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Thomas Jefferson University - A chronological history and alumni directory, 1824 - 1990, edited by Frederick B. Wagner, Jr., MD, and J. Woodrow Savacool, MD, 1992.

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## Part V: The School of Nursing 1891-1919 (pages 973-1012)

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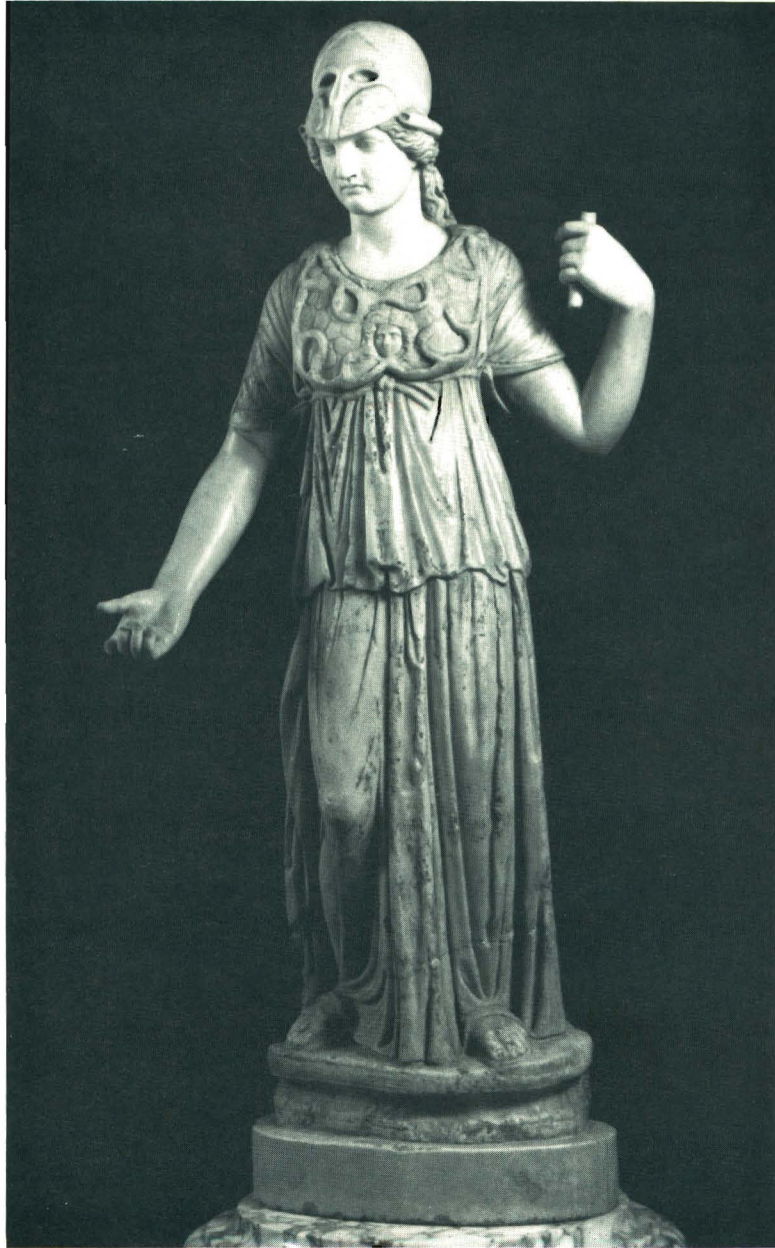
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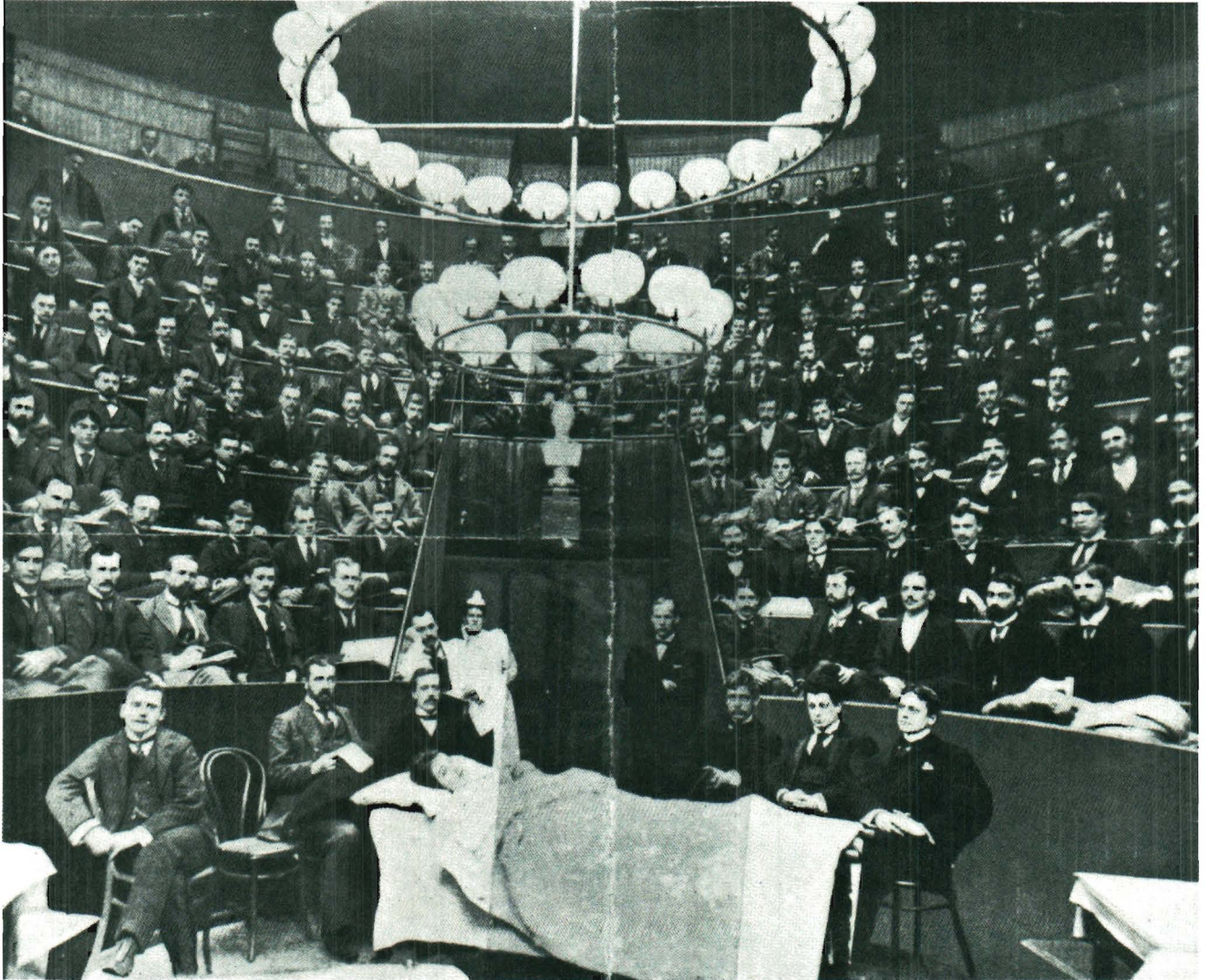
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Part V

*The School of Nursing*



Statue of Athena, Goddess of Wisdom and the Healing Arts (ca. 2nd century A.D.)



A Clinic in the "Pit" of the 1877 Hospital (ca. 1900).



## ~ SCHOOL OF NURSING ~

The efforts of Florence Nightingale after her experiences in 1854 in the Crimean War focused attention on the necessity for nurses and an educational system to prepare them. The American Civil War additionally accentuated this need both militarily and in civilian life. Jefferson's Professor of Surgery, Samuel D. Gross, who was President of the American Medical Association in 1868, stated at its meeting that year:

"It seems to me to be just as necessary to have well-trained, instructed nurses, as to have intelligent and skillful physicians. I have long been of the opinion that there ought to be in all the principal towns and cities of the Union, institutions for the education of persons whose duty it is to take care of the sick." The following year Dr. Gross was Chairman of a Committee of the American Medical Association on the training of nurses and stated in his report:

"There is marked diminution of mortality in hospitals where nursing is done by trained women, a decided decrease in expenditures and a general improvement in the moral character of the inmates." The Committee recommended that district schools for training of nurses be formed under the guidance of the County Medical Societies. As enlightening as these recommendations seemed to be, they were not adopted.

Dr. Gross did not live to see the establishment of a School of Nursing at Jefferson, but as late as 1883, one year before his death, his continued interest was manifested by an article entitled "The Best Means of Training Nurses for Rural Districts."

When Jefferson Medical College Hospital was opened on September 17, 1877, it had no trained nurses. This building at 1020 Sansom Street provided beds for 125 patients. During the first year 441 patients were admitted, 621 the second year and 890 the third year. The purpose of the hospital was not only to care for the sick but to provide clinical experience for the medical students.

America's first trained nurse was Melinda Ann Richards who graduated from the New England Hospital for Women and Children in Boston on October 1, 1873. At this time the principles of surgical antisepsis as advocated by Joseph Lister in 1867 had not been accepted, as witnessed by the Thomas Eakins painting of the *Gross Clinic* (1875) in which the great surgeon in street clothes is operating with bare hands. The science of bacteriology would not even begin until around 1880.

