of the 1,500 aides was reduced to thirty, it having been ascertained that only about seven per cent. of the accepted applicants for admission to the Army school exceeded that age.

The Development of the Training School Units.-- The rapid development of the school, obviously so necessary, and made possible by the immediate and heavy enrollment of students was greatly delayed and hampered by the unfamiliarity of the chief nurses with the training school field, the large number of executives and instructors, that had been sent overseas and the consequent shortage of such personnel in the civil schools. A further difficulty came through failure to provide a graded service for the nurse corps, analogous to the grading of the commissioned personnel, and an almost universal system of control and direction in civil institutions; this omission made the positions of head nurse, supervisor, night superintendent, etc., undesirable, since they entailed increased responsibility without increased authority or salary; the omission to furnish the chief nurses with any data, other than the meagre efficiency records, relating to the general education and the professional preparation of the graduate nurse personnel and the branches of nursing in which they had had experience was a still further handicap in the selection of an efficient supervising staff. The greatest obstacle in the school development was due, however, to the slow transportation of graduate nurses overseas and consequent inadequate housing capacity. (2)

This delay was, in a measure, overcome by a circular letter, informing the commanding officers that in the future, students would replace the graduates sent overseas, and ordering that quarters be found as immediately as possible, as

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(1) Exhibit 12. Memorandum for Brig.-Gen. Robert E. Noble.

(2) Chart of Nursing Staff.. Exhibit 13.



it was imperative that the course be begun, and the efficiency of the students thereby hastened.

Chief nurses released for overseas duty were replaced by those who had held executive positions in civilian schools, while the release was sought and obtained of several well known nurse educators.

Miss Caroline Milne, superintendent of nurses of the Presbyterian Hospital, Philadelphia, established the unit at the base hospital, Camp Dix; Miss M. M. Riddle, supt. of the Newton hospital, Mass., with Miss McCrea, instructor at the Massachusetts general; took charge at the base hospital, Camp Devens. Miss Robina Stewart was released by McDonald College, Canada, for the chief nurseship at Walter Reed, - Miss Sallie Johnson, supt. of a training school at the Albany hospital, acting as director of the student body. The John Hoplins Hospital released their director of nurses of the Phipps department of psychiatry, Miss Effie Taylor, to establish the work at Camp Meade. Miss Mary McKenna, supt. of nurses of St. Francis de Xavier infirmary, S.C., directed the work at Camp Jackson, Miss Mary Roberts, with the Lake division of the Red Cross, assisted by Miss Harriet Friend, the latter being released by the State Medical Board of Ohio, established the unit at the base hospital, Camp Sherman. The largest unit was developed at the base hospital, Camp Grant, by Miss Anna Williamson, previously chief nurse at Fort McHenry. (1)

Thus an adequate number of executives were obtained and, in the majority of cases, instructors of pedagogical as well as professional preparation were secured. A notable contribution was the privilege of the four months preliminary course at Teachers College, Columbia University, for the training school unit at U.S.A. General Hospital No. 1, made possible by the authorities of the college through the omission of all tuition fees for these students.

Too high a tribute cannot be paid to the women whose energy and resourcefulness overcame innumerable difficulties - difficulties increased and, indeed, made almost insurmountable by the terrible epidemic that swept through the camps just at the inception of the school.

The enthusiasm and initiative of the chief nurse at the base hospital, Miss Marie Louis, graduate of the department of nursing and health, Teachers College, Columbia University & former superintendent of the training school of the Long Island College hospital, ably assisted by Miss Harriet Gillette - brought the first unit of the army school into

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(1) Exhibit 14. Report of the Army School of Nursing, U. S. Army Base Hospital, Camp Grant.



existence, on July 25, 1918, and pointed the way for the development of the others. (1)

The timely issuance of the Standard Curriculum, prepared by the Education Committee of the National League for Nursing Education, made possible a uniform course of instruction through the most comprehensive presentation of the subject that has yet been prepared. The necessary text and reference books and a class room equipment, exceeding that of most schools were authorized and, despite the delays consequent upon a war situation were, in the main, promptly delivered.

