

Canadian Association for the History of Nursing

Association canadienne pour l'histoire du nursing

Newsletter

Volume 15, Number 1, Spring 2002

Canadian Nursing Historical Collection Update (CNHC)

Thanks to the ongoing efforts of Janet Cater and the CNF, the Historical Foundation awarded \$10,000.00 to support some of the work needed

to be completed during the transition of the CNHC to the National Archives, Museum of Civilization, and War Museum. The grant will be transferred in 3 installments over the course of the next year. Of course, fundraising is ongoing and the members of the Archive Advisory Committee are working on this.

The Advisory Committee continues to meet regularly in Ottawa and although I am not attending these meetings, I am 'in-the-loop'. The files at the National Archives are gradually becoming accessible on the web and will be on their site by the end of June. A presentation will be made by Advisory committee members about the CNHC at the CNF luncheon during the CNA's biennium. This 'Lunch-and-Learn' session will be accompanied by a small exhibit so should be very interesting.

The year 2005 continues to be the goal for the principal exhibit and the themes are being developed 'as I write'. The ambassadors for the CNHC fundraising campaign are:

Joan Gilchrist (ON) Genevieve MacDonald (PEI)

Dr. Phyllis Giovanetti (AB) Pertice Moffitt (NWT)

Helen Glass (MB) Pat Mohr (ON)

Becky Gosbee (PEI) Dr. Helen K. Mussallem (ON)

Betty Gourlay (AB)
Dr. Frances Gregor (NS)
Barbara Keddy (NS)
Judith Ritchie (PQ)
Hallie Sloan (ON)
Dr. Shirley Stinson (AB)

Lily Krause (SK) Janet Story (NF)

Congratulations and thanks to all of them!

On another note, Tina Bates (Museum of Civilization) tells me that the nursing history artifacts in her facility represent 220 schools of nursing across Canada. In order to bring depth and life to the collection, Tina would like a mini-history of each school. The task at hand, therefore, is to find interested individuals to write these brief histories. I have the list and it is far too long to publish in the newsletter however, if any readers of this newsletter would like more information, please contact me at any of the following addresses:

Diana Mansell - #19, 1420 - 9th Ave. S.E. Calgary, AB T2G 0T5 Ph./Fax - (403) 289-3194 e-mail - djmansel@ucalgary.ca Web - www.damsellconsulting.com

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Committee News

Call for Nominations: CAHN/ ACHN Executive positions

Membership Committee - Chair and 1 member(2 yrs)

Please Consider Volunteering!

UK Centre for the History of Nursing

Seminar Papers Delivered 2000-01

In the academic year 2000-02, the UK Centre for the History of Nursing hosted four seminars in different parts of the United Kingdom. The papers delivered at these seminars will be available on the UKCHN website:

www.qmuc.ac.uk/hn/history/papers.html.

The first paper is available now and the others will follow shortly.

Professor Shula Marks

The Gender Dilemma in Nursing History: The Case of the South African Mine Hospitals

Seminar delivered in Oxford Brookes University, December 2000.

Professor Anne Crowther

Why Women Should be Nurses and Not Doctors-Some Nineteenth Century Reflections

Seminar delivered in the University of Glasgow, January 2001.

Dr. Hilary Marland

The Restoration of the Mother: Women, Doctors and Puerperal Insanity in the 19th Century

Seminar delivered in the University of Manchester, March 2001.

Dr. Ann Marie Rafferty

History and the End of Professionalism in Nursing

Seminar delivered in the Royal College of Nursing, July 2001.

Profile of a Leader: Caroline Wellwood: Pragmatic Visionary

Janet Beaton and Marion McKay

Paluating the accomplishments of early missionary nursing leaders is no simple task. It is difficult to remember that they were a product of their times, not ours. The error of reading history backwards - that is, of evaluating their ideas and accomplishments within a contemporary context - creates the risk of minimizing or even overlooking their contributions to the profession. In the case of Carolyn Wellwood, understanding the context within which she worked creates a deepened understanding for the accomplishments of this pragmatic visionary.

