



Canadian Association for the History of Nursing

Association canadienne pour l'histoire du nursing

Newsletter

Volume 17, Number 2, Fall 2004

President's Message

Greetings et sincères salutations!

In June, at our annual meeting and conference at York University, I mentioned that the past year had been devoted to planning for several important events. The effective planning for this last conference resulted in a very successful and stimulating program of presentations and activities. Thanks to Carol Helmstadter, and Kate McPherson our host at York University and her team. The Hannah Lecture entitled *Care and prayer: Women's religious orders and hospital services in France 1658-1880/Soigner et prier : Les religieuses hospitalières et leur oeuvre en France 1658-1880* was delivered by Professor Daniel Hickey from l'Université de Moncton. The history of nursing in France is particularly relevant to Canadians since the French nursing orders provided the first structured nursing care in New France. In addition to the scientific papers, a panel on the teaching of nursing history and interdisciplinary research on nursing and health care was well received.

One strength of our conference programs is that we attract participants from several different countries. This year, papers were presented by persons from Norway, Tasmania, Alaska and France. Very stimulating discussions followed presentations, for example on the theme of tuberculosis in Manitoba and Norway. Many participants wished that these discussions periods were longer.

The Long Range Planning Committee presided by Marg Gorrie and Lynn Kirkwood, the coordinator, are preparing our next conference in Ottawa in June 2005. Next year, the annual general meeting and conference will follow the AMS Hannah Invitational Conference and the official opening of the Canadian Museum of Civilisation Exhibition on Canadian nursing history. A book on Canadian nursing history will also be launched at this time. Please make arrangements to attend our meeting and encourage other members and potential members to take advantage of these historic events. In 2006, our colleagues in British Columbia will host the annual conference.

Je lance une invitation spéciale à nos collègues francophones du Québec et des autres régions canadiennes de se joindre à nous en devenant membre de l'Association. Nous souhaitons une grande participation aux activités planifiées pour les prochaines années. Il est important que l'histoire des soignantes francophones, entre autres celle des religieuses soit mieux connue au Canada.

We are delighted that our membership is increasing thanks to the efforts of Sonya Grypma and her committee. I was thinking that a way to breach the subject of a CAHN / ACHN membership could be to mention the CNA Position Statement Promoting Nursing History / La mise en valeur de l'histoire des soins infirmiers which was developed by with our input. This statement recognises the importance of nursing history and encourages every

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Lifetime Member

Margaret Allemang

nurse to preserve and share our history. The document is available in both official languages on the CAN website : www.cna-aicc.ca.

CAHN / ACHN members continue to collaborate with the American Association for the History of Nursing and participate

in their annual conferences. This year Carol Helmstadter, Cynthia Toman , Meryn Stuart and Fran Gregor attended the conference in Charleston, North Carolina. You can read Carol's summary of the activities in this newsletter. Carol is a member of their Abstract Review Committee for the 2005 Conference.

I wish to thank the CAHN / ACHN Executive and committee members for their continuing efforts to preserve and share nursing history.

Anne-Marie Arseneau

Membership Report

Sonya Grypma

I am pleased to report a total of 116 members for 2004, up from 67 during the last reporting period. The total membership now includes 42 active RNs (including 4 graduate students), 54 Retired, and 20 Associate members (n=116). Twelve of our members are from outside of Canada, mostly from the USA and UK.

At our meeting, in June, the CAHN/ACHN Executive decided to conduct a membership drive to try to increase our membership. By the time we started the drive, our membership had already increased to 81. A total of 168 letters were mailed to previous (n=150) and prospective new members (n=18). Forty-two responded positively to the mail out: There were 34 renewed memberships for 2004, one new membership, and 12 renewed member-

ships for 2005. An additional 20 letters were marked "return to sender" because the addressee had moved or was deceased. Many thanks to those who graciously contributed cash donations: Twenty-two members gave donations in addition to their membership dues.

We would love to see an increase in student membership. For those of you who are faculty members, we hope that you will encourage your students to join the CAHN/ACHN, submit abstracts for the upcoming conference in Ottawa, and apply for the Margaret Allemang Scholarship.

At a recent executive meeting, it was decided that membership renewal forms will be mailed separately, rather than being included in the newsletter. Hopefully, this

will lessen confusion about when memberships are actually due.

All updated membership information has been entered into a database, including provincial registration numbers. Thus, to renew your membership, you may simply make note of any changes since the previous year. **There are 3 ways to renew membership for 2005:** (1) complete and mail the membership form provided in this newsletter; (2) download and mail the membership form from: www.ualberta.ca/~jhibberd/CAHN_ACHN/membership.htm; or (3) email me with your updated information at grypma@telusplanet.net. You may send application forms and cheques or money orders to: Sonya Grypma, CAHN/ACHN Membership Chair , 1418 – 20 Ave South, Lethbridge, AB, T1K 1E9.

Long-Range Planning Report

Marg Gorrie

2006 Conference: June 8-10

St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver
Theme for the conference will be "The Frontier Nurse: Historical Milestones."
Chair for the Conference is Sheila Zerr. A committee is at work planning the budget, paper sessions, social events, and promotion activities.

2007 Conference:

The long-range planning committee members recommend the 2007 CAHN confer-

ence be held in Regina, in conjunction with the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine conference.

