

Nursing Project at the J. J. Hospital

With the Aid of World Health Organisation

By

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Matron, J. J. Group of Hospitals.

Before outlining what we propose to do when the World Health team arrives here, I think it will be of interest to mention that the Nursing service at this Hospital, prior to May 1947, was under the control of the J. J. Hospital Nursing Association. This Association was formed in the year 1903 by a philanthropic set of citizens of Bombay to provide (a) nurses, (b) training of nurses and midwives at this institution by collecting large sums of money through appeals to the citizens of this city. However, there came a time when they could not keep pace with the expansion of the service in the Hospital and increased State grants were necessary for its maintenance. When the State Government recognised that its commitments came up to nearly 90% or so of the actual expenditure they decided to take the nursing service completely under their control, hence our severance from the J. J. Hospital Nursing Association, and consequently the division of their assets.

At that time it transpired that the J. J. H. Nursing Association could maintain some of its funds to be utilised as they wished, and Miss Adranvala, Ex-Matron J. J. Hospital and now Chief Nursing Superintendent in the office of the Director General of Health Services, New Delhi, put up a scheme to the Committee to augment the J. J. Hospital teaching staff. This was accepted.

Just at this time the W. H. O. activities were expanding and simultaneously an application was submitted to them for help in connection with developing advanced nursing education programmes.

Miss Pedersen—the Nurse Consultant attached to the Regional Office of the World Health Organisation for S. E. Asia, New Delhi, came down for a conference with the Surgeon General, Superintendent, J. J. Group of Hospitals, our Sister Tutors and myself when it was decided to draw up a tentative plan.

The W. H. O. when coming in for the working of any project lays down amongst other things :

(a) that parallel personnel should be attached to the team. We already have our Tutors and Ward Sisters who fit in excellently, and from the grand panel of Hon. Medical Officers (some of them experts in their special fields who have contributed to Medical and Nursing education in this country and won recognition) we draw our teachers ;

(b) that the scheme should not be allowed to lapse but continued after their withdrawal.

Here our grateful thanks are due to the State Government who have consented to maintain the programme, even in these times of financial stringency, in the interest of the advancement of nursing education.

Our very special and grateful thanks are also due to the J. J. H. Nursing Association for bearing the expenditure equivalent to maintaining three sister tutors, which will fit in admirably with this scheme.

The preliminary personnel will be :—

(a) Nursing Arts Tutor (Leader of the Team).

- (b) Second Nursing Arts Tutor.
- (c) Pædiatric Tutor.
- (d) Midwifery Tutor.
- (e) Public Health Tutor (to be added on as the programme develops).

The tentative plan is to :

(a) Upgrade the teaching programme and by this we mean that the preliminary steps will be not only to implement the revised syllabus of training for nurses and midwives as adopted by the Bombay Nursing Council on the recommendation of the Indian Nursing Council, but at the same time to give better and intelligent nursing care to our patients on the wards with the available physical facilities. We continuously bear in mind that **good nursing can only be taught where good nursing is done.**

(b) To develop practice fields *i.e.* to begin with a limited follow-up service from the Pædiatric Section.

(c) To develop practice fields in domiciliary midwifery, public health nursing etc., in the first instance within the Hospital compound in the Chawls. It is stated, the population inside this compound is about 3,000.

We intend, as the programme progresses, to develop courses for our Staff Nurses and Sisters in ward administration, later leading to post-certificate courses in teaching administration and Public Health. Simultaneously personnel preparation for the higher basic course — B.Sc. (Hons) Nursing — is already in the making as our B.Sc. Students/Tutors are gaining the necessary practical experience prior to their deputation to U. S. A. for the M.Sc. degree.

W. H. O., whilst the scheme is being worked, offers four fellowships each year. We have already submitted our preliminary recommendations, but would like our matching personnel to work with the team for at least a year before being sent overseas for further studies.

Placed in this favourable atmosphere we look forward with quiet confidence to achieving our objectives with the splendid and ungrudging co-operation of the whole of the J. J. Hospital Staff.

We welcome our friends from overseas and look forward to exchanging our experiences, thus achieving with this excellent team work, our cherished objectives.

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