

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the Congregations of Religious Women in Canada, their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des congrégations de religieuses au Canada, on et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

leur mission en matière de soins de santéainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

History of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing and the Charlottetown Hospital

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Hospital School of Nursing

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OF THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING AND THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL



HISTORY

OF

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING

AND

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL

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Every attempt was made to insure the accuracy of the material within. We regret any errors or omissions.

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Affectionately dedicated
to the Congregation of
The Sisters of Saint Martha
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

PREFACE

In 1989 the Nurses Alumnae of The Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing proposed the idea of publishing a history of their nursing school.

Today's alumnae have many fond memories of their hospital and school of nursing, and realize that they have been part of something much greater than their individual contributions.

Through this history they wish to record and preserve for present and future generations, an appreciation of the remarkable individuals and their achievements, throughout 100 years of hospital and nursing service to the people of Prince Edward Island.

The history portrays trends in health care over the years, including changes in medical technology, nursing practise and education, and depicts the ever-present awareness of the whole community in the Hospital and School of Nursing. It recognizes the commitment and dedication of nurses who provided exemplary nursing care, and of those who assisted and promoted their education. Anecdotal responses by alumnae capture remembrances of student days.

No history of the Hospital and School of Nursing would be complete without paying tribute to the magnificent contribution of the early pioneers, the Grey Nuns, and later the Sisters of Saint Martha, who continued the high ideals of caring and service, and directed the nurses spiritually and academically throughout their student days to graduation.

The History Committee expresses the hope that the readers will find this work interesting, informative and memorable.

Alice Trainor, Class of 1947

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Part I

THE CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL

1879-1982



Foundation

The Charlottetown Hospital was established in 1879, the School of Nursing in 1920. The history of the School is so closely interrelated with the Hospital that a description of the growth of the School necessitates reference to the foundation, growth and subsequent closing of the Hospital.

The first recorded item in the Annals of the Charlottetown Hospital is a copy of a telegram sent by Bishop Peter MacIntyre of Charlottetown in November 1878 to Reverend J.B. Bolduc, of the Archbishopric of Quebec. It read:

Could I have Grey Nuns for hospital 12 beds for visiting the poor and sick of City. Kindly state conditions. Answer by telegraph.
Signed: Reverend P. MacIntyre.

A quotation from a newspaper published in the city at this time stated: "It was noted with distress that in 1879 Charlottetown was a city of over 8,000 people, the capital of the province—the most thickly populated in the Dominion, a seaport most frequented by vessels, yet it possessed no hospital".

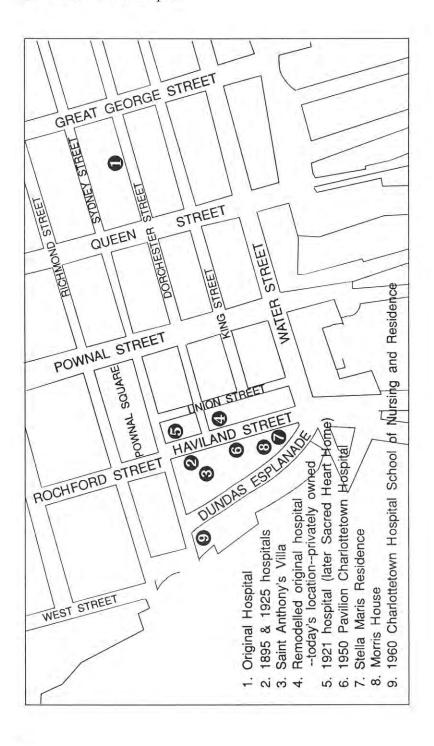
The Grey Nuns were a Community of religious sisters and a branch of the Montreal Community, the Sisters of Charity, which was founded in 1703 by Mother Saint Marguerite d'Youville, s.g.c. They answered Bishop MacIntyre's invitation in the affirmative on January 31, 1879. By the fall of the same year arrangements for the Sisters to undertake charitable work in the Diocese of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island were completed.

A small frame house on Dorchester Street originally owned by Joseph and Ann MacDonald had become the Bishop's residence in 1862. When an Episcopal residence was built, this house was designated as the new Charlottetown Hospital. (See map on page 4.)

Bishop MacIntyre and Reverend A. McGillivary journeyed to Quebec and accompanied the sisters to Charlottetown by rail. They arrived in Charlottetown on September 9, 1879, at 8:30 p.m. The railway station was crowded with people eagerly waiting to welcome the sisters. The latter highly appreciated the kind reception given them on their arrival.



Bishop Peter MacIntyre. Courtesy Tom Bradley



Early Years under The Grey Nuns

Four days after the sisters arrived in Charlottetown, they began visiting people in their homes. The new 12-bed hospital was opened to the public in October, with a staff of six Grey Nuns. Dr. Conroy was the House Surgeon, according to the annals. Hospital records reveal that the first patient admitted to the hospital was a Mr. James Flynn, age 60 years. He was admitted on October ninth with an ulcerated leg and discharged in April of the following year.

Records of the early organizational meetings of the hospital reveal that it was founded for all denominations.

At the invitation of the Bishop, a number of physicians in the City, of varying denominations, met at the Charlottetown Hospital on October 22, 1879, to discuss the organization of the medical staff for the newly founded institution. The minutes of this meeting as found in the hospital annals state:

The Bishop attended the meeting. He expressed thanks to the doctors for responding so generously to his call. He also said that he hoped that the stigma of shame would now be removed from the community and that a place of refuge where the helpless and destitute poor would find care had at last been established in our midst. He reminded the doctors that their interest and support would be essential for the success of the work of the hospital. It was moved, seconded and accepted that Messers Hopkirk, Conroy and Canning be a Managing Committee for the ensuing year. Other doctors on staff were Johnson, McLeod, Taylor and Beer.

The four resolutions adopted at the first meeting of this Management Committee were as follows:

1. That the ladies from different denominations in the city be respectfully requested to form a committee to solicit contributions for the support of the institution.

- 2. That the ordinary rules for the good order of the establishment be observed by all patients.
- 3. That the clergymen of different denominations be respectfully requested to give their powerful aid on behalf of the hospital and devote one Sunday annually in requesting funds.
- 4. That any clergy, asked for by a patient, be notified of the same.

As a result of the first resolution a committee known as The Ladies Collecting Committee was formed. In 1890 the Committee reorganized and changed its name to The Saint Charles Auxiliary, selecting for their patron the great social worker of the sixteenth century, Saint Charles Borromea. The name also reflected that of the Bishop of the Diocese, James Charles MacDonald. For the next 79 years this organization provided much needed financial aid to the hospital. In fact, the administration frequently commented that without these hard working, zealous ladies, financing of the hospital would have been much more difficult.

The sisters considered November fifteenth, 1879 a memorable day; on that day the first surgical operation, this one for the repair of a harelip, was performed on a young girl.

A review of the annual reports of the patient census for the first nineteen years indicate a steady increase in the number of patients admitted to the hospital.

Year	# Patients	Improved	Unimproved	Death
1880	60	52	6	2
1888	113	100	10	3
1889	184	165	10	9

Small-Pox Epidemic

In the fall of 1885 the City of Charlottetown experienced a virulent form of small-pox. It is difficult for the present generation to imagine the terror that filled all hearts as this plague raged. The City Council opened a temporary hospital in the Brighton Area on the outskirts of the City for those afflicted with the disease. The diagnosis of small-pox was confirmed on November twelfth. The following day the Sisters offered their services, but their offer was not accepted by the Board of Health. The doctors contributed their services generously, but lacked the support of skilled nurses. Only a few unskilled women assisted with the care of these victims.

Eight days later two members of the Board of Health called on the sisters and requested their help. Within two hours, three sisters left for the isolation hospital. Within a month, one hundred patients were admitted.

The sisters were probably viewed with suspicion by some of the people in influential positions, as religious prejudice was common on Prince Edward Island at that time. An editorial in the Charlottetown Herald some weeks later stated, "There seemed to be a determination somewhere not to accept the help of the sisters and if other nurses were available, the sisters would be dismissed." However, it was gratifying to the sisters to note in *The Annals of the Charlottetown Hospital* that the City Council, albeit a whole year later, acknowledged the gratuitous service of the sisters.

Original Buildings



Original hospital Courtesy of The Sisters of Saint Martha



Original hospital — remodelled and now a private home Courtesy of the Public Archives of Prince Edward Island



Ward in 1892 hospital. Courtesy of S.S.M.

In a few years it became necessary to build an addition to the original Charlottetown Hospital on Dorchester Street, but eventually this too became inadequate. (Later



Saint Anthony's Villa. Courtesy of Cathy Collard



1892 Hospital with wing added in 1903. Courtesy of S.S.M.

this building was hauled to the corner of Dorchester and Haviland Street. It has been enlarged and remodeled and is still standing.)

Since the possibility of building a Cathedral on the site of the original hospital was being considered, the hospital board decided to erect a building on Dundas Esplanade on property recently acquired from Owen Connolly. In 1890 after her husband's death, Mrs. Connolly also gave her residence to the Sisters, reserving two rooms for her personal use. The new hospital building adjoined the former Connolly House, which was named St. Anthony's Villa. The hospital accommodated 40 patients and opened on March 19, 1892. Eventually this building also became inadequate. A wing in the form of a T was added to the north end of the existing structure in 1903.

Disaster by Fire

"Fire!" is a frightening call and, when it concerns a hospital, its' significance is terrifying.

On November 22, 1921, a disastrous fire seriously damaged the wooden hospital building, destroying part of

the roof and gutting the two top floors. A strong westerly wind made fire fighting difficult. A total of fifty patients, including six babies, were in the hospital at the time. Fortunately no lives were lost nor patients or staff injured, though the building was badly damaged.

As a result of a National Military Hospital Commission, established in 1917 to plan for the care of soldiers returning from World War I, a 200 bed convalescent hospital had been erected near the east side of the Government House at 118 Brighton Road. At the west of Government House a nurses residence had also been constructed. The hospital was named The Rena MacLean Memorial Hospital in memory of nursing Sister MacLean, an Islander lost at sea when the hospital ship *Llandovery Castle* was torpedoed in 1918.

The fire at the Charlottetown Hospital precipitated a crisis regarding patient accommodation. In response, Governor Donald A. MacKinnon offered the Rena MacLean Building, which was not in use at the time, to the Charlottetown Hospital Board as a temporary hospital. How fortunate it was that a building to which the patients could be moved was available at short notice.

The Board, Doctors, and staff of the Charlottetown Hospital remember with gratitude the generosity of Governor MacKinnon and of the many residents of the city who helped in various ways. Early correspondence with a nurse who was a student at the time of the fire had this to say:

The Ladies of different societies in Charlottetown were waiting at the Rena MacLean building with great jugs of tea and soup for the patients after their transfer there. When all patients were settled and comfortable, Bishop Henry O'Leary sent cars to bring the sisters and nurses to his residence for dinner—it was now 3 p.m. We were sitting around the table enjoying the food when one of the sisters began to cry. We all cried with her; it was the first relaxation we had for hours.

The damaged building was moved to a nearby lot on Haviland Street between Sydney and Dorchester Streets,



Hospital building on Haviland Street site (later the Sacred Heart Home). Courtesy of PAPEI

where it was remodeled and again used as a hospital.

Hauling the damaged hospital from one site to another in the city was an impressive task. The Hospital Annals of that year reads as follows:

> that hauling this building may be considered a record for such an undertaking in the coldest part of winter and under such diverse conditions of ground and weather. The move was made in a trifle over twenty working days.

In four months the hospital was ready for occupancy and it was used as a hospital until September 4, 1925. This hospital was later used as a home for the aged, known as The Sacred Heart Home. When a new Sacred Heart Home building was constructed in 1962 on another site, the old building was demolished. The site was used as a parking lot until 1990, when construction began on a seniors' housing complex.

The 1925 Hospital

The construction of a brick building to replace the hospital damaged by fire was begun in July 1922. The cornerstone was laid on June 17, 1923 and the official opening of the completed building took place on September 2, 1925. *The Guardian* published on that day has this to say: "The Hospital was a beautiful splendidly equipped edifice ...one of the best east of Montreal." The building was described as "a large three story building of Citadel brick on a foundation of steel, reinforced concrete, entirely fire proof and sound proof."



The 1925 hospital. Courtesy of Martha MacIsaac

Other Developments

Until 1918 the hospital did not accept obstetrical patients. At the insistence of the Bishop and supported by the Medical Staff, a maternity department was opened on the third floor in that year with Mrs. Rose Monaghan as supervisor.

Another progressive step in the history of the hospital was the opening of a School of Nursing in 1920 under the

administration of Sister Bertha, s.g.c., a woman well fitted for her responsible position.

Since hospitals are for people, two human interest stories must be told here. Patients were admitted to the Maternity Department a few weeks before the official opening. The first baby born here on August 19th was a baby girl, to Mr. and Mrs. Augustus MacDonald. By coincidence this first baby was a descendent of Mr. and Mrs. Owen Connolly on whose property this hospital was built.

On the day of the official opening of the hospital, September 4, 1925, the medical records list the names of the two admissions on that date to the Maternity Department: Mrs. Charles MacDonald, Charlottetown, and later that day, her newborn son, Frank. Years later Frank became the husband of Phyllis Hughes, R.N. of the class of '49.



Sister Bertha of The Sisters of Charity Courtesy of S.S.M.

Administration by The Sisters of Saint Martha

Before the new building was officially opened, the Sisters of Charity were recalled to their Motherhouse in Quebec City. These pioneer nurses gave forty-six years of zealous dedicated service to suffering humanity in Prince Edward Island. They left Charlottetown on June 24, 1925. Genuine sorrow at their departure was manifested by all classes and creeds. The decision of the Grey Nuns to leave Charlottetown involved a heavy responsibility for the Bishop, Right Reverend Louis J. O'Leary.

The Sisters of Saint Martha had been founded in 1916 by the Bishop's brother, Right Reverend Henry O'Leary, the former Bishop of the Diocese, for the purpose of meeting religious needs in the diocese, including the care of the sick. Bishop Louis O'Leary directed these sisters to take over the administration of the hospital. This necessitated training in hospital administration, nursing, laboratory, pharmacy and other essential services. Sister Mary Paula MacPhee studied hospital administration at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin and was prepared to take on the duties and responsibility of the administration of the Charlottetown Hospital. When the Grey Nuns left in 1925, the Sisters of Saint Martha valiantly undertook the management of the hospital damaged by fire, along with the building in the process of construction.

Financing the Hospital

Through the years the Board and the administrators attempted, to the best of their ability, to meet the growing demands of an ever increasing patient load and to keep pace with the need for additional services and more modern equipment. The annual patient admissions had increased from two hundred in 1900 to one thousand in 1927.

As indicated in a study of the financial statement of 1927, the hospital provided free service to those unable to pay. This situation went on for years. The doctors also gave free professional service on a monthly rotating basis to the needy. "Doctor of the Month" was an often used title for this person. The statistics show that each doctor treated an average of 29 patients per month free of charge. For a period of years, the poor could come to the hospital between 10 - 11 a.m. and obtain free medical advice; the hospital would provide such remedies as might be ordered for them. Funds for these charitable donations came from the ladies of the St. Charles Auxiliary. Estimates place the financial contribution to the hospital over the years at over \$100,000, a large sum in those days.

