

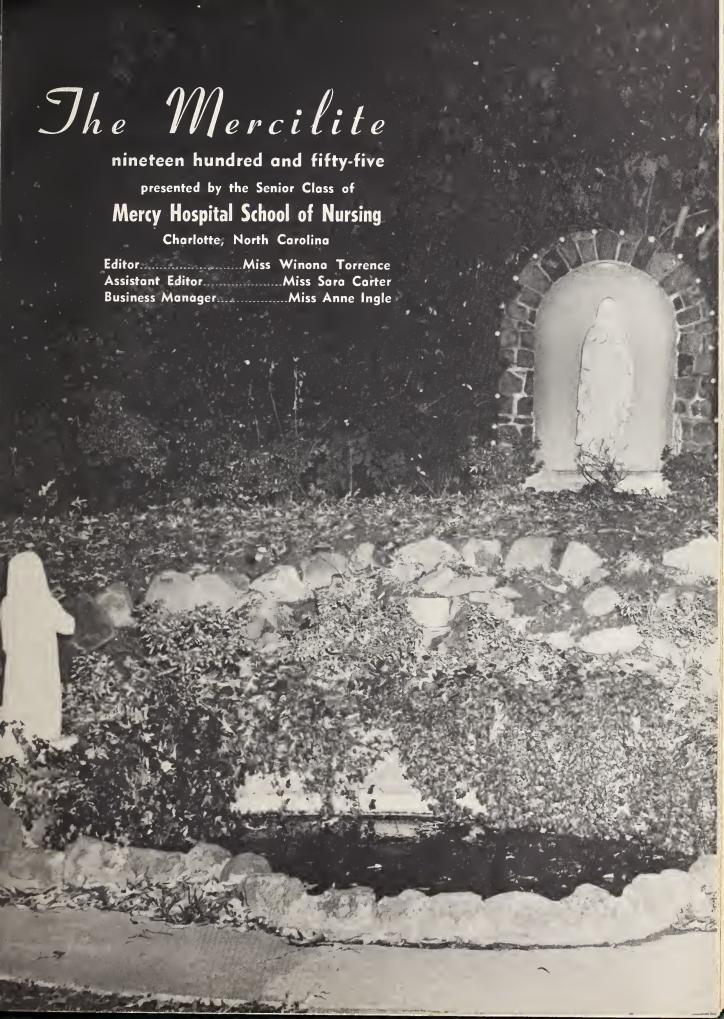
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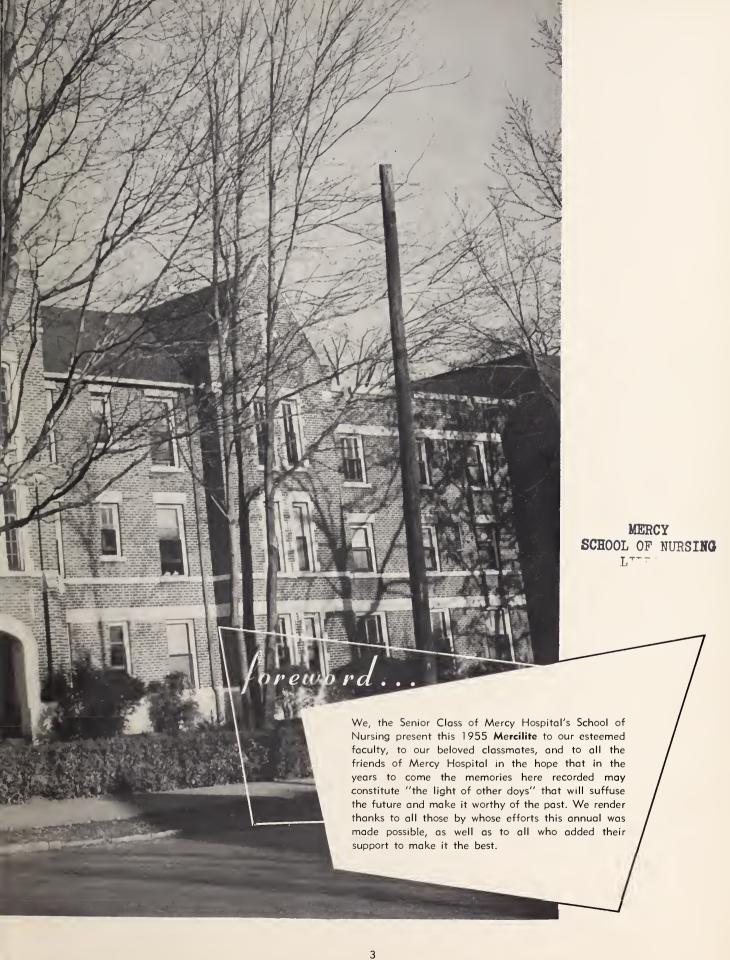
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### through her guidance we found