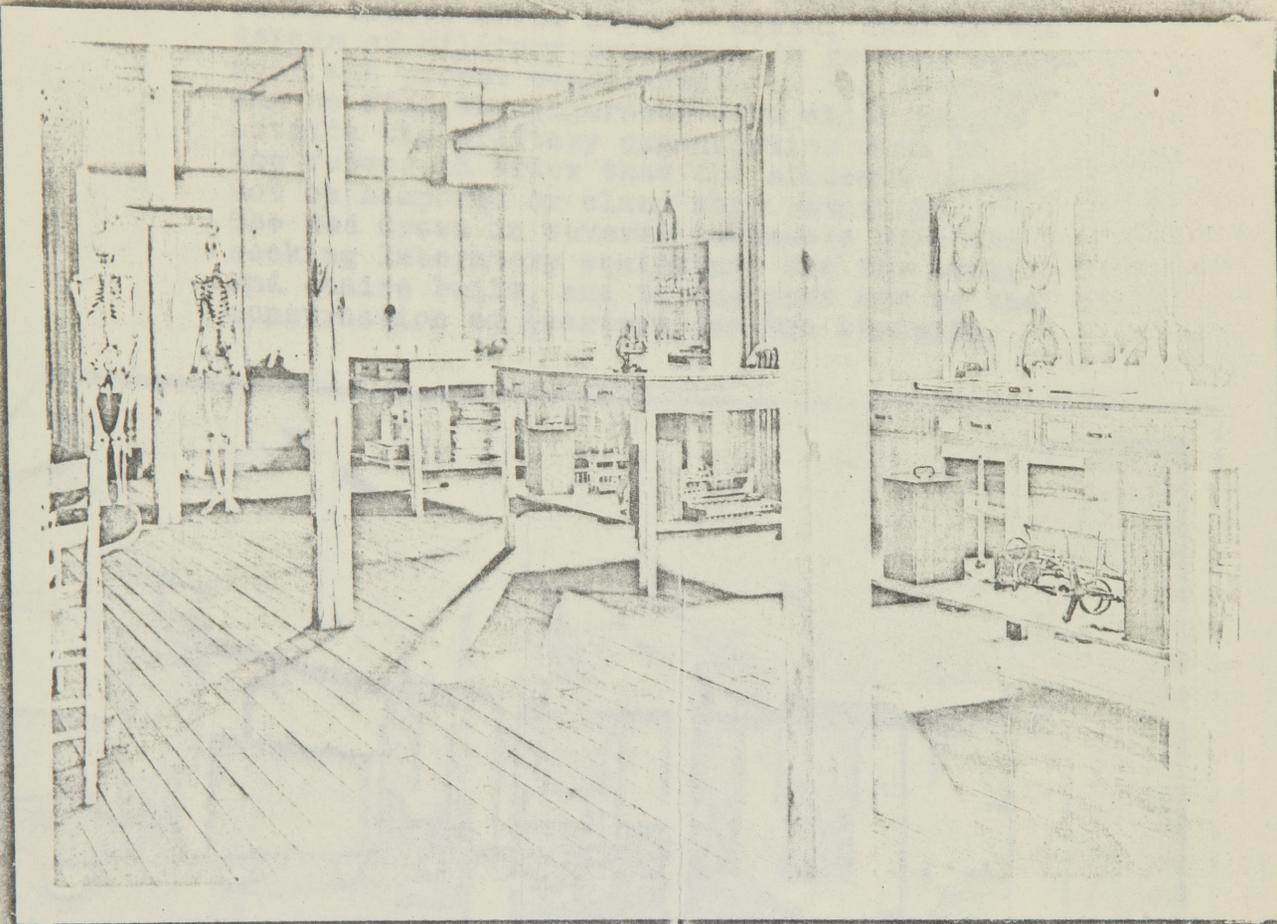
The way in which the camp buildings met the needs of the school is presented by one of the inspectors as follows:

"Class Rooms and Equipment.- Class rooms and equipment for teaching have been in some instances especially good. The large double barracks afforded the best example of a teaching center with its two large rooms on each floor, entrance halls, closets for linen, utensils, drugs, solutions and other equipment. In these instances one room is taken for lecture purposes which is furnished with students' tablet chairs, good blackboard space on walls, skeleton, charts, models, etc. Another room for demonstration purposes is fitted with four, sometimes six beds, Chase doll, camp chairs and full equipment for demonstration needs. The diet laboratory in the third room is fitted with cabinets for groups numbering from fifteen to twenty-four, electric plates, cooking utensils and a coal or gas range. Instruction in dietetics is carried on by the hospital dietitian who may also teach chemistry and uses the laboratory for that purpose. The fourth room is fitted for a study room with reference books, writing desks and other fitting equipment, or where there is no Red Cross Nurses' Recreation House is utilized for recreation purposes. All equipment for teaching which is supplied by the medical supply department is ample and of good quality.

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(1) Exhibit 15. List of Directors, January 1919.