It would take 14 years for the 1877 Jefferson Medical College Hospital to open its School of Nursing in 1891. During that time the nursing care was given by unskilled and untrained attendants. Women took care of women patients, and men took care of men. They had little or no knowledge of drugs. Important symptoms could pass unnoticed. A clinical assistant might be assigned by the surgeon to sit by the patient's bedside during emergence from ether anesthesia to maneuver the best position for vomiting. Unconscious or paralyzed patients risked being burned by hot water bags. Many of these undesirable conditions would be ameliorated during the last decade of the 19th century with the establishment of the School of Nursing.

*"I salute Jefferson nurses, past and present. For their outstanding contributions to nursing education and patient care and for upholding the highest standards of the nursing profession, they deserve accolades of praise."*

Paul C. Brucker, M.D.  
President, Thomas Jefferson University



The training school for nurses was established at Jefferson in connection with the Hospital. There were three nurse supervisors for the first 13 students who enrolled. The age requirement was from 21 to 35. The course of instruction covered two years and the students worked 14 hours a day. Miss Ella Benson, the first Directress of Nurses, was assisted in the teaching by members of the Attending Hospital Staff who gave a prescribed course of lectures.

Initially it was necessary to retain many of the former untrained attendants, but the old and new mix did not blend well. Dissensions erupted. Some conservative members of the Staff opposed the trainees as a step toward "chaos and destruction." Within a few months, however, the improvements in nursing service were so obvious that accord ensued.

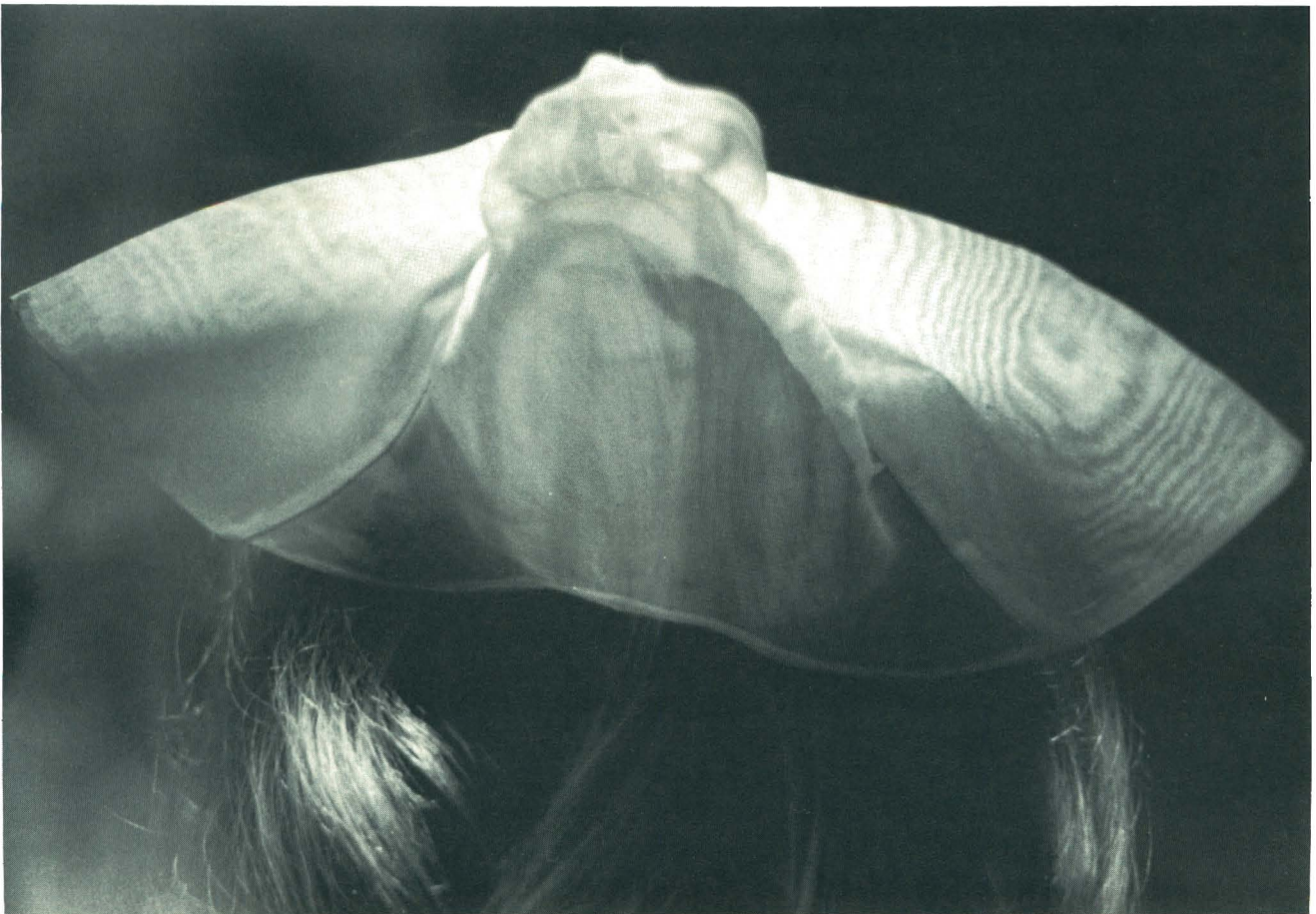


In the Crimean War (1853-1856), Florence Nightingale was superintendent of nurses in Turkey. The training school for nurses that she established in England in 1860 became a model for early nursing schools in the States. (Courtesy of *Commitment to Excellence*, 1982, p. 7.)

~ 1892 ~

The Maternity Department which had opened in 1886 in cramped quarters of the hospital was moved to a rented Building at 327 Pine Street. The Hospital Trustees provided for fuel, light, medical supplies and part of the nursing salary cost. A Board of Lady Managers, in later years to become the Women's Board, formed a Maternity Committee of which Mrs. E. D. Gillespie

was the President. This Committee paid for the rent of the Maternity Building, the food, domestic services and part of the salary of the Head Nurse. The latter had just graduated this year from the Philadelphia (General) Hospital. Dr. Edward P. Davis, destined to become Jefferson's first Chairman of Obstetrics (1898-1925), was made the Director of the Maternity Department.



Rear view of Jefferson nurses' organdy cap, showing spread of the "wing tips".



In this year the course of instruction was lengthened to three years. A stipend of \$6.00 per month was paid to students of the first year in addition to board, lodging and laundry. Tuition was free. There was a vacation period of two weeks a year and hospital care for illness. The monthly stipend was \$7.00 per month for the second year and \$8.00 for the third.

In May the first Nurses' Home was formally opened at 518 Spruce Street. The previous lodging had been in cramped quarters on the upper floors of the hospital.

Miss Benson, who remained as Directress but a short time, was succeeded this year by Miss Katherine ("Effie") Darling (Fig. 1). During the latter's tenure (1893/94) the first graduation exercises (Fig. 2) were held on November 23 in the clinical amphitheater ("pit") of the Hospital. Five nurses were awarded the Diploma of the Training School. The graduates were:

CLASS OF 1893

- Armstrong, Mary
- Bear, Carrie
- Bower, Sara Brook
- Howell, Georgianna
- Martin, Sara Elizabeth



Fig. 1. Katherine ("Effie") Darling, Directress of Nursing (1893/94).

*The trained nurse has become one of the great blessings of humanity, taking a place beside the physician and the priest, and not inferior to either in her mission.*

Sir William Osler (1849–1919)



Fig. 2. Graduating Class of 1893/94.

*There is probably no ten-year span in nursing's history during which so many important events or so many fateful decisions were made than in the period between 1890 and 1900. It was a time of unprecedented growth in American nursing, a period of emergence of several of our most important nursing leaders, an era of tremendous proliferation of schools of nursing, and the decade of the greatest organizational strides for the fledgling profession.*

Theresa E. Christy



In this year Miss Darling resigned as Directress to accept a position in Denver, Colorado. She was succeeded by Miss Susan C. Hearle, who would serve effectively for the next 14 years (Fig. 3). She was an English woman who had received early training in Great Britain under Florence Nightingale and subsequently graduated from the Philadelphia (General) Hospital in 1890.

The Maternity Department at 327 Pine street was moved under the auspices of the Board of Lady Managers to a house at 224 South Seventh Street on Washington Square (Fig.4). The Ladies paid the annual rent of \$1,000 and continued to defray the cost of food, domestic services and a part of the nurses' salaries. The day cost for a patient was 26 cents or \$7 a month. Two of the pupil nurses were on duty at a time for instruction in obstetric nursing. Postgraduate instruction was also given to nurses who graduated from other schools and in this way adequate personnel was obtained.

The enrollment had increased to 30 students but the Class of 1894 records only one graduate:



Fig. 3. Susan C. Hearle, Directress of Nursing (1894-1908).

CLASS OF 1894

Walker, Margaret (Logan)

*Nursing in its highest form is now classed with the professions, since it has professional characteristics—long, difficult preparation, work which is primarily for humanity rather than for oneself, compensation that is more in satisfaction than in money or prestige.*

Quoted from Minnie Goodnow, R.N.: *Nursing History in Brief*, W.B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia, London, 1950.





Fig. 4. Maternity Facility at 224 West Washington Square, established in 1894 for patient care and student instruction.



An outstanding event of this year was the founding of the Jefferson Nurses Alumnae Association by Miss Hearle, who became the first President. As in the Medical College, this organization throughout the years would greatly aid the welfare of the School of Nursing by its Annual Bulletin, Nosokomos Year Book, scholarships, awards, sick benefits and reunions.

Another improvement was the moving of the nurses' quarters to 226 South Seventh Street, adjacent to the building for the Maternity Department (Fig. 4 and 5). The students could thus get their obstetrical training next door.