IN GRATITUDE for all her care of us,

IN ADMIRATION for her efficiency,

IN RECOGNITION of her buoyant humor, and

IN HEARTFELT ACKNOWLEDGMENT of her twin gifts of sympathy and understanding,

We, the members of Mercy Hospital's Graduating Class of 1955, lovingly dedicate this annual to Sister Mary Gertrude, R.S.M., Directress, Mercy Hospital's School of Nursing.







#### OUR DIRECTOR

Sister Mary Gertrude Professional Adjustments, Anatomy

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Sister Stella Maris
Pediatrics

Sister Miriam Nursing Arts

Sister Mary de Chantal Microbiology

Sister Mary Jerome Supervisor and Clinical Instructor in Urology and Gynecology

Sister Mary Bernarda Supervisor of Out Patient Department and Health Director

Sister Mary Barbara
Supervisor and Clinical
Instructor in
Orthopedics
Mrs. Frances Ashcraft

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Miss Millie Grice Clinical Instructor in Operating Room

> Miss Mary Wrenn Diet Therapy and Nutrition

Mrs. Driscoll Librarian

Not Pictured

Sister Jean Baptist
Chemistry

Sister Mary Vincent Operating Room





### SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS



President Jo Allred



Secretary-Treasurer
Jean Riddle



Vice-President
Ruth Nance



Social Chairman
Joyce Blythe



Miss Josephine Marie Allred "True to one and one alone"

Miss Mary Eugene Allred "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance"



## Senior Class

Miss Darlene Blackburn
"My life shall be a challenge,
not a truce"

Miss Joyce Blythe
"A hearty laugh is good
for the soul"





Miss Lillian Marie Arrington
"Be silent and safe, silence
never betrays you"

Miss Greta Lee Bellamy
"The greatest pleasure of life is love"



# of 1955



Miss Joan Kathryn Bowers
"The successful person is
often the one who decided to
quit—but tried one more
time"

Miss Sara Frances Carter "I'd rather be small and shine than large and cast a shadow"





Miss Judith Marie Collins
"Pep in her fingers, pep in
her toes, a jolly good sport
wherever she goes"

Miss Joanne Larkin Corey
"People who are late are
often so much jollier than the
people who have to wait for
them"



## Senior Class

Miss Emily Hawkins
"To strive, to seek to find,
and not to yield"

Miss Mickie Lowe Huitt
"Good natured, jolly, and clever, so nice to have around"



Miss Jean Gwendolyn Graham "Make the most of your opportunities, for opportunity only knocks once"

Miss Ina Ruth Harris
"And what she thinks,
she nobly dares"





of 1955





Miss Elizabeth Ann Ingle "We are charmed by the neatness of her person"

Miss Phyllis Jane Little "True to her work, her word, and her friends"



Miss Sara Ann McIver
"Depend upon yourself and
your disappointments will be
known only to yourself"

Miss Ruth Nance
"A smile to all she meets, a charm to make each memory sweet"



## Senior Class

Miss Lucille Smith
"The best things come in
small packages"

Miss Winona Ann Torrence
"If you never stick your neck
out you'll never get your head
above the crowd"





Miss Emma Jean Riddle "As sweet as she is sincere"

Miss Everette Ann Smith "Life is too valuable to waste in anger"



of 1955



Miss Shirley Anne Wright "A cute combination of sense and nonsense"





#### CLASS HISTORY



September 4, 1952: THE BEGINNING . . . The beginning for thirty-two high school graduates of a new and very different world, a life selected by each one of us, a life with the glorious promise of a career that would benefit mankind and redound with glory to Gad.

