

T. B. refresher course at T.B. centre, New Delhi—A report

March 31—April 5, 1975

*Elsie Baby

I had the unique privilege to attend the T.B. Refresher Course arranged by the Tuberculosis Association in collaboration with the TNAI at the T. B. Centre, New Delhi. When I accepted the selection card I just thought of utilizing the opportunity to go to Delhi and see the places. But after attending the course I really realised that 'A little thing is a little thing, but faithfulness in little things is a very great thing'.

During the 6 days programme we could gain knowledge in different aspects of Tuberculosis which is one of the gigantic public health problems, widely prevalent both in urban and rural areas. Management of T.B. has been revolutionised during the last two decades. Treatment is no longer a prerogative of the few privileged patients but is now applicable on the mass scale. Domiciliary treatment has been controversially proved to be as effective and as safe as hospital treatment. The success of domiciliary treatment depends upon the Health Visitors and Public Health Nurses. Their duty is not only to impart preventive advice and general health education but also to supervise self administration of drugs and to take prompt action in case of default by the patients.

We must understand that Tuberculosis is so common in our country that approximately 5,00,000 persons die from this disease every year. At any given time there would be about 8 million patients suffering from T.B. in our country. It is not necessary to write all about T.B. here but I would suggest all the nurses to possess the Hand Book of Tuberculosis written by Dr. S. P. Pamra, Director, T.B. Centre, New Delhi. This book is meant for the nurses and is beautifully written in simple language with special reference to Indian

conditions. Its price is also quite low.

The T.B. Centre at New Delhi is serving as a model for other clinics in our country. Organised home treatment is given to T.B. patients which is the sheet anchor of the T.B. control programme.

Apart from routine work of a clinic viz diagnosis and treatment of patients attending the Centre, it is functioning as a Training, Demonstration and Research Centre. It has in addition a full fledged epidemiology unit.

Medical and paramedical staff of this Centre work as a team with the principle of 'Living with people, Working with people and Caring for the people'. The participants of this programme had maximum opportunity to make use of the facilities given by the Centre. We were able to discuss various problems relating to the T.B. control programme with Dr. Pamra.

The unique personality of Dr. Pamra is worthy to be appreciated. Mrs. Paul who is the Chief Public Health Nurse is a challenge to the Public Health Nurses. Her capacity as an organizer, an administrator and a teacher is admirable.

Let me extend our heartiest gratitude to the TNAI for organizing such a programme which is an answer to those who ask repeatedly 'What TNAI is doing.'

Achievements of any programme depend upon the dedicated service and hard work of the entire staff as one team.

ATTENTION PLEASE

Principals—Schools/Colleges of Nursing.

The date of questionnaires requesting information of basic psychiatric nursing programme is extended to 20th July 1975. Your cooperation would be appreciated.

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BOOK REVIEW

Maye's Midwifery BY ROSE MARY E. BAILEY, (Eighth edition)

Being particularly interested in Midwifery, I have great pleasure in introducing and recommending "Maye's Midwifery" to the pupils and qualified Midwives in India.

During the last two decades tremendous advances have taken place in the field of obstetrics and each edition of this book reflected the changes of its time. An increased knowledge of Physiology biochemistry leads to better understanding to both the mother and the foetus which further leads to the introduction of many new procedures.

I have gone through this valuable book and would like to commend on a few of the interesting features of this revised edition.

The style and the language of the book is remarkably simple and clear. The arrangement of the book is interesting and the sections dealing with social needs, pregnancy, labour, puerperium and new lessons are particularly valuable to the students of midwifery. The inclusion of foetal health commands special interest as it deals with complex investigations carried out in this field. Family Planning and community care have been properly introduced in detail. Illustrations are also valuable and educative.

I feel confident that this book will be of immense value not only to pupil midwives, but also to midwives undertaking advanced training.

My strong recommendation of this book to all the midwifery Tutors and pupils in India.

M. Philip

Lecture Notes in Pharmacology and Therapeutics for Nurses BY JAMES A BOYLE MD., F.R.C.P., Published by Churehill Livingstone, Edinburgh & London, 1974. Price £ 2.00 Pages 234

The proliferation of more and more medicines with potent effects and side effects has created new problems for doctors, nurses and patients. This book has rightly tried to give true insight to the nurses as to how the drugs act on various systems in the body. The drugs are further described with reference to the nurses role in the total care of the patient which gives extra credit to this book.

This book describes in a lucid fashion the points which every nurse should remember while administering drugs to patients. It covers exhaustively all cardinal aspects of important drugs. It is written in simple English which even a layman can understand. This book has an index but no references or bibliography is given. The questions at the end of every chapter are very useful and thought-provoking.

Chapters on drugs acting on the heart, drug interaction and methods of administration of drugs are very impressive. The presentation of photographs, charts and graphs is appropriate and elucidative. It is a valuable guide for nurses and nursing students and should necessarily find a place in the libraries of all the schools and colleges of nursing.

K. C. Aggarwal