

# THE SUMMERSIDE GUARDIAN

## and PRINCE COUNTY CHRONICLE

### Four Nurses Receive Graduating Diplomas

Believe reddened EYES  
MURINE FOR EYES  
Western Locals

#### Misses Elliott & Breau

Will be in Kensington giving permanents for 1 week.

Price \$1.95, \$3.50 and \$5.00. Curly ends \$1.50 and \$2.50.

All work guaranteed.

Mrs. Carrie Kennedy

### Prince County Hospital Training School Closing Exercises Held Last Night

Four graduates of Prince County Hospital training school—Miss Isabel Ramsay, O'Leary; Miss Helen J. England, Springfield West; Miss Pauline Coulson, Seaview and Miss Theresa M. McCarvell, Kinkora—received diplomas and took Florence Nightingale pledge last night as closing exercises were held.

There is plenty of room in the world, even today, for the right type of talent and resolve, right at the start, to make yourselves that type.

Avoid idleness as much as possible: this can be done profitably by remembering that there is nothing to do there is always something to learn, by studying, by reading good literature or by taking post-graduate work when possible. Thus you are always improving yourselves and better fitting yourselves for the opportunities that are bound to come your way sooner or later.

We wish you every success, and long, happy and useful lives.

#### VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

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Your Worship, Mr. Chairman, Clergy, members of the medical and nursing staffs, classmates, ladies and gentlemen:

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Ladies and gentlemen—It is my pleasure and my privilege to bring you tonight before the accounts of the Prince County Hospital for the year which will finish on May 31st next. It has been a year of steady progress when measured by the number of patients treated and the work actually accomplished. Figures may be a bit tiresome but I know of nothing that can be more enlightening and that can give a truer conception of the progress that has been made.

During the period under discussion we have treated 1324 patients—592 males, 732 females. Last year the number was 1168 or an increase of 156. The number treated in the Wards was 779 in comparison with 659 for the previous period and in the private rooms 545 and 569 respectively. The total number of hospital days aggregated 11,552 in comparison with 10,588 for 1935. Hospital days paid for in 1936 were 4477 and for 1935 4163. Days partly paid for were 2254 and 2451 respectively while non-pay and free numbered 4821 or an increase over 1935 of 847 days. Obstetrical cases numbered 77 with 80 infants. I have made a small calculation which will possibly give you a better conception of the magnitude of this institution than anything else I might tell you. The hospital days of our patients were 11,552. The hospital days of our nurses and our operating staff were an additional 8395 days or a total of 19,947 days. These figures have been estimated on the basis that at least 3 meals per day have been served, we find a total of almost 60,000 within the year. 60,000 meals appears like a lot to me and I propose leaving the statement without further comments for it speaks for itself and in no uncertain manner.

condition that will have to be met, possibly sooner than we anticipate, for we find our earnings are becoming restricted by the idea that is becoming far too prevalent, that the Hospital is a Charitable Institution for the well-to-do as well as for the very poor. Our percentage of free patients is growing from year to year, but what is most insidious and alarming is that the volume of our unpaid accounts is growing out of all proportion to the business done. These unpaid accounts now reach the total of almost \$30,000. Many of them are, of course, uncollectible and no doubt the contractors of them should be classed as free patients at the time that Hospital service was rendered them. Others would find it a grievous hardship, if not an impossibility, to attend to the necessary sacrifices and gradually reducing their liability. What I am trying to point out is that there is undoubtedly a change of sentiment or feeling regarding the relationship between the Hospital and the public.

State Health Insurance or something of an allied nature is forcing your attention and should engage our earnest consideration. The rich and the indigent have naught to worry about for the former has the wherewithal to look after themselves, while the latter receives hospitalization free. It is the large class that comes between these two extremes that finds disease a financial dread, insurmountable in many cases, and from whom some relief should be provided. This relief should not assume the form of charity but more in the nature of an Insurance. Already some of the Provinces of Canada are giving it consideration. A Commission appointed by the British Columbia Legislature has this to say of the project:

"Finally we would say that our recommendations for the early establishment in British Columbia of a suitable compulsory Health Insurance plan, including maternity benefits, are the result of the members of our Commission having become thoroughly imbued with the momentous and incalculable beneficial effects which kindred schemes in the Old World are producing in alleviating for the poorer classes the dread incubus of sickness costs, and thereby reducing premature mortality and raising the general standard of health among the masses."