For nine full months our activities confined themselves primarily to the realm of books. Then, gradually at first, we were allowed to put our "book-nursing" into actual practice. Quickly we discovered that the old saying, "Experience is the best teacher," was all too true; but experience and book-learning combined brought us nearer to the ideal, and we found ourselves making definite progress.

Of course, the "Poor Little Proble" has for years made a name for herself, and it was not our intention to disappoint our upperclassmen. Wide-eyed with innocence, we asked the traditional questions expected of us; and we learned by doing. Then came the reward for nine months of work; OUR CAPS . . . OUR CROWNS. Tears of joy were shed by us, and the months preluding this great event seemed well worth the going through. Congratulations descended upon us — and why not? Hadn't we worked long and tirelessly for the reward? The Nursing Profession seemed more desirable than ever, and with new vim we proceeded on our way.

May 16, 1953: ANOTHER BEGINNING . . . The beginning this time of a new road, a wider road and, if possible, a more interesting one, since it was destined to bring us even nearer to the goal. Our numbers were depleted, of course, but that circumstance took nothing at all from our zest. With even greater enthusiasm we decided to proceed, to scale the heights beyond us and above. Our hearts were fairly bursting with an honest pride. More responsibilities followed, and we accepted them with sincere eagerness. The classroom still held its place of honor in our perspective, but the perspective itself had widened: now the hospital and our patients played a major roll in our lives; the bedside was even more important than the desk. From May to September we were called "Freshmen." (The term did not connote in this instance the crispness of our uniforms and our fresh general appearance, but it would have been equally applicable in this case . . .)

In September we advanced again, this time to "Junior." It was then, happy and all as we were, that the road seemed longer than ever, that upper grade more unattainable. It was as though time, itself, stood still while we welcomed a new class and bade farewell to the old. Gladly and happily, but with some understandable perturbation, we began and continued the round of departments: Operating Room, Obstetrics, Diet Kitchen. All the phases of nursing and all of its fields we discovered to be endless, and our discovery made us only more delighted with the profession we had chosen. There was so very much to learn—and we were learning!

August 21, 1954: Again a BEGINNING . . . the beginning of our Senior year. As we donned our cherished blue bands, we looked back with amazement: Where had those two years gone to, anyway? Of one thing we were certain: Time flies . . . There were more departments for us to explore. For three months we were away from Mercy for specialized training. We were engaged in the complexities of learning Psychiatry, and our outlook on life was broadened more than ever and our love for the Nursing field became deeper. Pediatrics, the study of children and the diseases peculiar to them, came next. It was in this field that we realized how much we had matured since high school. Working with children had brought out in us latent "mother instincts." We began to appreciate our status in the world, not only as nurses but as women also.

At the conclusion of the round of departments we suddenly realized how close to graduation we were, and we worked even harder to prepare ourselves for the State Board Examinations. Our education had been thus far a well-rounded one, and we began to look back on our days as a "Probie" to recall the exacting technicalities of our studies.

For three years our days were full, indeed. Even our dreams at night began to be filled with symbols of our profession: medicine glasses, the cap and gown of the O.R., hypodermic syringes, charts, heat lamps, needles, sutures, forceps, I. V.'s, dressings. The list was endless but permanently engraved in our memories, never—no matter where our individual lives called us—to be forgotten.

August 5, 1955: Another BEGINNING, a beginning that was, in some respects anyway, also an END: the beginning of our lives as Graduate Nurses, the ending of our three year's training in Nursing School. We were to be graduates of a school of which we were justly proud: the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Charlotte, N. C.

That we will reflect credit on our Alma Mater is one of our aims. We will be graduate nurses of Mercy Hospital, but we will be more. True to our training, we will be content with nothing short of perfection in our work; "A man's reach must exceed his grasp, or what's the Heaven's for?"

As we bid Mercy a fond farewell, we thank her most sincerely for her gentleness, for her thorough training, for her high ideals, and for care of us during these three most important years of our lives. We will exert ourselves to grow daily in knowledge and grace, to hold fast to our ideals, that we may at length attain the goal of our striving: the status of REGISTERED NURSE, an individual, who, according to Mercy's ideals, will reflect the characters of Christ and His Mother.