Two powerful social forces, the social gospel movement and maternal feminism, influenced Wellwood's early years. The social gospel movement arose as a response to profound changes in Western society during the midto-late nineteenth century (Allen, 1966; Allan, 1973; Christie, 1990; Cook, 1985). The proposed solution, the 'Achievement of God's Kingdom in this Generation', created a complex and dynamic global evangelical movement (Christie & Gauvreau, 1996; Hill, 1985; Merkley, 1987). Mainstream Protestant churches, in particular, the Methodist church, played a dominant role in these efforts (Gorrell, 1988).

Evangelical Protestantism provided opportunities for women to move into professional careers such as medicine, social work and nursing. This development was supported by both the Methodist and Presbyterian Missionary Societies, who quickly learned that the women they sent to work in missions at home and abroad needed professional preparation for their work (Hall, 1986). Even though most women missionaries were from modest middle-class backgrounds, they nonetheless, for the time, constituted a female educational elite. The mission field widened the scope of employment opportunities available to well-educated women, while the role of female missionary offered both respect and a challenging career option to spinsters. The women's foreign missionary movement created a socially sanctioned sphere of action in which talents for administration and organization could be exercised outside the home and in which women who sought meaning in life beyond marriage and family could find an outlet for their ambition and energy (Brouwer, 1990).

The women's foreign missionary societies of Canada, Great Britain and the United Stated held goals consistent with maternal feminists, who believed that women were uniquely suited to the moral reform of society. They focused primarily on the plight of women and children, and established educational, health and social programs to assist them. (Semple, 1996; Flanagan, 1990). In foreign missionary work, the strategy to both convert families to the Christian faith, and to improve the health and social status of women and children was operationalized through 'Woman's Work for Woman'.

'Woman's Work for Woman' was based on a maternalistic, albeit idealistic, belief that non-Christian religions trapped and degraded women ... [it] aimed to put into place instruments of education, medical work and evangelization that would 'raise' women to the status they presumably held in Christian countries. (Robert, 1996, p. 133)

The cultural imperialism implicit in such endeavours may create a sense

of discomfort for contemporary nurses steeped in the ideology of transcultural nursing. However, 'Woman's Work for Woman' has been identified as a positive legacy of Protestant missionary work, even in countries which remained non-Christian. (Hill, 1985; Robert, 1996).

Caroline Wellwood, like many of her missionary sisters, came from rural southern Ontario (Gagan, 1990). Born in Fodyce, Ontario about 1873, for most of her life, she considered Wingham, Ontario her home. Little is known of Caroline Wellwood's early life, but by her mid-twenties, she had responded to the great missionary crusade of the late 19th and early 20th century and embarked on preparations for service as a medical missionary. Like many determined and independent minded young women of her time, she chose to pursue nurse's training in the United States (Gagan, 1992). In 1902, she graduated form the National Training School for Missionaries and Deaconesses in Washington DC. Her preparation included two years of nursing training at Sibley Memorial Hospital and one year of Bible College in Philadelphia. Following graduation, she served as a deaconess to a medical mission in Boston and was head nurse at the Boston Talitha Cumi Maternity Hospital operated by the New England Moral Reform Society. Representing an extreme wing of the American Protestant movement known as the Second Great Awakening, members of the Moral Reform Society believed in social action as a moral imperative and, in particular, conducted a vigorous crusade against the double standards of a male-dominated society (Rosenberg, 1971). Indignation against the subordination of women remained a compelling force throughout Caroline Wellwood's missionary career.

In 1906, at the age of 33, Wellwood was accepted as a candidate for the West China Mission by the Canadian Methodist Woman's Missionary Society [WMS]. Reaching the Mission in Chengdu involved a long and arduous journey. Caroline Wellwood sailed from Victoria on the Empress of China on Nov. 27th, 1906 and did not arrive in Chengdu until the following Spring in April 1907. Her initial appointment was to the Jenny Ford Orphanage, named in honour of another Canadian missionary nurse who died in China in 1897. In addition, she began studies in Chinese, a language in which she became fluently proficient. It was during this time that her decision to "give her life to establishing a nursing profession in China" was formulated (Beaton, 1948).