The Charlottetown Hospital, as well as the other general hospitals in the Province, had been receiving a grant of \$1,500 annually from the Provincial Government to provide care for indigent patients. The grant was increased to \$2,000 in 1927. This sum had some financial significance; however, it was insufficient to cancel the amount of the free service offered. Financial aid from Government to the Hospital was increased at various times until, in 1954, the Provincial Government voted the amount of one dollar per patient per day. The latter referred to the total patient census in each day.

During the depressed 1930's, hospital deficits mounted, as did the number of poor persons requiring free medical care. A mammoth bazaar was organized in 1935 to offset such costs. It was supported by many generous people throughout the province. This venture was a wonderful success according to the hospital annals. It became an annual event for many years, wiping out current debts and reducing the capital debt.

Maritime Blue Cross - Blue Shield Health Plan incorporated in 1943, was a tremendous financial aid to this and all hospitals. In the year 1959 the Provincial Government

established a Hospital Insurance Plan under the Department of Health and Social Services, as part of a total plan for the whole of Canada. This plan was considered a universal package for Canada whereby the daily ward rate, laboratory test, X-rays, medication and other expenses would be covered by the plan. Doctors also benefited from this national arrangement for health care.

Developments and Highlights

Social Services Department

Under the advice and encouragement of Most Reverend J.A. O'Sullivan, Bishop of the Diocese and President of the Hospital Board, a Social Services Department was established in 1931. The first staff members were Sister Mary Bonaventure and Miss Ethel K. Murphy, R.N. (Mrs. L.O. Kelly). A home nursing service, which dealt with family problems and child welfare, became a major work of this department.

In 1951 this Department in the hospital was phased out. The office was moved to 129 Pownal Street in the city and the management taken over by the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau, now known as the Catholic Family Services Bureau. The Hospital Board considered this service to the people so valuable that it paid the salary of the registered nurse on staff at the Bureau for several years. For many years the student nurses' growth and experience were enriched by an affiliated experience with this agency. This enabled the students to develop an understanding of the health needs in the community and an appreciation of the social and economic factors affecting individual, family and community life.

Garden Festival and Baby Show

As early as 1932, the medical and nursing staffs showed their concern for community health, as evidenced by the delightful story found in the Annals of the Hospital. The Annals report that this venture was the first of its kind on P.E.I. To quote from the *Guardian*:

from 2 o'clock on August 2, 1932, a stream of children and their mothers wended their way to the Esplanade. The grounds of the hospital were brightly decorated with flags, streamers and booths with great bunches of gay balloons making a colorful picture in the bright sunlight on a perfect day. Two-hundred and twelve children, born in the Charlottetown Hospital were registered; 103 of them under 2 years of age were given a physical examination by Doctors J.D. McGuigan, G.L. Smith, W.H. Soper and R.D. Howatt. All the children were placed in one of four categories according to age, weight and height. There were so many lovely healthy children that it was with difficulty that the prize winners could be chosen! What a hectic day for the doctors and nurses!

This annual event continued for some years. Pauline (Morrissey) McCabe, Class of 1954, was one of these lucky babies to have been in this festival.

Blood Transfusion Service

Moder

The demand for quickly accessible blood for donations became a necessity as advances were being made in surgical intervention; also patients with medical conditions often required blood or plasma for treatment of their conditions.

In 1938, under the direction of Sister St. Hugh, Chief Laboratory Technician of the hospital, a Blood Donor Club was formed. Several men responded to the invitation to be a blood donor. When a blood transfusion was required, these men responded when called at any time, day or night, with great generosity. This club functioned well until 1948 at which time the Canadian Red Cross Society took over blood services in the province, as well as elsewhere in Canada.

On December 28, 1948 the first complete blood replacement procedure on P.E.I. occurred at The Charlottetown Hospital. It was performed on a baby boy who had been born a few days earlier with a blood incompatibility disorder. The exchange transfusion was successfully performed by a team of staff headed by Dr. F.A. McMillan. (This baby, Brian Hennessey, is a healthy adult living in Charlottetown today with a family of his own).

Hospital Opened in Îles de la Madeleine

Factors beyond our hospital walls affected the demands for nursing and medical care. One such event was the opening of a hospital in Îles de la Madeleine.

Prior to its opening, it was not unusual to look out and see a plane from the Islands land on the ice or at our very back door, carrying perhaps three or four very ill patients. Most of these people spoke only French, while few of the staff could understand or speak the language. Dr. J.A. Mac-Millan, who was bilingual, was frequently called upon by the physicians and nursing staff to communicate with these patients and to explain what should be known about their condition and needs. The opening of the hospital in Ilês de la Madeleine, besides being a boon to the people of the Islands, also relieved congestion in the Charlottetown Hospital.

World War II

Another event that brought change was the advent of World War II. Some one said during this period of war, "that little can happen these days that war has not affected in some way." World War II brought many people, especially service personnel and their families to Charlottetown. Admissions to the hospital increased; the maternity department was usually overcrowded. This situation created a need for increased services at a time when some of our physicians were joining the Armed Forces, leaving a minimum medical staff.

Epidemics

In the forties epidemics of scarlet fever, influenza and meningitis kept the bed capacity taxed to the utmost. "Have you a bed?" was the question asked frequently by the doctors as they tried to admit yet another patient.

Two epidemics of Poliomyelitis struck the Island, one in 1947 and the second in 1954. The first epidemic left in its wake several deaths and considerable crippling to those who survived. A "Polio Center" was set up in Ward 8 on the ground floor. Steam was piped in and, with the aid of an electric washer, the nurses did a splendid job with hot pack treatment known as the Kenny technique. The second epidemic, though serious, was not as virulent as the earlier one. An isolation unit was set up in 2D for these patients.

Years of Expansion



The new pavilion built in 1950.

The demand for hospital beds continued to grow, with the consequent lack of adequate facilities for patient care. Negotiations with governments, study of plans for an extension to the hospital and all the details that must be finalized before the sod was turned, were finally completed. A wing (or Pavilion so-called) was built and ready for occupancy in February, 1950. The official opening took place on the 21st.

The original structure, completed in 1925, later became modernized in keeping with the new addition. The Hospital now had a total of two hundred and seventeen beds and thirty bassinets. No one foresaw that in ten years many services would be inadequate and there would be a shortage of beds. The Department of Veterans Affairs gave a grant of \$75,000 to the hospital towards the construction of the wing. In turn the hospital contracted to provide fifty beds for Veterans when needed. These beds did not have to be in the new wing. However, this part of the Hospital was often called, "The Veterans Wing".

The Charlottetown Hospital was often called a "patients hospital." Patients, doctors, nurses, employees and people alike all seemed to refer to "our hospital": with just pride and a real feeling of possession and participation. So marked was the attitude that the patients welfare was paramount that the Honorable A. W. Matheson, Minister of Health and Welfare, at the formal opening of the Pavilion in 1950 declared that: "the hospital is typical of the ideal hospital described hundreds of years ago by Sir Thomas More in his famous *Utopia*."

New Services

The hospital board, in planning for the expansion to the hospital and the renovations to be subsequently made to the hospital after the opening of the wing, identified services which should be considered in its planning. These were: a pediatric department, recovery room, intensive care unit and central supply room. With advances in science and technology, better means were available for the treatment of patients. More doctors were specializing and nurses were receiving a higher quality of education.

Pediatrics

In 1952 the area of the 1925 building formerly occupied by the maternity department was converted into a 35-bed pediatric department. This area seemed very "high class" compared to the one ward which had previously accommodated sick children. The department offered complete medical and surgical facilities in a single self-contained unit with private and semi-private rooms, as well as separate cubicles for infants. Eileen MacDonald, RN, whose special training in pediatric care was taken at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, supervised the department for a short time; Sister Mary Gabriel took over from her and held this position for many years. The hospital was fortunate in having a certified pediatrician, Dr. J.H. O'Hanley, join the staff in 1954.

Central Supply Room and Pharmacy

The Central Supply Room opened in the late forties, adding greatly to the efficiency of hospital services. It was first supervised by the operating room staff but in due time had its own supervisor and staff.

Intravenous therapy was becoming very important in the treatment of patients. In 1949 the Board decided to look into the implications of preparing the solutions in the hospital for this therapy or continuing to purchase them commercially. A few hospitals in Canada and several in the U.S. that made their own solutions used the Fenwal System. Two staff members, Sister Vincent de Paul, a Registered Pharmacist, and Sister Mary Patricia, RN, were selected to visit hospitals in Canada using this system; they also spent time at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston investigating the system and learning the techniques. The solutions used in intravenous therapy, as well as those used for other purposes, were subsequently prepared by hospital pharmacists. The solutions were sterilized in the Central Supply and dispensed from there. This method of providing sterile solutions continued for several years.

Recovery Room

Before 1950 all surgical patients were transferred from the operating room immediately after surgery to their own rooms. If the patient had had a general anesthetic, a nurse would be required to sit with him or her until full consciousness was regained. In the fall of 1951 the hospital opened an eight-bed recovery room adjacent to the operating room, which at that time was under the supervision of Sister Paul of the Cross, RN. The first recovery room supervisor was Phyllis (Hughes) MacDonald, RN. In the early days the nurses had little to work with in the Recovery Room but, as time went on, adequate equipment was purchased. All student nurses were assigned to this department for a four week period in addition to their eight- to twelve-week experience in the operating room.

Cardio-Pulmonary Lab

Doctor J.C. Sinnott joined the staff of the Charlottetown Hospital in 1959 in the speciality of Internal Medicine. He became interested in the diagnostic value of a cardio-pulmonary laboratory in the treatment of the patients. The hospital board responded to his suggestion and designated the room known as "the Bishop's suite" on the second floor for the unit. Doctor Sinnott spent many hours planning the lay-out and equipment and eventually implementing the laboratory service. In the meantime, the Board arranged for Estelle MacIsaac, RN, to study at the Montreal General Hospital in preparation for the work in the laboratory. She returned from Montreal in March 1961, when the unit opened to patients.

Several years later the work of the Electrocardiograph Department was added. Staff were on call at all times on a rotation basis. There was a small cardiac monitor located in the cardio-pulmonary laboratory which could be used for cardiac rhythm disturbances instead of a continuous electrocardiograph strip — a precursor to the first coronary care unit.

Intensive Care-Coronary Care Units

A four-bed intensive care ward near the operating room suite was opened in 1965 and the first Byrd respirator was purchased. The four bed unit was used for patients with major surgery such as chest, vascular, and neurosurgery, along with chemotherapy treatments. Thelma Walsh Acorn, RN, who had experience in intensive care nursing in Kitchener, Ontario became the first head nurse. It soon became necessary to expand the service. An additional four-bed ward across the hall was designated for both intensive and coronary care patients.

As information on coronary care increased, doctors demanded more space to care for coronary patients. It was decided that the large sunny room on the second floor Veterans Wing, "the solarium", would be converted to a five-bed intensive and coronary care unit to fill this urgent need. Work began on the unit in 1967 and the new Intensive and Coronary Care Unit opened in the spring of 1968. This unit had piped-in oxygen, wall suction outlets and, initially, two cardiac monitors. Nurses began to use the cardiac defibrillator in 1968. At this time also, temporary pacemakers were being inserted in patients. In September 1971 permanent pacemakers were being used.

Hospital Accreditation

It was commendable that the Charlottetown Hospital was accredited in 1922 by the American College of Surgeons, the hospital accrediting body for United States and Canada at that time. Ever since then, the hospital succeeded in meeting the standards of the accrediting service of the American College, later the service of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, and finally the Canadian Commission on Hospital Accreditation.

Ladies Auxiliaries

Earlier in this history the origin of the St. Charles Auxiliary and the worthwhile work done by its members was documented. The volunteer service given by this auxiliary spanned the years from 1879-1958. Some of the former hospital staff can recall with gratitude the untiring dedicated service of these women. They were highly

regarded by all.

Mention must be made at this time of another group of ladies who formed a club in 1936 to provide layettes for the newborns and to furnish needed supplies for the Nursery; hence, the name of their club, The Nursery Club. The first president was Mrs. (Dr.) J.S. Ledwell; Mrs. Alban Farmer acted as secretary. In 1946 the name of the Club was changed to The Junior League, as the objectives of the club assumed a broader mandate to purchase needed equipment for all areas of the hospital. When the new nurses residence opened in 1960, the League furnished a large lounge. The women had many projects and money making events: turkey shoot, rummage sales, dinners, penny auctions, spring thaw and others. The Spring Bonnet Tea, held in the nurses residence annually for several years, was one of its most delightful events. If one was around the residence on the day of the tea, student nurses would likely be observed peeking around the stairs or looking out the windows to see the ladies arrive in their new bonnets. (Hats were in vogue in these days).

The Junior League again changed its name in 1956 to become the Charlottetown Hospital League, the only auxiliary of the Hospital. The president was Mrs. Mary (Bubbie) MacEachern. More changes were yet to come with the amalgamation of the two City hospitals to form a new institution known as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In January 1980, the Charlottetown Hospital League became the Charlottetown Hospital League of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In that year the by-laws and constitution were revised. The last meeting of this league was held on December 2, 1980. On February 10, 1981 a joint meeting of the Prince Edward Island and Charlottetown Hospital auxiliaries was held to elect an Executive. Mrs. Mary Mc-Quaid and Mrs. Carolyn Trainor of the Charlottetown Hospital League were elected as president and first vicepresident of the newly-formed Queen Elizabeth Hospital Auxiliary.

Closing of the Charlottetown Hospital

For several years, the Government conducted studies and discussed with the Board of the Prince Edward Island and Charlottetown Hospitals the cost of renovating and upgrading the two institutions, both of which needed to be renovated and enlarged if they were to meet the demands of modern health care.

The advantages of having one central hospital in Charlottetown appeared regularly on the agenda of these meetings. The long background of service and the tradition of the two hospitals were difficult to ignore. If agreement could not be made to have one hospital, then, at least, separation of services to avoid duplication in both hospitals was suggested.

Finally, in 1977, the decision was made to build one hospital and to phase out the two existing ones. History will eventually prove whether this was the wisest decision. In one as radical as the latter, personal emotions often obscure sound judgement. The new hospital, the Queen Elizabeth, opened in 1982. The final transfer of patients from the Charlottetown Hospital to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital took place on Sunday, April 25th of that year.

The 1925 building and St. Anthony's Villa were later demolished by the Provincial Government, the owners of the property. The 1950 wing was renovated and renamed The W.J.P. MacMillan Building, in honor of Sir W.J.P. MacMillan, a dedicated member of the Hospital staff, and chief of the medical staff for several years. This building is now used as an office complex by the Government.

Many more historical events could have been included in a history of an institution which had been a leader in the health field for so many years. One hundred and three years of generous, loving service to thousands of people in the Charlottetown Hospital had ended. The fullness of service cannot be captured in such a brief history.

First Sisters of Charity, Grey Nuns of Quebec, Charlottetown Hospital

Sister Saint Thomas	Superior
Sister Saint Agnes	Assistant
Sister Saint Alice	Bursar
Sister Saint Bertha	Pharmacist
Rosalie Cantin	Not recorded
Elise Toutant	Not recorded

Administrators of the Charlottetown Hospital under the Sisters of Saint Martha

1925 - 1933	Sister Mary Paula, C.S.M.
1933 - 1937	Sister Mary Camillus, C.S.M.
1937 - 1941	Sister John Baptist, C.S.M.
1941 - 1945	Sister Mary Angela, C.S.M.
1945 - 1951	Mother Mary Paula, C.S.M.
1951 - 1957	Sister Mary of Good Counsel, C.S.M.
1957 - 1962	Sister Mary Stanislaus, C.S.M.
1962 - 1980	Sister Mary David
	(Sister Stella MacDonald, C.S.M.)
1980 - 1981	Brendon McGinn

Part II

CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF NURSING

1920-1971



Background

Although the Charlottetown Hospital opened in 1879, it was 1920 before the School of Nursing accepted the first class of nursing students. The early history of the hospital records the fact that preparation for the establishment of a school of nursing had been on-going for some years. Plans were initiated to admit the first class in September, 1920. Sister Saint Bertha, s.g.c., an outstanding person, was appointed Director.

