

ANNUAL REPORT
of
MINNESOTA NURSING BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSES

July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943

The annual report of this Board, covering the fiscal year, July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943 serves to give you an accounting of the Board's activities during this period and to share with you briefly its problems, its accomplishments, and other interesting facts in relation to nursing in this state.

There was a change in the personnel of the Board when Mrs. Sophie S. Rein's devoted and faithful service of twenty years on the Board terminated April 5, 1943. She served the Board longer than any other appointee to the Board. Her term had expired May 1, 1943, but she served until her successor, Nellie Palmer, was appointed by Governor Stearns. Miss Palmer's appointment is effective to May 1, 1947. She represents particularly the public health angle of nursing education, being appointed from that important field.

The personnel of the Board as of June 30, 1943 is as follows:

President	- - -	Louise Hennrich
Vice President	- - -	Bertor Wolfe
Secretary-Treasurer	- - -	Lola Halverson
Member	- - - - -	Bertor H. Arvola
Member	- - - - -	Nellie Palmer

Miss Aileen Jolay was appointed Nursing Education Advisor on May 1, 1943. This technical title was set up by the Civil Service Board, rather than the title, which is set up by the Nurse Practice Act, namely, Educational Director. The position is under Civil Service.

The present office personnel includes:

(a) Secretary-Treasurer	- - -	Lola H. Halverson	(member of Board)
(b) Nursing Education Advisor	- - -	Aileen H. Jolay	(appointee of Board)
(c) Clerk-Stenographer III	- - -	Helen H. Rovine	(appointee of Board)
(d) Clerk-Stenographer II	- - -	Bertor H. Hansen	(appointee of Board)

There was a change in the office staff when Aileen Brown, Board stenographer, resigned August 1, 1942 to enter the U.S. Army, where she is now serving in Africa with the rank of Captain. Her service constitutes a leave of absence under Civil Service. Bertor Hansen was appointed as her successor, with classification of Clerk-Stenographer I, August 15, 1942. She was later promoted to Clerk-Stenographer II. Helen Rovine was promoted by Civil Service from Clerk-Stenographer II to III. The service rendered by the office staff, which service has naturally increased greatly, due to present war conditions, has been outstandingly fine.

The Board has held 10 meetings during the year, including two one-day special meetings, covering 16 days. These do not include the time spent by Board members in conferences, at State Board examinations, in survey work, and in review of material sent them by mail and requiring immediate Board action.

Board members surveyed 7 institutions, two of which are now in the process of organizing schools of nursing, with a view toward accreditation.

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The largest group of applicants in the history of the Board wrote the State Board examination this year. There were three examinations held during the year at St. Paul, Rochester and Duluth, instead of the usual two, in order that nurses might become available for service with the armed forces at the earliest possible date.

Number of new candidates for examination	1141
Number of candidates re-writing	54
Total number of candidates	<u>1195</u>

The returns of the June 1943 examination are not completed, hence the following figures refer only to the September 1942 and the January 1943 examination.

Number of new candidates passed	688
Number of new candidates failed	52
Number of repeaters passed	56
Number of repeaters failed	8

Total number of candidates passed	699
Total number of candidates failed	40

4 special examinations were granted, two of which were proctored by other State Boards, including one male student entering war service.

Number registered by examination July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943	904
Number registered on basis of interstate endorsement	<u>50</u>
Total number registered July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943	994

There were 6 applicants who had failed two or more times and who took courses in theory in order to qualify for re-examinations; 5 passed and 1 failed.

There were 9 schools of nursing that had no failures during the year.

Number registered from 1907 (date of passage of law) to June 30, 1943 by examination, by waiver and by special act of legislature	19552
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Number registered from 1907 to June 30, 1943 by interstate endorsement	1256
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Total number of certificates of registration issued in Minnesota from 1907 to present date, June 30, 1943	20,808
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There are 103 nurses who are registered in other states and who are regularly employed in Minnesota Schools of Nursing who are not registered in this state. In eight schools all registered nurses employed are registered in Minnesota. There are 317 registered nurses who are employed and are eligible for League membership, who are not League members. In 4 schools, all eligible registered nurses are League members.