Following this recommendation the Legislature has formulated a Draft Bill, which is being circulated among the Institutions and the Public, inviting criticism or suggestions so that, when legislation is actually brought about, it will be of such a nature that it will reflect the mature judgment of the Medical Fraternity and command the respect of the electorate. Schemes of this kind are very varied in their nature and have many arguments for and against. I do not propose discussing the matter. I am merely bringing it to your attention and suggesting that you give the different schemes some study and some consideration, so that, when we do receive some "relieving legislation" along these lines, it will be of such a nature that it will meet with the hearty approval and support of one and all.

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During your training, responsibility has been more or less collectively shared and you could always turn to your superiors and teachers for advice and assistance, when worried or in doubt, but henceforth your initiative and responsibilities will be taxed to a greater degree, and in your own judgment may hang the balance which may decide the difference between life and death.

Time will not permit the discussion of the many topics relative to your chosen profession, yet it seems to me that certain fundamental qualities and attitudes that are broadly human instead of narrowly technical are so elemental in your work as to justify a short discussion. They are indeed so important that it is hardly too much to assert that their presence or absence must make the difference between success and failure.

Alertness and patience are two very essential qualities which you must possess in constant perfection. It is imperative that you shall be ever alert, noting at each each subtle ebb and flow in the vital tide of life and instantly ready to adjust yourself to new conditions; that your eyes and ears should be keen to recognize changes so slight and fleeting that to the unskilled person they are not changes at all; that you must be minutely faithful in following the directions of your physician and yet quick and expeditious when crises suddenly carry you beyond the limits of the chart he has laid before you, in short, that your every faculty must be perpetually on guard against the sudden onslaught of the invisible. And yet side by side with this spirit of aggressive guardianship you must possess an invulnerable patience, a patience which shall be all enduring. To you, the hardest unreasonableness on the part of a patient is to be interpreted merely as a symptom of the disease and must be met, tactfully and with patience.

Your training, during the past three years, has aimed to teach, as far as possible, the science of nursing, probably to a greater extent than the art of nursing.

Science is a subject that can be taught very successfully and usually applied more or less practically. The art of a profession can be taught to a certain degree; but the application of it must be acquired, very often with great difficulty, and although a thorough knowledge of the science of a profession is very essential in practice, from a point of view of success, the art makes a far greater impression on the general public as they have very little knowledge of the scientific side of professional work, and we often see the most brilliant scholars, failures in their chosen work, due to their inability to combine the arts of their profession with the science.

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Your general physical and mental condition is of great importance in your work, and you should endeavour at all times to get work, rest and recreation in proper proportions, so that your bodies are at all times in the best of condition to ward off the diseases which you will be more or less constantly in contact with, and your minds clear and active to meet emergencies as they arise.

In your off-duty hours and between your cases you must be extremely careful in conversation with your fellow nurses or friends about discussing symptoms as you find them in your various patients also intimate details of the lives and actions of those with whom you come in contact in your work, for in your profession, as in some others, there has been created a well merited feeling of confidence (I hope) among people that secrecy is a virtue to be trusted, and, by displaying a tolerant understanding of your experience you can better retain the confidence of the physicians under whom you will work, and the patients and families who will be called on to serve, by maintaining a strict secrecy and silence about matters which are not of public concern.

You will be starting out shortly to practise your profession, and like a great many of our young people today, will probably find many disappointments, before you reach success, but always remember

#### VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

The following was the text of the Valedictory address delivered by Miss Isabel C. Ramsay:

Your Worship, Mr. Chairman, Clergy, members of the medical and nursing staffs, classmates, ladies and gentlemen:

It is strange how different a period of time looks when one regards it from the beginning, and when the look is backward from the end.

When we, the graduates of 1936, entered on our course at the Prince County Hospital, we were the only ones in the hospital who were not the graduates of a previous year.