Throughout the early years at least one sister was a registered nurse, but the lack of qualified nurses necessitated employing women "trained on the job". No formal preparation was organized in the early years; the students acquired their knowledge of nursing by observation and imitation. With time and experience, the staff no doubt became competent in administering basic patient care.

For the first few years, the hospital had no nursing staff on night duty. A member of the family would stay with a



Grey nuns and students outside Saint Anthony's Villa.

very ill relative. The sisters took turns remaining with new postoperative patients day and night. In the Annals of the hospital the notation was also made that "a Mr. Madden was on night duty in 1908; a Mrs. Monaghan was added to the night staff sometime later."

Acts of Incorporation

In 1884, five years after the establishment of the Hospital, the Sisters of Charity (Grey Nuns) in Charlottetown "were constituted and declared to be a body corporate by the name of the 'Charlottetown Hospital' with the powers incidental to such corporations."

The Sisters of Charity were recalled to their Mother-house in Quebec City in 1925. In the same year the Sisters of Saint Martha assumed the administration of the Charlottetown Hospital; a change in legislation was necessary. The 1889 Act was repealed in 1933 and new legislation passed in that year which declared the Board of Management of the Charlottetown Hospital and the Sisters of Saint Martha "a body politic and corporate".

No charter was obtained for the School of Nursing before its initiation. However, in 1922 The Registered_Nurses Act of Prince Edward Island stated standards for schools of nursing in the Province and approved the Charlottetown Hospital as a qualified agency to operate a school of nursing.

In 1930, when the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Martha, which had been operating the school since 1925, became incorporated, it received the power "to establish, maintain, and conduct training schools for nurses and hospitals..."

Philosophy, Aims and Objectives

The philosophy, aims and objectives of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing were not written in the early years of its operation. However, in later school records, the following information was found:

The basic philosophy of the School stems from the belief that the person is an individual, with physical and spiritual components, who is destined to possess eternal happiness. The motto of the school embodies this philosophy: "Minimis Mihi—To the least unto Me." The aim of the school is to educate nurses equipped to give service which is efficient, intelligent and Christlike in nursing the sick, preventing disease and promoting health.

The philosophy of the school becomes a reality through the curriculum. The faculty considers the curriculum to include not only the subject matter but also all the learning experiences and instructional activities provided by the school. The records imply several periodic revisions of the curriculum enabling the school to meet the requirements of the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island while promoting the high ideals of nursing embodied in the school motto.

The 1920s and '30s

The First Class

Ten of the original students who entered the school in 1920 successfully completed the three-year program. The members of the graduating class were: Evelyn Coady (Sister Benedicta), Flora MacIntyre, Adele Connors, Mae King, Lauretta MacDonald, Margaret MacDonald, Pearl Mc-Kenna, Annie MacIntyre, Marie MacLellan and Ethel Murphy.

Correspondence from graduates of the first class reveals the following information:

The routine of a typical day began with mass in the Chapel at 6:20 a.m. followed by breakfast; on the wards at 7:00 a.m. for twelve hours. The students had two hours off each day, however, classes were frequently held during that time. The students were given extra time off one day a week. Recreational facilities were limited partly because the students lived in the hospital on the top floor.

In the early years the student wore a long blue-striped dress with straight sleeves and starched white detachable collar and cuffs. The uniform was covered in the front with a white apron gathered at the waist. White shoes and stockings completed the outfit. The length of the uniform varied from time to time in keeping with the current style.

The students were given oral and written examinations at the end of their program. Since examinations for registration in the province did not become effective until 1925, these graduates received their R.N. by waiver.

An elaborate program was planned for the graduation exercises for these women who graduated on June 27th, 1923. Musical numbers were well presented and enjoyed. The address was given by Dr. Malcolm P. MacEachern, a person to whom credit must be given for the exceptional effort which he made during his life to standardize hospitals



First graduating class, 1923

on the North American continent. A great honor was reflected on the Hospital and School to have this noted international figure address the graduates.

Mae King, R.N.

Miss Mae King, a member of this class, assumed the position of supervisor of the Obstetrical Department following graduation, a position she capably fulfilled for twenty-five years. She assisted at the birth of three thousand six hundred and eighty-four infants and kept a personal record of each of them. Until 1950, the majority of the students received their knowledge of maternal and child care through the teaching and example of this devoted nurse.

Miss King was the first president of the Nurses Alumnae of the School and she retained the position of Honourary President until her death on February 7, 1960. She also served a term as President of the Registered Nurses Association of P.E.I. In a tribute to this great lady, Mrs. Mary Devereaux Maddigan, R.N., '29 wrote at the time of Miss

King's death, "We all loved and respected Miss King and will always treasure the sound counsel received from her during our student days...a truly great and dedicated nurse has gone to her eternal reward."



Mae King

Developments in Nursing Education

In reviewing the development of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing, it becomes evident that a variety of circumstances affected the growth of the program.

When the school opened in 1920, no standards for schools of nursing had been set in the province. Individualism in nursing education prevailed in Canada

during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Schools decided upon their own program: the admission requirements, hours of theory and clinical experience.

Minnie Goodnow, an outstanding nurse educator describes nursing education in the United States at this time as typical of the nursing situation in Canada. She wrote: "The first generation of schools of nursing was concerned chiefly with teaching students enough to make them efficient in the all around care of the patient."

The P.E.I. Registered Nurses Act, passed in 1922, included the Charlottetown Hospital as one of the three general hospitals in the province given approval to operate a school of nursing. Further qualifications required for registration of graduate nurses as stated in the Act were:

That the student be a graduate of one of the approved schools of nursing and that she be of good moral character; and that she be at least twenty-one years of age.

Provision was also made in the Act for a Board of Examiners. Section 15 of the Act states:

15. The Board of Examiners for the purposes of this Act shall consist of one member of the Medical Staff and the Superintendent of the Training school from each of the following Hospitals, namely, The Charlottetown Hospital, The Prince Edward Island Hospital and the Prince County Hospital, such Board of Examiners to be appointed by the Board of Directors of said Hospitals.

Another noteworthy section of this Act provided for an annual fee of "not less than \$1.00 and not more than \$5.00" for a registered nurse. (It is interesting to note that the annual fee in 1991 is \$180.00.) Although passed in 1922, the Act came into effect in 1925. In that year 8 nurses in the province wrote R.N. examinations; the only student from the Charlottetown Hospital School was Anna Clohossey (Sister Mary Camillus, C.S.M.)

In 1929, nursing leaders, cognizant of problems in the education of nurses in Canada instituted a thorough survey

of schools under the capable direction of Professor George Weir of the University of British Columbia. The report, released in 1932, revealed many defects in administrative and teaching policies in schools across the country. Recommendations outlined in the report indicated the need for some immediate adjustments and improvements in nursing education in Canada.

The Canadian Nurses Association responded by preparing and publishing a Curriculum Guide for the use of the schools. The report of the survey stimulated a process for curriculum revision in our school and the Guide gave needed direction in carrying out a revision of the program.

Association of Nurses

Due to the small number of registered nurses in the province the Registered Nurse Association remained unable to maintain a permanent office and to employ a full time Secretary-Registrar. This situation greatly impeded the progress of nursing in the province. Tribute must be given to the late Sister Mary Magdalen Connolly, a graduate of this school, who acted as Registrar of the Association on a voluntary basis for almost twenty years. She accomplished this task over and above her regular responsibility as Operating Room Supervisor. No office space was provided for her; hence, Sister arranged the files in boxes and stored them under her bed! The Association of Nurses had, indeed, a humble beginning!

It was during the thirties that nursing was beginning to be recognized as a profession that required education and the development of skills and knowledge for its practice. As a result, the public image of the nurse was being elevated. These developments had an impact on the trends in nursing education.

Clinical Nursing Experience

In the early years of the nursing program, the students were assigned to patient care from the outset. Later, this trend changed. The term "probationary" period was used to denote the time during which the student must prove herself capable of acquiring the knowledge and skills of nursing. This period of time varied from three to six months. Later this was known as the "preclinical" period. Until 1938 the students' workday, including classes and patient care, was twelve hours. In September of that year the time was shortened to eight hours. Until 1927, the senior students gave private nursing care to patients both in the hospital and in homes. In the homes the nurses were expected to sleep in the patients rooms, and frequently were "on duty" for several days at a time.

The following account of the experiences of a senior student implied the responsibility that the students in this era were expected to carry. Three situations were described by one student: "I was sent to a doctor's home. His wife had phlebitis following childbirth; her temperature was 104F for days. This was continuous duty...I rested when convenient and returned to the school daily for lectures. I spent three weeks in this home".

Another nursing situation was with a child with typhoid fever. "I spent three weeks in this home nursing the sick child. When I left, the child was up around and feeling well."

Nurses during this time went to homes to nurse the mothers and newborn babies. The mothers stayed in bed ten days following delivery. A student recalls: "I had to care for the mother and baby. I was also expected to take charge of the housework and whatever else had to be done. Many students had this experience." Should one wonder that the students were exhausted after such assignments.

Irene (Burke) Cameron, R.N. '28 recalls that her first trip from home to Charlottetown was when she came to

enter the Charlottetown Hospital as a student nurse. Feeling alone and lonesome, far away from home, she became ill. Sister Faustina thought her illness was more homesickness and sent her home for a few days. Students of the time remember that Sister Faustina the Director of Nursing "ruled with an iron hand." Punishment for errors or misdemeanors meant the loss of one's cap for a period of time. This was very embarrassing as everyone wanted to know what "wrong" the student committed. In the 1920's discipline was strict, the work was hard and living conditions sometimes crowded and inadequate by todays standards.

The nurses had a rigorous schedule of duties, and all patients got daily baths, yet Irene says, "My nurse's training meant everything. I wouldn't have done anything different...I always liked the patients and we got to know them very well and had close contact with their families...The sisters were very nice...I loved it."

Eileen MacDonald '31 was sent in her senior year to a home to nurse a four-month old baby who had pneumonia. She found the baby very distressed, breathing rapidly and with difficulty. She applied onion poultices, forced fluids and kept the windows and doors open to provide fresh air. She said, "I was so cold I had to wear a coat at times. The baby was wrapped in blankets. I stayed constantly with the baby for one week, sleeping in naps when the baby slept. I received three dollars a day for 24 hour duty."

The first class of students lived on the top floor of the hospital. When the new hospital opened in 1925, the students transferred to the red brick annex adjoining the hospital—better known as St. Anthony's Villa.

A nurse of this era relates "We could be out of residence until 9:30 p.m. three nights a week. Once a month an 11:30 p.m. pass was allowed. If anyone violated the rules, then all would lose their late pass. We worked 12 hour shifts...Worked in the community through the Social Services department of the hospital...Delivery and Labor

room supplies were all washed by the nurses, sent to the laundry and then to the O.R. for sterilization...Sterile packages were available on the ward for sterile dressings...Nurses cleaned up units after isolation cases". Kathleen Shreenan '39 recalls the difficult job of cleaning up after "isolation cases". "We lugged the mattresses to a special room in the basement, used formaldehyde generously and sealed the door of that room. This procedure was repeated in the patients room."

Kathleen describes more of her experiences:

Part of our training included time spent in the kitchen with the Dietitian studying about nutrition and preparing special diets...Doctors and Nursing Sisters were our teachers but classes did not take up a big part of our time...rather teaching was practical and done by supervisors and senior students. Blood transfusions were rare and were direct from person to person. Intravenous therapy was used and was always started by doctors. Nurses did not take blood pressures...The nurses affiliated at the Provincial Sanatorium for one month, where treatment for Tuberculosis consisted of bed rest, some pneumothorax and, when indicated, removal of whole or part of a lobe of the lung."

By 1936, a change in uniform was introduced, a royal blue dress with a white starched apron and bib replaced the striped dress. The hard starched detachable collar and cuffs remained. The bib was not worn by the student until she received her cap as a junior nurse after the three month probationary period. Two years later the adoption of short sleeves was welcomed by the student body. The students felt no one could make the collars, cuffs and caps as stiff and white as Mr. Chan on Lower Queen Street. He was obliging and courteous to the nurses and took great pride in his work.

No cap was worn by the "probationer" for the first three months. Until 1937 the second year student wore two narrow stripes on their caps, while the third year student caps had three stripes. Many patients believed that three stripes on the cap denoted nursing excellence and they occasionally refused the care offered by a first or second year student. Consequently in 1937 Sister Mary Stanislaus the Director of the School, discontinued the custom of wearing stripes on the student caps. The graduates of the school have always worn a black single band on their caps.

Daily routine included rising at 6 a.m., inspection at 6:15 a.m., Mass in the Chapel at 6:30 a.m., breakfast at 7:00 a.m. and on duty from 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., with two hours off in the afternoon. Lillian McGuigan '36 recalls that her class was privileged to have the only male nurse to have graduated from the School, Johnny Doucette, R.N. who wrote and passed his exams in 1936, the first male nurse registered in P.E.I. She also recalls putting on concerts for the Sisters which she says "they seemed to enjoy". The Nurses Alumnae gave the students a radio (their first). It was not always appreciated by the sleeping nurses when others would return from emergencies at night and play music. With working hard for long hours and few hours spent away from residence the girls played lots of pranks on each other to relax and relieve tension.

Graduation time was very special. All the hard work, long hours, and strict discipline seemed to evaporate as the Sisters gave the graduates a special send off. Invitations and programs were formal and present on the platform were honored guests. The *Charlottetown Guardian* reported.

The class of 1937 were entertained by Councillor A.A. & Mrs. Hennessey at dinner at Stanhope Beach Inn. The Manager informed the class that they had the use of the Inn for the evening...Music and dancing was enjoyed...

The Guardian of the day also reported that

the Sisters of the Charlottetown Hospital entertained the graduates at dinner in the Novana Tea Room . . . The student nurses gave a dance at the Nurses Home to honor the graduates. The class of 1936 were the first group to wear the attractive navy capes with scarlet lining and indeed were photographed in them for graduation.



First graduating class to wear capes, 1936. Left to right: Teresa O'Donnell, Sister Mary Stanislaus, Helen MacNeill, John Doucette, Irma Gaudet, Sister Mary Angela, Lillian MacNeill, Stephanie MacNeill, flower girl

This was the last year that the name on the graduates diploma was the "Charlottetown Hospital Training School for Nurses." In 1938 the name was changed to the "Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing."

One significant event of the thirties occurred in August 1939, with the arrival of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of England for a royal visit to Prince Edward Island. A student of that time relates, "My classmates and I, decked out in spanking new white uniforms and caps were assigned to some of the street corners in the downtown area, and I am sure, felt we were ready for any and all emergencies that could happen."

A world wide event of significance to our graduates was the outbreak of World War II in 1939 and the subsequent call for nursing service. Several graduates of the School of Nursing responded to this call and served their country as nursing sisters. These were:

Claire (Clohossey) Dowling, Tignish, '32; Margaret (Campbell) Kilbride, Charlottetown, '32; Mary S. MacDonald, Peakes, '33; Annette Morrissey Judge, Tignish, '37; Marcella MacDonald, Peakes, '38; Mary Croken, Emerald, '39; Joanna MacDonald, Peakes '39; Catherine Collings, Montague, '40.