Sandra Bassendowski has kindly volunteered to manage the local requirements for the conference. No contact with the CSHM has yet been made by committee members regarding this proposed plan.

2008 Conference:

The long-range planning committee mem-

bers provided comment on the possibility of CAHN having an international conference in Ottawa with the C.N.A. conference. No concerns in principle were identified regarding this possibility, however, with the work of planning the 2005 Ottawa conference, planning an international conference to be held 3 years after the upcoming conference seemed to be more than what might be realistically undertaken. This concern precluded full support of the idea at this time.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Helmstedter

Thanks to the fine work of our Membership Chair CAHN is in much better financial shape than we had predicted last June.

With our new members and those who had forgotten to send in their dues we now have a very reasonable bank balance and can look forward to a good year from a financial point of view. In addition, Associated Medical Services has increased our grant for the AMS-CAHN/ACHN Hannah Lecturer from \$1000 to \$1750 so that we are now able to pay a reasonable honorarium. In the past, we have occasionally paid nothing but the lecturer's expenses and sometimes as little as \$200.

We are most appreciative of those very distinguished people who in the interests of nursing history have been willing to present

for no financial reward, but we feel much happier being able to give our speakers an honorarium which is more in keeping with their standing.

Despite the uneconomic fee we charged students at our conference at York University this past June, we made a small profit on the conference. We do not try to make money on our annual conferences but we also cannot afford to lose money. We thank Associated Medical Services, Victoria University, the University of Ottawa, the University of Alberta and the Allemang Society who helped to subsidize the students who presented. Also many thanks to Professor Kathryn McPherson and her most able helper, Kristin Burnett, for securing so much financial support from York University. We paid nothing for the use of the very

comfortable rooms in Founders College and the university provided all the excellent catering at cost. We thank York for being such a generous host.

Finally, I would like to thank our past treasurer, Judith Hibberd, for all the help she has given me in the transitional period and for turning the books over to me in perfect order, audited up to the very day that they were sent to me. Judith took on the position at a critical moment in our history, and has guided us through the past few years with sound financial advice as well as the excellent book-keeping. Many thanks, Judith!

Scholarship Committee Report

Florence Melchior

Unfortunately, there were no applications for the Margaret Allamang Scholarship in Nursing History for 2004. Enclosed in this newsletter is an application form for 2005. Please inform potential candidates of this award about the call for applications.

Communications Committee Report

Marion McKay & Janet Beaton

During the past year, concerns have arisen about the lack of integration between the activities of the newsletter committee and the individuals responsible for the creation and maintenance of the CAHN website. We are pleased to announce that the newly re-organized communications committee will attempt to address these problems. Judith Hibberd will join the communications committee formally as the web diva. She and Judy Norris will share the responsibility of maintaining and updating the website.

We are currently investigating the possibility of moving the CAHN website to its own domain. This change would allow the website address to remain the same regardless of who the web diva is, and allows for a much easier transition when other individuals take on this responsibility. There will also be a more deliberate attempt to pass all information on to Judith, so that it can be posted on the website immediately. The Committee encourages anyone sending information to the newsletter editors to also send the information to Judith so that she can have it posted on the website in a timely fashion.

Announcements

The CNA position statement on nursing history is now on the CNA website in both languages. CAHN members who are interested in knowing about the CNA's position on scholarship, research and teaching in nursing history can check the CNA's website: www.cna-nurses.ca/_frames/policies/policiesmainframe.htm.

The American Association for the History of Nursing has also recently posted a position paper entitled, *Nursing history in the Curriculum: Preparing nursing for the 21st century*. Those interested in reviewing this document can find it on the AAHN's website: www.aahn.org.

Congratulations to **Jeanette Walsh** and **Marilyn Beaton**, who have recently published a book about nursing in Newfoundland entitled, *From the Voices of Nurses*. Thirty-three nurses who graduated before 1950 were interviewed about nursing in communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. Their nursing experiences cover a 60 year period and the stories reflect the nurses' perceptions and feelings about the nursing school experience, practising nursing in various settings and communities, and the changes in the nursing profession throughout their career. The stories also give insight into the commitment and strength of a generation of nurses.

Those interested in purchasing a copy (\$14.95) can contact the publisher:

Jespersion Publishing
100 Water St.
St. John's, NL A1C 6E6
Phone: (709) 757-2216
Fax: (709) 753-0708
Website: www.jespersionpublishing.nf.net

For CAHN members and others interested in applying for funding to support graduate work in the area of the history of healthcare,

the guidelines for the Hannah Grants in the History of Medicine for 2005 can be found at: www.ams-inc.on.ca.

Dr. Toby Gelfand is now CSHM representative to the International Society for the History of Medicine. He would like all CSHM members to know that they are very welcome to join the Society. In addition to reduced registration fees for the bi-annual conference typically held in attractive venues, membership includes the society's journal, VESALIUS. For further information, please contact Dr. Gelfand: tgelfand@uottawa.ca.

Congratulations to **Geertje Boschma**, who recently authored a book on the history of the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Calgary entitled, *Faculty of Nursing on the Move. University of Calgary, 1969-2004*. Published by the University of Calgary Press, the book provides an historical analysis of the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Calgary in contrast and comparison to the broader evolution of academic nursing in Canada.

It addresses how the faculty has responded to important social trends and changes in health care policy, and helps the reader to understand contemporary nursing issues. Starting with the dramatic changes in health care policy after the Second World War, it establishes the role of nursing education as pivotal to a growing health care industry. Then it moves on to describe the challenge of developing an identity for an academic unit within the larger academic and health care structure.

This book will be of particular interest to anyone involved in women's studies, as it represents a case study for broader women's issues within an academic environment.

The University of Calgary is offering a very special [Pre-Sales] offer of a copy of this book for \$32.95 (List Price is \$39.85), plus \$5 S&H, plus 7% GST (15% in Maritimes). Payable to UC Press. Visa/

Cheque/MC. To order, fax: (403) 282-0085, phone: (403) 220-5284, or e-mail: ucpress@ucalgary.ca. They ask for inclusion of one's daytime phone number.

The Canadian Museum of Civilization and the University of Ottawa Press announces the imminent publication of a new book on the history of nursing in Canada entitled, *On All Frontiers: Four Centuries of Canadian Nursing*. Editors and well-known historians: **Christina Bates**, **Dianne Dodd**, and **Nicole Rousseau** have brought together a vast body of research into one volume.

Written by leading experts, the chapters and vignettes form an overview of our knowledge of Canadian nursing to date. From the midwives of early Canada to urban public health nurses, and from remote outposts to the battlefields of Europe, *On All Frontiers* documents the hardships, challenges, and achievements of Canadian nurses. Richly illustrated with archival photographs, it will prove essential to scholars of Canadian women's and health care history. *On All Frontiers* is a much-needed, comprehensive history of Canadian nursing.

The book will be made available in both French and English and released in April 2005, two months before the opening of the Canadian Museum of Civilization exhibit: The Caring Profession. The regular selling price will be \$50.00 per copy.

The University of Ottawa Press and the Canadian Museum of Civilization is offering interested groups and individuals the opportunity to make a pre-publication bulk order (a minimum number of books must be purchased) for \$40 per copy. Books can then be resold at the regular price creating a fund raising opportunity for those who take advantage of this offer. Deadline for this offer is November 30. Please contact: Marie-France Watson, Marketing & Promotions, University of Ottawa Press at promote@uottawa.ca.

Nursing Heritage Comes Alive

Christina Bates, Ontario Historian Curator, *A Caring Profession*

Three projects will bring the history of nursing in Canada to the public-joint ventures among the Canadian Nurses Association, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, the Canadian War Museum and National Archives of Canada.

The Canadian Nursing History Collection Research into nursing history has been made possible by the pioneering efforts of nursing school alumnae associations, religious nursing orders, nursing history associations, federal, provincial and municipal nursing organizations, and individual nurses to preserve their history through creating archival and artifact collections.

In particular, The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) has, since its inception in 1908, produced and collected a substantial quantity of written material, photographs, and artifacts, documenting its own activities, and other institutions involved in nursing in Canada and around the world. This special collection has now found a home in three public history institutions.

Approximately 800 artifacts, related to civilian nursing, are now housed at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. The Nursing Sisters Association of Canada collection of approximately 200 artifacts, is with the Canadian War Museum and the National Archives of Canada has taken on the extensive written, photographic and audiovisual materials, including 9,000 photographs, 1,600 audiovisual materials, and 35 metres of textual records.

Canadian Nursing History Collection

Providing students, researchers and the general public access to the collection became a priority. In June 2004, a special portal called The Canadian Nursing History Collection On-Line was launched, providing access to the artifact collection. www.civilization.ca/tresors/nursing/ncint01e.html

A Caring Profession Exhibition

The second project is a major exhibition: *A Caring Profession: Centuries of Nursing in Canada* [Une histoire de coeur: Des siècles de soins infirmiers au Canada], which will open June 16, 2005, at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. 'A Caring Profession' explores nursing in various practice settings. The emphasis is on the human side of the story, which is conveyed through first-person quotes, featured personalities, nursing care artifacts, videos of nurses at work, and theatrical productions.

In the Hospital section will begin with the founding of the first hospitals in New France. Run by well-educated and well-trained nuns, these hospitals contrasted with the squalor of those in British North America. In the later nineteenth-century,

Approximately 800 artifacts, related to civilian nursing, are now housed at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

when modern medicine made hospitals sites of therapeutic, rather than custodial, care, a new, modern-trained nursing force was required to run the expanding wards. *At the Bedside* will explain the complex training and procedures required to ensure the comfort, security and health of the patient. Nurses' keen sense of observation (eg. thermometers), their attention to patients' privacy (bedpans), and comfort (bed warmers), their prevention of cross-contamination (sterilizing forceps), and their own therapies (enema syringe), often made the difference to a patient's recovery. A very moving video of nurses playing with children immobile in their iron lung "prisons" will be featured.

In the Home deals with the charitable nursing organizations, such as the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), that provided care for impoverished. Private duty nursing section will present some of the first female "entrepreneurs." The evolution of midwifery in Canada from the sage-femmes of New France to the present-day certified midwives will also be featured.