#### HOSPITAL REPORT

Mr. H. T. Holman in addressing the nurses said:

Ladies and gentlemen—It is my pleasure and my privilege to bring you tonight before the accounts of the Prince County Hospital for the year which will finish on May 31st next. It has been a year of steady progress when measured by the number of patients treated and the work actually accomplished. Figures may be a bit tiresome but I know of nothing that can be more enlightening and that can give a truer conception of the progress that has been made.

During the period under discussion we have treated 1324 patients—592 males, 732 females. Last year the number was 1168 or an increase of 156. The number treated in the Wards was 779 in comparison with 659 for the previous period and in the private rooms 545 and 569 respectively. The total number of hospital days aggregated 11,552 in comparison with 10,588 for 1935. Hospital days paid for in 1936 were 4477 and for 1935 4163. Days partly paid for were 2254 and 2451 respectively while non-pay and free numbered 4821 or an increase over 1935 of 847 days. Obstetrical cases numbered 77 with 80 infants. I have made a small calculation which will possibly give you a better conception of the magnitude of this institution than anything else I might tell you. The hospital days of our patients were 11,552. The hospital days of our nurses and our operating staff were an additional 8395 days or a total of 19,947 days. These figures have been estimated on the basis that at least 3 meals per day have been served, we find a total of almost 60,000 within the year. 60,000 meals appears like a lot to me and I propose leaving the statement without further comments for it speaks for itself and in no uncertain manner.

condition that will have to be met, possibly sooner than we anticipate, for we find our earnings are becoming restricted by the idea that is becoming far too prevalent, that the Hospital is a Charitable Institution for the well-to-do as well as for the very poor. Our percentage of free patients is growing from year to year, but what is most insidious and alarming is that the volume of our unpaid accounts is growing out of all proportion to the business done. These unpaid accounts now reach the total of almost \$30,000. Many of them are, of course, uncollectible and no doubt the contractors of them should be classed as free patients at the time that Hospital service was rendered them. Others would find it a grievous hardship, if not an impossibility, to attend to the necessary sacrifices and gradually reducing their liability. What I am trying to point out is that there is undoubtedly a change of sentiment or feeling regarding the relationship between the Hospital and the public.

State Health Insurance or something of an allied nature is forcing your attention and should engage our earnest consideration. The rich and the indigent have naught to worry about for the former has the wherewithal to look after themselves, while the latter receives hospitalization free. It is the large class that comes between these two extremes that finds disease a financial dread, insurmountable in many cases, and from whom some relief should be provided. This relief should not assume the form of charity but more in the nature of an Insurance. Already some of the Provinces of Canada are giving it consideration. A Commission appointed by the British Columbia Legislature has this to say of the project:

"Finally we would say that our recommendations for the early establishment in British Columbia of a suitable compulsory Health Insurance plan, including maternity benefits, are the result of the members of our Commission having become thoroughly imbued with the momentous and incalculable beneficial effects which kindred schemes in the Old World are producing in alleviating for the poorer classes the dread incubus of sickness costs, and thereby reducing premature mortality and raising the general standard of health among the masses."

Following this recommendation the Legislature has formulated a Draft Bill, which is being circulated among the Institutions and the Public, inviting criticism or suggestions so that, when legislation is actually brought about, it will be of such a nature that it will reflect the mature judgment of the Medical Fraternity and command the respect of the electorate. Schemes of this kind are very varied in their nature and have many arguments for and against. I do not propose discussing the matter. I am merely bringing it to your attention and suggesting that you give the different schemes some study and some consideration, so that, when we do receive some "relieving legislation" along these lines, it will be of such a nature that it will meet with the hearty approval and support of one and all.

Health should be considered as a Public Asset that must be safeguarded. Sickness brought last year to the people of Canada an economic loss of over one and a quarter billion dollars. We provided our share. Do you not think the subject is worthy of your attention?

I fear I have strayed somewhat from the beaten path and have

trodden some of the by-roads instead of the main highway. We are tonight gathered together to do honor to Misses Isabel Ramsay, Helen England, Pauline Coulson and Theresa McCarvell, our Graduating Nurses. They have been through a painstaking period of study and application and have won their diploma with arduous labor. I extend to them the heartiest congratulations from the Board of Trustees and at the same time express the wish that the career of all of them will be one of success, of happiness and of prosperity. I further feel that, in extending these congratulations and in expressing these wishes, I am voicing your feelings and sentiments as well.