Dorothy Corrigan

Dorothy Hennessey Corrigan, a graduate of the 1937 class of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing, has had a notable career in nursing and politics.

After spending her early school days at St. Joseph's Convent, Dorothy completed her secondary education at Prince of Wales College.

Following graduation from the School



Dorothy Corrigan

of Nursing, she, like many nurses of the time engaged in private duty nursing. In 1944 she married a local dentist Dr. Ernest Corrigan, had 2 children, Ernie and Catherine and for the next 12 years she put her nursing on hold. In the fifties she again resumed nursing at the Rehabilitation Centre in Charlottetown and during this time she entered civic politics.

She was first elected as councilor in 1960 and in 1964 be-

came Deputy Mayor of Charlottetown. In late 1968 she ran a hard fought race with incumbent Mayor Walter Cox and won. She was the first woman Mayor of the City of Charlottetown and she really felt that the time had come for women to have their "say". After a 3-year term as Mayor she retired from politics. She received an award from the Canada Council for distinguished public service and was also granted an honourary doctorate degree from the University of P.E.I.

Dorothy is now retired from public life but is still very active and takes a keen interest in the world around her.

The 1940s and '50s

By the early forties with increased enrollment, some of the students were housed in rented rooms at 19 Sydney street. In 1945, the hospital purchased a large brick residence known as the Navy League, at 1 Dundas Esplanade (and Haviland Street) to accommodate the student body. The residence was named *Stella Maris*, meaning "Star of the Sea".



Stella Maris Residence. Courtesy of Phyllis MacDonald

The adjacent Morris property, purchased later, provided additional bedrooms on the second and third floors, while the first floor and basement contained an instructor's office, classrooms, library, demonstration room and chemistry lab. In 1948, the two buildings used by the school were joined by an overhead pass on the second floor.

In 1947 the Hospital Board acquired the Stewart property next to the hospital. A few students were housed there for a short time. The Hospital now owned all the land along the Esplanade. Its delightful waterfront and everchanging vistas of seascape and landscape offered healthful salt water bathing in summer and ice skating in winter.

(Times have changed!) Another social activity not to be missed was the SDU social each Thursday afternoon at the Holy Name Hall.



The Morris House

Recollections

The students of the forties recall their nursing days in a time prior to disposables, Central Supply, and high technology equipment. It was also a time of treatments that we might now refer to as home remedies. Marion Mitchell and Dorothy McInnis write, "As students we were taught how to cut a bolt of gauze, fold it for dressings and swabs, package in brown paper and autoclave. We used glass syringes with stainless steel needles for hypodermic injections. We cleaned and boiled these in a small sterilizer after use. It took a bit of time to give injections, especially in the case of penicillin in oil. It also took a bit of shaking and some warmth to bring about a "mix". With morphine, the tablet was dissolved in water on a spoon, over the alcohol lamp. Rubber gloves were also washed, powdered and wrapped by the nurses. Rubber tubing was the only kind we knew. Some remedies were: mustard plasters for lung congestion, linseed poultices as hot packs and oakum as a room deodorizer."

The graduates of the forties remember the extensive surgical "preps", which consisted of cleansing the skin with soap, ether, alcohol and zephiran and wrapping with a sterile binder the evening prior to surgery. The procedure was repeated on the morning of surgery. As well they relate "one of the requirements on admission to hospital was a complete bath, given by the nurse. In addition, "every 'good' nurse learned to apply a scultetus binder evenly and snugly post operatively."

The parents of the time felt some urgency to have their babies baptized as soon as possible after birth. Edna Mac-Kinnon relates "The newborn babies were taken from the maternity ward to the church on Sundays for christening. The nurses would help dress the babies in their long christening dresses and hand them over to the godparents who took them to the church. The mothers also had to bring baby clothes for the baby to wear while in hospital, as these were not standard fare. One nurse said, "It was quite a

trick keeping the clothes straight."

The students' day began with Mass in the Chapel, followed by an eight hour tour of duty, seven days a week. Assignment to night duty was for a one month period, with one night off during the month. The students, when working in the Social Service department at the hospital, went out, accompanied by a Sister, to visit the sick and poor. Edna MacKinnon states, "These were hard times for people, especially in the city. There wasn't any work; old people didn't have old age pensions, so there was a great need for assistance. We would bring medications from the dispensary, prepare meals and bathe the sick or infirm." The students also affiliated at the Provincial Sanatorium for one month, where they learned to nurse the increasing numbers of patients with tuberculosis.

Poliomyelitis

In mid-August, 1946 the polio epidemic which was widespread in Canada and the United States reached P.E.I. A quote from the *Charlottetown Guardian* of August 29 reads, "P.E.I. health authorities reiterated their opinion that with twenty-five cases and four deaths, our province has an incidence as great as anywhere in Canada." By September 5, 1946 there were 37 documented cases of the dread disease and five resultant deaths. In one family five children were afflicted; two of those died. Many families were fearful, and those with sick children became exhausted from the long hours of watchfulness.

Stella MacDonald describes nursing the patients who had the disease.

A 'strict' isolation ward was set up in the old hospital basement. According to the Kenny Technique, we applied hot packs to the aching muscles. These packs were made from rough brown wool material, cut to fit above and below the elbows for the arms, and above and below the knee for the legs. The pads were kept hot in a wringer washing machine

full of hot water; it had the rollers on top. After wringing, the pads were applied to the limbs, then covered with rubber and dry pieces of blanket. The patients would often relax and sleep after the application. We kept a steady pace from bed to bed providing complete care to the patients. One thing I remember well was the reaction of people I knew on the street; they gave me a wide berth when they met me coming to or from the hospital.

Marion (McQuaid) Handrahan "saw young people die and many left disabled from the crippling and often fatal disease."

The formal classes were given by the nurses and doctors at the hospital. This was in addition to regular hours of duty. Mary Gaudet wrote that her class received instruction from Sister Mary Irene in operating room technique and from Mae King in Obstetrics. In 1944, the Dominion Government gave a grant of three thousand dollars to the hospital for the purpose of paying for a clinical instructor for six months of the year. This was a notable advance, of considerable benefit to the students.

A member of the Class of 1942 recalls Graduation Day, a gala event beginning with Mass followed by a special breakfast, photographs and a graduation ceremony in the evening at the Holy Name Hall. (The Basilica Recreation Centre is on this site today). For the first time the students donned the white uniform and cap with a single black band. By the close of the decade an addition to graduation occurred when the senior students hosted a formal dance in Stella Maris Residence for the class of 1948. This became a yearly event.

Another graduate of the forties, Tena (McIvor) Kenny, summed up her memories of nursing days in this way.

It was the greatest adventure and challenge of my life, up to and long after I graduated. The Sisters of St. Martha at the Charlottetown Hospital hold my respect and gratitude for their spiritual and educational guidance during my three years as a student nurse. The medical ethics I learned was a moral

standard for all time – the dignity of and respect for human life was instilled in us.

Other Developments

Survey of Nursing Schools in P.E.I.

A continuing concern of the Sisters was the importance of improving and maintaining a high standard of nursing education and service. Factors within and beyond the domain of the school affected this quest.

At the request of the Association of Nurses a survey of nursing education in the province was conducted by Upton and Flanagan in 1949. This survey disclosed the need for a strong, financially stable registered nurses' association as a means of improving standards of nursing. Following this study, in 1950, the Provincial Government allotted a portion of the Federal Health Grants for the salary of a full-time Executive Officer of the Association who would also act as a School of Nursing Advisor. The Government continued this financial support until the Association was able to support itself.

Another situation external to the school itself which gave a powerful impetus to raising the standards of the school resulted from the completed revision of the Provincial Nurses Act in 1949. The new act, entitled the Nurse's Licensing Act, became effective in 1951 and was the second of its kind in Canada. It laid down specific requirements for the admission of students. The minimum requirement of completion of four years of high school evidenced a marked change from the traditional pattern.

The formation of the Board of Examiners was completely changed. Seven qualified members of the nursing association actively engaged in nursing would comprise the new Board. The Act further provided for the appointment of consultants to the Board who would advise on education, dietetics or other subjects. Recognition and appreciation must be given to the physicians who had served on the

Board of Examiners since 1925. Their help was invaluable.

Faculty of the School

The strength of any school depends basically on the devotion and competence of the faculty. It takes no great experience in teaching to know that however well planned a teaching program may be, it exists only on paper unless it is brought to life by effective teaching.

Until 1945 the school was served by part-time faculty. In May of that year, Sister Mary Irene returned from studying at the School of Nursing, University of Toronto with a diploma in Nursing Education. Sister became the first full time staff member. A few years later, Miss Anna Cameron, R.N., B.Sc., taught the sciences during her term on staff. After the latter's resignation, Mrs. Helen Bolger, R.N., B.Sc. filled the position for five years. It was with much regret that Helen's resignation as a faculty member was accepted; however, all were pleased that she was appointed the Executive Director of the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island and School of Nursing Advisor. Mrs. Bolger's contribution to the profession of Nursing in the province and nationally has been outstanding and deserves commendation.

An important component of nursing education has always been knowledge of nutrition and dietetics, both in the maintenance of well-being as well as healing of illness. The students at the Charlottetown Hospital always had qualified faculty for the teaching and supervision of the clinical experience in this subject. Sister Ellen Mary Cullen (Mother Loyola), who graduated from St. Francis Xavier University with a B.Sc. in Home Economics, was instructor for students. In 1960 Sister Joan Mary MacDonald returned from St. Louis, Missouri with her Masters Degree in Nutrition and Dietetics, and regularly instructed the students until the phasing out of the nursing school. Ms. Mary Thompson also contributed to the nutrition program in the 1960's.

A special contribution to the education of the student nurses in the area of ethics was made by Reverend Gavin Monaghan and Reverend Dr. Richard Ellsworth. Each priest gave many hours of his time in teaching the students.

It is not possible to list the names of the supervisors, head nurses and staff nurses of the hospital, who by word and example were as much a part of the teaching staff as those faculty listed elsewhere, during the fifty-one years the School was in operation.

Many of the Medical Staff gave invaluable instruction and support to the students throughout the history of the school. An attempt to list them all would be most difficult, as in lists such as these someone's name is inevitably left out.

Hours of formal instruction increased through the years as qualified faculty became available and fewer demands for student service were made on the part of the hospital.

In 1952 the "Preclinicals" did not start clinical experience on the wards until after Thanksgiving and then in the beginning only for a few hours. The first experience was to learn how to carry a meal tray properly, serve it to the patient, prepare, position and assist the patient, if necessary, as well as to record nutritional intake. They were the first class to have Thanksgiving weekend off and were a little envied by the other class for that special privilege.

They formed a basketball team and played games at the Holy Redeemer Community Centre. Shorts were definitely not residence wear and were worn under skirts en route to the Centre. The basketball was purely recreational and no competition was involved. When clinical experience extended into full days and different shifts, it was difficult to keep a team together.

Admission requirements to the School of Nursing in the decade of the fifties required a further year of high school, grade XII or its equivalent. Other changes in admission requirements throughout the years are noted in the following table:

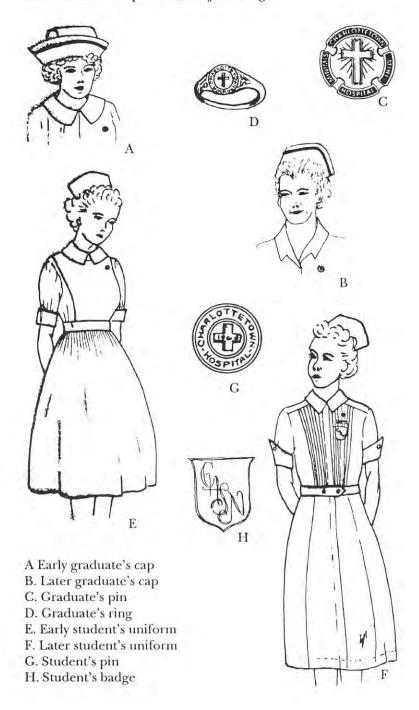
A T	T	The second of the second
Admission	Kea	uirements

Year	Age	Education	Health
1920- 1930	None stated	2 years High School (Gr. X)	Physical medical examination
	Minimum 17 years	2 years High School (Gr. X)	Physical medical examination
1940- 1950	18 years	3 years High School (Gr. X) or its equivalent	Physical Medical Examination Chest X-ray, dental certificate Blood and urine tests
1950- 1960	18 years	4 years High School (Gr. XII) or its equivalent	As above; also B.C.G. and Salk vaccines. For a few years, typhoid inoculations required.
1960- 1970	18 years	Gr. XII, 1 year university encouraged. Phychology 1 & Sociology 1	As in 1940-50.

"The Blues"

A further change took place in the student uniform in 1954. A soft attached unstarched white cotton collar and cuffs replaced the stiffly starched detachable collar and cuffs. The most outstanding change in style of the student uniform was initiated in 1956 in keeping with recent trends in Canadian schools. This resulted in adapting a one piece powder blue poplin dress, princess style, with a white Peter Pan collar and white cuffs. The school insignia embroidered on the left front near the collar added a note of distinction to it. Everyone wore a name pin, and the second and third year students also wore a blue and white school pin.

The following was printed in the School of Nursing



Yearbook by Benita Binns, a nurse in the first class to wear "the Blues".

Birth of The Blues

The stage was brightly lighted and many feminine faces glowed with anticipation - what held them in such suspense? - 'twas the joy dearest to each woman's heart - a fashion show and at this show was to be changed the history of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing, for here took place the "Birth of the Blues".

No more the rustle of skirts starched stiff heralding the coming of the "Angel of Mercy". No warning whatsoever will the poor patient receive until lying on his back he is smoking a thermometer.

And who was to be so fortunate to introduce this wonder? We, the class of '59 were to be first to enter the streamlined age of the student nurse.

The morning dawned, the sun peeked out of the east and beamed pleasantly on the spirited young figures that dashed from the Nurses' Residence to the Hospital, eager and yet a mite timid to meet their new tasks and to demonstrate the blues.

In the hospital rooms the patients lay shivering and wondering "is my needle due today?" Unfortunately *someone* had overlooked the task of seeing that each patient knew of this change.

Feeling very important we met our patients. They smiled, spoke sociably to us, allowed us to finish our work and then asked us if we knew where the nurses were this morning?

- Benita Binns '59

Choir

The class of 1955 remember having a choir trained by their Director of Nursing, Sister Mary Magdalen Connolly. Sister would always come to the recreation room on her way to bed at night and play the piano for a sing song with whomever was around. The students sang for church services in the hospital chapel. Midnight Mass at Christmas time and a concert on November 4th with the ladies of the St. Charles Auxiliary as guests were special events for the choir.

Religious Activities

Through religious activities, the students received spiritual motivation. They attended Holy Mass in the hospital chapel daily and an annual retreat. They were also encouraged and invited to belong to the Sodality of Our Lady. The late Father Gavin Monaghan, the first director



Chapel at the hospital. Courtesy Phyllis MacDonald

of the Sodality, obtained affiliation of the School of Nursing Sodality with the Prima Primaris in Rome in 1933. Rev. Lawrence Landrigan continued to be the spiritual director of the Sodality while it was in existence. Students always took part in the annual Corpus Christi procession from St. Dunstan's Basilica through the streets of Charlottetown for Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at Notre Dame Academy outdoors in the square. They would be dressed in uniform and cap, with navy cape to complete their attire. Several students from the school attended workshops of the "Grail" movement in Lowland, Ohio, U.S.A. The Grail movement is an international Lay Apostolate movement at work in 15 countries of the world. Its purpose is to unite the talents and energies of young women of every race and nation to help turn society again in a godly direction. Through the years the students also attended biennial meetings of the Canadian Nurses Association; a meeting of the 5th World Congress of the International Catholic Council of Nurses and Medical Social Workers; Catholic Action Summer Schools in Montreal and New York.

