

FERN FRIEND NEWSLETTER

FERN LODGE, Inc. 18457 Madison Avenue,
Castro Valley, Calif., 94546

a non-profit Nursing Home for Christian Scientists
accredited by the Department of Care of The Mother Church

NOVEMBER 1978

(415) 886-2448

FRIENDS OF NURSING:

THE GREAT NEED for Christian Science nurses continues and is sorely felt by all Christian Science care facilities, including Fern Lodge.

ISN'T IT NATURAL to all of us to express the nurse-qualities where we are right now? You probably are already discovering that nothing says "no" to nursing care — animals, plants, children, church members, etc. The world too, needs nursing.

NOW MAY BE THE TIME for you to take this next step: enroll in Fern Lodge's fourth Adventure-In-Learning Workshop, a free two-day introduction to the field of Christian Science Nursing as either a rewarding career or a fascinating part-time job.

IF YOU CONSIDER that it is now time to put to practical use your understanding of Christian Science, send in one of the enclosed applications. Much insight into nursing can be absorbed in these two days.

PLEASE PASS ALONG the other application to someone in your own position or to one who is just beginning the search for a meaningful career. The desire of many young people to heal the world can find its deepest contribution in the office of nursing. Nurse-aide training brings into focus the caring, nurturing qualities that give foundation to every significant career.

CAREERS ARE OPEN to earnest loving Christian Scientists as visiting nurses and home nurses, or in sanitoriums and nursing homes as staff nurses, charge nurses, supervisors or administrators. Trained nursing qualities also can make a fine basis for those desiring eventually to become Christian Science practitioners.

THIS TWO-DAY TASTE of nursing may well impel you to take a further 10-week nurse-aide course which is a prerequisite to the one-year program at Arden Wood in San Francisco. Fern Lodge will begin its 10-week course in January.

THIS ISSUE of our Newsletter is geared toward giving you a glimpse into the dedicated, loving work of our cherished nurses, with an indication how each was directed to her life's work in the nursing field.

Sincerely,

Eugene F. DeBolt
Board of Directors

President: Eugene Debolt, Danville; Vice President: Elizabeth S. Dempsey, Castro Valley; Secretary: Hazel Wilson, Hayward; Treasurer: Harriet Eagerblade, Castro Valley; Directors: Charles Arden, Walnut Creek; Arthur W. Brandenburg, Hayward; Bernice Bryan Brown, Berkeley; Muriel Chisholm, Castro Valley; Frances Griffith, Walnut Creek; Robert H. Griffen, San Leandro; Ronald Macdonald, Oakland; Herbert H. Mitchell, Berkeley; Marion D. Nawman, Piedmont. Administrator: Emily M. Valentine, Castro Valley.

ADMINISTRATION

"Why are you staying in nursing when you're so qualified for the practice?" EMILY VALENTINE asked a teacher at nursing school. The answer exploded, "Because this is my profession!"

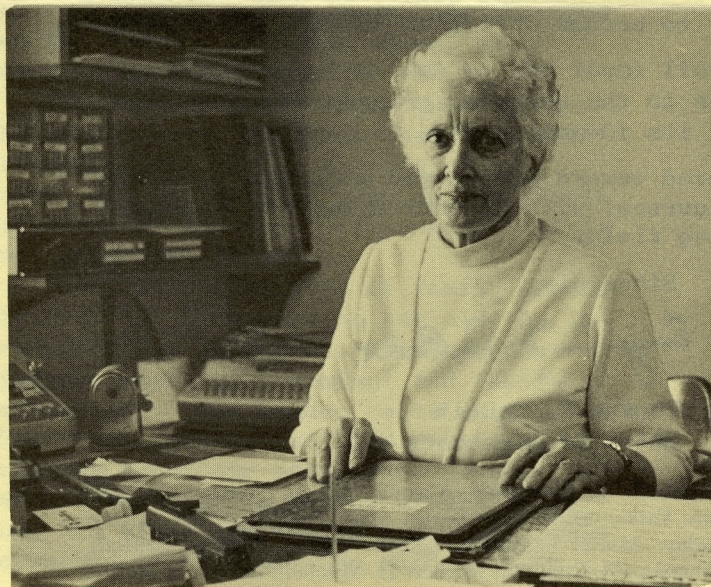
Already deeply involved with helping her fellow man (first as a school teacher, then a Settlement House social worker) Emily at last was headed toward the professional dignity for which she'd searched — the Christian Science nurse.