The 50 nurses who registered in Minnesota on the basis of interstate endorsement were registered in the following states and countries, some being registered in more than one place; Canada 20 (including Manitoba 15, Alberta 3, Ontario 1, Saskatchewan 1); Iceland 1; New Zealand 1; North Dakota 13; Wisconsin 6; Illinois and South Dakota 7 each; Iowa 6; Missouri 5; Michigan, New York and Ohio, each 4; California, Colorado, Nebraska and Texas each 2; and one each in Arizona, Arkansas,

Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia and Wyoming.

During the present state of war, applicants for registration from foreign countries are required to present to the Board by advice of the U. S. Immigration Department, certain satisfactory evidence of their eligibility, in addition to that usually required.

On June 30, 1942 there were 29 accredited schools of nursing in the state not including the state hospitals that are in the process of closing. This does include the 5 schools in special hospitals offering clinical experience to affiliates only. (See list of schools of nursing attached)

There are 10 schools whose students affiliate and 5 whose students receive their entire course in the home school.

10	schools affiliate for	Pediatrics
0	"	" Communicable Diseases
0	"	" Psychiatry
3	"	" Tuberculosis
3	"	" Medical
2	"	" Out Patient (Elective)
2	"	" Public Health (Elective)
1	"	affiliated " Diet Therapy
2	"	" Obstetrics
1	"	" Operating Room Technic
1	"	" Surgical

0 schools offer their facilities for affiliating students.

0 additional schools state they can accept affiliation; one for Obstetrics; one for Communicable Disease experience; one for operating room experience and Obstetrics; and one for Medical, Surgical and Diet Kitchen; and one for Dietetics.

21 schools give no student experience in Public Health.

10	schools	"	"	"	"	in Tuberculosis
17	schools	"	"	"	"	in Outpatient Service
11	schools	"	"	"	"	in Psychiatry
6	schools	"	"	"	"	in Communicable Disease

1 school of nursing admits male students.

There are 0 degree courses in nursing being offered in the state.

The hospitals not conducting schools were visited with a view toward the development of affiliating courses in their specialties.

5 schools of nursing are approved by the Immigration Service of the U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. for the admission and attendance of non-quota immigrant students.

Postgraduate courses offered:

1 school offers a 12 month postgraduate course in each of the following: Medical, Surgical, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, Communicable Diseases, Operating Room Technic, and in Teaching and Administration, and a six months' course in Orthopedics.

1 school offers a three months' course in Tuberculosis

1 school offers a 4 months' course in Obstetrics

1 nine months' course in Operating Room Technic has been discontinued.

All but 4 of the schools use all or some of the National League of Nursing Education record forms.

Refresher courses for professionally inactive nurses were offered in 9 schools of nursing, 90 nurses taking the course; and three more schools gave informal courses on service; 15 schools gave no refresher courses.

On January 1, 1943, there were 3176 students in the Minnesota schools of nursing, a 9.6% increase over the previous year.

The number of students admitted during the calendar year 1942 was 1657 an increase of 25.5% over 1941. The increase for that period for the nation as a whole was 14.7%. Minnesota is still one of the 9 states in the United States that supply 50% of the nurses of the nation.

The National Nursing Council for War Service urged Minnesota to recruit at least 1000 students for the 1943 spring classes, which is a 100% increase over the spring of 1942. During the past year 15 schools admitted 2 classes, 9 schools admitted 1 class, 5 schools admitted 3 classes, and 1 school admitted 4 classes. The group of nurses who completed the 3 year course in 1942 showed that 74% of the original group admitted to the class, finished their course. There was a considerable variation between the schools, the lowest percentage completing the course being 41%, the highest 100%. The figures for the past years show that the loss of students from the original class is progressively less each year. Might it not be reasonable to assume that the more careful selection and the better health programs have a bearing on this situation? 553 students left the Minnesota schools of nursing during the year; 68% of them resigned or were permitted to resign and 32% were dismissed.