By 1908, Caroline Wellwood was working in the WMS hospital dispensary and training two young Chinese girls as assistants. The hospital was housed in a traditional Chinese building, which limited the scope and size of its activities. Caroline Wellwood's vision was to erect a modern Western hospital to serve the women and children of Chengdu and to establish the first formal training program for nurses in that region of China.

Caroline Wellwood's leadership and administrative skills soon became apparent. She petitioned the WMS Home Board to purchase land for a new hospital and, in a relatively short time, succeeded in obtaining their support. In 1909, she was appointed Secretary Treasurer for the West China Mission, conducting all of their business affairs. In addition, she became superintendent of the old hospital, and, together with another medical missionary, Dr. Anna Henry, engaged in negotiations to secure a site for a new hospital. In 1910, she was officially appointed as 'Builder' of the new hospital.

The 1911 Chinese Revolution forced the evacuation of all missionaries from Chengdu. Caroline Wellwood returned to Canada on furlough and seized the opportunity to confer directly with the Home Board about plans for the new hospital. Prior to returning to Chengdu in the Spring of 1913, she went to New York to purchase furnishings and equipment for the hospital. Throughout her life, she would remember this as one of her most precious memories.

Back in China, Caroline Wellwood assumed her previous responsibilities. Construction of the 60 bed hospital began in earnest, and for the next two years she oversaw virtually every detail. It was a task to which she gave, in the words of the Missionary Monthly (1948), "her unflagging zeal, administrative ability, and wise supervision" (p. 74). The WMS Hospital officially opened on Sept. 16, 1915 and served the women and children of Chengdu as their sole centre for medical care and treatment for twenty-five years.

With the completion of the hospital, Caroline Wellwood was free to focus on her second goal of founding a training school for nurses. Chinese nursing was in its infancy. The Chinese word for nurse, "hushih", did not exist until its invention and introduction by the Nurses Association of China in 1914 (Chen, 1996). Considerable powers of persuasion were required to convince parents that nursing was a respectable career for young Chinese women. However, Wellwood persevered and in 1918 the first class of four students graduated from a three year diploma program. Few teaching resources were available in Mandarin, so Caroline Wellwood translated available English textbooks and wrote new

nursing textbooks. These remained in use for the next thirty years. A proponent of high standards, she was eager to having the nursing program attain national standing through registration with the Nurses' Association of China. Registration meant that students were entitled to write the examinations of the Association and would be recognized as graduate nurses anywhere in China (Asson, 1922). In 1920, she achieved her goal.

In addition to nursing, Caroline Wellwood had other interests consistent with her lifelong concern with women's education and their right to social and economic independence. During the mid 1920's she worked as an evangelist and established a school for Chinese women. Her own words provide insight into the strength of her beliefs:

Heretofore there has seemed to be only one avenue open to womenthat of gaining a husband who would be responsible for her support...many, many lives, with minds and personalities capable of being developed, have been sacrificed on this alter...The numbers of women who seek an avenue of escape are many, and...who have a dream that by gaining an education they might become self-supporting, and thus be freed from slavery of both body and soul. (Wellwood, 1926, p. 627).

In the late 1920s she returned to work in the Hospital for Women and Children, supervising in the delivery room, teaching in the nursing school, overseeing expansion of the hospital facilities, and serving as hospital treasurer. After a furlough in 1935, she returned to China to take up evangelistic work again, this time in Chungking. The city was crowded with refugees fleeing the Japanese occupation of eastern China. Seeing their desper-

ate need, Caroline Wellwood took charge and established a hostel for refugees in a vacated mission school. Although in failing health, she still found the time and energy to supervise building of the Nurse's Home for the Mission hospital in Chungking. In 1939, after several serious falls, she was literally ordered back to Chengdu by mission authorities. Here she again worked in the Hospital for Women and Children until its destruction by fire on the night of May 4th, 1940. This event, in her own words, left her "dazed, confused, and almost without heart to start again" (Wellwood, 1941).