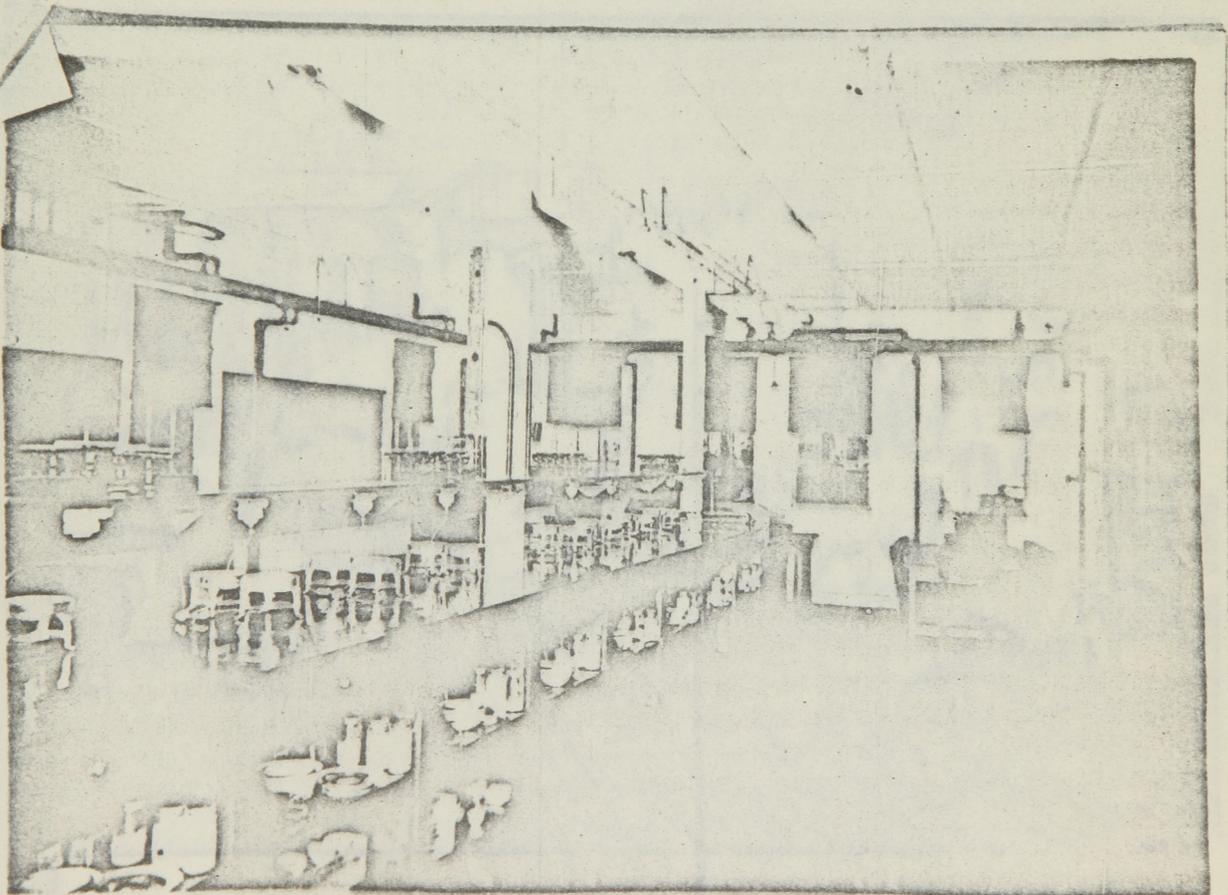
# Science Laboratory

Photograph #1. Base Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio.

Photograph #2. Base Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio.