There are only 3 of the accredited schools of nursing in the state that do not conduct a testing program for students.

20 of the schools give 9 weeks vacation during the three year course; 1 gives 10 weeks; 1 gives 11 weeks; and 1 gives 3 months.

A study made by a nurse six years ago of student nurse illness showed an average of 9 days illness per student per year, while for the average worker illness averaged 6 days per year. The average number of days illness per year per student as shown by the 1942 annual reports of our schools of nursing was 5.1.

10 of our schools give no sick leave.

3 allow 7 days per year

1 allows a total of 10 days in three years

1 allows a total of 14 days in three years.

All of the schools require a complete health examination upon admission to the school; all but 2 schools give annual physicals and these two give physicals the first and third years.

16 schools require that students be immunized before admission and 6 immunize after admission.

Student hours on day duty are on the increase due no doubt to the demands of a country at war. 48 hours per week including class, is rather general, though the students of one school work 56 hours per week not including class hours. Six years ago, students on night duty averaged 53 hours per week. During this past year, 75% of the schools have a 48 hour week on night duty.

The number of hours of theory given during the three year course varies in the different schools from a low of 870 hours to a high of 1200, the average being 1052. This does not include one five-year course which gives 2350 hours.

Theory averages:	825 hours	the first year;	minimum 410 hours;	maximum 777 hours.
	847 "	" second "	" 176 "	" 453 "
	122 "	" third "	" 102 "	" 520 "

These wide ranges between the minimum and the maximum number of hours of theory given each year by the various schools would seem to require that there be more uniformity in the amount of theory given. There is considerable variation also in the number of hours of theory given in the various clinical subjects and in the clinical services in each school and this is illustrated by a graph. (See graph)

With the stress that is being placed at the present time on the acceleration of the course in nursing throughout the United States, it is obvious that programs of nursing education must be reorganized and adjusted. The American Journal of Nursing states that the term "acceleration" implies getting to a particular goal at an increased rate of speed, and this does not mean a shortening of the course in nursing, nor a curtailment of sound educational practice. Nursing power must be created in war time beyond that normally needed for civilian life, and yet every effort must be put forth to prevent the sacrificing of quality to quantity. So the Board, together with nursing schools, and nursing in general, faces many pressing problems and many necessary adjustments in nursing.

"Nursing Education in Wartime", a bulletin published by the National League of Nursing Education, serves as a very practical guide for use in solving problems incident to the program of acceleration.

A two-day conference on "Acceleration of the nursing school program" was held at the University, in which the Board, the school of nursing faculties, and a representative of the Field Service of the National Nursing Council for War Service participated.

The Secretary represented the Board at a week's conference in New York City in December 1943, called by the American Nurses' Association and the National League of Nursing Education at the request of the National Nursing Council for War Service.

Recommendations were drawn up and adopted by the conference and were approved by the boards of directors of the national nursing organizations. These were sent to all of the states and were published in the American Journal of Nursing.

The recommendations related to situations created by the war and refer to: more liberal interpretations of existing laws through the assistance of State Attorneys General; greater flexibility in administering nurse practice acts particularly during this emergency period; more liberal interstate policies in re: registration; careful scrutiny of Board rulings so that they may be based on sound educational principles; the adequacy of qualified faculties in nursing schools and more emphasis on the in-service education of same; establishment of central nursing schools and promoting central preliminary courses; the promotion of closer relationships with the state nursing organizations, hospital and medical associations, acceleration of the nursing education program, attendant nursing, et cetera.

The Secretary serves on the National League of Nursing Education Committee on State Board Problems. Secretary attended a Workshop Course the first week in June 1943 at Teachers College, New York City on State Board Problems.

On July 1, 1943, a third grant of money, \$5,500,000 was made available to schools of nursing in the United States from the Federal government for nursing education. 12 Minnesota schools of nursing received grants during the fiscal year, 4 of which offered tuition scholarships.