In characteristic fashion however, Caroline Wellwood once again took charge. She became Superintendent of the WMS Hospital which was temporarily housed in a mission girl's school until it could move to a permanent location as part of the new University Hospital on the campus of West China Union University. As one of her last acts on behalf of nursing education. Caroline Wellwood served on a committee to establish a baccalaureate program in nursing at University Hospital. Under the leadership of her protegee, Cora Kilborn, the baccalaureate program in nursing enrolled its first students in 1946. Caroline Wellwood retired in 1942 after thirty-eight years of service as a WMS missionary. The trip home through a war-torn world took almost 10 months. She died in 1947 in her seventy-fourth year.

In China, she was greatly missed. A scholarship was established in her name and the new School of Nursing Building on the university campus was named the Wellwood Memorial Building in her honour. Her greatest legacy, however, was her students, many of whole went on to serve nursing in leadership positions in China. The nursing program she established survives

to this day. A natural leader with the gift of humor and a passionate ability to make vision reality, she was happiest in the mainstream of activity, working toward concrete goals, supervising the erection of buildings, and pursuing her dream of uplifting Chinese womanhood. She is, to this day, best remembered by her Chinese name of Mai Shu Ying and respected for her high standards, personal goodness and inspired leadership.

Author's note:

The primary sources used in developing this article were drawn from annual reports and minutes of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist (later the United) Church of Canada located in the archives of the United Church of Canada, Victoria University, University of Toronto.

The authors also wish to acknowledge the work of Dr. Ina Bramadat for her collaboration in the collection of some of the primary source material used in this article.

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Lt. Col. (retired RCAMC) Harriet (Hallie) J.T. Sloan: CAHN nomination for the Jeanne Mance Award 2002 by Cynthia Toman

*allie Sloan's nursing career has spanned 40 years with major roles in two areas: the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (later the Canadian Armed Forces Medical Service), and the Canadian Nurses Association. A 1940 graduate of Vancouver General Hospital (BN McGill, 1958), she served as a Nursing Sister in Canada, England, France, Belgium and Holland (1942-46) during the Second World War. She was Command Matron with NATO forces in Germany (1953), Command Matron Canadian Western Command (1954-56) and Canadian Forces Medical Services Training Centre (1959), Major Principle Matron (1960), and Matron-in-Chief Canadian Forces Medical Services (1964-68). Hallie's military honours include: The 1939-45 Star, the France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, the Canadian Voluntary Service Medal and clasp, the War Medal, the Canadian Forces Decoration, and the NATO medal. She is the recipient of the Governor General's Commemorative Award in recognition of significant contribution to compatriots, community, and to Canada. She holds distinction as Commander of the Order of St John. Most recently, she was made Patron of CNA's Light the Lamp campaign.

Alarge part of Hallie's career has involved advocating for and implementing changes to military nursing. She worked at improving the conditions in which nurses served, particularly in isolated areas (such as the vast network of radar stations in the far north) where often one nurse served as the only health care provider for the station and the community. She traveled widely to visit these nurses, and to problem-solve both personnel and practice issues. She was responsible for evaluating their practice and the care provided, as well as recommending nurses for educational courses to help them advance their skills and knowledge. Whole communities around these military postings were dependent on these nurses for health care – civilians as well as military personnel. Her expertise and organizational skills were critical supports for these isolated nurses who in turn, delivered both preventive and episodic care to the small communities of northern Canada.

At Camp Borden (the training headquarters for the Canadian Forces Medical Services), Hallie was responsible for developing the curriculum and training of medical assistants, from the late 1940s until she moved to the Surgeon General's Office in Ottawa. Hallie worked closely with these predominantly male assistants--aware of their potential as nurses in a female-dominated profession. When she became Matron-in-Chief of the Canadian Forces Medical Services, she advocated with the Minister of National Defence for the admission of male nurses into the Armed Forces—albeit unsuccessfully during her administration.

On retirement from the military in 1968, Hallie continued serving her profession at CNA as liaison for the ICN World Congress in Montreal (1969). Following the congress, she coordinated various CNA standing committees. Hallie was responsible for verifying credentials, making appropriate placements, and supervision of the Nursing Abroad Programme (involving both Canadian nurses who wanted to practice in an international setting and non-Canadian nurses who wanted to practice in Canada). She also coordinated

the National Nursing Administration programme (sponsored by CNA and the Canadian Hospital Association) whereby nurses across Canada could complete postgraduate courses in nursing administration through distance education. In the early 1980s, Hallie served as secretary of the Canadian Nurses Foundation.