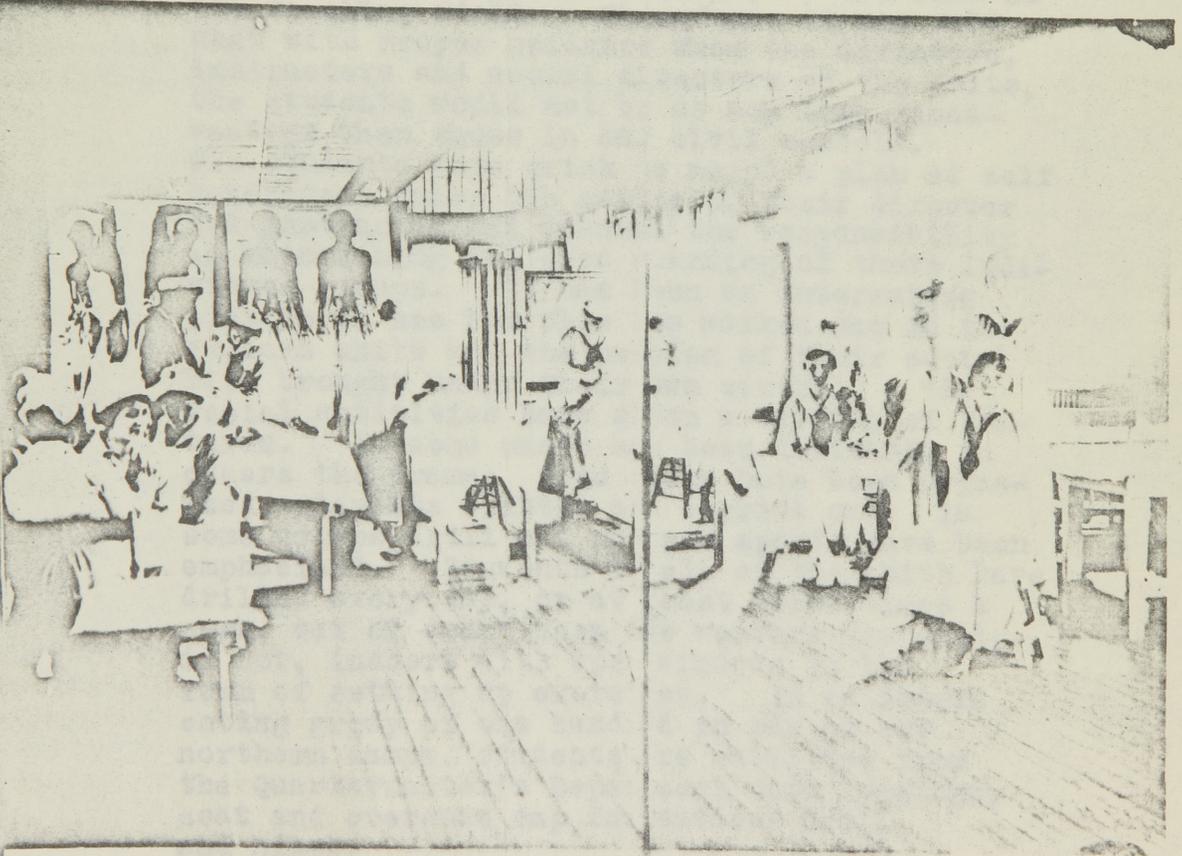
In some instances where there was overcrowding or where construction did not lend itself as readily as in the double barracks' arrangement, the directors used their ingenuity in converting dormitories, disused dining rooms and kitchens into class rooms and laboratories. In one instance part of the patients' mess hall was partitioned off and made an excellent class and demonstration room combined, as also an indoor drill room. Again, when in the delays of military procedure in getting equipment and proper construction it was interesting to find the eagerness with which people outside the military organization came to the rescue in order that the students should not be hampered or class work retarded. The Red Cross in several instances gave the cooking laboratory equipment, had the desks and chairs built, and in one post saw to the construction of quarters for the students.



Photograph #2. Diet Kitchen, Base Hospital, Camp Grant, Ill.



The American Library Association in several camps generously provided text and reference books where these were not forthcoming rapidly through the regular channels. In one case an individual came to the rescue contributing books as well as furniture, and not the least interesting feature of the assembling of teaching equipment has been the ingenuity shown by camp talent. Conspicuous was the contribution by a patient who made a set of colored anatomical charts while awaiting the arrival of the Frohse charts and which were later exhibited during a conference in Washington. Many other examples, too numerous to enumerate, served to show the great interest of the various organizations and of individuals at the base hospitals, both in the instruction and general comfort and welfare of the students.