Other purposes for which the grants were allowed included tuition, subsistence, faculty salaries, textbooks, uniforms, housing facilities, postgraduate courses, research and public health.

Only 3 of our schools have a school of nursing budget separate from that of the hospital.

The Bolton Bill passed by Congress and signed by President Roosevelt on June 16, 1943, then becoming Public Law 74, appropriated approximately \$45,000,000 for the production of the needed number of nurses through increased student enrollment and the acceleration of the nursing education program and for the establishment of a U. S. Cadet Nurse Corps.

The accredited schools of nursing of Minnesota all meet the Red Cross Nursing Service requirements for the enrollment of their graduates. The enrollment of nurses for service in the Army and Navy will hereafter be carried on through the Recruitment Station of the Red Cross Chapters instead of local committees on Red Cross Nursing Service as heretofore.

The Red Cross Student Reserve is being built up by students who are eligible at the beginning of their senior year, and their registration date becomes their date of availability for service with the armed forces.

The directors of 3 schools of nursing resigned and new persons have succeeded them.

Five hospitals without schools of nursing have set up Nurse Aide training courses in connection with the vocational department of the public schools. One State hospital set up a six months' Nurses' Aide course. All but 4 of the schools of nursing employ nurse aides.

The University School of Nursing has set up a program using selected rural hospitals without schools of nursing, as a field for 6 weeks' experience for senior students in their course in nursing; conditions of experience, such as teaching, supervision, etc. requiring approval of Board since the course constitutes a part of the three year course in nursing.

Five Minnesota registered nurses have received medical treatment and are on probation for drug addiction, and the disposition of their cases handled according to legal advice.

During the 1943 legislative session, several bills were introduced that concerned the Board, including:

A bill to provide for registration without examination, a group of nurses who graduated prior to January 1, 1935 and who had five years' experience in nursing and this would include those who had either failed or had never written their State Board examination. It was learned from national headquarters that registration obtained by special legislation would not qualify the registrants for enrollment in the American Red Cross Nursing Service and the Army and Navy Nurse Corps. Bills were withdrawn.

Sophia E. Mein, a member of this Board, served as Chairman of the Minnesota Nurses' Association, Committee on Legislation and the Board secretary served as an advisory member of the committee.

Board members met at various times during the year with representatives of the Minnesota Nurses' Association, the State Division of Public Institutions and the State Medical and State Hospital associations, serving on committees concerning the training of nursing attendants in rural areas and in state hospitals and nursing situations in general. Louise Newcombe addressed the House of Delegates of the State Medical Association.

The Board sent representation to the Minnesota Nurses' Association convention at St. Cloud in October, 1942 and to the National League of Nursing Education convention and conference of State Boards of Examiners of Nurses at Chicago in June 1943. Miss Jolley, Nursing Education Adviser, represented the Board at a three day conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools at Chicago, following the League convention.

The Secretary has given talks to various organizations and senior students on nursing legislation and registration, the defense program and Red Cross, Army and Navy enrollment, and has given broadcasts.

Numerous conferences have been held by the Secretary with the Attorney General's office, concerning various problems and interpretation of the law.

Questionnaires, particularly from other State Boards, have taken up a great deal of time, and there has been an increasing amount of interstate correspondence with an aim toward establishing more uniformity in state requirements.

The Board takes this opportunity to thank those instructors who send their examination questions to the Board office. The publishers of nurse textbooks continue to generously contribute nursing texts to the Board office library.

Additional office equipment consists of bookshelves for the office of the Nursing Education Adviser and new files.

The personnel of the Board as of June 30, 1943 is as follows:

President	- - -	Louise Newcombe
Vice President	- - -	Bethor Wolfe
Secretary-Treasurer	- -	Loila Halverson
Member	- - -	Sister M. Ansina
Member	- - -	Mollie Palmer

Respectfully submitted

Secretary

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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SEP 16 1943

M. J. Jolley
Secretary
State

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W. K. ...
Secretary of State

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