

N.K. Yangad on "Selection of students by whom? qualities and— methods of selection."

Members from St. Columbus hospital presented a role play on "Orientation of the New Student Pageant of nursing."

Independence day

Kanpur (U.P.): The Silver Jubilee of India's Independence day was celebrated by TNAI & SNA members on August 11 at the L.L.R. Hospital under the Chairmanship of Mrs. V. Dhavale. About 200 members attended the function.

Homage was paid to freedom fighters for their valuable contribution to the nation.

Three students who spoke on Independence day were: Miss S. Srivastava from L.L.R. Hospital, Miss Prem Lata Masey from Dufferin Hosp., and Miss A. Rupus from U.H.M. Hospital.

Mr. K.L. Sharma, Tutor and Mr. Kanodia, Ward Master, spoke on the "Duties & Fundamental Rights of the Indian citizen."

Independence day quiz was organised by Mr. A.H. Siddiqui in which 21 members participated. Three prizes were awarded. Prizes were also awarded to the three winners of the fancy dress competition.

CONFERENCE

"The Biennial Conference of the S.N.A. Tamilnad State Branch will be held from September 28-29, 1972 at Madurai.

The theme: **HEALTH EDUCATION—A CHALLENGE IN NURSING PRACTICE.**

(Miss) T. Annamma
SNA Advisor

A CORRECTION

In a report from Visakapatnam which appeared on Page 260 of the August issue of the Nursing Journal it was reported that Miss B.D. Sarojini, ADM & HS (Nsg.) donated Rs. 500/- towards the construction of a Recreational Hall at K.G. Hospital.

The donation was made by Mr. Kacherla Sri Rama Murthy who was a Guest Speaker at the Annual Conference.

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Health Teaching in Rural Areas

By Sr. L. Kuriakose

The Holy Cross Dispensary at Bettiah in Bihar is a mobile unit, which contains a Homeopathic Doctor, a staff nurse, and a non-medical staff. The patients are taken care of at three centres viz; Bettiah, Majharia (where the Pakistani refugees of 1954 have settled down) and Lalgah (where the Holy Cross Sisters Society has a farm). About 200 patients are attended to daily. These patients who come from far away villages are very poor and illiterate. Their condition is pitiable. Many of them won't even have 1% or 2% of hemoglobin. But if they are asked to be

Many of the patients believed that fish caused leprosy, fruits caused cough and cold, wounds and skin diseases would not heal if meat or fish is eaten, water or any other cold drinks should not be taken when there is fever or cough and that one should not take bath during sickness.

The health talk gave encouraging results. Not only that the villagers attend them with interest, but they go back and tell their neighbours about what they learned in health education.

The villagers who lived only on rice, dhal, or "SATUVA" (a common food among the poor



The villagers take a keen interest in health talks.

hospitalized they will no more visit the dispensary. Their main illness are: anaemia due to malnutrition and worms, dysentery, skin diseases, T.B. and leprosy.

When the clinics were started we gave medicines only. When we became aware of the people's total ignorance about the basic principles of personal and environmental hygiene, the nutritive value of food etc., we started a health teaching programme. Before giving them medicines we arrange a talk in health education.

people of Bihar: maize and gram powder mixed with water is eaten with chillies) started eating vegetables, fish, milk, eggs and meat. The improvements in their health was evident after a couple of months.

Our experience exposes the need for health teachings in rural areas. There is a genuine desire among the people to improve their way of life. But they are helpless for want of education and other facilities. This need of the rural areas must encourage nurses to pursue public health programmes.

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