One of Hallie's most significant contributions has been her leadership within the Nursing Sisters Association of Canada. She has been the primary spokesperson and organizer for the association over the years even when she was not the serving president. Largely through her efforts, the NSAC continues to link these nurses to each other, to support and introduce young people to the potential for military nursing as a career, and to represent military nurses to the public. She has represented Canadian Nursing Sisters and

Canadian nurses at innumerable Remembrance Day ceremonies in Ottawa and on official pilgrimages to WWII war sites such as Burma, Singapore and Japan.

Hallie is particularly interested in young people and frequently goes into classrooms, Girl Guide meetings, and museum programs to represent both nursing and military nursing to them. She is a very popular and welcome guest. She is a Friend of the Canadian War Museum (a volunteer who supports and participates in public programs related to her WWII nursing experiences). In this capacity, she has been extremely successful in making nursing visible within the predominantly male military setting. Without her presence there, this part of nursing history could easily have been lost. Hallie has been interviewed numerous times for national radio. television, and video productions related to her roles in nursing, in the military, and in women's history. Three of the videos include: Angels of Mercy, Nurses on the Battlefield, and the Remembrance Day Town Hall Program (2000). Her experiences as a Nursing Sister have been described in two books: Lisa Bannister's Equal to the Challenge and Edith Landell's Canada's Military Nurses.

Hallie is also active with the Veterans Association of Canada, and is vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the Perley/Rideau Veterans Health Centre in Ottawa. Her publications include: Evelyn A. Pepper, Gaetane (LaBonte) Kerr, Harriet J.T. Sloan, and Margaret D. McLean, "Over There" in World War II, Canadian Nurse 62, 11 (1966): 26-32 and Harriet J.T. Sloan, Nursing in the Canadian Armed Forces, Canadian Nurse 62, 11(1966): 23. She is an enthusiastic and articulate voice for nurses to the public as well as a gracious, willing resource for everyone.

Upcoming and Recently Released Titles in the History of Nursing/Health Care

Fett, Sharon. (2002, June). Working cures: Healing, health, and power on Southern slave plantations. University of North Carolina Press.

Garrett, Laurie. (2000). *Betrayal of trust: The collapse of global public health*. New York: Hyperion.

Group, Thetis, M. & Roberts, Joan I. (2001). *Nursing, physician control, and the medical monopoly*. Indiana University Press.

Hodgson, Barbara. (2001). *In the arms of Morpheus: The tragic history of laudanum, morphine, and patent medicines.* Firefly Books.

Humphreys, Margaret. (2001). Malaria: Poverty, race, and public health in the United States. Johns

Hopkins University Press.

Kass, Amalie M. (2001). *Midwifery* and medicine in Boston: Walter Channing, M.D., 1786-1876. Northeastern University Press.

Lux, Maureen K. (2001). Medicine that walks: Disease, medicine, and the Canadian plains native people, 1880-1940. University of Toronto Press.

Minna, Alexandra & Stern, Howard (eds.) (2002, May). Formative years: Children's health in the United States, 1880-2000. University of Michigan Press.

Nelson, Sioban. (2001). Say little, do much: Nurses, nuns and hospitals in the nineteenth century. University of

Pennsylvania Press.

Robertson, R.G. (2001). Rotting face: Smallpox and the American Indian. Caxton Press.

Shah, Nayan. (2001). Contagious divides: Epidemics and race in San Francisco's Chinatown. University of California Press.

Torrey, E. Fuller & Miller, Judy. (2002). *The invisible plague: The rise of mental illness from 1750 to the present*. Rutgers University Press.

Wolf, Jacqueline H. (2001). *Don't kill your baby: Public health and the decline of breast feeding in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.* Ohio State University Press.

Call for Abstracts

American Association For History of Nursing, Inc.

