# The Quarterly Bulletin of Frontier Nursing Service

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT





JOHN HENRY OF COLLINS FORK AND BARBARA HUNT, A O PI SOCIAL SERVICE SECRETARY

(Printed with permission of John Henry's mother.)

The outside cover is from a photograph made by our former Social Service Secretary, Edith Anderson, our "Andy," now Mrs. George Lawrence. We used it once before—for the Summer 1943 Bulletin cover.

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# HIFNER AND POTTER CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS 145 EAST HIGH LEXINGTON, KY.

To the Officers and Trustees Frontier Nursing Service, Incorporated Lexington, Kentucky

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have made a detailed examination of your records and accounts for the fiscal year ended April 30, 1956, with the results as disclosed by the annexed Exhibits and supporting schedules.

In our opinion all recorded receipts have been duly accounted for.

Your endowment and reserve funds now total in excess of \$967,000.00. Thus the goal of One Million has been nearly attained.

Your books have been closed under our direction and are in accord with this report.

Respectfully submitted,

HIFNER AND POTTER
Certified Public Accountants

Lexington, Kentucky May Twenty-eighth Nineteen Fifty-six

# of the FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE, Inc. for the Fiscal Year May 1, 1955 to April 30, 1956

# PREFACE

As has been our custom since we were one year old, we present our annual report of the fiscal affairs and of the field of operations of the Frontier Nursing Service, to its trustees, members, and subscribers.

We have, as in previous years, divided our report into two sections. One section is about money, and one section about work.

# I.

# FISCAL REPORT

Our annual audit is so detailed, and therefore so voluminous, that we do not print it in full. The figures that follow are taken from the Exhibits and Schedules of the last audit. We have divided these figures into four categories, each covering one page, to make easier reading. The auditors' own Summary is the first category. The second is their list of Endowments and Reserves. The third category covers all Revenue Receipts. The fourth category we have put into two columns—to the left the expenditures of the last fiscal year taken from the audit, and to the right the Budget accepted by our trustees for the current fiscal year, based on last year's expenditures.

Under a fifth category, called Inventory, we account for all our properties. All five categories are given in sequence on the following pages.

Under the heading of Conclusion, we tell something of what the year has meant to us.

# ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE AUDIT OF THE FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE, INCORPORATED May 1, 1955 to April 30, 1956

### ENDOWMENT

The total endowment funds of the Service at the close of the fiscal year are taken from Exhibit D of the audit and are as follows: Joan Glancy Memorial Baby's Crib....\$ 5,000.00 Mary Ballard Morton Memorial 85,250.83 Jessie Preston Draper Memorial (1) 15,000.00 Jessie Preston Draper Memorial (2) 185,000.00 Belle Barrett Hughitt Memorial 16,000.00 Isabella George Jeffcott Memorial 2,500.00
Bettie Starks Rodes Memorial Baby's Crib 5,000.00 John Price Starks Memorial Baby's Crib. 5,000.00
Nora Oliver Shoemaker Memorial Baby's Crib. 5,000.00 1,828.88\* Eliza Thackara Memorial Children's Christmas Fund in memory of Barbara \_\_\_\_\_ 1,000.00 Donald R. McLennan Memorial Bed..... 12,750.00 Louie A. Hall Legacy in memory of Sophronia Brooks for a Center and its Endowment 51,944.63\* Margaret A. Pettet Legacy 1,953.70 Hattie M. Strong Memorial 10,000.00 7,500.00 James Short Atwood Legacy..... Marion E. Taylor Memorial 10,000.00 Fanny Norris Fund 10,000.00 William Nelson Fant, Jr. Memorial 78,349.52 1.000.00 Lt. John M. Atherton Memorial Mrs. Morris B. Belknap Fund 26,375.00 Elisabeth Ireland Fund 17,257.50 Elizabeth Agnes Alexander Legacy..... 5,000.00 Richard D. McMahon Legacy 943.23 Anonymous—General Endowments 102,400.00 Mrs. W. Rodes Shackelford in memory Beulah Bruce Brennan Memorial 2,000.00 Anna Rosina Gooch Memorial 10,000.00

Jeannie B. Trull Legacy 32,883.24

Elizabeth B. Perkins Legacy 152,970.44 Elizabeth Sherman Lindsay Memorial 5,000.00 Helen N. and Beatrice A. Wilson Fund 2,000.00 | Sophia Cogswell Stiger Memorial | 3,000.00 | Mrs. John W. Price, Jr. Fund | 10,800.00 | Total Endowment | \$917,034.33 RESERVE ACCOUNT: 

 Mrs. Louise D. