

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATE NURSES WAS DELIVERED BY MISS A. I. KELLY

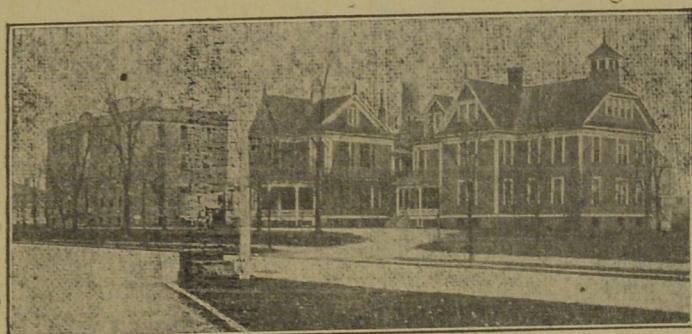
Pleasing Farewell Message Delivered to Class of 1935 Victoria Public Hospital Graduates Last Evening

The Valedictory delivered at the graduating exercises of Victoria Public Hospital last evening by Miss A. I. Kelly, of Hawkeston, York County, was one of the best heard at any similar closing in recent years. Miss Kelly was heartily applauded by the audience as well as by the class as she concluded her splendid address. It was as follows:

Members of the Hospital Board, Members of the Staff, Classmates—Ladies and Gentlemen:—

It has devolved upon me as senior member of the class of 1935 to say a few words appropriate to the occasion.

VICTORIA PUBLIC HOSPITAL



From Which Eleven Talented Young Ladies Were Graduated Last Evening.

of our graduation and I do so with the keenest appreciation. We have come here tonight in a body to say farewell to our friends and to each other.

But first may I review briefly the history of the class. In April, 1932, we were a class of eight members, seven of whom were accepted at the end of four months as Student Nurses when we were presented with our caps, the mark of our profession.

In June, 1932, the new Nurses' Residence was opened and we moved in to enjoy its comforts. I think each one of us appreciated the home recalling the inconveniences experienced by our predecessors.

In September of the same year, our class was increased by six members, four of whom were accepted. And so tonight we are eleven in number.

With our caps came greater responsibilities and new experiences the first being a night duty term. Night duty is not easily forgotten by many, and thoughts of "6" flat at 2 A. M. will always bring back unforgettable scenes.

As time progressed and we assumed new duties we were sent to the Diet Kitchen. Here, under Miss Tracy's guiding hand we studied Dietetics practically, although we were sometimes hopelessly involved with diabetic and anaemic diets.

Our next step was to the County Hospital at East Saint John where we affiliated for two months for a special course in the study of tuberculosis. I'm sure each member of the class agrees with me that this course was a real boon to our training.

During our Senior Year we spent two months in the Operating Room, where we received our Surgical and Obstetrical training without which our nursing course would have been incomplete. During this time we were able to grasp to some small degree the marvels of surgery while at the same time we were brought into closer association with the doctors as we worked side by side with them.

The last few months of our training brought the greatest responsibilities and tasks. Our senior duty tended to prepare us for such affairs as we are to manage after graduation.

At this time I wish to mention our ever faithful friend, Mr. Kelly, who for so many years has been a "part" of the hospital. We shall all miss his fatherly interest in us and in our work. Then too, there is our interne Dr. Dubois, who has been with us for the past two years and who was always ready at any hour of day or night to lend a helping hand. And Mr. Bird, with his droll manner and ever welcome presence, especially when an operation was under way. We shall miss them all.

To The Board
Members of the Hospital Board—

FRENCH WOMEN LOSE PATIENCE OVER DELAY, DEMAND SUFFRAGE

PARIS, France, May 8—France is one of the four European countries where women do not vote, and although Swiss, Yugoslavs and Bulgarians still accept their fate meekly, French women are getting tired of their "inferior political status". Briefly, the history of women's efforts to capture the vote in France is as follows:

May 20, 1919, the chamber of deputies introduced a bill of equal suffrage rights for men and women and it was passed with 344 in favor and 97 against. After much procrastination, the senate turned the bill down November 21, 1922, but with a majority of only twenty-four. Despite repeated demands from the chamber, the senate refused to reconsider the question until July, 1923, when Louis Martin proposed making women eligible to vote.