# Massage Class

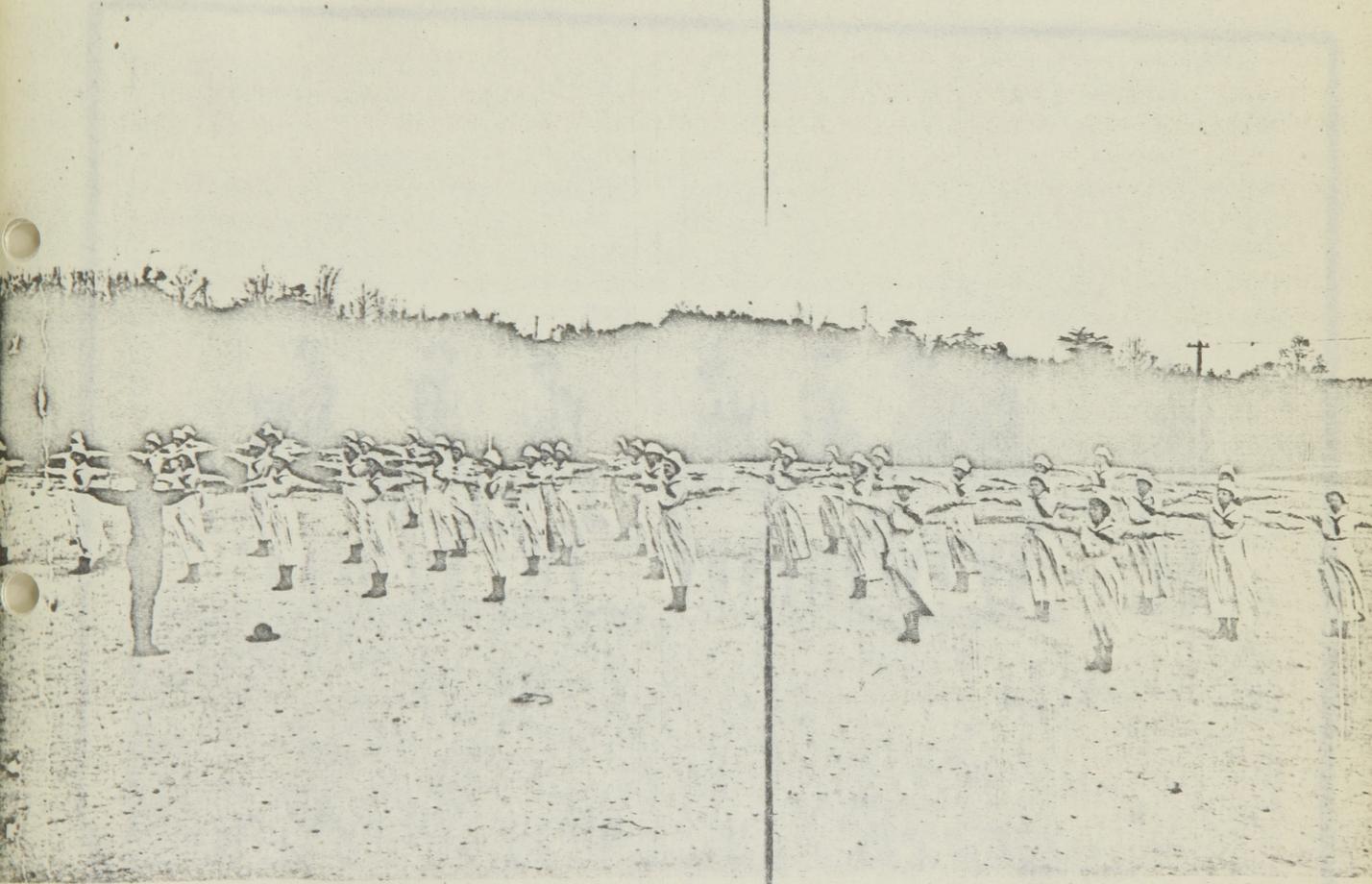
Photograph #3. Base Hospital, Camp Sherman, Ohio.



Not less interesting is the presentation of the adaptation of the student to the life in the military hospital.

Problems of the Student Nurses.- When the proposition for establishing an army school of nursing, and training students in our camp hospitals was first launched a general impression prevailed that this would be a dangerous undertaking from the social standpoint, inasmuch as the army nurse herself, even though in service under an established army nurse corps, had no army status, viz., rank. It was hazardous, but the need was pressing to an extreme. A large number of young and recent graduates had been obliged to face the unusual conditions of camp life with perhaps less preparation for meeting such conditions than many of the students enrolled in the army school who had previously been thrown on their own resources, or who had passed through college, or had been in the teaching field. Therefore, it was felt that with proper guidance from the directors, instructors and social directors of the units, the students would not be at any less disadvantage than those in our civil schools. The students were quick to adopt a plan of self government under the advice of their director and instructor and assumed the responsibility in maintaining the good standing of their individual groups. It has been an interesting picture to see how this has worked out in the various units and the problem of their social life brought under their own control. The social activities have shown a variety of features. In some music has been dominant, in others the drama; glee clubs have been organized, playlets written and carried out; in some groups drill and outdoor sports have been emphasized. Students in all of the units have drilled every day, or at least three times a week, out of doors when the weather was good; if not, indoors with open windows in the form of setting up exercises. In an interesting group of one hundred in one of our northern camps, students were outfitted from the Quartermaster's Department with leggings, coat and overseas cap for outdoor drill and hikes.