We should feel very proud of our Medical Fraternity, who are connected with our Hospital. They are efficient, resourceful and capable and are keeping to the forefront in medical practice and thought. The growth of knowledge in the science of Medicine has extended through the ages. It has been constantly onward and upward and where it will lead to, nobody knows. It is only by comparisons with the past that we can realize the progress, we have made. A few years ago in one of these talks, I told you of the efforts of the Medical Men to save the life of King Charles. Tonight I will close my address by giving you a description of the kind of medicine used by General Wolfe and asking you the questions—is it any wonder he was a hero.

"Take a neck of green garden snails, wash them in beer, put them in an oven and let them stay till they're done crying; then with the knife and fork prick the green from them, and beat the snails shell and all in a stone mortar. Then take a quart of green earth-worms, slive them through the middle and strow them with salt; then wash them and beat them, the pot being first put into a still with two handfuls of angelica, a quart of rosemary flowers, then the snails and worms, the agrimony, bear's feet, red dock roots, barley brack, bilberry, wormwood, of each two handfuls; one ounce of saffron, well dried and beaten. Then pour in three gallons of milk. Wait till morning, then put in three ounces of cloves (well beaten), hartshorn, graded. Keep the still covered all night. This done, stir it not. Distill with a moderate fire. The patient must take two spoonfuls at a time."

This particular medicine is for chest ailment.

Western Locals

FREE TICKETS for fox ranch, poultrymen and farmers may be procured at the door for those who bring to see "The Hidden Harvest." If tickets are not procured from local dealer.

#### Annual Meeting of Kensington School Improvement Society

The annual meeting of the Kensington School Improvement Society was held Thursday evening May 14th, in the Town Hall. After the opening routine was concluded, the officers for the ensuing year were elected; President, (re-elected) Mrs. William MacLean; vice-president, Mr. Norman MacDonell; secretary treasurer, Miss Miriam Profit. An advertising committee appointed was Miss Myrtle Hughes, Messrs. James Pendergast and N. MacDonell; school grounds committee, Mrs. W. MacLean and Mr. James Saunders.

detaken by you during your three years of preparation and, without doubt, many who are in the nursing field today, had they but forseen the hard and disagreeable side of their profession, would have hesitated ere they made their final decision to take up nursing as their life work. However for you of this 1936 graduating class that part of your duty is over and you must now assume the responsibility of applying practically what you have learned in the last three years.

During your training, responsibility has been more or less collectively shared and you could always turn to your superiors and teachers for advice and assistance, when worried or in doubt, but henceforth your initiative and responsibilities will be taxed to a greater degree, and in your own judgment may hang the balance which may decide the difference between life and death.

Time will not permit the discussion of the many topics relative to your chosen profession, yet it seems to me that certain fundamental qualities and attitudes that are broadly human instead of narrowly technical are so elemental in your work as to justify a short discussion. They are indeed so important that it is hardly too much to assert that their presence or absence must make the difference between success and failure.

Alertness and patience are two very essential qualities which you must possess in constant perfection. It is imperative that you shall be ever alert, noting at each each subtle ebb and flow in the vital tide of life and instantly ready to adjust yourself to new conditions; that your eyes and ears should be keen to recognize changes so slight and fleeting that to the unskilled person they are not changes at all; that you must be minutely faithful in following the directions of your physician and yet quick and expeditious when crises suddenly carry you beyond the limits of the chart he has laid before you, in short, that your every faculty must be perpetually on guard against the sudden onslaught of the invisible. And yet side by side with this spirit of aggressive guardianship you must possess an invulnerable patience, a patience which shall be all enduring. To you, the hardest unreasonableness on the part of a patient is to be interpreted merely as a symptom of the disease and must be met, tactfully and with patience.

Your training, during the past three years, has aimed to teach, as far as possible, the science of nursing, probably to a greater extent than the art of nursing.

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