Constantly compelled to act out of deep concern for the individual, she finished the 3-year nurse's training course at the CSBA at Chestnut Hill, did field work, then went into training at Tenacre Sanatorium for the care of the mentally ill. There she started the Tenacre School of Nursing.

Activity in the full practice beckoned, during which time she was led to open her own home to the care of elderly Christian Scientists. Valentine Haven, a nursing home in San Mateo, was the direct outcome. When it was well established, Emily retired to enjoy a more leisurely life of travel and church work with her husband.

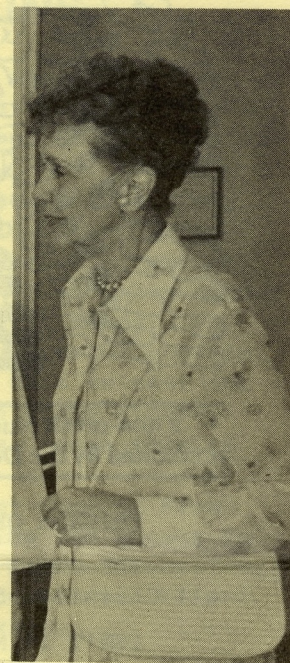
Energy, persistence, love of life and a desire to share these qualities where needed brought her back into the mainstream of activity when she was asked to be Administrator at Fern Lodge during its growth years from a private nursing home for 20 patients to an accredited, non-profit nursing home for 30.

After a forty-one year career of great dignity and success, she is the epitome of the Christian Science nurse — and still at it!



"Working, eating, living with Christian Scientists 24 hours a day for 3 years, that's where you learn your lessons,"

FRANCES GRIFFETH says in remembering with gratitude her training at the BA, Pacific Coast (now Arden Wood). After 10 years as a nurse in the field, she retired for marriage and a child. However, her experience and dedication gradually led into the practice and she became listed in the Journal in 1960. Her interest in volunteer work at Harmony Haven (Berkeley) brought her to Fern Lodge as a member of its first non-profit Board, where she is in charge of the Support Group program.



During ANNE KENNEDY's annual visit from the Care Department in September she emphasized the place and importance of nursing to the Cause of Christian Science. She said, "It is easy to choose to be a nurse, but it is hard to learn to be one."

"The nurse's uniform becomes a 'robe of righteousness', highly valued."

"Beside nursing the patient, nurses nurse each other, the practitioner, the visitor, themselves", and consequently they "are greatly loved and appreciated wherever they are."





When Practical Nurse CATHY SCHNEIDER (nurse to right of patient) found herself in Alaska and down to her last 50 cents, her landlady gave her a Science and Health. That led to church attendance and, in turn, to a job. Until she saw an ad in the Christian Science Monitor, she had no idea there was such a thing as a Christian Science nurse. Impelled to learn more about it, she took a job as a laundress at Sunrise House in Seattle, Washington. Contact with nurses and aides influenced her decision ten years later (after marriage and a daughter) to take the one-year practical nurse course at Arden Wood in San Francisco. "What I like most is the metaphysical part," she says. "It helps me grow, too." Her goal is more nurse's training with the possibility of becoming a visiting nurse.