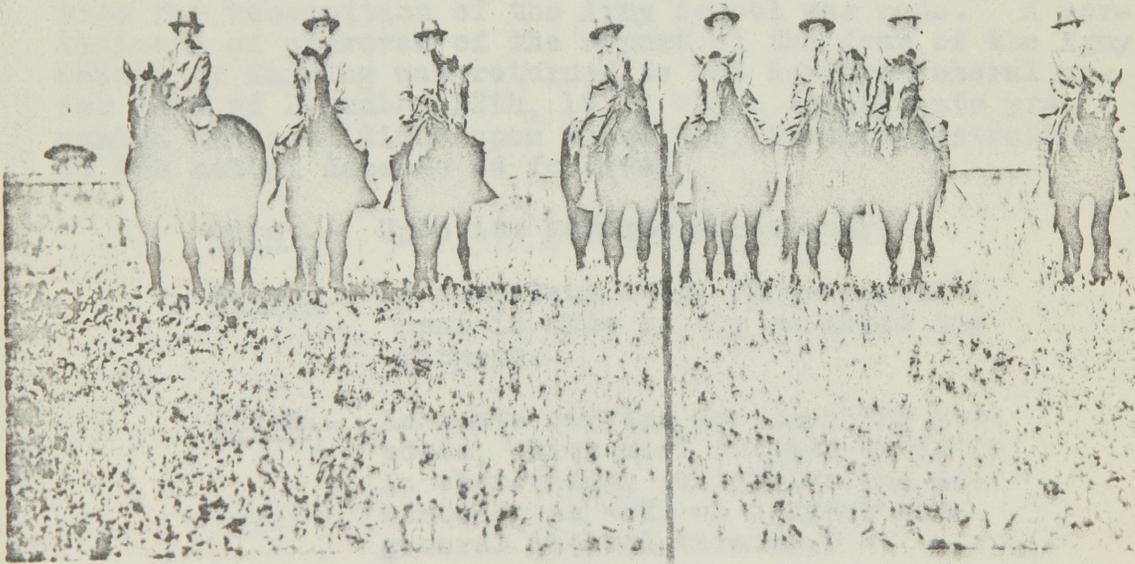
Photograph 4. Students at Drill, Base Hospital, Camp Meade.

Photograph 5. Base Hospital, Camp Meade.

131. Public Health - Medicine. The House of Delegates, Nov. 1917. 19-22-23. The Army School of Hygiene by Walter D. Burdick.



These wholesome forms of exercise and recreation create a splendid unit and take care of the leisure time after study and ward duty; when brought under the control of the student body itself has promoted a strong class spirit and unity. The Red Cross Recreation House, designed for the uses of the nurses of the army nurse corps, is, as a rule, given over to the students on one or two evenings of the week that they may receive their visitors, have dances, or other form of entertainment as they arrange for. (1)



## Riding Class

Photograph #5. Base Hospital, Camp Sherman.

(1) Public Health - Michigan State Board of Health, Mich. 1919, pp. 98-99. The Army School of Nursing by Annie C. Jammé.



Uniform.-- A military uniform and insignia were authorized by the Adjutant General, the latter being a bronze lamp, superimposed on the Caduceus, a tribute to the founder of nurse training schools - Florence Nightingale - the "Lady of the Lamp."

State Regulations of the School.-- The educational requirement for admission and the period of professional education entitles the graduates of the school to nurse registration, except that those students to whom credit for collegiate or technical work has been given will not be eligible in those States requiring a full three years' course in a hospital. A statement of this fact being made in the announcement of the school, several students have relinquished such credit.

Inasmuch as the Regents of the University of the State of New York require registration of schools desiring the admission of their students upon graduation to the registration examination, or credit for courses covered, should a student desire to complete her course in a registered Training School in New York State application for recognition of the Army School was made. A certificate of approval of the report of the dean of the Army School of Nursing was returned to the Surgeon General under date of December 12th, 1918, which certificate presented the conditions upon which the formal registration of the school depends as follows:

First.-- Upon its assured permanency.

Second.-- A competent dean, whose appointment is made solely on merit and fitness.

Third.-- Adequate service for teaching purposes, which must include training in obstetrics, pediatrics and dietetics, as well as surgery and general medical nursing."

Until these questions are definitely settled and the school formally registered, a certificate from the Surgeon General, upon the recommendation of the dean of the school will be accepted for its face value of training received, providing such training covers a period of not less than a year.

In formal ratification of the report of (the) dean I am making this certificate, approved by the president of the university, and placing thereon the seal of the University of New York.



A copy of this certificate of approval is being placed in the permanent records of this department, as a guide to those who shall have the administration of the issuing of certificates for admission to our state examination for certificate of registered nurses.