The Maternity Department treated 82 women this year of whom 23 were married and 59 single. A few years later this proportion was reversed.

The Annual Report of the School this year revealed 110 applications of which 44 were appointed. The active enrollment reached a high of 35 students with four probationers. More than 70 lectures were delivered to 62 class sessions on Anatomy and Physiology; Obstetrical and Gynecological Nursing; Diseases of Children; Diseases of the Eye and Ear; and Therapeutics, Bandaging and Massage.

The fifteen graduates were as follows:



Fig. 5. Sitting room in Nurses' Home.

Dinkle, Clara, VA  
Funk, Mary  
Harris, Margaret  
Kendig, Laura  
Laughlin, Emma (Grove)  
Lemmon, Mary, NJ (Hammersty)  
Martin, Grace  
Monaghan, Katherine (Trieber)

Orchard, Mary A., CA  
Ramsey, Mamie, CA  
Schneider, Pena  
Thompson, Coe  
Thompson, Elizabeth, PA  
Thompson, Nellie (Wiley)  
Zetterland, Anna



Private floor reception room in 1877 hospital.



After the first year of instruction the pupil nurses were farmed out to care for the sick in their homes. This was under the Supervision of the attending physician who assumed full responsibility for his patient and the nurse. The Hospital charged for the service of the student nurse as follows: \$10 per week for general nursing and \$12 per week for contagious disease care. The daily rates were \$2, or \$3 with massage. The patient paid for travel and laundry expenses of the nurse. If the patient's condition permitted, the nurse was allowed one half hour each day for out door ex-

ercise, plus time for sufficient sleep. The nurse's time limit in a single case was eight weeks. The charges were due at the end of service and a blank had to be filled out as to whether the care was satisfactory or not. This practice was maintained until 1905.

In 1897 a teaching kitchen for pupil nurses was established (Fig. 6).

In the records of the Nursing School, the 5 graduates of 1896 and 1897 are combined together as follows:

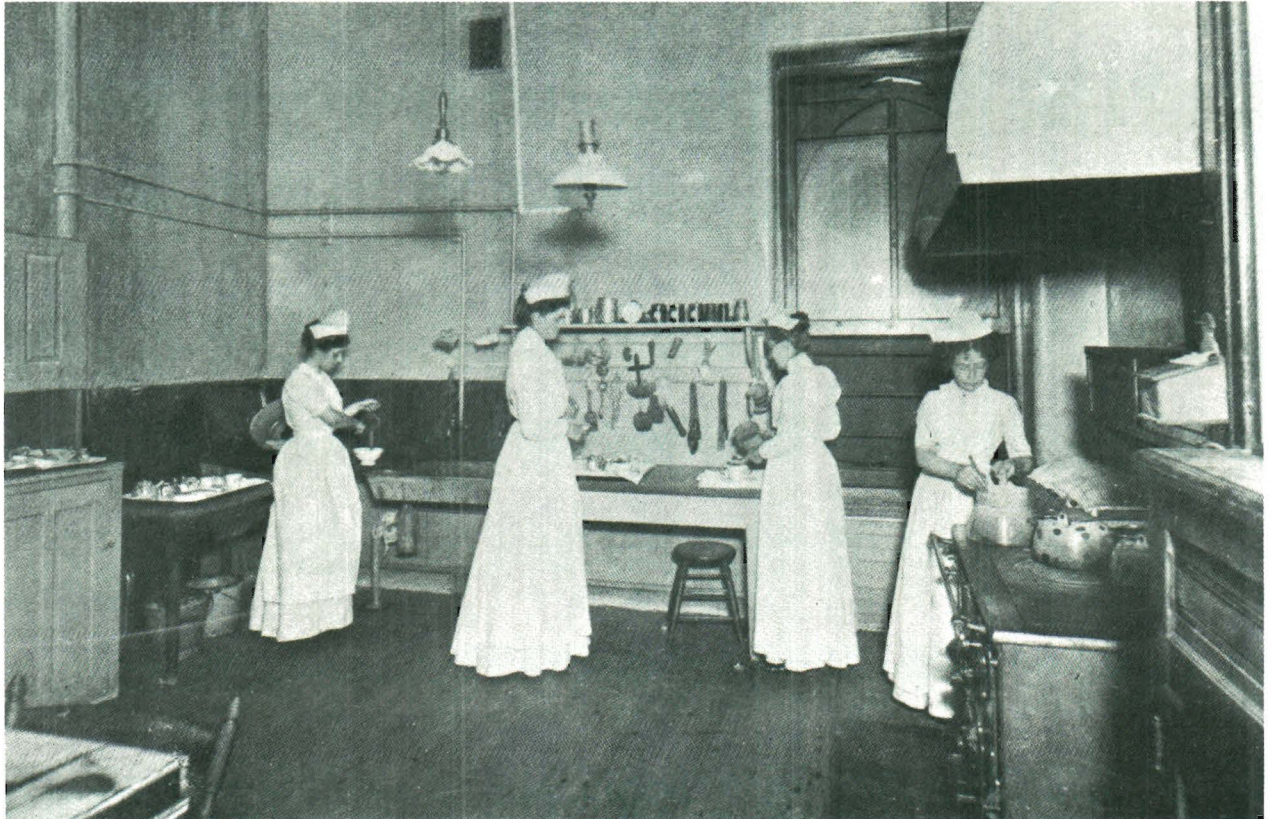


Fig. 6. Teaching kitchen for pupil nurses.

Aikens, Bessie  
Egden, Ada  
Krause, Henrietta  
Lane, Lottie, OR (Thorne)  
Lester, Mame, CA  
Milburg, Maude  
Myers, Lena L., OH  
Rothwell, Nellie

Shook, Elizabeth, PA (Brenholtz)  
Smith, Sarah  
Stiebler, Mary  
Strohmaier, Katherine  
Trigg, Lucy  
Walters, Dora  
Zook, Menta



Turn of the century orthopaedic dispensary. Note nurse on duty (right).



After the first year of instruction the pupil nurses were farmed out to care for the sick in their homes. This was under the Supervision of the attending physician who assumed full responsibility for his patient and the nurse. The Hospital charged for the service of the student nurse as follows: \$10 per week for general nursing and \$12 per week for contagious disease care. The daily rates were \$2, or \$3 with massage. The patient paid for travel and laundry expenses of the nurse. If the patient's condition permitted, the nurse was allowed one half hour each day for out door ex-

ercise, plus time for sufficient sleep. The nurse's time limit in a single case was eight weeks. The charges were due at the end of service and a blank had to be filled out as to whether the care was satisfactory or not. This practice was maintained until 1905.

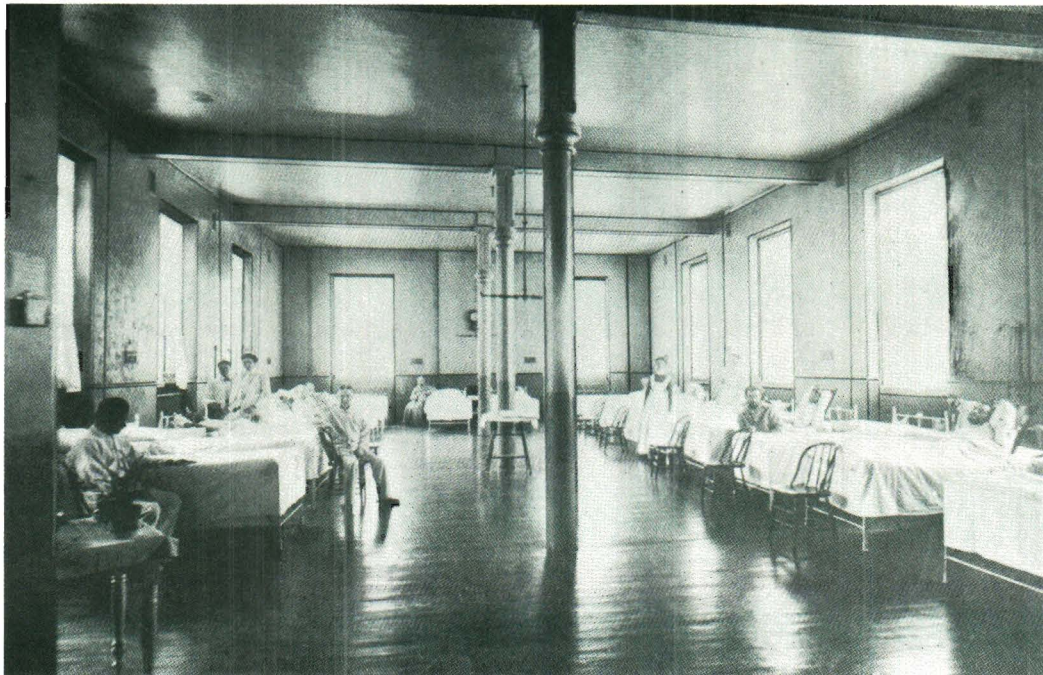
In 1897 a teaching kitchen for pupil nurses was established (Fig. 6).

In the records of the Nursing School, the 15 graduates of 1896 and 1897 are combined together as follows:

CLASS OF 1897

Aikens, Bessie  
 Egden, Ada  
 Krause, Henrietta  
 Lane, Lottie, OR (Thorne)  
 Lester, Mame, CA  
 Milburg, Maude  
 Myers, Lena L., OH  
 Rothwell, Nellie

Shook, Elizabeth, PA (Brenholtz)  
 Smith, Sarah  
 Stiebler, Mary  
 Strohmaier, Katherine  
 Trigg, Lucy  
 Walters, Dora  
 Zook, Menta



Men's medical ward.