Twentieth Annual History of Nursing Conference

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

September 19-21, 2003

The American Association for the History of Nursing and the School of Nursing, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee in conjunction with the Canadian Association for the History of Nursing will co-sponsor the Association's twentieth annual conference to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The conference provides a forum for sharing historical research in nursing through individual papers and poster presentations, as well as through panel presentations that address issues in historical research or other cogent topics about the history of nursing.

Guidelines for Submission: Please submit 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 which one is the contact person. Five copies should state the title, but no further identifying data. Abstracts will be selected on the basis of merit through blind review.

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.

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.) Abstracts that do not conform to the guidelines will be returned. It is suggested that abstracts be sent early so if they must be returned to the author to conform to the guidelines there will be adequate time to revise and resubmit before the deadline.

Accepted abstracts will be reproduced for conference participants.

Submission date: Abstracts must arrive on or before January 15, 2003.

Mail to: Dr. Eleanor C. Bjoring, Chair AAHN Abstract Review Committee 7400 Crestway Drive #516 San Antonio, TX 78239-3090

Upcoming Conferences & Events

Birthing and Bureaucracy: The History of Childbirth and Midwifery Friday, October 11, 2002

The School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Sheffield in collaboration with the Society for the History of Medicine and the United Kingdom Centre for the History of Nursing are hosting a conference marking the centenary of the passage of the first Midwives Act in the UK in 2002. This Act was a significant milestone in the history of midwifery, marking a fundamental change in the relationship between birth and bureaucracy.

Date: Friday, October 11, 2002

Information: JaneDurrell

j.durell@sheffield.ac.uk Conference Organizer Birthing and Bureaucracy School of Nursing and

Midwifery

University of Sheffield

Winter St. Sheffield S3 7ND

Documentation Centre for NursingHilde-Steppe-Archive

In 1995, the library of the Fachhochschule Frankfurt am Main (University of Applied Sciences) took over the archives on the history of nursing which Prof. Dr. Hilde Steppe had collected during the years in which she worked for the Berufsfortbildungswerk - BfW (Further Education Division) of the DGB (German Unions Association). This institution had a distinguished reputation in training nurse teachers and managers.

The Docmentation Centre for Nursing/Hilde-Steppe-Archive includes archived materials, books and non-book items (for example slides, films, and museum artifacts such as nursing brooches, etc.) important to German nursing history. The current focus at this time is on nursing during the Nazi era. It is hoped that it will be possible in the future to expand the collection of the Centre to include other important aspects of German and European nursing history

The tasks of the Documentation Centre include:

- · acquisition of historic materials
- · cataloguing all acquired material
- providing access to the archive for researchers, students and other interested persons
- · answering questions and giving out information

The site may be accessed a link through the United Kingdom Centre for the History of Nursing.

International Conference on the History of Polish Nursing Krakow, Poland October 11-12 2002

Nursing in the face of Endangered Values, the centenary of Hanna Chrzanowska's birth.

The conference is organised by the Institute of Nursing of the Jagiellonian University with the Polish Association of Catholic Nurses.

Hanna Chrzanowska (1902-1973) was a Polish nurse who helped set up professional nursing in Poland in the 1920s. She was a nurse educator and qualified community nurse, long-time editor of their nursing journal, and founder of the parish nursing movement in Krakow in 1958. She even spent some time in the USA on a UNRRA scholarship in 1947. Most recently she has been proposed as a candidate for sainthood. She has been declared a Servant of God, by Cardinal Macharski and her canonisation case has been sent to Rome.

The themes of the conference will be:

- · Threatened values and nursing humanism
- Professional ethics and nursing ethos
- The origins of community nursing
- The history of nurse education
- The life and times of Hanna Chrzanowska
- **All the themes except the last are general (that is, they are not specific to Poland)

You may contact the Conference organisers by e-mail at: instpiel@cm-uj.krakow.pl Dr. Gosia Brykczynska International Department of the RCN Royal College of Nursing, London

American Association History of Nursing, Inc. 19th Annual Nursing History Research Conference Salt Lake City, UT September 27-29, 2002

The American Association for the History of Nursing and Brigham Young University College of Nursing are co-sponsoring this annual conference that provides a forum for sharing historical research in nursing. The conference will include paper and poster presentations as well as other opportunities for learning and sharing historical interests.