Respectfully,

AUGUSTUS S. DOWNING  
Assistant Commissioner  
and Director of Professional Education.

Continuation of the Course.- The close of the fiscal year (July 15, 1919) presented 741 students remaining to complete the course, leading to the diploma of the school - 573 on duty in fifteen military hospitals and 168 absent in the affiliating schools. The total number assigned to duty in the military hospitals was 1800. The percentage of withdrawals was not high considering the large number of students previously engaged in the occupational fields.

A study of 4,869 accepted candidates showed that 3,820 were so engaged, of whom 1,805 were teachers. The statistics obtained from 97, of 112 students assigned to one base hospital, showed the average age to be 23.9 - 82% had been in the occupational field, 70% being teachers (having had from one to twelve years' experience) the remainder representing fourteen other fields, such as librarian, technician, social workers of various types, etc. The average earning capacity per month being \$67.00.

To the discipline resulting from college training and from experience in other fields is undoubtedly attributable the ease and efficiency with which these students adapted themselves to the demands of the school and the military situation.

Affiliation with civil schools of nursing.- The response of the civil hospitals to the request for experience in the services not obtainable in the military hospitals, was generous both as to opportunity and in the adjustment required to meet the needs of the army school; affiliation being effected with the leading hospitals able to give the required experience in New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Washington, Chicago, Boston, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, New-ton-Massachusetts, and San Francisco.

The credit allowed for advanced work reducing the term in the school and the admittance of the entire body of students within a period of six months necessitated, in order that the full experience be obtained by each student seeking a diploma, an earlier admission to the affiliating courses than is customary for the special hospitals (maternity especially)



to permit. These requirements have been relaxed but the adjustment of the students to the work has been satisfactory and is evidence of the value the student body would have been for overseas duty had the war continued.

The Contribution of the School.- The annual report submitted to the Surgeon General for the year 1918-1919 presents the contribution of the school in part as follows:

"It is obvious that 1,800 student nurses made no appreciable contribution - from the standpoint of numbers - to the nursing service in the war. The value of this experiment lies in that it demonstrated without peradventure the great asset the well established and tried out machinery of a school under the medical department would be in the rapid expansion of nursing service required by a similar emergency.

Upon the establishment of the school as a permanent institution the preliminary course for all the students will be given at Walter Reed and Letterman, or possibly only at Walter Reed. Had it been possible through one or two well equipped posts to give a three months' intensive course, many of the difficulties and all of the breakdowns that occurred would have been averted.

Attention need hardly be called to the exceedingly desirable reserve corps the graduates of such a school would form and from which could be selected the executive so greatly needed and in such increased numbers in war times. Not all the graduates would remain in the service. It is probable that not even all the graduates demonstrating executive ability could be assigned to military posts in times of peace, but all would be conversant with military methods, while a post graduate course in administrative work is quite possible of development. An executive experience that included both the civilian and military hospitals would be of peculiar value in times of war.

In addition to these most important contributions (the well established machinery of a school and a reserve nurse corps conversant with the military system) are several scarcely less important ones. The aftermath of war - as well as war itself - will always mean a greatly increased need of nurses. As an efficiency measure the



school is, therefore, of much value through its prevention of waste of effort and experience on the part of those women intending, or through the interest aroused deciding, to make nursing their profession. Even those who are impelled by purely patriotic reasons and who do not intend to continue in the field will be the gainers through this method, and their services, not less than the services of those who desire professional preparation, will rapidly increase in value.

The extension to the largest possible number of the very unusual experience in the nursing field that inevitably offers in the military hospitals in time of war, would in itself justify this method of increasing the nursing strength. Not only have the graduate nurses had an opportunity of refreshing and bringing up to date their surgical technique, but a most valuable store of unique experiences has been added to their sum total of nursing knowledge; while many hundreds of nurses to be have shared in this. A treatment that extends through the healing of a wound to the restoration of function, and even to adaptation to a new means of livelihood, and that concerns itself with the mental readjustment not less than the physical cure, has not been a feature of case treatment in many, if any, civilian hospitals. These students will, it would seem, inevitably think in these terms, and through this fact bring to their nursing a much broader vision and wider usefulness.

Another service to be rendered through the school is the maintaining of the morale. An English officer writing of the hospital situation says: ". . . but a great war must always be, to the armies in the field, a series of periods of pressure and of resting; and the difficulty to be overcome is in meeting the medical needs of the former when required." To meet the needs of the "periods of resting" is not less important or less difficult than adjusting to the periods of pressure. Activities stimulated to the -nth degree, suddenly with nothing to expend themselves upon, are a dangerous proposition for both men and women. Work, physical or mental, is the only safeguard. In no hospital where a training school unit was established were all the classes omitted for more than three weeks during the epidemic.