In the Community will trace the development of public health nursing from the early twentieth century to today, culminating with Toronto street nurse, Cathy Crowe, whose street visiting backpack and contents will be on display. A school setting will also be evoked, with photos of children lined up for their vaccination.

On the Frontier will present the nurses who worked in the most remote areas of Canada, including those in Red Cross nursing stations, who birthed babies, pulled teeth and fixed broken limbs of patients they reached on horseback, sled or skis! Northern nursing among aboriginal people will also be featured. We will have a railway speeder which nurses used to get their patients to hospital, as well as photographs of nurses in helicopters and Newfoundland dorys.

On the Battlefield section is guest-curated by Cynthia Toman. This zone will focus primarily on Nursing Sisters in the First and Second World Wars. Trained nurses readily "filled the ranks" of the Canadian armed forces nursing service, becoming the first women officers in the world, and making a significant difference in the care of sick and wounded soldiers.

On Campus and On the Picket Line will portray nurses' struggle for recognition in the health care system. Based mainly on newspaper headlines, this zone will explore the strategies nurses have used to win respect and independence, including

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Congratulations to **Cynthia Toman**, who received the American Association for the History of Nursing's 2004 Teresa E. Christy Award for distinguished doctoral research at the Charleston conference held October 1 to 4. All CAHN members take great pleasure in seeing Cynthia's outstanding doctoral work receive international recognition.

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Congratulations to **Florence Melchoir**, who successfully defended her doctoral dissertation this October.

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Royal Society of Canada has announced **Dr. Paul Hackett** of the University of Manitoba as the recipient of the Jason A. Hannah Medal for 2004. The award is based on Dr. Hackett's book *A Very Remarkable Sickness: Disease and Epidemics in the Petit Nord, 1670-1846* (Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, November 2002).

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The *Canadian Journal of Nursing Leadership* is always interested in publishing brief biographies of historic nursing leaders.

In the past, these articles were not peer reviewed. However, after a discussion with the journal's editor, peer reviews will now be provided. This change in procedure will certainly make writing biographies for publication much more appealing for those in academic positions. The CAHN/ACHN has submitted a list of potential reviewers to the CHNL. For further information about the CHNL's guidelines for reviewers, please consult the CAHN/ACHN website.

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AIK Minute

(An East Indian expression meaning "Just a Moment"). In 1965, Beverly Du Gas left her job as director of the School of Nursing at the Vancouver General Hospital, and traveled halfway around the world to India. She had accepted an assignment with the World Health Organization to set up educational programs for nursing in northern India.

Her two year assignment was filled with many adventures, not the least of which included a war between India and Pakistan, as well as personal insights into life in India.

This book consists of a collection of short stories of her time in India and provides insights into the fabric of Indian life,

together with trials and tribulations of an ex-patriot educator.

Her receiving the Order of British Columbia in 1999, and the Order of Canada in 2002, recognized Beverly's contributions to nursing education at home and abroad.

AIK Minute was initially intended for family only, but is being made available to those interested in purchasing a copy for \$15. Once printing costs are recovered, all proceeds will go to the B.C. History of Nursing Archival Fund. If you wish to purchase a copy, please provide your name and mailing address information to Dr. Dugas. Please add \$1.50 for postage and shipping and handling.

Dr. B. M. Dugas
Suite 105
1345-56th Street
Delta, BC V4L 2P9

National nursing study releases new research, prepares for government consultations

As it heads into the final months of its research phase, Canada's landmark national nursing study has just released a new research report, will issue several others this year, and is preparing for discussions with provincial and territorial governments.

Launched in 2002, ***Building the Future: An integrated strategy for nursing human resources in Canada*** is the first national study led by all of the country's nursing stakeholder groups. Its overriding goal is to develop integrated labour market strategies for Canada's Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Registered Nurses (RNs),

and Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPNs).

Phase one of the study comprises in-depth research to gather current, detailed information on all aspects of the nursing labour market. Phase two will involve consultations with stakeholder groups to achieve consensus on the key issues and the strategies to resolve them.

The study's achievements so far include numerous focus groups with student nurses and union activists across the country, and in-depth surveys of LPNs, RNs, RPNs, senior nurses, nursing schools, and nursing employers across Canada on a full spectrum of human resources issues.

Most recently, the study's research team released *Mobility of Nurses in Canada*, a report that examines the inter-jurisdictional migration of the three regulated nursing professions over the past decade. While it identifies several broad patterns, the report emphasizes that Canada lacks consistent, reliable data about nurses' mobility and calls for: coordinated, national collection of accurate informa-

tion on all three regulated nursing professions, and; adoption of a unique, lifetime identifier to reliably track nurses throughout their careers and support a database for workforce projections and planning.

Continued on next page

This report follows *The International Nursing Labour Market*, released in March 2004, which recommended various strategies for national and international collaboration to recreate global nursing capacity.

Upcoming reports will include a review of nursing education and an assessment of capacity; analysis of how changing health care needs contribute to changing patterns of nursing care delivery; and analysis and review of immigration and emigration trends.

Early in 2005, the study's research phase

will conclude with a final, overarching report that integrates the key challenges and recommendations of all aspects of the research. Then, launch phase two will begin: in-depth consultations with nursing stakeholders across Canada to achieve consensus on the issues and develop viable strategies and solutions. However, before launching this phase, this study's steering committee will consult with all provincial and territorial jurisdictions to obtain their input on the research findings and their commitment to being involved in strategy development.