JOAN BOWERS, Class Historian

#### LAST WILL

We, the Senior Class of '55, of Mercy Hospital School of Nursing, Charlotte, North Carolina, being of sane (?) minds and of the added accumulation of learning incidental to three years of training in Mercy Hospital's School of Nursing, do hereby bequeath this, our last Will and Testament and moreover do aver that all such papers hitherto given from our hand be considered null and void.

- Item 1: To our supervisors and faithful head nurses, we leave a peaceful mind and trouble-free schedule.
- Item 2: We bequeath to our house mothers (and to those who love to sleep not accompanied by a racket) a silent and calm Nurses' Home. (Alas, how could it be otherwise without us!)
- Item 3: To Sister Emmanuel and the Diet-Kitchen personnel we leave for a while anyway, a menu characterized by a small quantity of everything, since now the twenty-three possessors of hale and hearty appetites have said "Adieu."
- Item 4: To our capable faculty we leave the memory of our shining morning faces (at 7:00 a.m.) our sleepless eyes, also our surreptitious yawns. (You'll never know when these might come in handy!)
- **S:** We leave our incubator to Sister Gertrude, for another class as fortunate as we.
- Item 6: To Sister Carmel we bequeath our sincere gratitude for starting us out on the right foot in Nursing Arts, of all things!
- Item 7: To Sister Jerome we give our thanks for her efforts directed towards the getting out of this annual and also for her many boosts of encouragement.

#### ARTICLE II: To the underclassmen

- Item 1: To the Class of 1956 we sadly leave our Blue Bands, nightly 12 o'clock permissions and all other privileges granted to seniors.
- Item 2: To the Class of 1957 we leave the spark of a great school spirit. May it burst into a flame that will illuminate all darknesses!
- Item 3: To all of those who follow us in the many years to come we leave a wonderful school and a most capable faculty. May you treasure your days in training as we have.

#### ARTICLE III: To the following

- Item 1: I, Darlene Blackburn, will and bequeath my love of night duty to anyone who will take it in the hope that I will never get it again.
- Item 2: I, Sara Carter, will my happy days and new experience at State, Raleigh, to all those who follow me.
- Item 3: 1, Nona Torrence, will my glamor and eye-appeal in an O.R. mask to Shirley Moore.
- Item 4: I, Gréta Bellamy, will my ability to write love letters to "the one and only" to Grace Shuffler.
- Item 5: I, Joan Bowers, bequeath my title of "The Most Campused Girl on Campus" to anyone who will "grin and bear it."
- **Item 6:** I, Shirley Wright, will my "small appetite to Joan Beck, hoping that the excess adipose will help silence her creaking joints.
- Item 7: I, Ruth Nance, will my ability to play the piano, golf, tennis, and dumb to Jody Walker.
- Item 8: I, Judy Collins, bequeath my special talent to pace the hospital halls at eighty-nine miles-per-hour to Peggy Dale.
- Item 9: I, Lucille Smith, will my weekends at Duke to Shirley Wendell.
- Item 10: I, Sara McIver, will my shagging to anyone with a basal metabolism rate of plus 40.
- Item 11: To Jean Tribble I, Gwen Graham, will my boyish bob.
- We, Jo and Jean Allred, will our quiet natures and noiseless uke to the remaining Allred Sisters, so as to keep those gifts in the family.
- Item 13: I, Emily Hawkins, will my Ipana smile to Mary Ida Godwin.
- Item 14: To Sister Mary Elizabeth I, Joanne Corey, will my ability to always be in trouble.
- Item 15: We, Joyce Blythe and Mickie Huitt, do will our gentle voices and quiet manner to Clara Kelley and "Sandy" Caliendo.
- Item 16: I, Jean Riddle, do will my size 7 gloves to Charlotte Pressley so that she may assist in removing packings.
- Item 17: I, Ruth Harris, will my ability to get places on time to Jody Walker.