Keynote Speaker: Marguerite Sandelowski, PhD, RN, FAAN.

See AAHN Conference on page 8...

CAHN/CSHM Conference, May 24-26

The program for our conference in May has now been finalized and we think it looks very exciting. We will be meeting at Victoria College, originally the Methodist university of the University of Toronto. Situated just off University Avenue at the top of Queen's Park opposite the Royal Ontario Museum, this period piece building, built in the 1890s, has recently been restored and renovated, and will provide a very interesting and historical site for our meetings.

This year we had so many good abstracts submitted that, even though CSHM agreed to hold concurrent sessions, we were forced to turn down some very good papers. It is gratifying to see so much good work being done in the field of nursing history but we were very sorry that we will have to miss what promised to be some extremely interesting papers. The program as it now stands covers a wide range of interests which should be very stimulating to historians of nursing. As well as the nursing papers there will be papers on the relationship between medicine and the political field, medicine and the law, eighteenth century constructions of gender, the intertwining of medical and religious rhetoric in Tibet, and luncheon sessions on creating a website and organizing an archive.

The conference will start at 8:45 on Friday morning with a plenary session on medieval and early modern medicine. This will be followed by a plenary session on the institutionalization of health care knowledge with our Vice-President, Anne-Marie Arsenault, presenting on the Sisters of St. Joseph and the founding of university training for nurses in New Brunswick. CAHN's Hannah lecturer, Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, will speak on Home Care at 15:45. Karen is staying for the whole conference so we will all have an opportunity to meet and talk with her.

The nursing papers in the concurrent sessions Friday afternoon and Saturday cover a wide field -- defining a profession with special reference to psychiatric nurses, the gendered construction of nursing, and for the first time that I can remember, there will be a number of papers on nursing practice, ranging from the clinical practice of Florence Nightingale, nursing care in the 1885 Canadian rebellion, the work of volunteer (so-called untrained) nurses in World War I to the practice of radiation oncology nurses. Even more interesting, one of the papers on nursing history will be presented by two doctors, an indication of how nursing history is taking its place in the wider field of history.

On Sunday there will be a joint session of CAHN and CSHM with the Canadian Society for the History of Science and the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Association. CSHM's Hannah Lecturer, Dr. Bert Hansen, will start the morning speaking on the impact of the private life on the professional career. His topic is "Has the Laboratory Been a Closet? Gay and Lesbian Lives in the History of Science and Medicine." His lecture will be followed by three papers, one from CAHN/CSHM, and one from each of the other two societies on the same theme. We think it should be a very stimulating morning.

There will be a number of joint receptions during the course of the conference. On Friday night CSHM is holding a cocktail reception at the Medical School from 6:30 to 8. On Saturday night the Allemang Society and the Toronto Medical Historical Club are holding a cocktail reception preceding a joint CAHN/CSHM dinner. This dinner will not be prepaid but each person will pay her own check at the end. On Friday night, following the CSHM cocktails at the Medical School, CAHN is holding a nurses only dinner at the Colony Hotel. We thought this would be a nice opportunity for us all to get together in a relaxing atmosphere at the start of such a full weekend. Dr. Paul Potter, the Secretary of CSHM, is mailing out the forms for signing up for the dinner, which is prepaid, together with the programs for the conference. We look forward to a very interesting and pleasant conference and hope to see many of you there.

AAHN Conference, continued...

For more information: www.aahn.org/conference.html

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2002 Prize Essay Competitions

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions for its two 2002 Prize Essay Competitions. These prizes will be awarded to the best original, unpublished essays in the social history of medicine submitted to each competition as judged by the SSHM's assessment panel.

The 2002 essay competition is open to post-doctoral scholars and faculty who obtained their Ph.D. or equivalent qualification after 31 December 1996. The 2002 student essay competition is open to students in full or part-time education. Each prizewinner will be awarded 300 pounds and his or her entry may also be published in the journal, Social History of Medicine.

Further details and entry forms can be downloaded from the SSHM's website http://www.sshm.org

Alternatively, please contact
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The deadline for entries is: 31 December 2002.

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