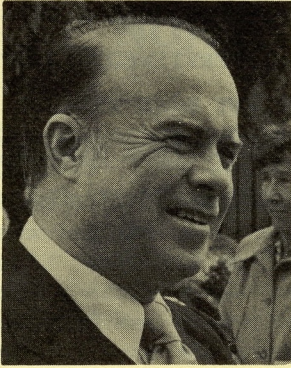
Helping Cathy with a patient is Aide III CORNELIA GRAY. Neither a Christian Scientist nor a nurse, Cornelia answered an ad twenty-one years ago to help Mindell Cox care for six elderly patients. Her gentle mothering qualities and new-found love of Christian Science brought her to membership in The Mother Church in 1970 just about the same time Fern Lodge was reorganized under a Board of Directors. She stayed on as an Aide. Her dedication to the job and steadfastness in the face of personal difficulties has seen her grow into a competent Aide III.

Stifling her infectious giggle for a moment, she turns back to add, "Please put down that there is always good food here, and clean linens, and everyone gets washed goin' to bed and gettin' up — they just couldn't get better care."



Reluctant to talk about herself, LYDIA HOLDEN nevertheless has completed the full three-year nurse's training. She says she simply "fell into it" with ease, beginning with the Home Nursing Course given by The Mother Church in Seattle, thence to the preparatory ten-week nurse-aide period at Sunrise-Newhaven and then to Arden Wood for the one-year Practical Nurse program. Her second and third year's class work at Chestnut Hill was followed by on-the-job training at Arden Wood. Upon graduation, she came to Fern Lodge. Emily Valentine comments, "She understands well the responsibilities of the Charge Nurse, has good perception concerning the needs of the patients and shows a continuing interest in promoting their progress".

ANNUAL MEETING TALK by CLEM COLLINS



The following are excerpts from the talk given by Mr. Clem Collins, C.S.B., of Boston, Mass. on April 30th, 1978, for Fern Lodge's Annual Meeting, at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Hayward.

"YOUR FAMILY NEEDS YOU"

"We are all brothers and sisters in God's family in the great universal family of our Father-Mother God.

"Consider with me this great heritage — our family. I am asking you to embrace this blessing as you never have before. To feel it and include everyone in it. God leaves no one out. Paul said 'there is neither Greek nor Jew...Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free.' (Col 3:11) This includes no youth nor aged, Baptist, Buddhist, Catholic, Moslem, Mormon nor 'born again' Christian. Nothing divides us. We are all family.

"Now what is family? Have you discovered that the definition of Church as given in Science and Health is the ideal description of family? No one anywhere has ever been outside of 'the structure of Truth and Love' (S&H 583:12), outside of God's household.

LOVE "It is our duty to consciously, actively embrace everyone in the family: singles and marrieds, the one-parent and two-parent home, the no-parent home, and the no-child home, the youth and the aged, men and women. Each has needs, deep needs to be met.

"Bertrand Russell wrote that among the overwhelming passions that have governed his life is the longing to be loved, and he includes also an invariable pity for the suffering of mankind. It is only important to love.

"The Latin root word of family means: 'to serve'. True serving has all the ingredients for salvation. It includes 'prayer, watching, working' and 'self-immolation'. Our Leader calls this 'God's gracious means' (S&H 1:6-7) for bringing about our salvation. Jesus demonstrated to his family of disciples what his place and theirs was in it, when he washed their feet. He said to them,

'whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant.' (Matthew 20:27)

"We can de-institutionalize and family-ize more of our churches. How? By respect and reverence for the individuality and dignity of every child, every woman, every man; by genuine interest in and appreciation of the fact that each has needs.

"Do we see our brother's needs? We should see only perfection, total good in everyone. This requires that we cast out indifference. We need to value others, work together with others, rouse them to truly value themselves.

"I was impressed in my tour of Fern Lodge how they were helping the guests to value themselves, to appreciate themselves, to appreciate what they could do. It was very touching and impressive.

AGE-ISM "Age-ism is wanting to put some people into ghettos out of sight. One writer says the new Golden Rule is 'Don't get involved'. But these are our family members. It's only natural to stay close to and cherish them as well as provide care for them. And it should not, need not be a burden.