  Given from our hand this day of January, 1955,

  V.O. The Senior Class

  ner JOAN BOWERS

## Class Poem

We, the seniors of fifty-five, All in sound mind and much alive, Look to the future with eager eyes, Knowing how swiftly all time flies, Yet hope as the future years we scan To hold our place in God's great plan, To care for His sick, as only He Knew how to care Who died on the Tree, To soothe the brow with pain o'ercast, And pray with the weary going fast Down the vale with shadow of death close by, To close forever the fading eye . . . May we march right on with the torch held high, And our eyes aloft till our parting sigh! May the Mercy light be a guide to all And Mercy's self hold the world in thrall.

# Prophecy



It is a bright August day of '65. The sun is shining; the birds are singing, and all appears peaceful. Or does it? In the vicinity of Mercy Hospital, now much more extensive than the Mayo Clinic, there is an air of excitement hovering. Something is lost! Upon inquiring, we discover that Miss Jean Riddle is the creator of all the excitement. She is quite upset over a missing appendix! That's our Jean, always worrying over little things—even useless things that are of no earthly use to one, like an appendix... After everything has calmed down and Jean discovers that Dr. Bost decided not to do an appendectomy, she breathes a sigh of relief and continues her morning rounds.

Much to her surprise, Miss Riddle learns that she is to have a new assistant coming in this morning. Upon walking into the office she finds waiting for her no less a person than Phyllis Little. Jean is overcome with joy to see one of her old classmates. Immediately they sit down and start discussing "the good old days at Mercy."

"Well, Phyllis, can you tell me anything about any of our classmates? I am completely in the dark about them."

"Yes," said Phyllis, "I have tried to keep an eye on them; and you know, Jean, that class of ours has really gone places! I understand now that Shirley Wright and Ruth Nance, although happily married, still hold their prominent positions in a large V. A. hospital in Baltimore."

"Nona Torrence; Darlene Blackburn, and Joan Bowers didn't let matrimony stand in their way of seeing the world. They are doing a good job of keeping the Frenchmen happy and well!!

"Lucy Smith and Joyce Blythe finally made it to Texas via matrimony. We understand that the stork put a limitation to their nursing.

"Everette Ann Smith ,who always was inquisitive, now has the tables completely turned. She has a daily column in the Hamlet paper answering questions about nursing.

"Sara McIver (Mrs. Dickie Richardson) is holding the position of school nurse at Vanderbilt—nursing injuries sustained in football.

"Ann Ingle, who always said she wanted a large family, is doing a marvelous job. She and hubby now have five darling little girls. "Mickie Huitt has instituted a new hospital in Maiden. Never let it be said that Mick would let the old home town down.

"Ruth Harris, assistant to a new dentist, is doing a grand job. Could it be from the experience she had with her own teeth (we don't mean while eating!) during training?

"Up in the wild blue yonder we see Gwen Graham on her daily flight from Durham to New York, exploiting her charms among the crew and passengers.

"In Hibbing, Minn., we see Mrs. Jim Hitchcock (former Joanne Corey) treating in the local hospital frostbite from the Minnesota snow.

"I understand, too, that the Pediatric Department at Mercy never has a dull moment with Judy Collins os head nurse. The children love those antics of hers.

"Sara Carter, happily married to Nat, is getting a good start on her football team. Already she has six sturdy boys.

"Looks as though the marriage bug had quite a bite on Mercy Alumnae. Greta Bellamy finally got her guy home from Germany and is Nursing Supervisor at Myrtle Beach Hospital.

"Lillian and George now have that chicken farm in Mount Airy. She is doing research on chicken eggs in the hope of perfecting the yolk!

"Jim Sloop, husband of Emily Hawkins, still hasn't recovered from the presentation his wife made to him last year; four darling little girls, all at once!

"Last but not least, the Allreds. Jo finally succeeded in getting J. B. to marry her, but Jean is still at Mercy. She and Mrs. Smith are doing a most efficient job of running Mercy's diet kitchen."

"Well, Phyllis," says Jean, "our classmates are really doing well. You know that class of 1955 always did have a mind of its own and was destined to go far!"

Suddenly the dialogue is broken by a familiar cry: "Miss Riddle, do I have to scrub ten minutes today? . . . Jean hastily puts her hair back in place and keeps her lunch date with Buddy.

'Bye now!

Class Prophet,
JOYCE BLYTHE.