Registration

High ideals in nursing education were being pursued not only by the school but also by the Association of Nurses. A major step was taken by the Association of Nurses when a contract was signed with the National League of Nursing in New York to use its testing service for registration purposes. This service was first used in 1956 and each year thereafter until the Canadian Nurses Association-Testing Service (CNATS) became available in 1970. CNATS prepared the subject material in five examination papers. Ten years later the format was changed to a more comprehensive style—four examination papers are now used. Since 1970, the examinations are also available in French. These examinations were taken by the graduates of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing who sought registration.

Psychiatric Affiliation

The nursing school curriculum was enriched in 1957 when an affiliation with the Provincial mental hospital was arranged. At this time a twelve week course in Psychiatric Nursing at Riverside Hospital was added to the program. This course consisted of lectures, conferences, and clinical experience on the wards. This was a new learning experience for the students and a good opportunity to meet and live in residence with students from the other schools of nursing, exchange ideas, and make new friendships.

Social Life

Changes were also occurring in the social realm. Permission for late passes became more liberal in the fifties. Students were allowed three 12 o'clock late passes a month in first year, four 12 o'clock passes in the second year and in senior year a one o'clock pass was added per month or for a very special occasion. The students held dances in the residence, about two each year with orchestra and chaperones, who were members of the alumnae.

Hospital Developments Affecting Nursing Education

The activity and developments within the hospitals directly influenced the student nurse who spent so much time in the hospital units and departments.

Central Supply

In 1950 the Central Supply Room was opened to service all departments of the hospital. Sister Avelina Smith (Mary Patricia) and Bernice (Haughey) Smith '46, spent many hours in planning and developing this department. Bernice (Haughey) Smith was the first Supervisor of this department, and remained in this position until 1952. Sister Minerva MacDonald became supervisor for several years before being appointed purchasing agent for the hospital. Subsequently, Sister Mary Eleanor Mullally capably managed the Central Supply until the hospital closed in 1982. The establishment of this department was a significant step forward in providing safer more efficient care for patients, as well as decreasing the workload for nurses. These duties are no longer considered nursing duties.

Dispensary Floor III

One of the most challenging assignments in the 1950's was what was called "Dispensary Floor III." This assignment included giving all medications, oral as well as injections, dressings, and treatments on a 45 bed medical surgical ward. All of the medications and solutions had to be checked and ordered daily by the student. As well she was responsible for returning soiled supplies to C.S.R. The student carried the keys and was responsible under supervision, for the daily narcotic count. She also accompanied the physician for dressing changes or removal of sutures. Even with the supervision and guidance of the supervisor, this was a heavy student assignment. One nurse stated,

"We were lucky that Sister Avelina Smith was our Supervisor. She was very understanding, a born teacher who loved learning. Her enthusiasm and encouragement were major factors in our success."

Formula Room

Another challenge was the "formula room", part of our Diet Kitchen experience. During the fifties it was common to have about 28 newborns in the nursery most of the time, as well as ten or fifteen infants in the Children's Ward requiring formula. That could mean about 240 bottles of prepared formula daily. Sterile technique was important here. We scrubbed our hands, washed and rinsed bottles, measured, mixed, poured, covered and autoclaved formula to keep the babies nourished and content while in hospital. When Dr. O'Hanley came as Pediatrician, it seemed he ordered a different formula for every baby, as well as glucose water, sterile water, and last but not least, "Lactic Acid".

Poliomyelitis

The students of the fifties gained first hand experience of nursing in an epidemic situation. The second outbreak of poliomyelitis in September 1954 quickly spread across the Island. Pauline McCabe recalls the first admission to the hospital was a very ill 19 year old boy, followed rapidly by thirteen more patients ranging from age two to nineteen years. These patients were cared for in the wing adjacent to the chapel (2D). The area was "off limits" to all but those caring for the patients. The initial treatment was complete rest with intravenous therapy and penicillin. After the acute phase had passed many patients were left with severe muscle loss, weakness and inability to effectively use their limbs. Intensive passive exercises were done by the patients three times a day with the nurses. Pauline relates:

We had been instructed in this procedure by Kathleen Jackson — our first physiotherapist. I also remember our most critically ill patient was a teenage boy with severe respiratory muscle weakness. He was unable to maintain breathing on his own, so he was placed in the "Iron Lung" — a five feet long, drum-like affair in which the patient was lying with his head protruding. This motorized lung produced a negative pressure, a contrast to today's high technology ventilators which work by positive pressure. There were portholes through which the nurses could provide care. He was a very likable young fellow and it was a pleasure to care for him. It was a very sad Sunday morning for us all when he died.

The other patients whose conditions improved were discharged to the Provincial Sanatorium where a re-education and rehabilitative program was set up by the government. The irony of this outbreak is that the following year Salk vaccine was discovered, making prevention of the disease possible.

Graduation

Graduation in the fifties included a special Mass in the Hospital Chapel followed by a special breakfast in the dining room. Graduation ceremonies were held in the evening, followed a day or two later by the Graduation ball, hosted by the Alumnae. Each graduate in formal gown was presented to the audience by the Chief of the Medical Staff of the Hospital and the President of the Alumnae. What a grand affair! Tickets for this annual event were always in great demand. The class of 1955 were entertained at afternoon tea with the Centennial co-ed class of St. Dunstan's University at the home of Mr. & Mrs. J.W. MacDonald, Fitzroy Street.

Until 1957, new students were accepted twice each year, in September and January. Members of the last class of graduates who began studies in January (in 1956) were Paula (Gillis) McLarty, Miriam (MacIsaac) McCabe and Eileen (Connolly) Etter.

Sister Teresa MacDonald



Sister Teresa MacDonald

Among graduates of the nineteen forties who have done noteworthy work is Sister Teresa Mac-Donald, Class of 1948.

Shortly after graduating, Teresa joined the Sisters of Our Ladies' Missionaries, Toronto, Ontario. This move in her life was a surprise to her classmates. Most of her mission work was in Brazil caring for the poor, the lonely and the sick. We will never know from Sister herself of her great works; because of her deep

humility, she never elaborates on her works of mercy. We do know that she nurses the sick, where no doctors are available for months at a time. She carries out a parish ministry, teaching religion and feeding the poor. She talks about an uncertain political climate in the mission country, that includes "fixed" elections and potential danger to those who work for justice. Sister was home to the Motherhouse in July, 1990 and attended the Alumnae Reunion to renew old acquaintances.

The 1960s and '70s

On St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1960, a new residence was opened to accommodate 90 students. It was built on the waterfront, at the west end of Sydney Street on the south side. This building represents a milestone in the history of the school, as it is the first residence and school building designed especially for the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing. The building provided a home-like atmosphere as well as the necessary facilities: classrooms, library, offices, labs and comfortable living accommodations. Sister Stella MacDonald, Director of the School during the period of planning and construction of the building deserves commendation for her efforts in decision making and in bringing this project to a successful completion.

The decade of the 1960's brought many new changes. Sister Mary Irene, the Director of Nursing, who held an M.Sc. in nursing, was cognizant of changes in nursing education. She planned the curriculum according to the



School of Nursing and Nurses' Residence 1960 Courtesy of Rachel Matheson

needs of the nursing student of the day, assisted in studies being carried out in nursing education, and implemented recommendations made for the improvement of nursing education.

On-going studies of the nursing education system in the province identified areas of concern. One such study was carried out in 1962 by the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island. As a result, the Nurses Association approved a recommendation in 1963 to acquire the services of a qualified nurse to study the programs in the three schools of nursing in the province, and to make such recommendations as might be indicated.

The objectives of the study included a) the evaluation of the nursing programs in the light of community needs and b) the evaluation of the areas where the students obtained their clinical experience. Glenna Rowsell, Director of the Canadian Nurses Association Improvement Program, directed this important study in 1964.

This short history of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing does not seem to be an appropriate place to outline details of the process used in this study and to include all the recommendations. It is sufficient to say that the analyses and evaluations done by the faculty of the school, as well as those from the study, had a positive impact on improving the nursing program in our school.

Students who started the program around 1960 attended St. Dunstan's University to fulfill additional requirements for entrance to the school. Psychology and Sociology had been added as required subjects, and indeed a year of University previous to entrance was encouraged. The students commuted to the University by taxi. Instructors at the University included: Dr. Clarence Murphy, Sociology; Rev. Owen Sharkey, Psychology; Dr. Allen F. MacDonald, Sociology; and Dr. Richard Ellsworth, Anatomy & Physiology.

One of the graduates of the class of 1960, Arlene (Dowling) Gallant was the second girl to hold a BA degree from Saint Dunstan's University before entering the program,

the first being Ellen (Mullally) Callaghan '57. Several of the students now completed a year at University previous to entering the school of nursing.

Experience in the care of patients continued to be acquired in the medical, surgical, obstetrical and pediatric units, as well as in the operating and recovery rooms, central supply and dietary department. A short period of time was spent with the Public Health Nursing Department, for a few years. In addition, students affiliated at Riverside Hospital, Western Hospital and Catholic Family Services Bureau.

Hospital Developments Affecting Nursing Education

During this time specialties were becoming more common and health care delivery more complex. This necessitated expansion of the hospital and development of specialty units. These had major implications for nursing education of staff and students.

It became evident that a full-time instructor was required for in-service and continuing education. In September, 1965 Genevieve MacDonald '55 became the first in-service coordinator and instructor, with a teaching program for all levels of nursing staff on all nursing units. These nurses in turn eagerly shared their new knowledge with the students, encouraging a team approach to care of the patients.

Genevieve stated, "One of the most interesting and challenging programs during my term as Instructor was the development of the Coronary Care Course." In preparation for this program Genevieve gathered information from visits to Massachusetts General, St. Elizabeths, Newton-Wellesley and Peter Bent Brigham Hospitals in Massachusetts. She also attended a workshop in Toronto in coronary care.

She prepared a course manual and requested Dr.

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing

Sinnott to teach the first group of nurses interpretation of cardiac rhythm problems. The nurses were very anxious to learn and quickly become skillful in detecting arrythmias. "A very special day was the day I demonstrated the new defibrillator to the unit staff for the first time," recalls Genevieve.

In November 1969 Vernita Gallant, R.N., '63 became the In-Service Coordinator and remained in this position until the phasing out of the Charlottetown Hospital.

Student Life

During the decade of the sixties, the life of the student nurse had changed considerably. Although her day was still full of classes and work in the clinical area, she did have more time off and participated in more student activities. The province had an active student nurses' organization and the school itself had its own student council organization. Some of the girls who served as provincial presidents of the Student Nurses Organization and as executive members were:

Myrna (Nicholson) MacEwen	1964
Peggy (Paquet) Gallant	1968
Sheila (Jones) Saunders	1967
Doris (Dalton) Ward	1969
Maureen McIver	1968
Mary (Mulligan) Bradley	1970
Paula (Nantes) Grant	1968
Patricia (Arsenault) Wedge	1970

Students also took part in Saint Dunstan's University Carnivals and several were candidates for Queen.

With student council activities and a yearbook to be produced each year, students now needed to be active in fund raising. A special fund raiser occurred in the fall of 1965, when the students produced a fashion show. Beverley (Murphy) Jorgensen '67 was the coordinator and very capably involved one and all in the work. The students did

all the work leading up to the grand affair, which was held in the new Confederation Centre, as well as acting as models and choreographers for the show. Music, food and wine were served to a huge audience. Eleanor Noonan, "housemother", trained the girls in poise and walking. The show was a wonderful success. Beverley reported that the show turned in a profit which more than paid for the year-book expenses.

Lieutenant Patricia (Gauthier) MacKay, R.N. 1960 returned from Dalhousie University, to become a member of the faculty in 1961. She received basic training at HMCS Stadacona, Halifax, joined the Reserve Navy and became a nursing sister at HMCS Queen Charlotte, Charlottetown. Several nursing students also joined the Reserve Navy at HMCS Queen Charlotte and attended weekly training sessions. They were paid a stipend (significant in those days). These students, all of the class of 1964, included:

Patricia (Leclair) O'Brien
Bernadette (Gallant) Perotte
Paula Gauthier
Sylvia Poirier
Myrna (Nicholson) McEwen
Elaine (DesRoches) Prefontaine
Elizabeth (MacKenzie) Gaudet

Mary (Dunphy) Haire

During the first summer the members of the WREN's, as they were called, spent two weeks at HMCS Cornwallis in Nova Scotia; the second summer they were in training in communications at HMCS STAR in Hamilton, Ontario.

The classes of 1966 and 1968 had several students who became members of the Canadian Womens Army Corps. (C.W.A.C.) Medical Corps. They attended weekly training sessions at Queen Charlotte Armories for which they received a stipend and in summer attended a two week summer camp at Gagetown, N.B. for basic training. Some of the students included in this group were:

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing

Lynn (Cullen) Eager 1966 Maureen McIver 1968 Jeannine (McCabe) Bennett 1966 Paula (Nantes) Grant 1968 Donna (McGee) Daly 1966 Peggy (Paquet) Gallant 1968 Norah (Kelly) Tuly 1968

In 1968 a team of second year nursing students won the provincial Red Cross First Aid Competition. They subsequently competed at the International competition held in Hollywood, Florida. The members of the team were:

Teresa (MacFayden) Pfifferle 1969

Joan Duffy 1969

Barbara (MacIntyre) MacDougall 1969

Bernadette (Mossey) Paquet 1969

Anne (McInnis) Walsh 1969.

Funds were necessary for such an endeavour. The students were assisted in fund raising and transportation by Sinclair Cutcliffe. Other than help from the Red Cross and a few other donations, the money for the trip was raised by the students.

Barbara (MacIntyre) MacDougall recalls the competition being held at poolside in temperatures exceeding 100°F: "After each event we would jump into the pool clothes and all, just to cool off. Because of the intense heat, we performed more First Aid on the spectators than we did during the competition." Yet, in spite of the conditions, the group had a great learning experience and a wonderful time.

In 1969 another team of second year students won the provincial First Aid Competition and competed for the World Championship in Cincinnati, Ohio. This team was successful in winning the international competition for female teams. These members were: Diane (Kelly) Diamond 1970; Helen (Wood) Flynn 1970; Elizabeth (Gaudet) MacKay 1970; Elizabeth (Ellsworth) Millman 1970; Margaret Keefe 1970. Students raised \$2,000 for

their trip to Cincinnati. The instructor and coach for both groups was Sylvia (Poirier) Mulligan, a capable and enthusiastic faculty member of the School.

Changing social conditions in the sixties were reflected in the composition of the student body. Married students were admitted to the school and a few students married during their training period.

Helen (Wood) Flynn speaks of her classmate, Kay Mac-Donald, who was a farm wife and the mother of seven children, the youngest being five years of age, when she entered the nursing school: "She worked with her husband, Athol, on the farm,...supervised her growing family, maintained her studies, freed up her home for class parties and managed to attend every social event associated with the class...She attended classes at Saint Dunstan's University with the family wagon clattering with empty milk cans as she made her milk deliveries before attending class...In addition she coped with the death of a teenage son during that time."