The perspectives of all nursing stakeholders are valuable and we appreciate the contributions many of you have already made to the study. *Building the Future* urges you to participate in the next phase, as stakeholders collaborate to ensure an adequate supply of nurses to meet the future health care needs of Canadians.

For more information about *Building the Future*, or to contact us, please visit our Web site at www.buildingthefuture.ca.

Revue critique

Auteure : Madeleine Morgan

Titre : La colère des douces. La grève des infirmières de l'hôpital Sainte-Justine en 1963, (Confédération des syndicats nationaux), 2003.

Ex-présidente de l'Alliance des infirmières de Montréal, syndicat affilié à la Confédération des syndicats nationaux, l'auteure situe dans son contexte global du développement du syndicalisme au Québec l'histoire de la grève des infirmières de l'hôpital Sainte-Justine de 1963. Avec un recul de 40 ans, elle décrit avec rigueur les circonstances qui ont poussé les 264 infirmières de cet hôpital à déclencher une grève illégale le 16 octobre 1963 pour obtenir une première convention collective; cette grève a duré un mois. Cet ouvrage constitue une contribution importante à l'histoire du nursing au Canada à plus d'un égard. L'auteure, en plus de s'appuyer sur une variété de sources pertinentes, nous révèle des éléments d'information que seuls les acteurs directs au premier plan de cette grève pouvaient détenir; le récit de la solution du conflit est particulièrement intéressant. La colère des douces est également une référence précieuse pour comprendre comment s'est effectuée, au Québec, la transition entre l'époque où les services de santé et les services sociaux étaient pris en charge par des communautés religieuses ou des organisations charitables et celle de la Révolution tranquille où l'État a commencé à garantir un financement des services conditionnel à l'introduction de contrôles administratifs et de normes porteuses d'un changement radical des mentalités. La seule faiblesse de cet ouvrage est le chapitre qui se veut un bref historique de la profession d'infirmière au Québec dans lequel l'auteure reprend des clichés malheureusement tenaces sur les soins et les soignantes.

American Association for the History of Nursing Conference: September 30 - October 3, 2004

Carol Helmstadter

The AAHN held its conference this year in Charleston, South Carolina. Approximately 120 persons attended the conference and there was a pre-conference workshop on archives chaired by Anne-Marie Rafferty who, as always, had a great many very helpful things to say. Joan Lynaugh, the keynote speaker, addressed the issue of *The First Hundred Years of Nursing Education in America*, pointing out how nursing education continually changes in response to changes in society. She traced the development of training from the *learn as you work* approach of the nineteenth century when nurse leaders were trying to consolidate their authority to the development of a professional culture in the universities when the focus on teaching nurses and standardizing curricula switched to nursing itself. There were six posters, one by our own Fran Gregor on the St. John's Ambulance Association, and a total of 18 papers. The papers ranged from military nursing, to nursing ethics, nursing leadership and the impact of feminism on nursing.

Charleston, of course, is a wonderful tourist city. There was a lovely walking tour around the historic part of Charleston, tours of ante-bellum homes and some fabulous gardens, and horse carriage rides. As well, the Hunley, the Civil War submarine which was the first operational submarine and the first to sink a ship, was on display in its preservation tank in the old Navy Yard. It all made for a most enjoyable conference.

Georgea Powell

Patricia Winans

The following article is the second in a series of vignettes made available to the editors of the CAHN Newsletter through the generosity of the authors and Dianne Dodd. These vignettes were originally submitted for the upcoming History of Nursing book being published in conjunction with the exhibit at the Museum of Civilization. More vignettes were received than space allowed and so, at Dianne's suggestion and with the author's permission, they are being published here.

Collecting her few belongings, Georgea Powell stepped from the deck of the Anglian onto the wharf at Dawson, Yukon. Her clothes were threadbare and her boots, which were supposed to have lasted three years, were worn out. It was early August, 1898. Gold rush fever had brought thousands to Dawson and the Yukon to seek their fortunes. Dawson was in the midst of a severe outbreak of typhoid fever, and Georgea Powell, Lady Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses, appointed to work in the Yukon district, was asked to come and help.

With three other nurses, the original plan was to establish district nursing. Lacking local financial support, her attempts were not successful. However, the outstanding nursing care that she and her peers gave to the people of Dawson, and to those along the way as they traveled through unorganized territory in British Columbia and the Yukon, brought national attention and support for the newly organized VON.

Born in Bouctouche, New Brunswick, Georgea Powell (1857-1925) graduated from the Waltham Training School for

Nurses in 1895. Her education and experience in district nursing in Waltham, Massachusetts made her ideal candidate for the VON. She continued to nurse privately in Dawson, until 1904, then married North West Mounted Police staff sergeant George Bates. After his death, Georgea Powell Bates was recruited to accept the position of Matron at the Edmonton Children's Shelter (1912-1918).

Reference: Winans, P. (2000). *Shalom: Releasing pioneer Canadian nurse Georgea Powell from anonymity*. Unpublished master's thesis, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, NB.