During the Spanish-American War the mortality in the American troops was high due to typhoid fever and inadequately trained nursing personnel. Two Jefferson nurses, Katherine Baker (1898) and Adelaide O'Laughlin (1899) were assigned to "train service." This entailed traveling by service train to camp Fernandina, Florida, and returning with 50 very ill soldiers. There was one

death in transit. Some additional Jefferson graduates volunteered their services without remuneration.

Lectures and practical training during these early years accounted for a full 14-hour day. Mealtimes provided welcome relief from this arduous routine (Fig. 7).

The 10 graduates of the Class were:

CLASS OF 1898

Baker, Katherine, PA  
Brown, Margaret, AL  
Clark, Catherine  
Cumminsky, Nellie, PA  
Graham, Adelaide

King, Ella  
Major, Olive (Anderson)  
Nolan, Anna, PA (Butler)  
Reed, Mary E., PA (Butler)  
Segsworth, Laura



Fig. 7. Student nurses and their supervisors at dinner.



## ~ 1899 ~

By the last year of this decade the School of Nursing had established a secure identity. There was an adequate and increasing enrollment; the curriculum was updated and expanded; lodging was improved; and good working relationships had developed with the attending physicians and

students. The scientific era in medicine was now well under way, with the role of the nursing profession more clearly defined (Fig. 8).

There were 18 graduates in this class as follows:

### CLASS OF 1899

Biswanger, Frieda  
Boyer, Esther (Sipler)  
Brooke, Mary (St. Clair)  
Clement, Jane (Hazlett)  
Clewes, Marcella (Cocoa)  
Dom, Addie  
Graham, Jessie  
Hammer, Signe  
Hildebrant, May

Hurley, Jeanette, OR (Pierce)  
Mannon, Etta  
O'Laughlin, Adelaide  
Pie, Emma  
Pie, Rosalie  
Rogers, Katherine, PA  
Scherf, Catherine, PA  
Segsworth, Evelyn, MO (Brown)  
Zeisser, Kate, PA



Fig. 8. Women's Surgical Ward in 1877 Hospital at turn of the century.

## ~ 1900 ~

The turn of the century was marked by a public recognition of the need for trained nurses. This need was highlighted when a group of Jefferson

nurses was dispatched to Galveston, Texas, to aid the victims of a devastating flood.

The seven graduates of this class are listed:

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### CLASS OF 1900

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Craft, Mabel, NC (Harley)  
Haldeman, Florence (Hood)  
Krause, Harriet R., PA  
Martin, Sara Jane

Rogers, Elizabeth  
Synnamon, Anna, PA  
Witmer, Susan, PA



Men's Surgical Ward.



Scientific medicine had not yet significantly altered the ravages of infectious diseases such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, tuberculosis, pneumonia, typhoid and other enteric diseases. Life expectancy was approximately 46 years. By this time 500 nursing schools in the country had

around 10,000 graduates. In this process the Jefferson School of Nursing had attained a reputation for excellence. The teaching Medical School Clinics at this time usually required the presence of a nurse (Fig. 9).

The five graduates of 1901 were:

CLASS OF 1901

Carey, Lucy  
Mahoney, Mary, PA  
Morrow, Helen, CT

Roe, Margaret  
Spangler, Katie

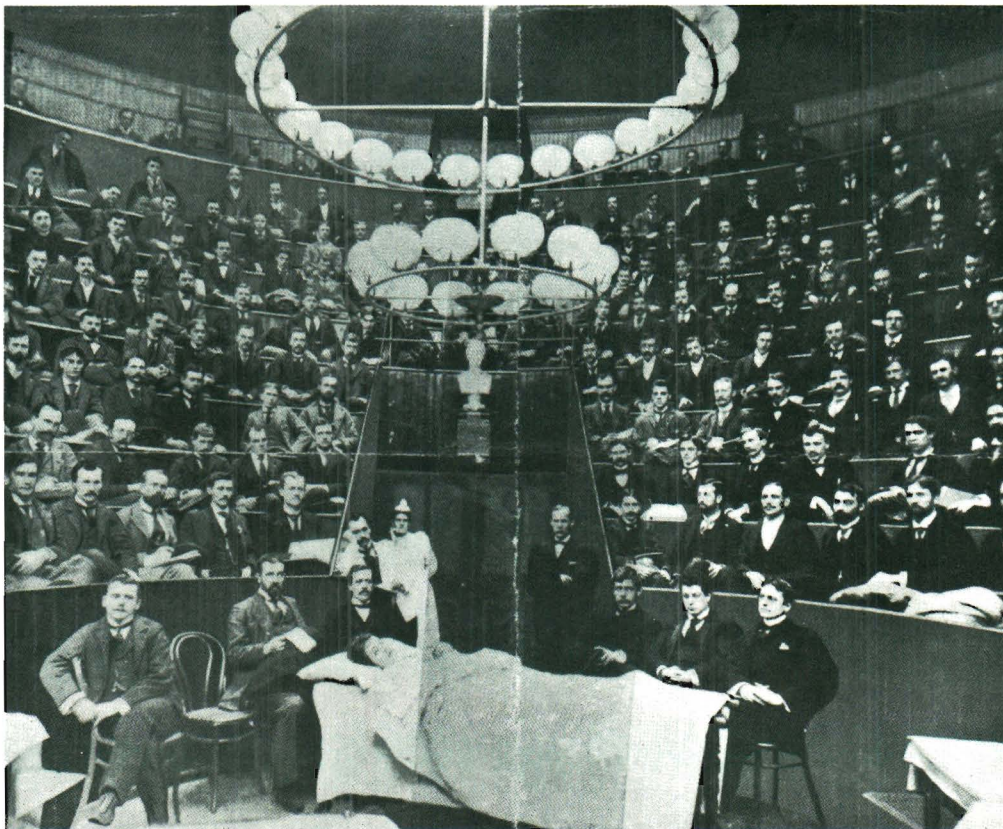


Fig. 9. Clinic in "pit" of 1877 Hospital (ca. 1903). Note nurse at entrance.

# ~ 1902 ~

During this period *The Jeffersonian* (the medical student publication) highlighted the fact that few hospitals compared in excellence with the clinical instruction the Jefferson student nurses received. This was especially true in surgery and obstetrics

in which the wealth of clinical material and large physician staff was particularly effective. Miss Hearle was complimented for the leadership and thoroughness of her teaching program.

The 20 graduates of 1902 were:

## CLASS OF 1902

Bland, Rachel, PA (Campbell)  
Boehme, Louise (Ellis)  
Chrisholm, Margaret  
Cooley, Mildred, NY (Oliver)  
Cross, Jennie, PA (Irick)  
Cushen, Mary  
DeChaney, Emily, PA  
DeSanto, Emelia, COSTA RICA  
Ditto, Caroline, PA  
Downes, Katherine, PA

Glouner, Anna  
Koser, Emily, PA (Henry)  
Lawrence, Lillian  
Mccomber, Olive, TX (Roundtree)  
McCombes, Anna, IL (Boyajian)  
McPherson, Edith, PA  
Peck, Macie, OH  
Pfau, Emma (Brallier)  
Weir, Mary  
Wolfe, Mary, DE (Richter)



Nurses in diet kitchen of 1877 hospital.



## ~ 1903 ~

There was a call from Butler, Pennsylvania, for nurses to care for the victims of a severe epidemic of typhoid fever. Four Jefferson pupil nurses from the class of 1905 were detailed for this emergency, namely Margaret Hicks, Jessie Mitchell,

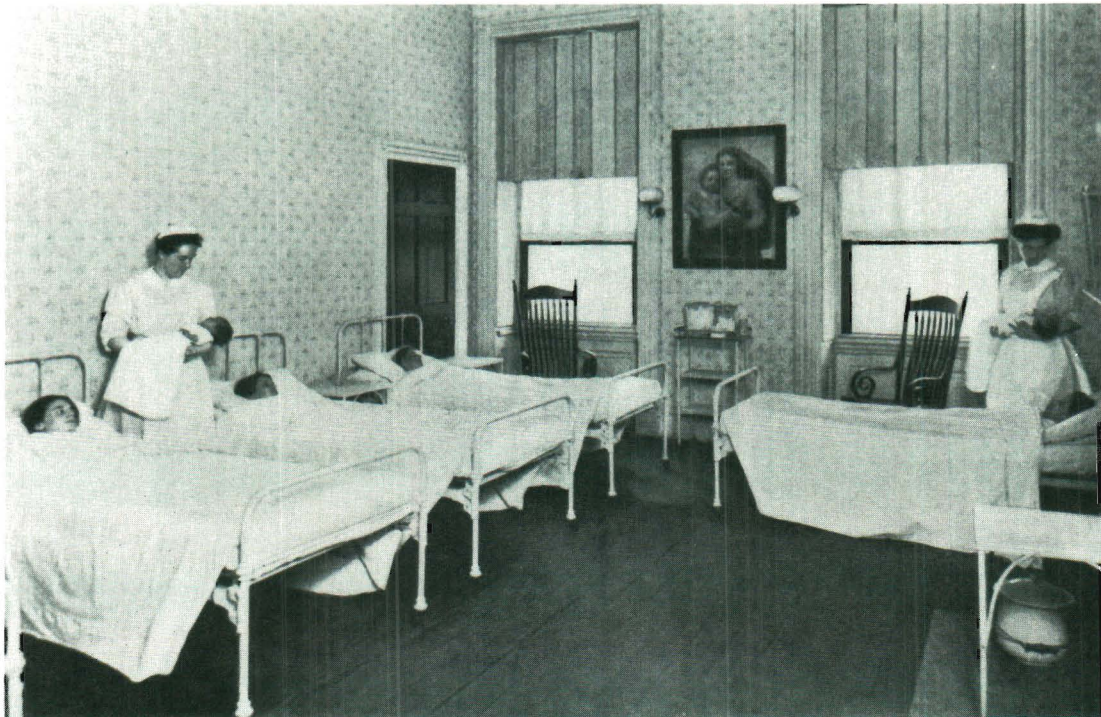
Katharine Shaw, and Elizabeth Supplee. Charlotte Lane, Assistant Directress of nurses, was in charge.