An interest in the world beyond our usual boundaries was evidenced in the admission of foreign students. A request to sponsor young women from Peru to study in our nursing school came to the Director from Archbishop Romaro Carboni of Lima, Peru through the Catholic Latin American congregation. Arrangements were made to bring two girls to Prince Edward Island to study nursing. Nelly Leon graduated in 1965 from this school and Vilma Saavedra in 1967.

Being an assertive group, a characteristic of students at this time, the graduates of 1970 felt that they were responsible for some changes. They had curfews extended, demanded more freedom and were excused from carrying out some non-nursing duties. Great winds of change had swept through the School from its beginning in 1920 until its final class finished in 1971.

Throughout those years many families had as many as three daughters graduate from the School of Nursing, but there was only one family who had five daughters complete

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing

the required three years of study, graduate and receive their nurse registration. This family was Mr. and Mrs. D. Gallant of Miscouche. Their daughters were: Mona 1956; June 1957; Irma 1959; Elayne 1961 and Iris 1961.

School Paper

A school paper, *The Stella Maris Chronicle*, was published by the student nurses for several years beginning in 1949. After a lapse of a few years, the class of 1959 published the first *Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing Yearbook* and dedicated it to "Mary Queen of Heaven and Model for all nurses". The class of 1962 chose the name *Veronican* for the yearbook in honor of St. Veronica, who lovingly wiped the face of Jesus on the way to Calvary.

"Her act of mercy helped lighten the sufferings of our Divine Lord during his journey to Calvary. We aspire to imitate her noble example in bringing comfort to the suffering members of Christs mystical body".

The Veronican continued to be published until 1971. In that year the students dedicated the final edition to their Alma Mater and to all present and past faculty members.

Housemothers

In 1944 classes had become so large that a house mother separate from the Director of Nursing was required, one whose sole responsibility would be the supervision and "mothering" of the students in residence. Sister Mary of Nazareth, a brisk little woman, the first housemother, had to break new ground. She balanced the delicate task of both disciplining and loving the students. She took her responsibilities seriously. Martha MacIsaac stated, "She was caring, and proud of the nurses' successes." Sister Mary Cornelia Croken assumed this duty in 1952. Sister Cornelia showed an interest in the welfare of every student. She always understood when it was difficult

to make it in on time, and as one 1950's graduate recalled, "She was always saving food in the kitchen for the girls on the 3-11 p.m. shift." Sister M. Cornelia called everyone for 6:15 Mass in the Chapel each morning and for Family Rosary in the Social Room at 10 p.m. each night. Sister's term as housemother ended in 1959-60, and the first lay housemother, Mrs. Anne Arsenault (Nanna), came in time for the new class arriving in 1960. The class of 1963 said in their year book that they could all remember a time when she had helped them over a rough spot, "Although she worked late hours to see us all home, she was never too tired to share lounge chatter, sharing our joys, listening to our troubles."

In 1965, Mrs. Eleanor Noonan became the house mother; she remained in the position until the school phased out in 1971. The class of 1969 expressed their love and appreciation to Mrs. Noonan when they dedicated their year book to her. "Your sincerity, your patience, your special kind of love has made our residence our HOME." Mrs. Noonan remained in the position of housemother with the new Prince Edward Island School of Nursing.

For years the secretarial work in the School of Nursing was done by the instructors. All exams and correspondence was typed when classes were over and lessons prepared. In 1961, Mrs. Helen Lyons became the first secretary and switchboard operator in the School. This freed the instructors for teaching. In 1969 Mrs. Valerie MacLeod, secretary, came on staff. Mrs. MacLeod worked through the "phasing out" period of the school and continued to work in the Prince Edward Island School of Nursing. These women gave excellent service to the school. As well, throughout the years, other top notch people diligently provided a variety of support services.

Closing of the School of Nursing

From 1966-1969, one of the major topics of the Hospital Board of the three major hospitals was the proposal by the Provincial Government to phase out the three schools of nursing and to establish a Central School for the Province. In June, 1966, a Founding Committee was asked to study ways and means of establishing such a school. Each of the three hospital boards had representatives on this committee. These were: Eugene Cullen and Sister Mary Irene from the Charlottetown Hospital, Dr. R.D. Drysdale and Doug McKean from the P.E.I. Hospital, and Harry Holman and Lloyd Gorrell, from Prince County Hospital.

After many studies and meetings, a Board of Governors for the new school was announced with Dr. R.D. Drysdale as president. On March 4, 1969, it was reported that plans for the organization of the school had been completed. A lease was drawn up between the Boards of the Charlottetown Hospital and the P.E.I. School of Nursing for rental of the Charlottetown Hospital School premises; all other arrangements were progressing favorably. The first class of student nurses was admitted to The Prince Edward Island School of Nursing in September, 1969. The Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing remained operative until the summer of 1971.

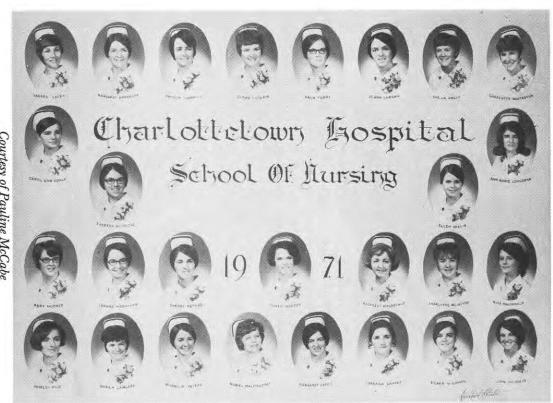
The final graduation ceremony of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing was held on August 11, 1971, during which 24 women received their diplomas from the school. The event was made more meaningful to the graduates and the school faculty by the announcement on August 10th that all the graduates had passed their registered nurse examinations and had led the Island graduates in all five subjects. What an exciting ending to fifty-one years of nursing education under the auspices of

the Charlottetown Hospital and the Sisters of Saint Martha! Seven hundred and thirty-four nurses are proud graduates of the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing.

The commitment the nurses made to their profession is embodied in the pledge they recited at graduation.

Jeanne Mance Pledge

That I may be strengthened in my resolve to model my life of duty after that of Jeanne Mance the first lay nurse of my beloved Canada and I pledge myself with the help of His Grace to be faithful to the following ideals: I will be true to the practice of my religion which is the inspiration of my noble vocation and while administering to the body will serve the soul by observing the principles of right ethics and nursing honor: I will be devoted to the profession that is mine obeying the physician within the sphere of his authority and I will make my work a labor of love rather than of profit whenever the service of God or country requires it of me.



Courtesy of Pauline McCabe

Directors of Nursing

Sister Mary Faustina

The first Superintendent of Nurses of the Charlottetown Hospital Training School for Nurses under the administration of the Sisters of Saint Martha was Sister Mary Faustina Monaghan, C.S.M., who served from 1925-1931. Sister Faustina, a native of Kelly's Cross, received her teacher training at Prince of Wales College and graduated from St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing,



Sister Mary Faustina. Courtesy of S.S.M.

Glace Bay, N.S. in 1923. She became a Registered X-Ray Technician in 1925 following study at Marquette University, Wisconsin, and held the dual role of Superintendent of Nurses and X-Ray Technician. She completed anesthetist training in Detroit, Michigan, in 1940 and became the first and only female Registered Anesthetist in Prince Edward Island. She joined the staff of the Charlottetown Hospital in that capacity. With the responsibilities she assumed in nursing education and service to the hospital, it is evident that that she was a woman of outstanding abilities, a pioneer of her time.

Sister Mary Stanislaus (Margaret MacDonald)



Sister Mary Stanislaus. Courtesy of S.S.M.

Margaret Mac-Donald of Mount Stewart graduated from the Charlottetown Hospital Training School for Nurses in 1927. She joined the congregation of the Sisters of Saint Martha in 1929 and became superintendent of nurses for two terms - 1931-1937 and 1947-1951. The superintendent was responsible for both nursing service in the hospital and the education of stu-

dents. She carried out her duties with compassion and humor, always showing great understanding of the people with whom she worked.

Active in the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island, Sister Mary Stanislaus served as President from 1937-39 and again from 1950-52. During her term of office, the Licensing Act became effective. She felt that a real significant change as a result of this Act was the raising of standards of entrance to Schools of Nursing in the Province to Junior Matriculation. She urged nurses to keep abreast of trends in nursing and to learn from their professional journal. She herself authored an article in the Canadian Nurse, Nov. 1952 entitled "Achievement in the Garden of the Gulf".

Sister Mary Magdalen (Bernadette Connolly)

Bernadette Connolly studied bookkeeping at Union Commercial College and music at St. Joseph's Convent prior to her nursing career. She worked as a bookkeeper, stenographer and music teacher in the years 1918-1923. After graduating from the Charlottetown Hospital Training School for Nurses in 1928, she worked for two and one-half years in Doctor Jack Jenkins' office. In 1931 she joined the Sisters of Saint Martha and took the name



Sister Mary Magdalen Courtesy of Mrs. P. Murnaghan

Sister Mary Magdalen. Sister first served as Director of Nursing from 1941-1945 and again in 1951-1953.

An accomplished musician and choir director, Sister shared her talents eagerly and greatly pleased the student nurses by adding a special dimension to their education — Music. She trained and directed the students in choir and concerts.

Sister also acted as Secretary-Registrar of the Registered Nurses Association of P.E.I. for twenty years. Her professional work included several years as operating room supervisor, a position in which she excelled.

Sister remained active in nursing, especially Geriatric Nursing, after completing her mission at the School.

Sister Mary Angela



Sister Mary Angela

Sister Mary Angela Keefe of Kinkora completed Normal School at Prince of Wales College and taught school for one year before joining the Sisters of Saint Martha in 1931. She graduated from Saint Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia in 1936, and went on to Saint Francis Xavier University to earn a

Bachelor of Science degree in 1937. With this educational preparation, she served as Director of Nursing at the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing from 1937 to 1941.

In 1953 Sister turned her talents to the field of administration. She studied Hospital Organization and Management in 1953 and spent several years as Administrator of both the Charlottetown and Western Hospitals. Sister capably carried out her duties and was known to tackle and solve all problems with decisive action.

Sister Mary David

Sister Mary David (Stella MacDonald) of Little Pond attended Prince of Wales College where she earned a teaching certificate. She joined the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha in 1936 and graduated from the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing in 1941, following a teaching career. Sister took post graduate training in

Obstetrical Nursing at Saint Michael's Hospital in Toronto in 1948. This prepared her for subsequent duties as supervisor of the Obstetrical Department of the Charlottetown Hospital. In 1953, Sister became Director of Nursing, serving in this capacity until 1959. She was active in the development and



Sister Mary David. Courtesy of S.S.M.

planning for the new School of Nursing facility which was officially opened in 1960. Following study in hospital organization and management, she became the Administrator of the Charlottetown Hospital, a position she held from 1962-1980.

She was elected Superior General of the Sisters of St. Martha in 1981 and served in this role for 8 years.

Sister Stella was an exemplary leader over three decades, as administrator and director, and a recognized figure in the health field, both provincially and nationally.

Sister Mary Irene McKinnon

Sister Mary Irene McKinnon, of St. Peter's received her early education at St. Peter's and her teachers certificate from Prince of Wales College. In 1936 she entered the congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha. She graduated from the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing in 1941, received a certificate in Nursing Education from the University of Toronto in 1945 and at that time became the first full-time instructor at the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing, as well as Director of Nursing from 1945-49.

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing



Sister Mary Irene McKinnon

Sister's interest in, and vision of, nursing education inspired her to continue her studies and to become a leader in this area. She earned a B.Sc. in Nursing Education from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana and a M.Sc. in Nursing School Administration from St. Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri. On her return to Charlottetown she resumed her position as Director of the School of Nursing, which she

retained until the program phased out. She was a member of the planning committee for the establishment of the P.E.I. School of Nursing and became the first director of the school which opened in 1969.

Throughout these years Sister had a sustained interest and active involvement in the professional association on the committee and executive level. She served on the Board of the Canadian Nurses Association and as President of the Association of Nurses of Prince Edward Island 1954-56. In 1973 Sister was given a new challenge, when she was elected to two four-year terms as General Superior of the Sisters of St. Martha. Upon completion of these terms, she embarked on a commitment to pastoral work in Saint Pius X parish. Sister is remembered for her notable contribution to the profession of nursing in both education and service. She was a remarkable nursing leader who was truly "ahead of her time". Presently, she is the Infirmary Coordinator at her Motherhouse.

Helen McInnis

Helen McInnis, a native of Charlottetown, studied at St. Dunstan's University and graduated from Saint Joseph's Hospital in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. After post graduate studies in obstetrical nursing she became an instructor at the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing. She obtained her B.Sc. in Nursing from Ottawa, Ontario. In 1968 Helen became the Associate Director of Nursing and the following year Ac-



Helen McInnis

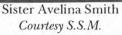
ting Director of the School. Under Helen's tutelage the students learned to strive for excellence and to meet the high standards she expected.

Sister Avelina Smith and Sylvia (Poirier) Mulligan

The administrative responsibilities for the final year of the schools operation were assumed by two of the remaining instructors, Sister Avelina Smith (Mary Patricia) and Sylvia (Poirier) Mulligan. These dedicated educators entusistically accepted this new challenge and executed their duties with skill and finesse.

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing







Sylvia (Poirier) Mulligan

Directors of The Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing

1920 - 1923 Sister Saint Bertha, s.c.q.
1923 - 1925 Sister Saint Macrina, s.c.q.
1925 - 1931 Sister Mary Faustina, C.S.M.
1931 - 1937 Sister Mary Stanislaus, C.S.M.
1937 - 1941 Sister Mary Angela, C.S.M.
1941 - 1945 Sister Mary Magdalen, C.S.M.
1945 - 1947 Sister Mary Irene, C.S.M.
1947 - 1951 Sister Mary Stanislaus, C.S.M.
1951 - 1953 Sister Mary Magdalen, C.S.M.
1953 - 1959 Sister Mary David, C.S.M.
1959 - 1969 Sister Mary Irene, C.S.M.
1969 - 1970 Helen McInnis (Acting)
1970 - 1971 Sister Avelina Smith and Sylvia
(Poirier) Mulligan (Acting)

Graduates of The School Who Became Faculty Members

Sister Stella MacDonald (Mary David) Patricia (Gauthier) MacKay Sister Avelina Smith (Mary Patricia) Arlene (Smallwood) Mamye Sister Mary Gabriel LeClair Lucetta (MacDonald) Ganley Mona Turner (Sr. Marie Monica) Jane (McCabe) McNally Sister Mary Magdalen Connolly Georgina (Trainor) MacInnis Sister Marie Cahill (Mary Hermina) Juanita (MacDonald) Lechowick Sister Mary Angela Keefe Arlene (Dowling) Gallant Sister Mary Stanislaus MacDonald Marie (Campbell) MacAulay Sister June LeClair (Peter Damien) Sylvia Poirier Sister Mary Irene McKinnon Lynn (Cullen) Eager Sister Rebecca Sark (Anne Celestine) Anne Rowe Genevieve (MacDonald) MacDonald Stella Driscoll

Other nursing faculty members who were not Charlottetown Hospital graduates included: Anna Cameron, Helen Bolger, Marilyn (Francis) Sark, Helen (McInnis) Paulinack, Jean MacLellan, and Theresa Mossey.