Nothing at all happened until 1927, when Senator Pierre Marraud reported on the subject and begged women to wait "just a few more months". Sure enough, in 1932 Senator Hery brought up the question once more, inveighing against women in the hardest terms, declaring it were better that a child be orphaned of both parents than to be left to the mercies of its mother alone. A general discussion in the senate began June 23 and lasted for several sessions, when the whole matter was indefinitely shelved without any conclusion being reached.

French-women have been very patient; their birthright of good sense and tact deterred them from the violent agitation of English and American suffragettes, yet for the last three years they have seen their interests ignored on one pretext or another. Paris is in favor of the vote—the mayors and city council have openly avowed it. It is in the provinces and countryside that in difference and opposition lie. Here is the traditional strength of France, hoarded in quiet towns throughout centuries of easy living. Secure and well treated, women have little inclination to enter the political arena.

They have played their part in the economic life, shop, run restaurants, taught school, worked in the fields and factories; but when the day's work is over they are glad to bundle the men off to the cafe to drink and talk politics. The women must get dinner and put the children to bed. Men are only in the way at such moments and while the important matters are being attended to it's a good thing politics keeps them quiet. Somehow French women have always assumed a slightly contemptuous attitude to this subject; they knew better means of getting what they wanted.

Union Opens Attack
The National Union for Women's Suffrage, founded February 13, 1909, with its 200 groups and sections has done something to modify this view, but it remained ineffective until six months ago when Mme. Louis Weiss, a woman of political acumen, became its campaign manager and founded the Femme Nouvelle. Realizing that the senate and the provinces were the chief obstacles to the vote, she decided to carry the war into the enemy's own country and attack him where it hurt most. Of all the senators, M. Rene Duplantier, from the department of the Vienne, is the feminists' most implacable enemy. For years he has made merry over the suffragists.

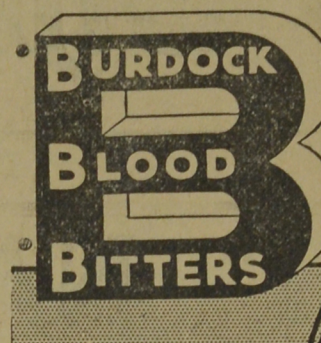
This gray little man in the middle fifties is a noted wit and his contributions to senatorial discussions are greeted with gales of laughter. His obscene puns and implications are far too daring to be reproduced in the Paris newspapers, though they are faithfully recorded in columns and columns of the Official Gazette.

Brandishing a copy of this paper and calling on the provincial ladies to hear what their senator had said about them, Mme. Weiss and a few resolute colleagues started off on a four days' punitive expedition throughout the Vienne as a preliminary skirmish in their war on the senate.

Drums Announce Arrival
At Chatelleraut the silence of a drowsy afternoon was suddenly broken by the roll of drums, the towncrier announcing the arrival of the Paris suffragists. Not that the charming little cry is without its own variety. Rosette Pascault, local mistress, is the leading feminist and in her handsome drawing-room beneath the atelier where twenty-five millinettes makes hats for the gentry she had assembled for her distinguished guests the town's leading women. All of them in black with smart hats and veils, they looked alert and displayed much more savior-faire than the correspondent had expected.

"I pay my taxes but cannot determine their distribution. I am a hairdresser, shopkeeper, war widow. I cannot open a bank account, although I earn the money. Even my children have greater civic rights than I, although I raised them by my own efforts." They talked fluently, quietly, no bitterness, no sex hatred.

Rosette handed round tiny glasses of sweet wine and little cookies, typical afternoon refreshment in the French provinces. At the local cinema at nine o'clock about 500 prosperous-looking women and men, the latter slightly predominating, listened attentively while Mme. Weiss explained her mission, quoted a few of M. Duplantier's milder obscenities and left her audience to draw its own conclusions.



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