

Book Review

A Study Guide in Nursing Arts

By

Edith Buchanan

Published in U.S.A.

This very interesting and comprehensive book by Edith Buchanan was published in the U.S.A. in 1953. In the author's own words, this book is a study guide "out of India, for India." More than the value of this book itself, if it can encourage other leaders in nursing in India today to write texts and workbooks specially adapted to India, it will have served a most valuable function.

The contents of this book include all the different nursing procedures and the fundamentals of surgical and medical nursing. But it includes much more than this, as it presents health problems of India, those factors that encourage the student to choose nursing as a profession. It then continues by discussing the wide role and opportunity of nursing in India, which opportunities are not widely appreciated by the Indian public. Yet before beginning the discussion of procedures, there is a thorough evaluation and thinking through of the goals and aims a nurse should have: her physical health and personal care; her study habits; her mental and social adjustment; encouragement for her in self-evaluation. These subjects place the responsibility of adjustment on the student nurse as a mature and responsible person, which is a necessary role quite new to the average student nurse.

The organization of Unit II and IV is similar for each subject usually with four parts to each discussion: an illustrative story (written by Indian student nurses); the subject; a related science section; and better study section, usually of vocabulary, study

questions, or reading assignments. A section which gives help for students studying in a foreign language is very good. The concentration on how to study with specific assignments is excellent, since most students fall down in their work largely because they do not know how to study. The related science sections are very good. For example, after a discussion of Aspiration and Drainage of Body Cavities, there is a discussion of negative pressure. When a problem is presented there are usually very definite suggestions as to how to meet that difficulty, as in the discussion of the health needs of India the author outlines specific plans for a programme to obtain the necessary medical help. At another place in the discussion of diversion, variety and recreation the author makes helpful notes on the type of diversion which can be offered to the bed patient. Again, there is a frank discussion of the need for a full social life. This is frequently denied to the student nurse in India not only by her training school, but also by her parents yet the desire of young people today is towards more freedom. This may cause problems by a refusal to discuss facts. A very mature and much needed handling of the nursing care of the dying is given. The use of this text would be of great help to the student nurse as it stresses study and helps the student relate her science study to nursing. Especially in India where education tends to omit practical applications making students unable to transfer their book learning to a practical profession such as nursing, this study guide is of great value to having the student nurse,

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It would be of great help in the use of the book if more detailed instructions were offered as to its use. It is suggested this would be a guide for independent study for students. And yet, most of its values are to the reader who already knows the subject matter and gets from this text help in relating science and in samples of study assignments. There are many drawings, almost one to every page. Some of these are more decorative than useful; and yet to a teacher or tutor using this text they are a constant reminder of the value of visual aids and the usual lack of their use in teaching. The organization of the chapters, especially in the headings of sections makes it difficult to find some special subject and hard to follow the organisation. However, in all, to the teacher of nursing arts this is an excellent guide, stressing good teaching methods; visual aids; a variety of presentations of material;

use of project and case study to be done by the student herself; and the relationship between general theory and applied science.

M. MOFFATT, B. SC., R.N.

Letter to the Editor

Hello Friends!

My hearty congratulations to all the members of the TNAI (Andhra State Branch). As I looked at the new members list for August I was thrilled to see our State leading with 41. What a joy!

We have made very good progress in the beginning and must maintain it. I hope to see the same encouraging lists each month.

If each one of us tries to bring in one new member, soon all our colleagues in the entire State will be members. Shall we try it? It would be a real contribution to our national organisation.

With best wishes and the seasonal greetings,

J. SIGAMONEY,
Toronto

First Notice of Subscriptions for 1955-56

This notice will advise you that your subscription for 1955-56 will fall due on April 1 and should be paid on or before that date.

Subscriptions for T.N.A.I. members whose salary is above Rs. 75/- is Rs. 12/-.

Subscriptions for T.N.A.I. members, Health Visitors League and Midwives Union is Rs. 6/-

Remittance of Subscription.

Money may be sent by MONEY ORDER, cheque or postal note, made payable to the General Secretary, T.N.A.I. and addressed to 28, Alipur Road, Delhi-8.

Members in Institutions.

Subscriptions may be collected and sent in one sum but the full name,

T.N.A.I. number and address must be sent.

Kindly remember.

Excluding Life Members, EVERY member of the Association is due to pay the annual subscription in April, irrespective of when she joined the organisation.

Important.

Members failing to renew their membership in April automatically cease to be members of the T.N.A.I. and the *Journal* will not be issued to them after May.

If any member is unable to send the subscription in April, please inform the General Secretary, telling her when she may expect it. This will avoid suspension of membership.