The 12 graduates of 1903 are listed.

### CLASS OF 1903

Brown, Violet  
Clippinger, Jessie, PA (Fraser)  
George, Bertha H., PA  
Graham, Catherine (Gillam)  
Jamieson, Mary A., OH  
Keigley, Sadie, PA (Conklin)

MacMahon, Margaret, PA  
McKean, Mary, PA  
Murphy, Emily, NY (O'Donnell)  
Patterson, Katherine, DC (Alexander)  
Strohmaier, Bertha, PA (Spencer)  
Stute, Wilhelmina



Maternity Ward, turn of the century.

In this year a Constitution and By-Laws of the Nurses Alumnae Association were formally adopted.

Since 1892 the Board of Lady Managers had given both moral and financial support to the Maternity Department. This contributed significantly to the high standard of maternity care at Jefferson for the beginning of the twentieth cen-

ture which benefited not only the patients but the educational program for the nurses. The application of Listerian principles of antisepsis and asepsis as taught and practiced in this Department led to improved rates of maternal and infant mortality (Fig. 10).

There were 17 graduates in this year's Class as follows:

CLASS OF 1904

Allison, Virginia (Shipe)  
Brazanson, Almira  
Cannon, Nellie  
Clippinger, Maude, PA (Faust)  
Detterer, Nellie  
Folwell, Lydia (Dexter)  
Hanson, Etta, NJ (Surtees)  
Hunsicker, Sarah, PA  
Lichty, Blanche, PA (Barnard)

Loveren, Gertrude, MA  
Miller, Grace  
Mollenkoff, Amanda, PA (DeLaney)  
Read, Ella, TX (Ward)  
Richards, Mary, PA (Ginder)  
Simmonds, J. Ellen, NJ (Welsh)  
Winters, Sadie  
Wood, Mabel



Fig. 10. Maternity Ward and Nursery (early 1900s).



~ 1905 ~

The regular minutes of the Alumnae Association meetings were first recorded in this year.

Plans for the 1907 Hospital, which were already under way during this period, included an

upgrading of facilities for the care of children (Fig. 11).

There were 15 graduates in the Class.

CLASS OF 1905

- Colette, Laura
- Comstock, Susie, PA
- DaCosta, Clara
- Detwiler, Elizabeth
- Harris, Charlotte, PA (Jenkins)
- Hicks, Margaret
- Knight, Anna, PA (Hill)
- Mitchell, Jessie

- Nelson, Iowa C., CA (Morris)
- Nickel, Minna
- Roth, Helen
- Shaw, Katherine
- Supplee, Elizabeth
- Taylor, Sarah, NJ
- Vogt, Josephine (Ingold)



Fig. 11. Children's Ward in 1877 Hospital.



## ~ 1906 ~

This was the last year in which the first Hospital built in 1877 would serve inpatients (Fig. 12). In nearly 30 years 148 nurses were trained; 5,000 doctors emanated from its halls; 2,000,000 patients were cared for in wards and dispensaries; and nearly 50,000 accident cases were treated.

The clinical amphitheater ("pit") of this hospital would be maintained for teaching purposes through 1923, while the vacated portion would be used for lodging and classrooms of the nurses.

The class consisted of 14 graduates.

### CLASS OF 1906

Carnahan, Florence, PA  
Ely, Ida, PA (Norton)  
Fair, Florence (Feilis)  
Gumpert, Anna, CO (Laughlin)  
Howe, Elizabeth, PA (Frowert)  
Hower, Martha (Dunn)  
Laughlin, Anna

Morgan, Rebecca, NJ (Ritter)  
Reisler, Leila, PA (Kirshbaum)  
Rich, Jennie, NH  
Risser, Phoebe, NJ (Haldman)  
Schindel, Anna, MD  
Smith, Mary  
Williams, Mary, MD (Biddle)



Fig. 12. Nurses' drug station on fifth floor of 1877 Hospital.



Increasing demands were placed upon the School of Nursing with the opening on June 8 of the new Hospital at Tenth and Sansom Streets (now called "Old Main"), adjoining the 1877 Building on the east. There were now a Directress of Nurses, an Assistant Directress, and 13 Supervisors. Ninety-three student nurses were enrolled. This ample Hospital was the most modern for its time and could vie with the best in the country. It provided 300 beds (Fig. 13).

The graduates of this Class numbered eight.

CLASS OF 1907

Allen, Mary, CA  
Conran, Anna, PA  
Doxrud, Olivia, PA  
Morgan, Margaret, CANADA  
Prime, Mary, CANADA  
Tipping, Kate Dolan, LA  
Voorhees, Georgianna, NY (Wolfe)  
Wadsworth, Anna, DC (Lynch)



Fig. 13. "Old Main Hospital" (1907).

## ~ 1908 ~

Miss Hearle, Directress of Nurses, resigned this year and was succeeded by Miss Anna E. Laughlin (Fig. 14). The latter, from the Class of 1906, was the first Jefferson graduate to assume this post. One of her improvements was the adoption of "hands on" experience in pediatrics, mater-

nity, medicine and surgery. In addition, a Training School Committee of the Medical Staff composed of five members formulated the curriculum and assigned the instructors for the various subjects. Miss Laughlin served faithfully for seven years.

There were 16 graduates this year.

### CLASS OF 1908

Bennett, Evalyn C., PA  
Campbell, Katherine  
Creig, Mary (Hepler)  
Dickinson, Pamela (Briggs)  
Doan, Evelyn, NJ (Supplee)  
Dougherty, Elizabeth, NJ  
Heater, Alice, CA (Morse)  
Kreider, Ida

Lynn, Rose, NC  
Ossenbeck, Margaret, MA  
Patterson, Margaret, OR (Reeves)  
Reeves, Jean, NY (Noland)  
Shoemaker, Nora E., PA  
Stansbury, Ann, MA  
Swager, Clara, PA (Sweeney)  
Viles, Emily, ID (Stewart)



Fig. 14. Anna E. Laughlin ('06), first Jefferson Training School Nurse to become Directress (1908-15).



## ~ 1909 ~

This year marked passage by the Pennsylvania State Legislature of the first bill for regulation of the practice of nursing. A Board of Examiners, consisting of five professional nurses, was appointed to oversee the measures. This represented an early attempt on the part of government to assure the public of safe and competent care.

Members of this class were the first to receive a school pin in addition to the diploma. This original gold pin bore a replica of the head of Florence Nightingale surrounded by the name of the school (Fig. 15).

The Class consisted of 21 graduates.

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### CLASS OF 1909

---

Angle, Nell  
Brooke, Martha, PA (Watkins)  
Bruch, Florence, PA  
Colebaugh, Effie  
Dague, Anna, PA  
Dinsmore, Hattie, OH (Stockdale)  
Disher, Grace  
Gass, Violet, CA  
Grier, Lucy (Carrington)  
Hickman, Mary, PA  
Lingo, Harriet, DE (Cannon)

McElwain, Laura, CA (Overman)  
Patton, Anna, FL (Webster)  
Pearson, Charlotte (Smith)  
Robinson, Mary, PA (Godfrey)  
Rohde, Helen, NJ  
Scattergood, Katherine  
Smaling, Emily, PA  
Strunk, Daisy, PA  
Yates, Mary, NC (Woodlief)  
Zeller, Eva, DC

*We need to realize and to affirm anew that nursing is one of the most difficult of arts. Compassion may provide the motive, but knowledge is our only working power. Perhaps, too, we need to remember that growth in our work must be preceded by ideas, and that any conditions which suppress thought, must retard growth. Surely we will not be satisfied in perpetuating methods and traditions. Surely we shall wish to be more and more occupied with creating them.*

M. Adelaide Nutting (1858-1948).  
Professor of Nursing, Teachers' College,  
Columbia University, First in the World.



Fig. 15. First school pin (1909).

*We have strived here to avoid the sin which tends to beset all institutions, that is to become impersonal and mechanized. At the head of every department has been placed a mature and sympathetic nurse with the desire to appreciate that sick people are not numbered individuals and just cold medical problems, one with whom patients can become acquainted and to whom they can turn for information, direction and sympathy at the time of their visits.*

Frank H. Lahey (1880-1953).



The members of this class preferred a new design to the school pin. An entirely new seal was made with a gold scroll, containing a blue cross, surrounded by black enamel and lettered with the name of the institution (Fig. 16). These pins were first presented in 1910 to each member of the graduating class by Dr. William M. L. Coplin as the personal gift of the Board of Trustees of the Hospital. This practice was continued at each graduation until the closing of the School of Nursing in 1982.

The student's dress uniform that would prevail until 1915 is represented by Elizabeth Morrill of this class (Fig. 17). It was of pink color, floor length, with buttons down the front, and accommodated a high bishop's collar that buttoned on the back. Balloon sleeves fastened tightly at the wrists; bib and apron adorned the front; and the cap consisted of a wide band turned back with a ruffle on the edge.

This class had 37 graduates, the highest number thus far.



Fig. 16. Second school pin (1910).

CLASS OF 1910

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Antes, Alvirda, FL (Taylor)       | Grimm, Emily, WI (Storey)        |
| Baker, Cora, PA                   | Haas, Essie, PA (Wolfe)          |
| Baker, Myrtle, NY (Bendt)         | Hazel, Bessie, PA (Campbell)     |
| Barcalow, Mary, PA (Mullin)       | Holdern, Rose, IN (Daft)         |
| Bowen, Ruth B., PA (Pardee)       | Hough, Irene, PA (Lobb)          |
| Bray, Ruth, NJ                    | Ivory, Margaret, PA (Keating)    |
| Brenneman, Blanche, MA (Fielding) | Kehoe, Sarah, AUSTRALIA (Murphy) |
| Bush, Lemos, CO (Warne)           | Melville, Clara                  |
| Campbell, Mary (Rogers)           | Morrill, Elizabeth               |
| Carpenter, Evelyn, PA             | Neff, Sarah (Ransom)             |
| Carson, Bertha (Simpson)          | Ohland, Eda, CA                  |
| Clark, Maude (Hill)               | Parsons, Anna, CA (Johnson)      |
| DeLouzanne, Adelaide, PA          | Richards, Lavina, CANADA         |
| Dow, Mayfair, FL (Gillingham)     | Scudder, Jessie, CA (Fisher)     |
| Fulford, Bettie, NC               | Shafer, Anna, PA                 |
| Gardner, Naomi, PA                | Smith, Helen                     |
| Gibbs, Jean                       | Squire, Emily (Beath)            |
| Gorman, Helen                     | Toddings, Dorothy, NJ (Rehm)     |
|                                   | White, Arline (Buckley)          |



Fig. 17. Elizabeth Morrill ('10) wearing student uniform of the period.

*Nursing is an art; and if it is to be made an art, it requires as exclusive a devotion, as hard a preparation, as any painter's or sculptor's work; for what is the having to do with dead canvases or cold marble, compared with having to do with the living body—the temple of God's spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts; I had almost said the finest of the Fine Arts.*

Florence Nightingale (1820-1910).



## ~ 1911 ~

This marked the 20th year of founding of the School of Nursing. Jefferson's educational and practical instruction in nursing had proven itself to be effective. The hospital staff physicians did most of the teaching of basic subjects. The Directress and head nurses gave the bedside instruction. Whenever a graduate nurse was not

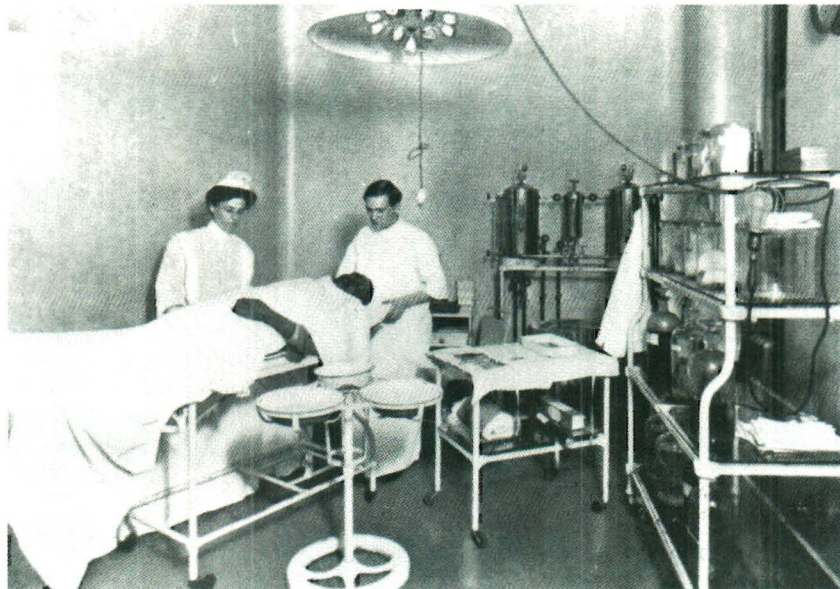
available, a senior student would be placed in charge of a ward and would help in instruction of the less advanced students. Classes were held wherever space could be found near the wards. Oral examinations of the students by the physicians were usually conducted in their offices.

There were 24 graduates this year.

### CLASS OF 1911

Armstrong, Gertrude, NY  
Boyer, Amanda, IL (Bolger)  
Calhoun, Mary, PA (McNitt)  
Casperson, Elsie M., NJ  
Daly, Rhoda (Smith)  
Danser, Virginia, PA (Scattergood)  
Dickey, Nelle, PA (Wilson)  
Herrman, Emilie, CA  
Hill, Jessie  
Jackson, Edna, NH (Noyes)  
Jones, Elizabeth, PA  
Jordan, Margaret

Minnier, Ellen, PA (Gift)  
Morgan, Alberta, MN (Hall)  
Moser, Bertha, PA (Price)  
Moser, Esther, PA  
Oburn, Minnie, PA (Adams)  
Pullen, Laura, NJ  
Smith, Eleanore, CA (Spear)  
Sudo, Maya  
Swentzel, Marguerite, PA (Evans)  
Terrill, Beatrice (Zinn)  
VanWinkle, Bessie, VT (Perley)  
Weems, Mary



Emergency room (early 1900s).

## ~ 1912 ~

The Jefferson Nurses' Alumnae Association Relief Fund was established this year.

There were 12 graduates.

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### CLASS OF 1912

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Bechtel, Emma, PA  
Buckman, Leila, PA (Kesslinger)  
Good, Gail, PA (Boyd)  
Greig, Jessie, PA (Hicks)  
Klink, Helen, PA (Pollack)  
Morgan, Mary, PA (Ford)

Shearer, Nora, PA (Parsons)  
Shively, Elizabeth, PA (Wilfong)  
Stalford, Bessie, PA  
Thrasher, Belle, IL (Carr)  
Vernon, Dorothy, PA (Wayland)  
Waller, Leona, DE (Drumm)



Nurses' reception room in 1877 Hospital Building.



## ~ 1913 ~

Plans were developed this year for a Department for Diseases of the Chest at 236-238 Pine Street, a facility that would aid the prevention

and treatment of tuberculosis as well as provide additional nursing experience for the students.

The 25 graduates were as follows:

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### CLASS OF 1913

---

Bartley, Mary, IRELAND  
Bateman, Helen, PA  
Bush, Margaret, PA  
Christensen, Olga, DENMARK  
Conrad, Margaret, PA (Weaver)  
Delker, Linda, PA  
Detwiler, Sara, PA  
Emmert, Mae, MD (Seibert)  
Gibb, Helen C., PA  
High, Carrie, PA (Campbell)  
Kendall, K. Ella, PA  
Lomison, Edith, PA

Luman, Myrtle, PA (Shallow)  
MacAdams, Marian, NY (Thompson)  
Mann, Christine, PA (Butler)  
Meisenhelder, Mabel, PA (Dyson)  
Orr, Margaret, PA (Lull)  
Schwab, Anna, PA  
Snyder, Anna, PA (MacMurray)  
Snyder, Minnie (Dean)  
Staub, Harriet, PA (Chambers)  
Swank, Effie, PA  
Waters, Essie, DE (Spooner)  
Welker, Ada, PA  
Zimmerman, Ada, PA

*Practically there should be for each of you a busy, useful, and happy life; more you cannot expect; a greater blessing the world cannot bestow. Busy you will certainly be, as the demand is great, both in private and public, for women with your training. Useful your lives must be, as you will care for those who cannot care for themselves, and who need about them, in the day of tribulation, gentle hands and tender hearts. And happy lives shall be yours, because busy and useful; having been initiated into the great secret—that happiness lies in the absorption in some vocation which satisfies the soul; that we have here to add what we can to, not to get what we can from life.*

William Osler: Doctor and Nurse. Address, Johns Hopkins Hospital, 1891.

## ~ 1914 ~

The opening of the Department for Diseases of the Chest, as planned during 1913, occurred in April of this year (Fig. 18). Good nursing care had become a very important aspect in the treat-

ment of tuberculosis at this time and would be so for the next three decades.

This Class numbered 38 graduates.