Book Review – *Out of the Ivory Tower: Feminist Research for Social Change*

Edited by Andrea Martinez and Meryn Stuart, Sumach Press. Pages 312.

Reviewed by Janet Beaton

This anthology consists of a series of essays primarily by feminist scholars who are associated with University of Ottawa's Institute of Women's Studies. The result is a rich collection of interdisciplinary perspectives on a wide range of topics related to women's relationships to their bodies, history, public and private spaces and new technologies.

The book is divided into four thematic sections: *Recovering Histories and Meanings*; *The Language of Sexuality: 'Negotiating' the Female Body*; *Shaping Equity for Women in Public Spaces*; and *The Intersection of Gender, Class, Language and Ethnicity in Cyberspace*. These themes are elucidated through papers that explore issues of gender, race, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language and age using a variety of methodological approaches and feminist theoretical orientations.

What emerges is an intriguing and inspiring demonstration of the importance and power of feminist analysis, particularly

when it is approached from a multi-disciplinary perspective. *Out of the Ivory Tower* delivers on the message of its title in that it represents a solid and successful attempt to move feminist knowledge and discourse beyond the walls of academia, to create connections between women, time and space and to situate feminist issues in a social, political, and historical context.

Of particular interest to members of CAHN will be the paper by Cynthia Toman entitled "*An Officer and a Lady*": *Shaping the Canadian Military Nurse, 1939-1945*. As the name of her paper implies, Toman's essay describes the social mechanisms by which Canadian nurses who enlisted in the armed services during the Second World War were shaped to conform to the appearance and behavior deemed appropriate by the military for female nursing officers. Toman adds depth to her discussion through a detailed analysis of the socio-demographic characteristics of Canada's Nursing Sisters, demonstrating

that the military's image of what constituted the "right kind" of nurse was similar to that of the civilian Canadian nursing programs of the 30's and 40's described by Kate McPherson in *Bedside Matters*.

Militarization of civilian nurses was fostered through the mechanisms of rank and uniforms, two strategies, which as Toman points out, were at once highly visible and gendered.

Toman's analysis of the how gender and class structured the rank accorded Nursing Sister's is fascinating and illuminates how the power, privilege and status of male officers was preserved while at the same time ensuring that the standards of behaviour befitting a lady were enforced. In this thought-provoking paper, Toman challenges the reader to reflect on the experience of Nursing Sisters from a new perspective, one enlightened by feminist analysis and a focus on the gender-mediated interface between rank and role in the Canadian military during the Second World War.

CAHN/ACHN Annual Conference and Exhibit Opening – Nursing: The Caring Profession

Ottawa, June 16-19, 2005

The annual meeting of CAHN/ACHN will be held in Ottawa at the Library and Archives of Canada in conjunction with the opening of the Museum of Civilization's exhibit: *Nursing: The Caring Profession*. CAHN/ACHN encourages groups and individuals to sponsor a student to this historic event.

The meeting will open Thursday evening, June 16th with a reception celebrating the opening of the exhibit at the Museum of Civilization. During the conference there will be an opportunity to view the exhibition, visit the Archives which is the new

repository of all the CNA files, as well as attend presentations of papers related to our history.

The theme of the conference will be *Nursing History Collections: Technology and Nursing* and, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of our professional journal, second theme *The Canadian Nurse and Canadian Nursing*. Other topics related to our history will also be presented.

The keynote speaker will be Margarete Sandelowski author of *Devices and Desires: Gender, Technology and American Nursing*,

University of North Carolina Press: Chapel Hill, 2000. The topic of her lecture is: *Making Matter Mean: The Material World of the Nurse*.

At our banquet on Friday evening, Tina Bates, curator of the exhibit, will speak about producing the exhibit and the book of readings on *Canadian Nursing History* compiled by Tina, Dianne Dodd and Nicole Rousseau.

For more information visit: www.ualberta.ca/~jhibberd/CAHN/ACHN

Conférence Annuelle du CAHN/ACHN et L'ouverture de l'exposition: Le Nursing, La Tendre Profession

Ottawa, du 16 au 19 juin, 2005

La réunion annuelle du CAHN/ACHN, aura lieu à Ottawa, à la Bibliothèque & Archives Nationales du Canada.

CAHN/ACHN encouragent les groupes & individus à commanditer un étudiant afin de visiter cet événement historique.

La réunion débute le jeudi soir, le 16 juin, avec une réception fêtant l'ouverture de l'exposition au Musée de la Civilisation. Durant la conférence, vous aurez l'occasion de visiter l'exposition et les Archives où se trouve le nouveau dépositaire des dossiers CAHN/ACHN, ainsi que la possibilité

d'assister aux présentations de journaux reliés à notre histoire.

Le thème de la conférence: Les Collections Historiques du Nursing, le Nursing et la Technologie, célébrant le 100^{ième} anniversaire de notre journal professionnel; Deuxième thème: L'Infirmière Canadienne & le Nursing Canadien. D'autres sujets reliés à notre histoire seront également présentés.

Le conférencier primaire est Margarete Sandelowski, auteur de "Devices & Desires: Gender, Technology and American Nurs-

ing." University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill 2000. Son sujet: "Donnez de l'Importance au Monde Matériel de L'Infirmière."