"We need to deal metaphysically with this belief in a fearsome, irresistible tide of age. All the ills attached to the belief in advancing years are what? Fear. Fears that have been submitted to instead of scientifically opposed. Mrs. Eddy says 'Fear and sickness' are 'identical'. (S&H 135:Marg. Hdng.) And that is all sickness is; it's not age, not infirmity of the flesh, not low resistance and not disease. It's fear, and fear is not a power, and it's not a substance, and it's not even a cause nor a reality. Fear is an offense against God.

"Never be an age-ist. Never believe that with advancing years goes infirmities. That is no more Christian than being a racist. It is our family responsibility to entertain only 'perfect love' that 'casteth out fear'. (I John 4:18)

FORGET SELF IN SERVING MANKIND We know the blessing of family means to forget self in serving mankind. We know our obligation to our family is to show through an act of love that God's family includes everyone, excludes no one, and needs everyone. And we have a further obligation to show the nature of God's creation by bearing witness only to its present perfection. And we will find, step by step, that this 'perfect love casteth out fear' (I Jn 4:18), perfect love for God and man. In this lies the promise."

NURSE-AIDE TRAINING

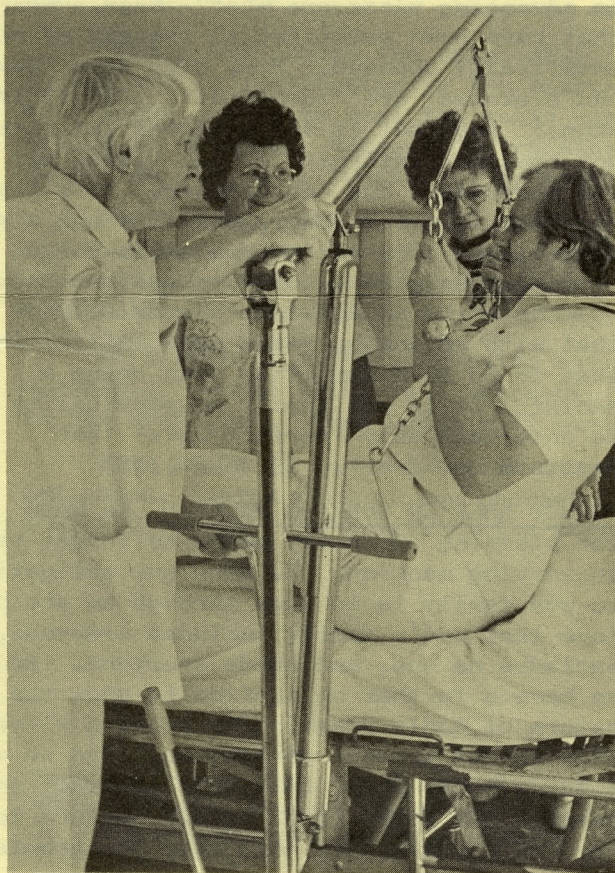
TEN-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM READY

Beginning in early January, Fern Lodge will hold a ten-week nurse-aide training program. Geared to preparing the nursing newcomer for aide work at any Christian Science care facility, it is also a pre-requisite for application to the one-year practical nurse training course at Arden Wood Sanitorium. If you are interested contact Fern Lodge for starting dates and other necessary information.

If you've considered nursing work but are not sure what it entails or if you'll enjoy it, sign up for our "Adventure-In-Learning" two-day introduction to Christian Science nursing. Applications accompany this Newsletter.

* * *

In this picture, Administrator Emily Valentine shows aides Liz Lanning, Lucille Marcy and Dick Horner how to use a hydraulic lifter with care and efficiency.



EVERYONE COMES TO NURSING THROUGH A DIFFERENT AVENUE. WE'VE INTERVIEWED SIX OF OUR NURSES TO FIND OUT WHY EACH WAS LED TO A CAREER IN CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING AND, NOW THAT THEY'RE EXPERIENCING IT, HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT IT.

