

at Frankfurt-on-Main there were 6,000 nurses from 50 countries. Today there are more than 500,000 nurses associated in this Council which has survived two world wars and which recently moved its headquarters to Geneva from London, where they had been for many years. It is closely allied with international organizations concerned with health and working conditions and also with the international organizations of the Red Cross.

The book is well illustrated and contains an index for ready reference to the names of people who, on the five continents, have contributed to the advancement of working conditions for nurses, such as Bedford Fenwick and Lavinia Dock. Miss Bridges gives a biography of these two complementary personalities—the first a person of vision with a talent for organization, the second a courageous defender of women's rights—who were behind the foundation of the ICN.

This account of a world-wide movement led Miss Bridges to mention circumstances and events directly influencing the birth and growth of national nursing associations, and the development of nursing care and of health services in many countries.

J.-G. L.

Health services for Afghanistan' women and children, by Joan Liftin, *UNICEF NEWS*, No. 48, 1967.

. . . Today, Afghanistan must be considered in the early stages of developing an infrastructure of health services. Towards this end, UNICEF, since 1949, has allocated a total of \$1,267,000, much of which has gone into rural health service, where help is most urgently needed.

There are now health services (centres and sub-centres) in more than twenty rural "blocks", serving a total population of more than one million people.

Clinics for women and children also exist in eighteen provincial towns, as well as Kabul.

And—perhaps most importantly—there are now thirteen schools outside the capital training Afghanistan women to be nurses and midwives. The latest reports from these schools show that there have been consistently more applicants than places available.

BOOKS AND REVIEWS

No one imagines that progress in Afghanistan will be rapid: the gap in technological years is too great to close overnight. But the first, and most painful, steps have certainly been taken. . . .

Changing Nursing Education in the USA, *International Nursing Review*, 1968, No. 1

At present three distinct forms of nursing preparation exist in the USA: diploma programme (hospital); baccalaureate degree programme (college or university) and associate degree programme (junior college).

Nursing education in the USA is coming at the moment under intensive scrutiny, aimed at improving its quality by changing the present systems. An outline of the general education system in the USA emphasizes the upsurge of Junior Colleges. All three nursing education programmes have several common denominators: they prepare nurses for registration and are open only to high school graduates. The diploma programme is the traditional and still most common form of preparation. The cheap labour hospital school students provided in the past produced today's emphasis on separating service and education. Diploma courses cover nursing care, various science subjects, but not courses in the liberal arts.

Nursing courses are taught by nurses. Clinical experiences are carefully selected and controlled. The diploma course is more hospital oriented; the graduate is qualified for a beginning position in nursing. Fees are generally subsidized by the hospital and hence by the patient.

Baccalaureate degree programmes in nursing give the student a general college education and demand normal college admission qualifications. The student either starts nursing and general studies together, from the beginning, or completes one or two years general studies before beginning nursing studies. In some cases clinical experience must be gained in institutions at some distance from the college, but this is still under the control of the college faculty.

Medical Care Teaching in Latin American Schools of Public Health (Summary), *Boletín de la Oficina Sanitaria Panamericana*, 1968, No 3.

A growing interest in the effective training of future health administrators and in the coordination of medical services to include both prevention and treatment has been evident in Latin America for a number of years.

In 1964 a study was made under PASB auspices on curriculum content in the field of medical and hospital administration in five public