Instructors in Psychiatric Nursing at Riverside Hospital

Katherine MacLennan Emily Bryant Leona (Devine) Doyle Sonia (Griffin) Acorn Margie Newson Marilyn (MacCallum) Coady

Dietetics

Mother Francis Loyola (Sister Ellen Mary Cullen) Sister Joan Mary MacDonald Ms. Mary Thompson

Visiting Professors

Dr. Richard Ellsworth: Ethics, Anatomy and Physiology

Rev. Gavin Monaghan: Ethics Rev. Allan MacDonald: Sociology

Rev. Charlie Cheverie: Anatomy and Physiology

Dr. Clarence Murphy: Sociology

List of Graduates

1923

Laura MacDonald, Blooming Point Adele Connors, Charlottetown Marie MacLellan, Indian River Evelyn Coady, North Wiltshire Margaret MacDonald, Tracadie Ethel Murphy, Conway Florence McIntyre, Tracadie Anne McIntyre, Charlottetown Mae King, Charlottetown Pearl McKenna, Newton

1924

Catherine McCarville, Kinkora Hilda Connors, Charlottetown

1925

Anna Clohossey, Tignish Madeline Greenan, Emerald

1926

Marie Murphy, Morell
Maude Hughes, Morell
Annie Coady, North Wiltshire
Mary Rossiter, Morell
Molly Lonergan, Charlottetown
Jennie Trainor, Kinkora
Bertha McQuillan, Charlottetown
Gertrude Campbell, Newport
Genevieve Hammill, Lower Freetown

1927

Margaret MacDonald, Mt. Stewart Annie McKenna, Emerald R.R. Edna Green, Bedeque Mary MacCormack, Georgetown Isadora Gallant, Charlottetown Sister Philip Neri, Mount Saint Mary's Annie LeBlanc, Charlottetown

1928

Bernadette Connolly, Charlottetown

1929

Mary McCarville, Carleton Siding Mary Devereaux, New Haven Bernice Connick, Fortune Cove Gertrude McIvor, Kinkora

1930

Catherine Stella Mooney, Iona Rose McGuigan, Kinkora Margaret MacDonald, Southport Virginia McKenna, Mt. Stewart Hazel Keefe, Rollo Bay Mary Gaudet, Charlottetown

1931

Irene Burke, Alma, Lot 3 Helen Hammill, Lower Freetown Eileen MacDonald, Grand Tracadie Mary Peters, Rollo Bay East Gertrude Trainor, Charlottetown

1932

Claire Clohossey, Tignish Helen McPherson, Uigg Mildred Wight, Georgetown Mary Harris, Elmira Francis A'Hearn, Alberton Margaret Campbell, Charlottetown

1933

Anna Handrahan, Tignish Bernadette MacMillan, Charlottetown Ada Trainor, Roseville Mary S. MacDonald, Peakes Stella Murphy, South Shore Margaret Donahue, Roseneath Carrie Kelly, Shamrock Eileen Croken, Freetown

1934

Helen McCarville, Carleton Uldene McNeill, Miscouche Josepha DesRoches, Miscouche Cora Grant, Montague Helen Solomon, Georgetown

1935

Genevieve McGuigan, Charlottetown Sister John Baptist, Mount Saint Mary's Mildred Murnaghan, Charlottetown Inez Gorman, Kensington Lucy Coady, Lot 65 Letitia Bernard, Tignish Lumina Poirier, Miscouche

1936

John Doucette, Rustico Lillian McNeill, Charlottetown Theresa O'Donnell, Vernon River Helen McNeill, Summerside Irma Gaudet, Montague

1937

Mary King, Charlottetown
Catherine McCloskey, Cornwall
Rae Leightizer, Charlottetown
Eileen O'Neill, Charlottetown
Mary Gillis, St. Peters
Frances Murphy, Tignish
Dorothy Hennessey, Charlottetown
Mary Mullally, Souris

Ruth Toombs, Charlottetown Annette Morrissey, Tignish Marcella MacDonald, Peakes Gertrude Arsenault, Coleman

1938

Sister Mary Immaculate, Mount Saint Mary's

1939

Catherine O'Hanley, St. Peters Kathleen Shreenan, Kinkora Mary Croken, Emerald Junction Joanne MacDonald, Pisquid Frances Cullen, Central Royalty

1940

Helen Sullivan, Montague
Aileen Howard, Cape Wolfe
Helen Sexton, Borden
Anne Whalen, Elmsdale
Dorothy Greenan, Kelly's Cross
Rita Norrie, Charlottetown
Mary Lannigan, Sturgeon
Margaret MacEwen, Grand Tracadie
Sister Mary Patricia, Mount Saint Mary's
Edna Richard, Charlottetown
Catherine Collings, Montague
Eleanor O'Meara, Charlottetown
Mary Blanchard, Summerside
Mary Handrahan, Mt. Stewart

1941

Mary MacIsaac, Hermanville Eileen McGaugh, Bear River Marion MacAulay, St. Peters Bay Evelyn McCarthy, Morell Elizabeth Murphy, Emerald Sister Mary David, Mount Saint Mary's Sister Mary Irene, Mount Saint Mary's

Ella Collings, Montague

1942

Catherine MacDonald, Pisquid Myrtle Cairns, Greenfield Evelyn MacKinnon, Grand Tracadie Josephine Greenan, Kinkora Mary Shea, Indian River

1943

Irene Kinch, Alma May Morrissey, Earnscliffe Thelma O'Donnell, Avondale Marion Boylan, Lake Verde Rita Coady, Hazelbrook Adele McIvor, Kinkora Helen MacDonald, Bedeque Frances Steele, Gaspereaux

1944

Zita Morrissey, East Royalty
Bernadine Morrissey, Tignish
Margaret Doyle, North Rustico
Frances MacDonald, Orwell Cove
Rita MacDonald, Glenfinnan
Anna McIntyre, Mt. Stewart
Estelle MacIsaac, Cherry Valley
Gertrude Power, New Perth
Mary Coady, Charlottetown
Carolyn Kenny, Charlottetown

1945

Marion McEntee, Emerald Helen Campbell, Charlottetown Marion McQuaid, Kensington Bernice Coyle, Montague Georgina Trainor, West Royalty Marguerite MacDonald, Vernon River Doris Taylor, Georgetown

Stella Horgan, Stanhope

1946

Kathleen O'Connor, New London Marion Mitchell, Charlottetown Jean Grant, Montague Jean Hughes, Charlottetown Faustina McIvor, Kinkora Pauline Brennan, Kinkora Imelda Voutour, Charlottetown Eileen MacMillan, Eldon Phyllis Blanchard, Charlottetown Mary Richard, Charlottetown Kathleen White, Emerald Doris Jay, St. Peters Bay Bernice Haughey, Charlottetown Doreen Grant, Summerside

1947

Tena Collings, Montague
Evelyn Diamond, Charlottetown
Teresa Gaudet, Miscouche
Carmel MacAulay, Charlottetown
Bertha Stewar, t, West Point
Paula Arsenault, Charlottetown
Bertha LeClair, Charlottetown
Frances Steele, Charlottetown
Dorothy McInnis, Coleman
Lillian MacDonald, Armadale
Rita Cahill, Kildare
Rita McAdam, Morell
Alice Trainor, Charlottetown
Noreen Coyle, Montague

1948

Merrill Meurant, Souris Agatha Arsenault, St. Nicholas Mary C. MacDonald, Blooming Point Genevieve MacDonald, Blooming Point Teresa MacDonald, Panmure Island Loretta Trainor, West Royalty Sister Ann Celestine, Mount Saint Mary's Kay Reid, Stanley Bridge Teresa Trainor, Charlottetown Eileen Walsh, East Royalty

1949

Shirley MacDonald, Charlottetown Edith Larkin, St. Peters Bay Nan McInnis, Summerside Norma Bernard, Tignish Margaret O'Hanley, St. Peters Bay Georgina Greenan, Emerald Edith DesRoches, Miscouche Florence McInnis, St. Peters Bay Inez MacDonald, Charlottetown Claire MacDonald, Charlottetown May Doyle, Charlottetown Winona MacDonald, St. Margarets Elaine Ready, Tignish Leona Jay, Mt. Stewart Phyllis Hughes, Bradalbane Florence McInnis, Earnscliffe Noreen Noonan, Charlottetown

1950

Edith MacKinnon, Coleman
Joyce Jay, Morell
Elizabeth MacDonald, Charlottetown
Elizabeth Baker, Charlottetown
Teresa MacKinnon, Grand River
Teresa MacKenna, Glenroy
Rose MacDonald, Coleman
Aletha Feehan, Mt. Stewart
Agatha MacLean, St. Georges
Helen Jay, St. Peters Bay
Eleanor Trainor, Tryon
Catherine O'Shea, Glenfinnan

Florence MacGuigan, Charlottetown Ruth Kelly, Summerside

1951

Wanda MacPhee, North Lake Anita Laughlin, Sherbrooke Eileen Doyle, Earnscliffe Dorothy Hughes, Johnston's River Noreen O'Connor, New London Alberta Gaudet, Summerside Myrtle Murphy, Kinkora Miriam Lawless, Kensington Lorena Mallard, Clear Springs Shirley Pollard, Charlottetown Marion MacDonald, St. Peters Bay Dorothy Smith, Kinkora Mary N. McInnis, Souris Katherine Morris, Kinkora Edith Meurant, Souris Agnes MacAulay, Charlottetown Marjorie Roberts, Kinkora Bernadette Hughes, Charlottetown Jean McGaughey, Breadalbane Frances Prosper, Georgetown Marie Sullivan, Cardigan Mary Rossiter, Morell Mary Carroll, Parkdale

1952

Lorena Rooney, Orwell Cove Alicia Mullally, Souris Noreen Shreenan, Kinkora Teresa Cash, Emerald Stephanie Gaudet, Summerside Glenn Curley, Kensington Anne Campbell, Charlottetown Julia Prosper, Georgetown Dorothy White, Emerald Mary Callaghan, St. Louis Jean Aylward, St. Louis
Sister Mary Hermina, Mount Saint Mary's
Marjorie Murphy, Ebbsfleet
Anna MacKinnon, Grand Tracadie
Leona Fisher, Tracadie Cross
Betty Fisher, Tracadie Cross
Helen Lannon, Charlottetown
Margaret MacKinnon, Kensington
Teresa Gaudet, St. John, N.B.

1953

Catherine Campbell, Souris Mary MacMillan, Pownal Elizabeth Trainor, Johnston's River June Connolly, Morell Lenora Ryan, Morell Martha MacIsaac, Earnscliffe Maisie McMahon, Kensington Agnes Boylan, Lake Verde Anita MacNeill, Summerside Geraldine Hughes, Souris Eileen MacEachern, Mt. Stewart Rose Griffin, Newtown Cross Florence C. McInnis, Elliotvale Laura McKenna, Montague Mary Kelly, Summerside Helen Larter, Charlottetown

1954

Leona Devine, Peakes
Joan Kelly, Fort Augustus
Florence Callaghan, Charlottetown
Donna White, Emerald
Roma Cavanagh, Charlottetown
Pauline Morrissey, East Royalty
Coleen McCarthy, Tignish
Mary Morrison, St. John, N.B.
Anne McCormack, Souris
Geraldine MacDonald, Cardigan

Alvire LeClair, North Rustico Theresa MacIsaac, Rock Barra Helen Theriault, St. John, N.B. Martha O'Halloran, Montague Maureen Curran, Peakes Sister Marie Monica, Mount Saint Mary's Beatrice Doucette, North Rustico

1955

Genevieve MacDonald, Glenfinnan Noreen Shaw, Charlottetown Sister Mary Veronica, Mount Saint Mary's Carmilla Arsenault, Tignish Elizabeth McManus, Charlottetown Noreen Taylor, Rocky Point Phyllis Gillis, Kensington Shirley Doiron, St. Charles Claire Paquet, Souris Mildred Chaisson, Rollo Bay Florence Arsenault, Charlottetown Sister Peter Damien, Mount Saint Mary's Stella Driscoll, Kensington Janet MacDonald, Charlottetown Mary Sullivan, Montague Mary MacIsaac, Rocky Point Zelda Arsenault, Wellington Mary Rose MacDonald, Central Royalty Betty Peters, Summerside Eleanor Campbell, Primrose Bertha McCarthy, Morell Rear

1956

Marina Arsenault, Charlottetown Anne Steele, Charlottetown Juel Steele, Morell Bernadine Hughes, Bedford Rosalia Kane, Morell Doris Smith, Charlottetown Thelma Walsh, East Royalty

Marguerite Morrissey, Newtown Cross Ruth Murphy, Montague Mona Gallant, Miscouche Betty Ann Gallant, Charlottetown Phyllis Martell, Georgetown Eileen McCarron, Sturgeon Arlene Saunders, Charlottetown Emma McMahon, Kensington Irene McIntyre, Richmond Paula Gillis, Alberton Camilla MacAulay, Souris Miriam MacIsaac, St. Peters Rita Sinnott, Bristol Barbara Arsenault, St. Nicholas Mary Doran, Portage Leona Arsenault, Wellington Frances Gorman, Kelly's Cross Marina Gallant, South Rustico Florence Cahill, Summerside Shirley McEachern, Charlottetown Elizabeth Smith, Charlottetown Lorraine Sinnott, Bristol Nova Veno, Miscouche Elizabeth McCardle, Kinkora Jean Murphy, Cherry Valley Eileen Connolly, Charlottetown Marina Malone, Souris Mary MacInnis, Charlottetown

1957

Patricia Morris, Charlottetown Patricia MacDonald, Souris Catherine Peters, Rollo Bay East Lorraine Roche, Charlottetown Catherine McEwen, Souris Jane Praught, Charlottetown Audrey Gallant, North Rustico Eileen MacDonald, Little Pond Norma Creamer, Souris Jean Bevan, Charlottetown Lorna MacInnis, Tignish June Gallant, Miscouche Ellen Mullally, Souris Gwen Rowe, Emerald Marguerite Bradley, Peakes

1958

Gertrude Fitzgerald, Georgetown Bertha McQuaid, Richmond Helen Creed, Sturgeon Nola McCabe, Charlottetown Lucetta MacDonald, St. Peters Bay Florence Arsenault, Tignish Helen McInnis, Charlottetown Grace Seaman, O'Leary Frances Praught, Cherry Valley Helen Walsh, East Royalty Elizabeth Praught, Cherry Valley Noreen McCarthy, Morell Joyce Paquet, Souris Hilda Rossiter, St. Peters Bay Mary Weeks, Fredericton Joan MacEachern, Charlottetown Wilena McQuaid, Bedford Ann MacDonald, Souris Bernadette Gillis, St. Peters Bay Maria Dahl, Charlottetown Helen Marie MacCormack, Souris Barbara Gallant, Charlottetown Pauline Noonan, Charlottetown

1959

Bernadette Power, Greenfield Carlene McEachern, Mt. Stewart Barbara Shea, Tignish Ella Cahill, Summerside Mary MacCarville, Kinkora Janet Kenny, Peakes Jane McCabe, Iona Benita Binns, Charlottetown Elizabeth Aylward, Southport Elsie Conway, Tignish Camilla Walsh, Summerville Elizabeth Steele, Summerside Marie Morgan, Charlottetown Marguerite Daley, St. Mary's Road Marina Roberts, Kinkora Gloria Gallant, Mount Carmel Marie Watts, Grand Tracadie Susan Peters, Rollo Bay Elizabeth Doyle, North Rustico Daphne MacMillan, Charlottetown Evelyn Lanteigne, Lower Montague Mary Lee MacMillan, Charlottetown Mary McIvor, Kinkora Patricia MacInnis, Summerville, Mass. Shirley Daley, St. Mary's Road Theresa Gallant, Southport Erma Gallant, Miscouche Margaret McCardle, Middleton Jeannete MacDonald, Souris River

1960

Joyce Kinch, Alma
Marie Campbell, North Wiltshire
Rosalie DesRoches, Miscouche
Wilena Sherry, Fernwood
Sister Mary William, Fernwood
Jeanette Peters, Souris
Elizabeth Walker, Charlottetown
Helen MacDonald, Souris
Jeanette Kenny, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Edith McIvor, Borden
Rita McCarthy, Morell
Jean Arsenault, Howlan
Ethel McWade, Charlottetown
Arlene Dowling, Charlottetown

Claire Brennan, Kensington
Patricia Gauthier, North Rustico
Mary Trainor, Albany
Sybil Coker, Charlottetown
Bernice Connolly, Charlottetown
Flora Peters, Rollo Bay
Pauline Farrell, Sturgeon
Mildred Murphy, Montague
Angela Kenny, Brooklyn, N.Y.