A notre banquet du vendredi soir, Tina Bates, le Directeur de l'exposition, parlera de son expérience à assembler cette exposition, ainsi que celle de composer un livre pour cet événement, en collaboration avec Dianne Dodd et Nicole Rousseau.

Pour plus d'amples informations, visitez notre site web: www.ualberta.ca/~jhibberd/CAHN/ACHN

Conferences and Calls for Papers

Call for Abstracts

The annual meeting of CAHN/ACHN will be held in Ottawa, June 16-19, 2005 at the Library and Archives of Canada in conjunction with the Museum of Civilization's exhibit: *Nursing: The Caring Profession*.

Conference themes are: *Nursing History Collections: Technology and Nursing* and *The*

Canadian Nurse and Canadian Nursing. Other topics related to nursing history are welcome.

Abstracts should include the title of the paper, purpose, rationale and significance of the research, description of methods, identification of sources, findings and conclusions. Text must not exceed 350 words.

Abstract must be typed, single-spaced with a margin of one and one half inches on both sides. Abstracts can be submitted in both English and French.

Submit *four* copies. *One* copy must include author's name, address, affiliation, phone number and e-mail address. The individual submitting is responsible for confirming

Dissertation Abstract

Nursing Student Labour, Education, and Patient Care at the Medicine Hat General Hospital, 1890-1930

Florence Melchior

Beliefs about “nursing students as cheap labour” and the exploitive nature of the “apprenticeship model” of nursing education have endured in Canada since the beginning of the twentieth-century. George Weir first concluded, in 1932, that it was almost twice as expensive to staff with students than a smaller but more efficient graduated nursing staff. This thesis concludes, through an historical analysis in the localized context of Medicine Hat General Hospital in Alberta, Canada, that student labour was not cheap. Additionally, Weir’s estimates were conservative given the costs related to maintenance, instruction, graduation, and illness care. The continuation of the belief that hospitals staffed with students because it was cheap, rather than an examination of the more exploitive and oppressive reasons of malleable and submissive students, is tied to gendered notions of ethnicity, class, and professionalism.

The analysis also led to insights about the everyday labour experience of nursing students as they negotiated the incongruity between the reality of waged “un-dainty,” and sometimes dangerous, nursing work and the expected character of the ideal middle-class White British Protestant woman. Nursing labour, which was the larger part of nursing education in most schools of the time, developed in a cultural context that de-valued the work of women. The inseparability of class and gender, and their effects on women’s and nursing work, was probably not perceived by nursing leaders. Their focus on character rather than knowledge and skill further de-valued the unique work of nursing.

Conferences and Calls for Papers, continued

that it has been received. Abstracts must be received *before January 21st, 2005* and *be submitted by e-mail* to Judith Young at: judithy@primus.ca.

Un appel pour vos résumés

La réunion annuelle du CAHN/ACHN aura lieu à Ottawa, du 16 au 19 juin, 2005, en conjonction avec l'exposition du Musée de la Civilisation "Le Nursing: La Tendre Profession".

Les thèmes de la conférence sont: Les Collections Historiques du Nursing, le Nursing et la Technologies, L'Infirmière Canadienne & le Nursing Canadien. D'autres sujets apparentés à l'histoire du Nursing seront les bienvenus.

Les résumés doivent comprendre le titre du journal, l'usage, la raison, la signification de la recherche, la méthodologie, l'identification des sources, les résultats et conclusions. Le texte ne doit pas comprendre plus de 350 mots.

Les résumés doivent être dactylographiés à espace simple, avec une marge d'un pouce & demi de chaque côté. Les résumés peuvent être soumis en anglais & (ou) en français.

Soumettez 4 copies. Une de ces copies doit comprendre le nom, l'adresse postale, le numéro de téléphone et l'adresse électronique de l'auteur. L'individu qui soumet ce résumé est responsable de la confirmation de réception. Ces résumés doivent être reçus par la poste, avant le 21 janvier, 2005, et adressés les à:

Judith Young
355 Millwood Road
Toronto, ONM4S 1J9

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2005 CSHM Annual Conference: Call for Papers/ 2005 Congrès Annuel de la SCHM: Appel de

Communications

The Canadian Society for the History of Medicine is issuing a call for papers for its annual conference at the University of Western Ontario on June 3 to June 5, 2005. The theme of the 2005 Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities will be PARADOXES OF CITIZENSHIP: ENVIRONMENTS, EXCLUSIONS, EQUITY.

Abstracts on other topics are also welcome. Please submit your abstract and one-page c.v. for consideration by 12 November 2004 to:

Shelley McKellar
CSHM Program Chair
Department of History, SSC 4424
University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario, Canada N6A 5C2
Tel: (519) 661-2111 ext.84990 Fax: (519) 661-3010
Email: smckell@uwo.ca

Abstracts must not exceed 350 words. Submissions by email are welcome. If submitting abstracts by mail, please send one original and 3 copies, typed single-spaced on one sheet of paper. The Committee will notify applicants of its decision by January 14, 2005. N.B. If invited to present at the meeting, the author must undertake to provide a translation of the abstract for the bilingual program book.