### CLASS OF 1914

Adams, Martha, MD (Stubblefield)  
Barnett, Marguerite, PA  
Bergey, Sara R., PA  
Boller, Mabel G., PA  
Brown, Clara  
Call, Mary, OH (Hilbish)  
Cribbs, Bertha (Vauclain)  
Crouse, Mary, PA (Bancroft)  
Davies, Annie, PA (Barnhard)  
Dolan, Ethel, PA  
Girton, Ethel M., PA  
Grosch, Helen, PA  
Hallman, Mary, OH (Lindsey)  
Herring, Effie, PA  
Hill, Nellie G., PA  
Hobbs, Ellen, WV  
Homewood, Mary, MD (Gary)  
Knock, Emma, DE  
Lane, Cora, WV (Osterblom)

Lesser, E. Irene, PA (Hindle)  
Lewis, Gwendolyn, PA (Mann)  
Libengood, Stella, CA (Brenner)  
Logue, Katherine  
Love, Jessica, KY  
McNulty, Rose, NY (Graham)  
Miller, Mabel B., PA  
Ott, Effie, PA (Hivner)  
Potticher, Druce, DC (Slye)  
Rodgers, Mary, OH (Knarr)  
Sprenkle, Myrtle (Ake)  
Stager, Lettie  
Sturgeon, Jane S., ENGLAND  
Trumbauer, Matilda, PA (Knerr)  
Turriff, Marion  
Weisenberg, Melanie  
Witmer, Katherine, NY (Adolph)  
Womer, Kathryn, GA (Harris)  
Wood, Martha, PA (Baker)

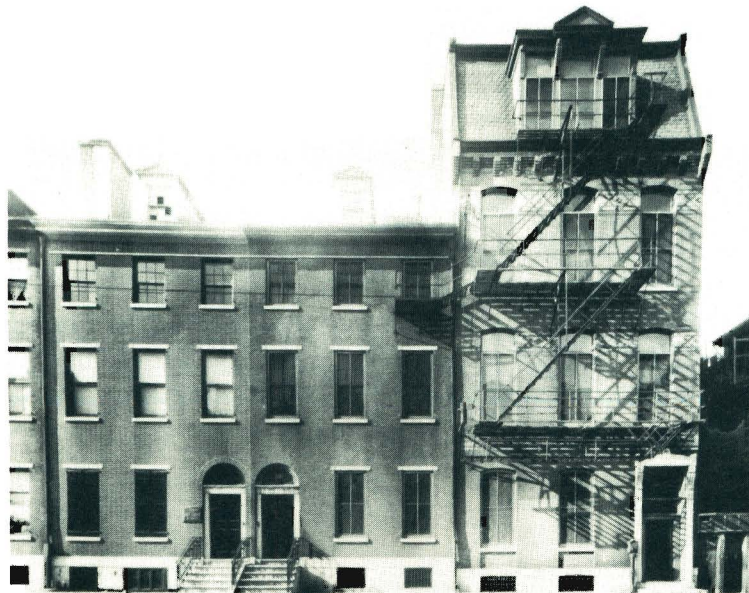
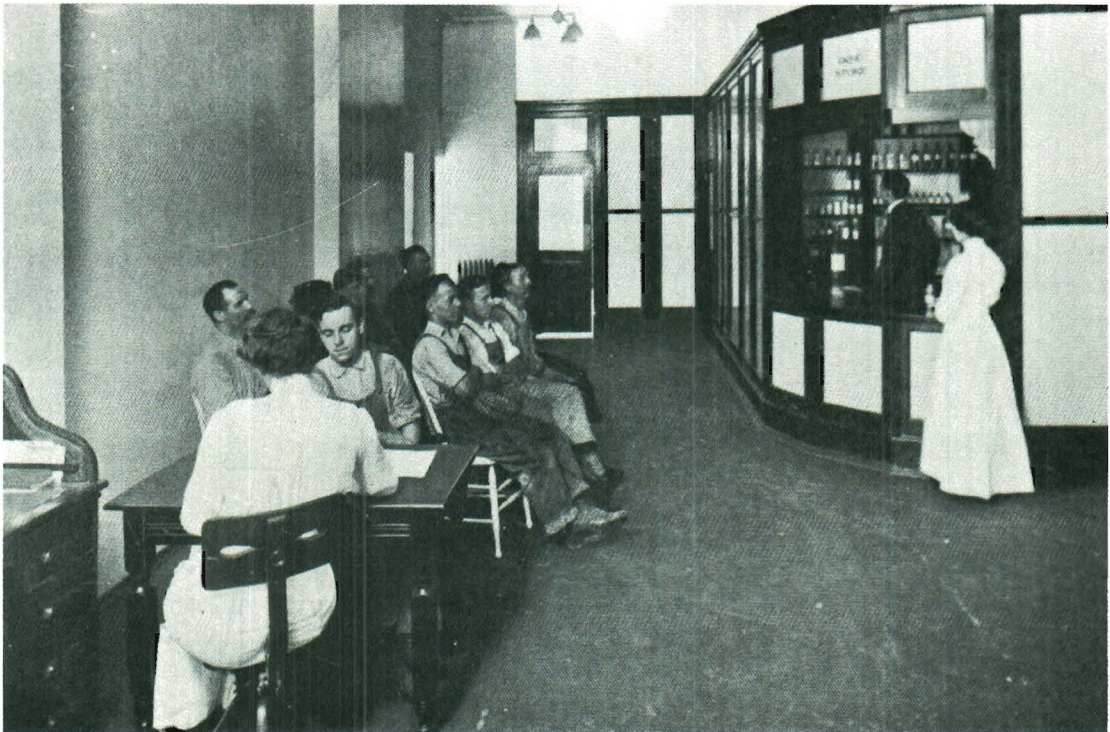


Fig. 18. Department for Diseases of the Chest (1914) at 236-238 Pine Street.





Outpatient Department for Diseases of the Chest at 236-238 Pine Street.

*There is a dread disease which so prepares its victim, as it were, for death; which so refines it of its grosser aspect, and throws around familiar looks, unearthly indications of the coming change—a dread disease, in which the struggle between soul and body is so gradual, quiet, and solemn, and the result so sure, that day by day, and grain by grain, the mortal part wastes and withers away, so that the spirit grows light and sanguine with its lightening load, and, feeling immortality at hand, deems it but a new term of mortal life—a disease in which death and life are so strangely blended, that death takes the glow and hue of life, and life the gaunt and grisly form of death—a disease which medicine never cured, wealth warded off, or poverty could boast exemption from—which sometimes moves in giant strides, and sometimes at a tardy sluggish pace, but, slow or quick, is ever sure and certain.*

Reflections of Charles Dickens (1812-1870)  
in *Nicholas Nickleby*, regarding tuberculosis (consumption),  
the leading cause of death during the nineteenth century.

## ~ 1915 ~

Miss Clara E. ("Tillie") Melville, from the Class of 1910, who had been the assistant to Miss Laughlin, became the Directress this year (Fig. 19). She would serve in this capacity until her death in 1937. In accord with the times, she was

a strict disciplinarian. As a legendary figure, she contributed greatly to the welfare and progress of the School.

The Class graduates numbered 20.

### CLASS OF 1915

Allen, Mattie, PA (Turner)  
Butz, Ada, IL (Arsentos)  
Cassel, Carrie, CA (Coffman)  
Dorsey, Margaret, PA  
Faubel, Eleanor, PA  
Gonder, Sara, PA  
Heaton, Elizabeth T., PA  
James, Mary (Short)  
Kassabian, Virginia (Bohjelian)  
Lewis, Adele M., PA

Litter, Jeanette, OH  
Martin, Nora, PA (Charlton)  
Mathews, Dorothy, DE  
Owens, Mary A.  
Peters, Minerva (Bilger)  
Rorabaugh, Jessie, DE (Hearn)  
Smith, Ethel, PA (Genzmer)  
Warren, Ann, NY (Howard)  
Warren, Dorothy, MS (Brown)  
Yochim, Margaret



Fig. 19. Clara E. Melville ('10), Directress (1915-37).



## ~ 1916 ~

The Women's Auxiliary formed the Nurses' Home Committee. This activity provided residential comforts and recreational facilities that softened the hard features of student life. Con-

cern over the War in Europe had little impact on the curriculum in this pre-War year.

There were 24 graduates.

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### CLASS OF 1916

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Black, Lydia Ann, DE (Cannon)  
Brewer, Myrtle, NJ (Thrasher)  
Browning, Florence J., MD  
Butler, Frances, PA (Pangburn)  
Campbell, Edna, PA (Boar)  
Crossley, Mabel, PA  
Daxter, Flora, PA  
Day, Loleta, PA (Steen)  
Depp, Martha, PA (Templeton)  
Dillon, Gertrude, ME (Brown)  
Duke, Mary, MO (Holton)  
Guerin, Agnes C.A., 86

Heverly, Mary, PA (Moore)  
Hodler, Adele, PA (Connell)  
Hughes, Marie, PA (Byrne)  
Jackson, Mildred, PA (Pillmore)  
Morgan, Jane, PA (Morgan)  
Musser, Mary E., PA  
Myers, Wilona, PA (Rollwitz)  
Rowe, Effie, CANADA (Billingsley)  
Shoemaker, Ella, PA  
Troester, Christine (Fellows)  
Williams, Mae, PA  
Witmer, Laura, PA

*Remember that for doctors and nurses, the most important canal in the world is not the Panama, the Suez, the Soo, the Kiel, or any other of the great geographical canals of the world, but, as has been well said, the alimentary. Watch, therefore, with scrupulous care everything that enters it. Learn how to cook the little appetizing bonnes bouches and (do not forget this) to serve them with the daintiness which stimulates or even evokes an appetite, just as slovenliness dulls or even destroys it.*

W.W Keen, M.D. (1837-1932)  
Address to the Graduating Class of Nurses,  
Allentown Hospital, May 27, 1915.

## ~ 1917 ~

In World War I, Jefferson formed a Base Hospital #38 in which 100 nurses, organized by Miss Clara Melville as Chief Nurse, comprised a Unit stationed in Nantes, France (Fig. 20). Under the command of Dr. William M.L. Coplin, Professor of Pathology, they rendered care in the 1,000-

bed hospital. Miss Adele M. Lewis (Fig. 21), Class of 1915, subsequently served for three more decades as Head Nurse in the "Old Main" Hospital.

There were 36 graduates in the Class.