Mary Lois Barbare Vice-President

Margaret Ann Earley
Secretary

Clara Kelly Treasurer

Martha Smith Social Chairman

# Junior Class

### JUNIORS

Ann Allen Bertha Ann Allred Margarita C. Arriola



Maria Vidal Artero Mary Lois Barbare Mariana T. Barcinas



Barbara Ann Berry Joan Breeden Avie Mae Butler



Teresita A. Calvo Alice Rose Candler Joan Gertrude Cashwell





Shirley Rase Casey
Peggy G. Dale
Margaret Ann Earley

Daris Oleita Edwards Edna Ann Edwards Mary Ida Gadwin

Clara Virginia Kelly Margaret Teresa Margan Shirley Jane Maare

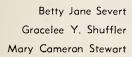
Ja Ann McIver Jahanne Yvanne McKee Eva Frances Neely

### JUNIORS

Mary Anne Parnell Charlatte A. Presley Narma Ann Sawyer









Martha Smith Jean L. Tribble Ethel Jaan Walker



Betty Sue Williams Sister Mary Elizabeth Sister Mary Jaseph





Marcia Ann Dilsaver Treasurer

Joyce Reeps Social Chairman

# Preclinical Class

First Row, left to right: Harriet Lorraine Adams, Julia Nell Allred, Frances Allie Arrants, Katie Joe Ardrey.

**Second Row, left to right:** Shirley Lee Arvey, Mary Lou Auvil, Joyce Ray Ballard, Mary Joan Beck.

**Third Row, left to right:** Sylvia Jean Bennett, Frances Carolyn Benoist, Betty Ann Bowles, Reva Virginia Brown.

**Fourth Row, left to right:** Helen Faye Cain, Sandra Anne Caliendo, Mary Elizabeth Carpenter, Anne Marie Chenworth.





First Row, left to right: Nancy Elizabeth Choate, Shirley Faye Cikanek, Barbara Ann Clack, Barbara Ann Cornelius.

**Second Row, left to right:** Doris JoAnn Coulter, Stella Elizabeth Davis, Rotha Arlene Dawkins, Phyllis Ann Dawkins.

**Third Row, left to right:** Marcia Ann Dilsaver, Diane Eloise Duckett, Harriett June Edney, Don Sain Farabee.

Fourth Row, left to right: Nancy June Farabee, Helen Louise Farrell, Therese Mary Galligan, Eunice Faye Goodman.

First Row, left to right: Virginia Austil Gordon, Carol Sue Gurley, Nancy Ann Hartis, Clara Rebecca Heath.

**Second Row, left to right:** Betty Ann Kiker, Maggie Sue Loggins, JoAnn Maggie Lunsford, Sadie Irene McFadden.

**Third Row, left to right:** Ann Wilcox McIver, Patty Ann Merck, Annie Louise Miller, Mary Bernadette Oakley.

**Fourth Row, left to right:** Patsy Ellen Palmer, Nell Ruth Parham, Martha Sue Ray, Carole Ann Rickert.





First Row, left to right: Sarah Joyce Reeps, Patricia Ann Rohr, Betty Lee Russell, Annie Lou Rowe.

**Second Row, left to right:** Shirley Ann Shepherd, Betty Lou Scruggs, Nancy Marilyn Smith, Carolyn Louise Taylor.

**Third Row, left to right:** Peggy Jean Toomey, Betty Lee Walton, Peggy Ann Warren, Patty Lee Williams.

Fourth Row, left to right: Eva Jeanette Williams, Shirley Mae Windell, Jo Anne Woodie.





First Row, left to right: Feature Editor: Greta Bellamy; Snapshot Editor: Mickie Huitt; Copy Editor: Darlene Blackburn; Advertising Editor: Joyce Blythe; Assistant Business Manager: Shirley Wright.

Second Row, left to right: Junior Editor: JoAnne McKee; Circulation Manager: Lillian Arrington; Assistant Editor: Sara Carter; Editor: Nona Torrence; Business Manager: Ann Ingle; Faculty Editor: Jean Riddle; Poet: Emily Hawkins.

