

In March 1910, the "Filles de la Sagesse" arrived from France to co-operate in the fine work of Saint Justine. The hospital to-day has 300 beds for children, excellent dispensaries, a maternity department and a school for crippled children.

From Montreal, let us go to the city of Three Rivers, 96 miles lower down on the north shore of the great Saint Lawrence river where we find the fourth school of nursing. This is annexed to the St. Joseph Hospital under the direction of the Sisters of Providence, a community founded in Montreal in 1843 by the great Bishop Bourget and Madame Gamelin. The Community was modelled on that of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul, and was founded for the relief of all sorts of human misery; of the sick of every category; of foundlings, old people, orphans, deaf and dumb, incurables, and of the mental cases found in the 102 establishments of the Sisters of Providence scattered throughout all North America—to give the care necessary for their cure, or a refuge, protection and a home.

The School of Nursing of the Hospital of St. Joseph at Three Rivers is affiliated to the University of Laval in Quebec and approved by the Association.

In October, 1912, another school of nursing (the sixth) opened its doors. This was the school of the Hospital of Saint Jean-de-Dieu, an establishment under the direction of the Sisters of Providence. More than 3,500 mental cases are received in this institution. Of this number more than 600 are under treatment in the various medical and surgical departments for physical disease. The pupils of the school receive a complete training, comprising the two months' affiliation they have at the Saint Paul Hospital for contagious diseases and at the Hospital de la Miséricorde for maternity training. The school is approved by the Association and affiliated to the University of Montreal. It is well organised and contains the most modern material for the education of its pupils. Both directresses and pupils are entirely devoted to the best interests of the profession.

For the history of the fifth school we must return to Montreal to the Hospital de la Miséricorde, an Institution founded in 1846 by Monseigneur Ignace Bourget, Bishop of Montreal, and Madame Jetté, known in religion as Mother Marie de la Nativité. At first the hospital had no school, so Madame Perras, a charitable widow, offered her services to the Institution, which accepted them with gratitude. Several hospitals sent their pupils there in order that they could obtain the training that they needed in obstetrics, and in this way the teaching of pupil nurses began. Gradually the Institution agreed to receive pupils desiring to specialise in obstetrics, and the school was established. As this hospital now offers general training, its school was approved by the Association in 1925 and affiliated to the University. The Hospital Général de la Miséricorde also bears the title of "The Catholic Maternity Hospital of Montreal."

The seventh school of nursing is in the city of Three Rivers, at the Normand and Cross Hospital. The Hospital was opened in 1912 and the school was founded at the same time. It is approved by the Association and the University of Laval in Quebec.

In the city of Sherbrooke, situated in the Eastern Townships, we find the eighth school of nursing, in the Saint Vincent de Paul General Hospital, directed by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Hyacinthe. Instruction of nurses was started in 1913. Like the preceding schools it is approved by the Association and the University. The city of Sherbrooke rightly feels itself honoured in the possession of a hospital which, although distant from the centres of University teaching, offers to its pupils every facility for a complete training.

Lachine, in the suburbs of Montreal, gives us the ninth

school of nursing, which is that of the St. Joseph Hospital, directed by the Sisters of Providence of Montreal.

This short résumé of the history of our principal French Canadian schools of nursing will give, we hope, to our foreign colleagues an idea of the status of nursing in the Province of Quebec among the French Canadians. In all these schools the programme of study is that prepared and required by the Committee of Management of the Association of Registered Nurses of the Province of Quebec.

This programme comprises three years of study and some months of affiliation in general or special hospitals (according to conditions) so as to complete the training of the students.

The greater number of the French-Canadian hospitals are directed by the nuns of various communities and have their own schools, as a result of which graduate lay nurses find only rare positions in these hospitals. Up to 1925 private duty was almost the only field open to the latter.

However, in 1925 the University of Montreal, with the help of the Provincial Government, that of the Health Department of the City of Montreal, of the Anti-Tuberculosis and General Health League of Montreal, and also of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, founded its School of Public Health Nursing.

This school gives a post-graduate course of nine months to graduate nurses from the schools of nursing approved by the association and affiliated to the University of Montreal. It has as its object the training of public health nurses, the need for whom is greatly felt in the Province.

Those in charge note with satisfaction the good already accomplished in the district where the School's Health Centre is situated. The graduates usually obtain important positions. The number of students is increasing each year to such an extent that it has been necessary to limit the number of admissions.

In the Province of Quebec special problems arise, similar to those met with in Belgium, on account of the fact that there are two races, speaking two different languages. But it is to the honour of the Association that it has been able to unite in its membership nurses of these two races. Its Administrative Council is composed of members of the two groups, who understand each other very well and whose relations are most friendly.

The distinguished visitors who will do us the honour of attending the Congress of the International Council of Nurses in 1929 will be able to see for themselves how much the French-Canadian nurses are interested in their profession, how much they desire its progress and its improvement from the ethical point of view, as well as from the technical and the patriotic.

We extend to our honoured guests the most cordial welcome and we hope that they will have only pleasant memories of their sojourn with us to carry back to their own countries.

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