### CLASS OF 1917

Badorf, Myra, PA  
 Black, Mabel, PA  
 Bowen, Lillian E., PA (Plumb)  
 Dietrich, Minnie, PA (Gregory)  
 Eby, Virginia, PA (Lee)  
 Eppler, Edith, PA  
 Faust, Ethel, PA  
 Fordyce, Pearl, PA (English)  
 Grove, Frances M., PA  
 Haag, Irene, PA (Beck)  
 Hagey, Vera, PA (Brouillet)  
 Hollenbaugh, Pearl, PA  
 Hollman, Mary A., PA  
 Huey, Caddie G., PA (Fleming)  
 Iles, Sara, KY (Paynter)  
 Jones, Fannie M., PA (McAleer)  
 Jones, Florence M., PA  
 Kirby, Hilda, DE

Knerr, Carrie E., PA  
 Lane, Ida E.  
 Lloyd, Maggie N., PA (Clark)  
 Longacre, Mary, PA (Grim)  
 McLean, Margaret, PA (Jones)  
 Miller, Elsie J., PA  
 Miller, Nellie V., PA (Mehler)  
 Paulson, Erma R., PA  
 Rogers, Anna, PA (Cannon)  
 Serfass, Sallie, A., PA  
 Shea, Winifred D., PA  
 Smith, Marion E., PA (Lauffer)  
 Stephens, Anna, DE (Griffin)  
 Temple, Lillian, PA (Faggart)  
 Vaughn, Alice, PA (Lucas)  
 Young, Ada, PA (McNeal)  
 Ziegler, Amy F., PA (Ide)  
 Zudrell, Jennie, PA (Levy)



Fig. 20. Jefferson's Base Hospital #38 in World War I, established in Nantes, France.





Fig. 21. Adele M. Lewis ('15) in World War I Base Hospital #38. She served as Head Nurse for more than three decades in "Old Main Hospital."

*The trained nurse has given nursing the human or shall we say, the divine touch, and made the hospital desirable for patients with serious ailments regardless of their home advantages.*

Charles H. Mayo (1865-1939).

## ~ 1918 ~

In the absence of Miss Melville who was on active duty as Chief Nurse at Base Hospital #38 in Nantes, France, Miss Nora E. Shoemaker acted as Directress of Nurses.

In the autumn of this year there broke out the worst pandemic of influenza on record. In the United States alone there were more than 4,000 new cases a day. All hospitals, including Jeffer-

son, were loaded beyond capacity. Provision of adequate nursing care was impossible. Many of the nurses fell ill and five of the students died.

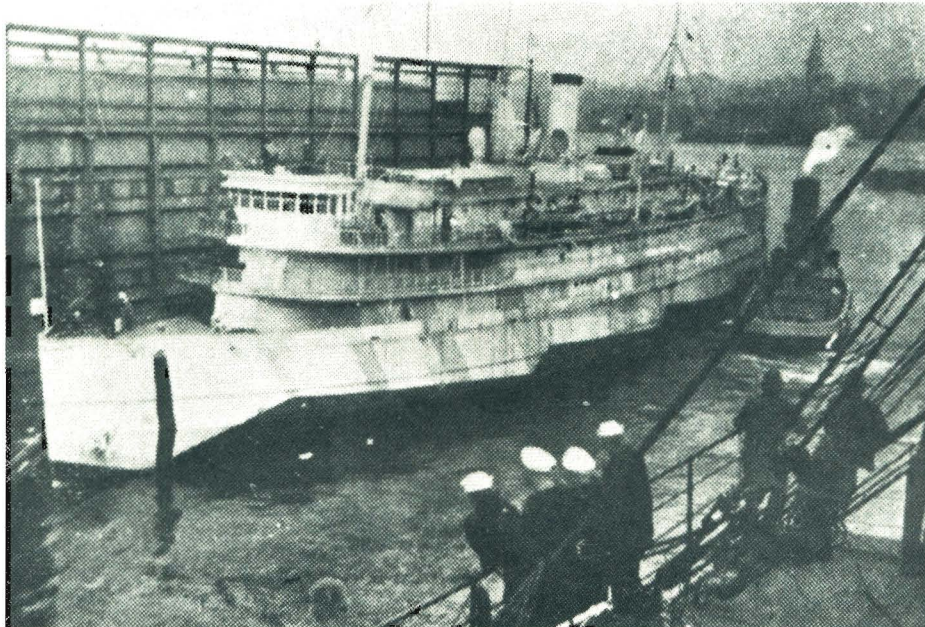
The first list of approved Nursing Schools in Pennsylvania was published this year. Jefferson's School promptly was among them.

The 27 graduates were:

### CLASS OF 1918

Bitner, Effie, PA (Girton)  
Breachin, Mae, PA (Boyle)  
Craig, Ada, NY (Falkingham)  
Darone, Verna  
Davis, Helen, PA (Livingston)  
Dunn, Elsie E., AL  
Goupp, Lydia, MI (Gray)  
Gurd, Verna, OK (Taylor)  
Hardy, Rose  
Huff, Grace, PA (MacDonald)  
Johnson, Anna, PA (Brumbaugh)  
Keiffer, Blanche (String)  
Koons, Gertrude, NC (Blalock)

McCormack, Marion, PA  
Moss, Naomi, PA  
O'Neill, Mary, PA (Ellies)  
Pilling, Charlotte (Dotson)  
Plummer, Helen R., (Terrell)  
Schoen, Elva, PA  
Shawfield, Cora  
Smith, Elizabeth P., NY  
Sykes, Amanda 86 (Nicholson)  
Talley, Nanne, CA  
Tomlin, Elsie, NY  
Webster, Dorothy, PA (Taggart)  
Wheildon, Lillian  
Woods, Margaret, NY



S.S. "Nopatin," transport ship to Base Hospital #38.



## ~ 1919 ~

During World War I, 69 Jefferson nurses served with the Red Cross. This was in addition to the 100 stationed in France. In this year and for sev-

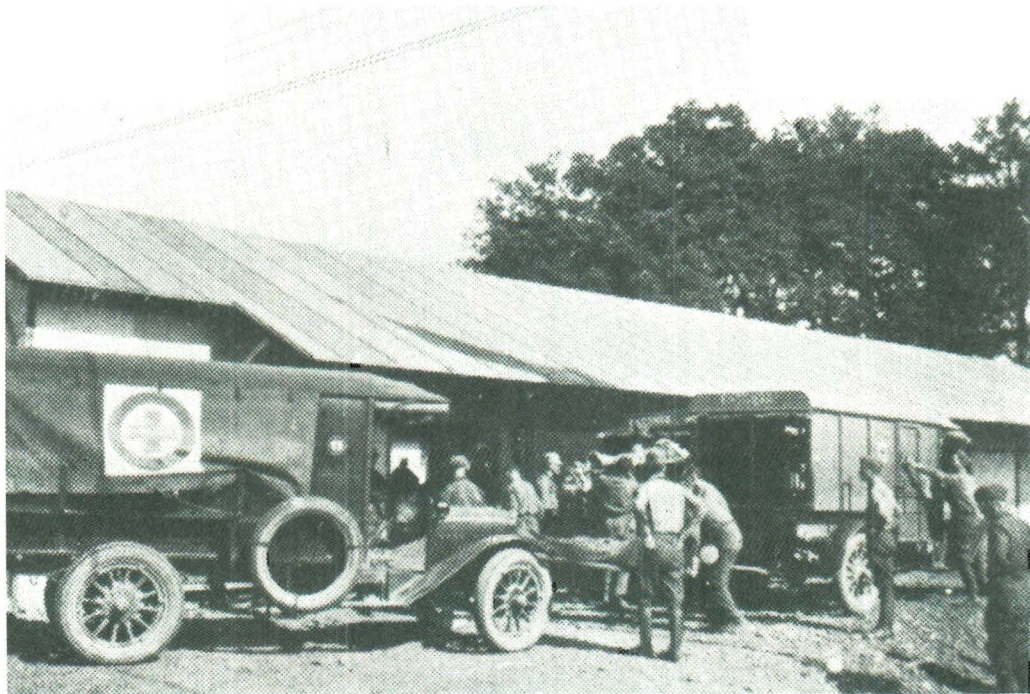
eral following, the Nurses Alumnae Association donated \$200 to the Red Cross.

The graduates numbered 33.

### CLASS OF 1919

Alexander, Ida M., NC  
Bishop, Esther, PA (McConnell)  
Bostic, India, PA (Collins)  
Brown, Evelyn, PA (Hanst)  
Dwyer, Nora B., PA  
Elliott, Velma, OH (Musser)  
Fitzgerald, Anna, MD (Nissler)  
Fortner, Helen M., PA  
Goodyear, Mildred, PA (Wisner)  
Hillyer, Lucy M.E., PA  
Hinderliter, Emma, PA (Snyder)  
Hovis, Mabel, PA (Grove)  
Jobson, Clara E., PA  
Johnson, Adelaide G., PA  
Johnson, Zayda B., NY  
Lawrence, Ethel, PA (Hannon)

Lingo, Miriam, DE (MacGinnis)  
MacGinness, Anna, PA (Wible)  
McCullough, Eliza, PA (Williams)  
McNerney, Hazel E., MA  
Melander, Anna M., PA  
Myers, Effie, PA  
Neely, Margaret, PA (Boston)  
Rice, A. Irene, PA (Paist)  
Ricker, Blanche M., PA  
Satterlee, Bernice, PA (Ross)  
Silbermann, Hilda, PA (Cole)  
Swisher, Ida, PA (O'Hara)  
Warner, Bertha, PA (Koons)  
Wary, Cora M., PA (Staggs)  
Williams, Hattie, PA (Book)  
Williams, Sadie, PA (Long)  
Worthington, Alice L., PA



Receiving ward of Base Hospital #38.