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Miss Judy Collins

President Miss Jean Riddle Vice-President

Standing:

Miss Anne Allen Secretary Miss Phyllis Little
Treasurer

Inset:

Miss Sara McIver Social Chairman



First Row: Therese Galligan, Louise Miller, Barbara Cornelius, Doris Coulter, Carole Rickert, Nancy Hartis, Carolyn Benoist, Shirley Cikanek.

Second Row: Patsy Palmer, Stella Davis, Reva Brown, Shirley Shepherd, Peggy Toomey, Carolyn

Taylor, Lou Rowe.

Third Row: Irene McFadden, Betty Kiker, Helen Farrell, Nell Parham, Mary Oakley, Shirley Windell, Judy Brainard, Carol Gurley, Phyllis Dawkins, Joan Beck, Joanne Woodie.

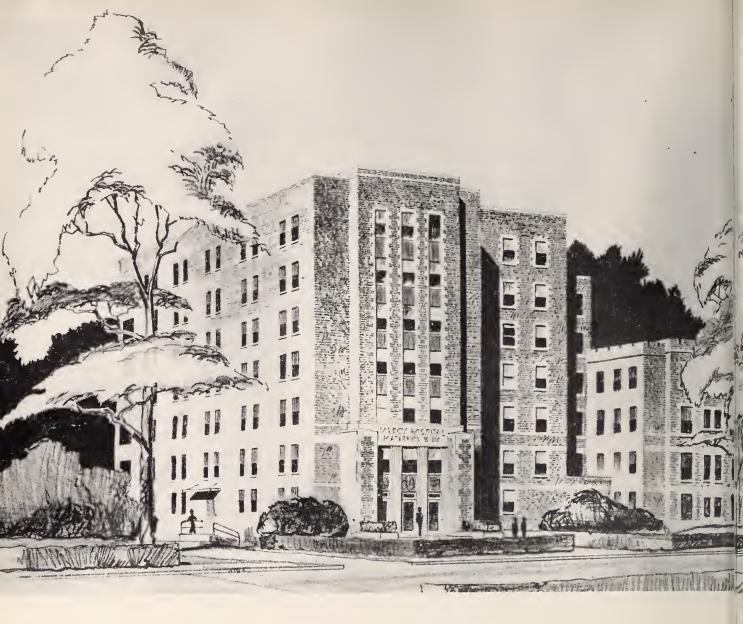




Third Row, left to right: Maria Artero; Mary Ida Godwin; Judy Allred, Sacial Chairman; Joanne Corey; Joan Bawers; Mary Oakley; Mary Lois Barbarae; Ann Allred; Shirley Casey; Jo Allred,







I solemnly pledge myself before God

And in the presence of this assembly

To pass my life in purity and to practice

My profession faithfully.

To maintain and elevate the standard of My profession, and will hold in confidence

All personal matters committed to my keeping

And all family affairs coming to my knowledge

THE FLORENCE



I will abstain from whatever is deleterious

And mischievous and will not take

Or knowingly administer any harmful

drug.

I will do all in my power

In the practice of my calling.

With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician

In his work and devote myself to the welfare of those

Committed to my care.

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Sister Mary Benedict, Secretary-Treasurer