* * *

When ORLENE BECKLEY's husband passed on, she assumed the running of their long-established furniture store in Hayward. Within a year the store was sold and she felt she could well fill her potential by either going into the full-time Christian Science practice or into Christian Science nursing. It was almost a year before the way opened. During that time she studied and did volunteer work at Fern Lodge including conducting Wednesday testimony meetings.

One day she thought to mention to Mrs. Valentine her desire to nurse. The blessed answer was, "When can you begin? Tomorrow?"

"It's a great privilege for me and I wouldn't trade it for anything", she says after eight years on the job.



THE NURSE'S DAY

Ten years ago, Practical Nurse MARIA MONZONIS' life seemed to have no direction, no purpose. Through tears of desperation she prayed, "God, show me the way". When she arrived home a letter from a niece spoke of Science and Health and told her where to get a copy. Foregoing dinner she went to a Reading Room, borrowed the book and read far into the night. During the second reading, she experienced her first healing, all the while praying to know how to serve God better.

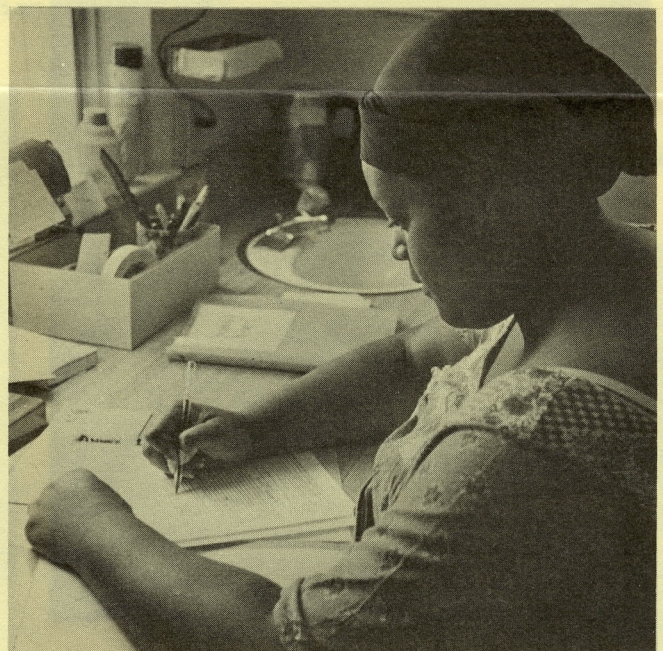
She laughed when a church friend said she'd make a good nurse. When it was mentioned again, she asked, "Why would you say that, when I'm a Christian Scientist now?" Informed about Christian Science nursing, she immediately applied for work at Broadview Sanatorium until her membership in The Mother Church was approved. For the next two years she rejoiced in nurse-aide work until she was accepted for the one-year practical nurse training at Arden Wood. After an added four years' experience there, she heard that Fern Lodge needed a night nurse. Here she's found her nitch. "I like night nursing. There's more response, more time to love, more time for metaphysical work. Nursing is my life!"

WHAT MRS. EDDY SAYS ABOUT NURSES
(Science and Health page 395):

An ill-tempered, complaining or deceitful person should not be a nurse. The nurse should be cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, — receptive to Truth and Love.

After working between high school semesters in Fern Lodge's kitchen, Aide I CATHY ADE-ADEYEMI half-heartedly took the Adventure-In-Learning program. It wasn't until six years later, after 2½ years of college, marriage and loss of a job in San Francisco that she realized there had always been a need for her at Fern Lodge. Where before she thought of it as a lot of work with no benefit to her, she now feels such a great love for it that words of praise tumble one on the other. It's best said in her words.

"Do you know how rewarding it is to help someone, always, everyday, to be on the spot, seeing healings? It's hardly a job, it's part of my life and it's good to be able to say 'I'm grateful'. I'm no longer afraid to care for the people who need it most. It takes lots of prayer to be guided rightly, but I know now I'm capable, in control, that I'll see the right answers. Love is the most necessary thing — to let go, let God heal — and the weight of it goes. I do my work joyously. I'm so grateful. I love it, I love it."





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