1961

Betty McIntosh, Souris Marguerite Mossey, Bothwell Roberta Lappin, Charlottetown Carol Clinton, Charlottetown Arlene Smallwood, Southport Jane Campbell, Charlottetown Pauline DeCoste, Charlottetown Mary Trainor, Watervale Rosemary Mulligan, Charlottetown Janet Walsh, Summerville Iris Gallant, Miscouche Myrtle Perry, Summerside Wilhelmina McQuaid, Charlottetown Ann Casey, St. Peter's Bay Marie Shea, Alberton Adelaide Mulligan, Newton Mary Gallant, Hunter River Patricia Cronin, Charlottetown Margaret Rose Connick, Kinkora Elaine Gallant, Miscouche

1962

Genevieve Campbell, Campbell's Cove Mary Anne Campbell, Amherst, N.S. Lawreen Clohossey, Tignish Helena Dowling, Charlottetown Joanne Farmer, Kinkora Clara Gallant, North Rustico

Bella Gaudet, Miscouche Joyce Mokler, Tignish Anne Moran, Charlottetown Palma Keefe, Bloomfield Phyllis Keefe, Skinner's Pond Anne Lawlor, Charlottetown Rosella LeClair, North Rustico Jean MacAdam, Morell Eleanor Macdonald, Tignish Juanita MacDonald, Morell Delima Poirier, Miscouche Janet Profit, Alberton Georgina Morrissey, Earnscliffe Marie Mullally, Souris Alberta Murphy, Stanhope Freda Peters, St. Charles Adele Ross, Mt. Stewart Elizabeth Trainor, Albany

1963

Dorothy Buote, Tignish Marie Claybourne, Charlottetown Frances Clinton, Souris Patricia Connolly, Charlottetown Jane Curran, Peakes Bernadine Deagle, Souris Marilyn Driscoll, Johnston's River Patricia Dunphy, Kensington Vernita Gallant, Summerside Arlita Gillis, Norboro Michelle Gillis, Charlottetown Shirley Green, Emerald Rosemary Hughes, Morell Carol Ann Jones, Charlottetown Patricia Kelly, Charlottetown Janet Hynes, Millview Patricia MacDonald, Souris Rita McCabe, Kinkora Marilyn McCallum, Charlottetown Elizabeth McIvor, Kinkora
Helen Morrissey, Earnscliffe
Norma Morrissey, Cherry Valley
Audrey O'Meara, Bloomfield
Deanna Reid, Wellington
Elaine Smith, Charlottetown
Ann Steele, Miscouche
Sandra Ward, Charlottetown
Kathleen Weeks, Fredericton
Salome Wedge, Summerside
Carol Perry, Miscouche
Patricia Larter, Charlottetown

1964

Susan Cronin, Charlottetown Elaine DesRoches, Miscouchee Dorothy Dahl, Charlottetown Paula Gauthier, North Rustico Mary Dunphy, Kensington Lynda Feehan, Mt. Stewart Bernadette Gallant, Southport Jean Hagen, Millvale Myra Gaudet, St. Louis Mary MacIsaac, Rock Barra Coreen Grant, Borden Patricia LeClair, Charlottetown Geraldine McCarville, Kinkora Elizabeth MacKenzie, Charlottetown Frances MacDonald, Charlottetown Sylvia Poirier, Miscouche Judith Macdonald, Cardigan Dorothy McNeill, Alberton Paula Reddin, Southport Myrna Nicholson, Charlottetown Elizabeth Gallant, Summerside Eileen Walsh, South Shore

1965

Catherine Murphy, Norboro Kathleen Stewart, Bloomfield Ruth Saunders, O'Leary Delphine Arsenault, Summerside Ann Connick, Charlottetown Joan Connolly, Charlottetown Diane Corrigan, Tracadie Cross Korleen Currie, Charlottetown Elizabeth Duffy, Kinkora Helen Gallant, St. Charles Virginia Jamieson, Sturgeon Nellie Leon, Peru Doreen MacCormack, Charlottetown Susan MacDonald, Winsloe Peggy MacDougall, Kinkora Maureen MacIntyre, Charlottetown Edna MacLeod, Fort Augustus Agnes MacDonald, Charlottetown Barbara McQuaid, Charlottetown Karen Mahar, Charlottetown Betty Anne Maloney, Charlottetown Sharon Mullin, Summerside Madelyn Murphy, Charlottetown Marie Murphy, Foxley River Elizabeth Power, Tracadie Cross Colleen Sharbell, Portage

1966

Mary Lou Callaghan, Charlottetown Bonita Morrison, Georgetown Lorna McCarvill, Kinkora Catherine Foley, Alberton Bernadette Hammill, Middleton Mary Edmonds, Iona Elizabeth Mullally, Charlottetown Judith Trainor, Charlottetown Bernadine MacDonald, Charlottetown Lynne Cullen, Charlottetown Judith Dowling O'Brien, Charlottetown Jeannine McCabe, Kinkora Elizabeth Chaisson, Rollo Bay Diane Gallant, South Rustico Joan Gallant, Charlottetown Rose Trainor, Johnston's River Sylvia Bernard, Summerside Mary MacQuaid, Richmond Janice Cheverie, Charlottetown Marlene LeClair, Summerside Patricia Smith, Peakes Mary Buchanan, Georgetown Patricia Lappin, Charlottetown Frances Callaghan, New Perth Rita Lund, Tracadie Phyllis Coady, Southport Donna McGee, Parkdale Camilla Shea, Waterford Carol Ann Hamill, Middleton

1967

Sister Mary Walter, Mount Saint Mary's Helen Dunphy, Kensington Sandra Green, Albany Irene Farrell, Central Lot 16 Geraldine Gallant, North Rustico Sheila McInnis, Summerside Beverlee Murphy, Mount Stewart Velda Noonan, Albany Stephanie Wellner, Southport Anne Shephard, Charlottetown Audrey Grant, Orwell Cove Anne Rowe, Donaldston Florence Foley, Alberton Mary Leah Doyle, Pleasant Grove Sister Joseph Agnes (Walsh), Mount Saint Mary's Madeline Daley, St. Mary's Road Gertrude McPhee, Souris Wilma Dunphy, Cherry Valley

Sheila Jones, Bloomfield Vilma Saavedra, Peru Eleanor Mooney, Iona

1968

Margaret Paquet, Parkdale Andrea McCloskey, Bear River Margaret Mahar, Souris West Cheryl Corcoran, Piusville Laverne David, Georgetown Eileen Kickham, Souris West Mary Arbing, Bedford Frances Murphy, Charlottetown Mary McFarlane, Charlottetown Paula Rowe, Emerald Barbara Acorn, Souris Jean Maas, Vernon Norah Kelly, Stanchel Myra Kelly, Peakes Marguerite Landrigan, Sturgeon Paula Nantes, Kelly's Cross Theresa Quinn, Cardigan Mary Shea, Alberton Anne McAulay, Campbell's Cove Elizabeth Murphy, Mill River Beverley McInnis, Sherwood Mary Margaret MacDonald, Moncton, N.B. Mary Angela MacDonald, Corran Ban Sister Jacinta Peters, Mount Saint Mary's Anne Marie Gaudin, Parkdale Audrey Gallant, South Rustico Audrey Jamieson, Sturgeon Donna Curley, Charlottetown Paula McCarthy, Morell Maureen McIver, Kinkora Anne Marie White, Souris West

1969

Geraldine O'Brien, Charlottetown Elaine Gallant, North Rustico Mary MacLeod, Charlottetown Joyce Doucette, Pleasant View Cynthia Doyle, Charlottetown Theresa McFayden, Charlottetown Rosemarie O'Hanley, Charlottetown Shirley Carragher, Lot 65 Linda Howatt, Charlottetown Ann Marie Arsenault, Abram's Village Bernadette Mossey, Bothwell Catherine Harris, Elmira Anne McInnis, Souris Donalda Coade, Mt. Stewart Regina Gill, Peake's Station Arlene MacDonald, Monticello Patricia McQuaid, Bedford Elaine Clinton, Souris River Marilyn Peters, Rollo Bay Gloria Dunphy, Millview Melanie McCloskey, Bear River Margaret Bell, Parkdale Shirley Smith, East Royalty Rebecca Stewart, Grand River Linda Farrell, Central Lot 16 Carol Larkin, Carleton Siding Sandra Hamill, Middleton Joan Duffy, Kinkora Barbara McIntyre, Charlottetown Doris Dalton, Elmsdale

1970

Helen Wood, Lake Verde Betty McInnis, Souris Ruth McCloskey, Lot 65 Teresa Rooney, Charlottetown Donna Gardiner, Launching Anne McCarville, Charlottetown Wilma Sigsworth, Borden Mary Evans, Tracadie Cross Mary Mulligan, Newton Nancy Paquet, Charlottetown Elizabeth Gaudet, Charlottetown Brenda Gallant, St. Charles Betty Ann Shea, Alberton Diane Doucette, Pleasant View Elizabeth Ellsworth, Waterford Margaret Keefe, Kinkora Kathleen Curran, Peakes Eileen McAree, St. Teresa's Marion Coffin, Mt. Stewart Patricia Wedge, Summerside Marjorie Yoston, Launching Theresa Kelly, Newton Cross Sylvia McAulay, Campbell's Cove Mary Deagle, Rollo Bay Teresa Dougan, Tracadie Kathleen (Doyle) MacDonald, Mermaid Beverley Sherry, Albany Diane Kelly, Souris

1971

Margaret Creed, Charlottetown
Margaret Brothers, Cardigan
Carol Ann Doyle, Vernon River
Charlotte McFayden, Charlottetown
Michelle Peters, Souris
Rachelle MacDonald, Charlottetown
Charlene MacIntyre, Savage Harbour
Sherry Peters, St. Charles
Mary Doucette, Charlottetown
Sandra Lecky, Charlottetown
Joan MacAulay, Souris Line Road
Rita Shea, Waterford
Joanne Curran, Peake's
Eileen McGuigan, Charlottetown
Dale Perry, Bristol

Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing

Shirley Rice, Cardigan
Sheila Kelly, Morell
Phyllis Hamill, Middleton
Muriel McGillivary, Charlottetown
Lorraine Harper, Tignish
Jeanne Monaghan, Charlottetown
Theresa Ostridge, Pisquid
Sheila Lawless, Kinkora
Susan LeClair, Charlottetown

The Alumnae

The Nurses Alumnae Association of The Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing was formed in 1931, with Miss Mae King, a graduate of its first nursing class, as President.

Its purpose was to promote a high ethical standard of the profession, to deepen and broaden professional knowledge, and to unite in interest and affection the Graduates of the School.

Throughout the years the Alumnae has acted as a supportive organization for the nursing School. Through regular meetings, homecomings and reunions, it has provided opportunities for informational and social activities, and for graduates to maintain ties and friendships developed during student days.

In July 1990 a special Reunion was held to honor the 70th Anniversary of the entry of the first class of students into the Charlottetown Hospital School of Nursing. Approximately 350 nurses attended from all parts of Canada, the U.S.A., South America and the Middle East, representing almost every class from 1930 to 1971, when the last class graduated from the School.

A major project of the Alumnae at present is the publication of this history of their School, in order to preserve its rich heritage of nursing education and service.

St. Veronica's Nurses' Guild

In addition to the Nurses' Alumnae, there existed within the Hospital environment a Charlottetown Council of Catholic Nurses known as St. Veronica's Nurses' Guild, which was formed to encompass all Catholic nurses residing on Prince Edward Island. Its objectives were:

a) The study, development and advancement of the standards of the Nursing profession.

b) The fellowship of Catholic nurses for the purpose of carrying out a program of Catholic action.

Throughout its years of functioning the Guild particpated in the Atlantic Council of Catholic Nurses (A.C.C.N.), and affiliated with the Catholic Nurses of Canada (C.N.A.C.) and the International Council of Catholic Nurses (I.C.C.N.).

Through regular Provincial group meetings, Atlantic Conferences, and association with the National body, nurses were involved in talks, presentations, group discussions, and other activities. Themes and topics were relevant to the nursing profession in general, and in particular to their apostolate as Catholic nurses in ethical matters, such as life, death, suffering, abortion, and euthanasia.

By 1971, participation at the local Guild and Atlantic Conference levels had declined to such a degree that the members decided, with regret, to disband the Guild.

Charlottetown Hospital School of X-ray Technology

In 1953 the Charlottetown Hospital opened a School of X-Ray Technology. The school staff worked closely with the staff of the School of Nursing, the X-ray students taking courses in sciences, basic nursing techniques and First Aid with the nursing students during the early years, and sharing the graduation ceremonies with the nurses. Sister Marion Keefe (Mary Edith) was the first director, followed later by Sister Noreen Hammill (Sister Joseph Noreen) B.Sc., R.T. The first graduate of the School of X-Ray Technology was Louise (Creamer) Graves '55.

List of Graduates

Louise Creamer, Souris	1955
No graduates	1956
Ethel McEwan, Souris	1957
Sister Joseph Noreen, Mount Saint Mary's	1957
Ruth MacIntyre, East Point	1958
No graduates	1959
Sheila Larkin, Charlottetown	1960
Danita MacQuarrie, Charlottetown	1961
Racheal Sinnott, Bristol, Lot 40	1962
Martina Murphy, Cherry Valley	1963
Beatrice Power, Montague	1963
Cheryl Connors, Charlottetown	1964
Lorraine Redmond, Charlottetown	1964
Josephine MacInnis, Souris Line Rd.	1965
Sister Dominic Savio, Mount Saint Mary's	1965
Nancy Green, Emerald	1966
Deanna Mullis Charlottetown	1967

${\it Charlottetown\ Hospital\ School\ of\ Nursing}$

Aletha Corcoran, Piusville	1967
Margaret McCarron, Montague	1967
Heather Fraser, Charlottetown	1968
Nora Goodwin, Charlottetown	1968
Clara Fisher, Bay Fortune	1968
Linda Gail Martin, Sherwood	1969
Leah M. McAvinn, Charlottetown	1969
T. Marilyn Doyle, Charlottetown	1969
Mary Rooney, St. Peters Lake	1970
Julie Cheverie, Souris	1970
Gayle Murphy, Charlottetown	1971
Ann Corcoran, Piusville	1971
Ellen Gillis, St. Margaret's	1971