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Cultural and Historical Perspectives on Nursing and Ethics: Listening to Each Other

Pre-ICN Workshop Conference, Taipei, Taiwan, 19 May 2005. Organized by Nursing Ethics and International Centre for Nursing Ethics. Cost GBP55. E-mail: vtschudin@fastnet.co.uk

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Call for Abstracts: American Association for the History of Nursing 22nd Annual Conference

Atlanta, GA: September 23 - 25, 2005

Guidelines for Submission: Abstracts will be accepted by mail or e-mail. If submitting by mail, please send six copies of your abstract. One copy must state complete title, author(s), address, institutional affiliation, phone number/e-mail address/fax number, and indicate whether it is for a paper, poster or panel presentation. If more than one author is listed, indicate who is the contact person. Five copies should state the title, but no further identifying data. See below for electronic submission.

Abstracts must include: Purpose of study, rationale and significance, description of methodology, identification of major primary and secondary sources, findings and conclusions. Each section of the abstract should be clearly identified. Abstracts will be selected on the basis of merit through blind review.

Abstract preparation: Margins must be one and one-half inches on left, and one inch on right, top and bottom. Center the title in upper case, and single-space the body using 12 point Times (New Roman) font. Use only one side of one 8.5"x 11" paper. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the abstract. (Non-U.S. submissions may omit the postage requirement.) Accepted abstracts will be printed as submitted in the conference program.

Abstracts must arrive on or before January 15, 2005. Late abstracts will not be reviewed. Mail to:
Barbara Brodie RN, PhD, FAAN
Chair, Abstract Review Committee
103 Surrey Road
Charlottesville VA 22901-2223

For e-mail submission: Save in a MS Word file using your surname as the file name

Alena Jean McMaster

Patricia Winans

The following article is the third in a series of vignettes made available to the editors of the CAHN Newsletter through the generosity of the authors and Dianne Dodd.

Alena Jean McMaster (1884-1976) began her nursing career in 1909 as one of the first graduates of The Moncton Hospital. After gaining valuable experiences and expanding her educational horizons in the United States, she returned to Moncton in 1919.

Appointed as Superintendent and Director of Nursing at the Moncton Hospital (1919-1947), Miss McMaster played many roles. She was a visionary, an administrator, a teacher, a professional activist, and a community advocate. Through her many efforts

laboratory services for public health both venereal disease and tuberculosis clinics were established in Moncton as early as 1922.

McMaster ensured the quality of nursing education at the nursing school by consistently modifying the curriculum to conform to societal needs. In 1920, she began clinical affiliation programs with other hospitals in Canada and the United States for the student nurses. Dedicated to the practice of nursing, McMaster organized a Moncton chapter of the NBAGN, and later in 1926, was president of the provincial organization. She also served in various capacities with the CNA.

Concerned during the 1930's that the health of the working poor in Moncton was being neglected because they couldn't pay for the health services, McMaster began a personal campaign to initiate group hospital

insurance. Her dream became a reality in 1937 with the Moncton Group Hospitalization Plan. McMaster's version was for the The Moncton Hospital to provide the best health care possible for the citizens of Moncton. She believed this would happen if the public became involved in the hospital's affairs. She saw her responsibility as the Administrator to set an example of the dedication to the hospital for the community to follow. McMaster involved herself in the Moncton Hospital Ladies Aid, Nurses' Hospital Aid, and many other local groups and organizations to bring the hospital to the community.

Reference: Gautreau, G., & Winans-Orr, P. (1994). *The life and times of Miss Alena Jean McMaster, R. N.* Sackville, NB: Tribune Press.

Conferences and Calls for Papers, continued

(e.g. Smith.doc). This file should consist of the cover page with identifying information as well as the abstract with no identifying information. The completed abstract can then be sent by e-mail as an attachment to: BB9w@virginia.edu.

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Hannah 2005 Nursing History Conference: Identities, Diversity, and Canadian Nursing History 15- 16 June 2005

University of Ottawa School of Nursing
Main Campus, Ottawa, ON

This AMS-sponsored conference is the first-ever, invited event to focus specifically on Canadian nursing history, and it draws together a broad range of productive scholars who are working in the field today. The invited speakers include internationally-recognized Canadian nursing history experts, established and new scholars, and graduate students. Together they represent the wide diversity found in the field of Canadian nursing history who

are investigating the broad category of nursing work and ideology within a variety of settings and contexts.

Based on the theme Identities, Diversity, and Canadian Nursing History, we will explore the following questions:

- * What is the state of knowledge accumulated to date in Canada?
- * What kinds of work have been identified historically as "nursing"?
- * What approaches, sources, and categories of analysis are being used?
- * What are current foci for the study of nursing history?

Invited presenters include internationally-recognized Canadian nursing history experts, established and new scholars, and graduate students.

For details about the program, registration forms, accommodations, and the Canadian Museum of Civilization Exhibit opening, please visit their website at: www.health.uottawa.ca/hannah.htm

Continued from page 4

over fifty years of research into a single volume, providing an overview of the state of nursing history at the beginning of the twenty-first century.

Many CAHN members have given their valuable time and expertise to the realization of these projects. I extend an invitation to all CAHN members to come to the opening of the exhibition and book launch, 16 June, 2005, which will coincide with the CAHN annual conference. The exhibition will also be on display at the Canadian Museum of Civilization until September 2006.

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