Sister Miriam, Nursing Service

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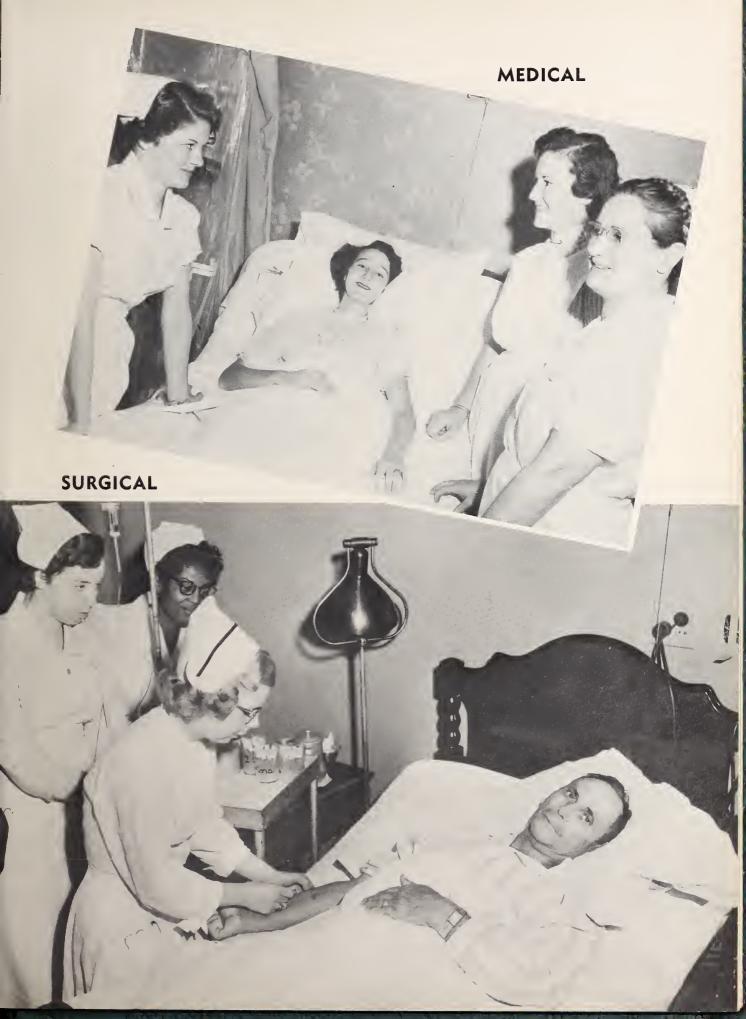
















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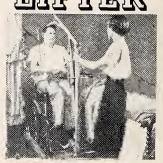
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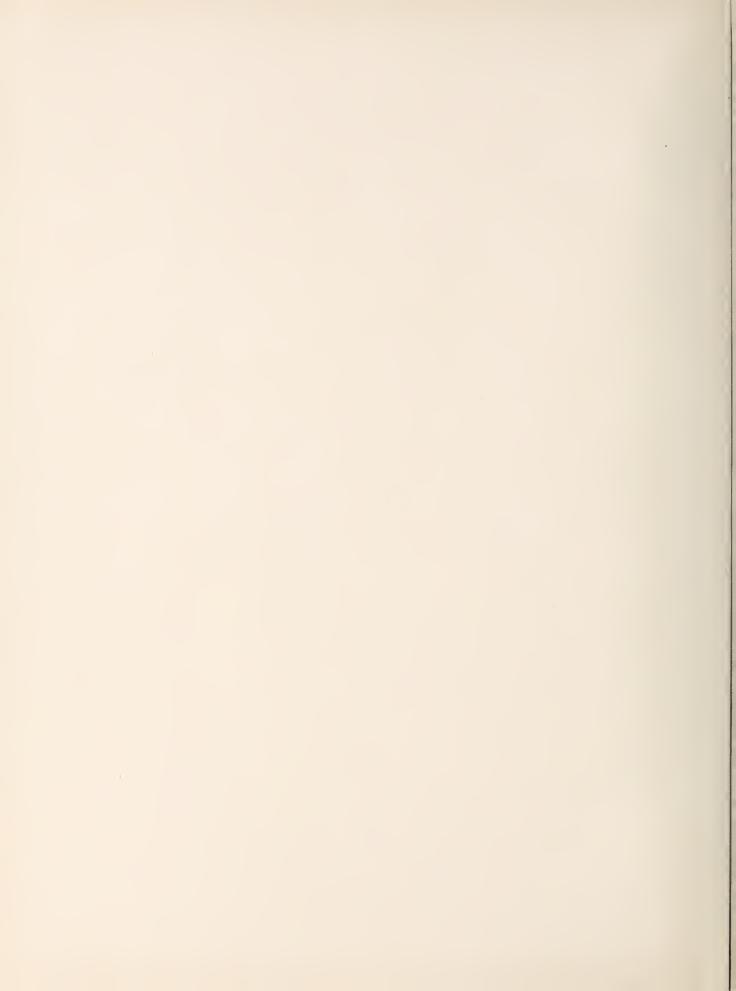
ASSOCIATION

### **AUTOGRAPHS**

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## For Reference

Not to be taken from this room