-38-

The necessity of the students returning to their books and the instructors and supervisors to their instruction as soon as the pressure of the emergency begins to lighten, is one of the most important factors in re-establishing and maintaining a normal situation, and preventing the loss of balance which is likely to follow upon such an emergency.

The contrast between a civilian hospital maintaining a school of nursing of a high standard and a military hospital providing its nursing care, through a graduate nurse staff assisted by hospital corpsmen, has already been presented, unfavorably to the latter.

A careful analysis of the Annual Reports of the Surgeon General does not, it is believed, present the graduate nurse force as adequate to render the kind of nursing care demanded in the civil hospitals of high standard, in times of peace and in at least one of these reports the difficulties of securing desirable hospital corpsmen is indicated.

The history of recent wars, including the last, very definitely presents this group as inadequate, both in numbers and preparation, and frequently of an undesirable type for the bedside care of the sick, but as rendering an indispensable and heroic service in the field.

In this case - since what is the military establishment for if not to meet the exigencies of war - it would seem that a course adapted to the service the hospital corpsmen render in time of war should be developed, while the nursing care of the soldiers in times of peace or war, should be rendered by the graduate or student nurse, into whose hands - in this war certainly - it most effectively fell.

The introduction of the student body brings to the care of the sick a group, seeking to become efficient in the nursing field; it relieves the graduate nurse from the performance of procedures that she has already mastered during her own student days, giving her the broader and developing interest of supervisor, teacher and chief administrator.

That the placing of the students in the base hospitals greatly quickened the interest of the nursing and even the medical staff, and was an important factor in the standardization of the nursing technique, ample testimony is borne to by the reports of commanding officers, chief nurses and instructors, as is also the very definite, and during the influenza epidemic, the arduous services they rendered.

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The permanent establishment of a school to meet the needs of future wars, would not, perhaps, be justifiable, but the care of the sick in the hospital through a school of high standard, has long been accepted as the most efficient method in the civil community. Since in times of peace the wives and children of the commissioned personnel are cared for in the military hospitals, an army of even 100,000 men would offer adequate experience for a large student body. The plan of the Surgeon General for the development of the army medical school - which includes the school of nursing, will make possible a school of unequalled standards and one which will undoubtedly attract a desirable grade of students and command and retain the interest of a highly qualified executive and teaching personnel, thereby insuring the best nursing care for the sick in the military hospitals.

HONOR ROLL

DIED IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

Dorothy Crosby.....	Sept. 23,	1918.....	Camp Devens.
Constance Shields.....	Oct. 6,	1918.....	Camp Grant.
Selam Voight.....	Oct. 11,	1918.....	Camp Hancock.
Bessie Edwards.....	Oct. 13,	1918.....	Camp Meade.
Eloise Eagleton.....	Oct. 19,	1918.....	Camp MacArthur.
Alice M. Baker.....	Oct. 26,	1918.....	Fort Riley.
Fyvie Horne.....	Oct. 28,	1918.....	Fort Riley.
Christine Colburn.....	Nov. 6,	1918.....	Fort Riley.
Nellie Anderson.....	Nov. 19,	1918.....	Camp Wheeler.
Katherine Rowell.....	Dec. 15,	1918.....	Camp Greene.
Lena Stanford.....	Dec. 23,	1918.....	Fort Sam Houston.
Pearle Poole.....	Dec. 30,	1918.....	Fort Sam Houston.
Priscilla Crocker.....	Jan. 4,	1919.....	Camp Devens.
Agnes Nohr.....	Jan. 4,	1919.....	Camp Grant.
Beverly Bird.....	Feb. 5,	1919.....	Camp Meade.
Annamae Kochnich.....	Jan. 19,	1919.....	Fort Oglethorpe.
Dorothy Gustavson.....	Feb. 27,	1919.....	Fort Sam Houston.
Neville Eberly.....	Feb. 24,	1919.....	Camp Sherman.
Maude Andrews.....	March 4,	1919.....	Fort Riley.
Pearl Ely.....	March 31,	1919.....	Camp Grant.
Mary Agnes Wilson.....	Feb. 13,	1919.....	Camp Taylor.
Curran, Lola Dot.....	Feb. 13,	1919.....	Camp Taylor.
Carter, Fay Smith.....	June 20,	1919.....	Fox Hills (Bellevue Hospital)

  
Annie W. Goodrich,  
Dean of the Army School of Nursing.  
May 1918-July 1919.











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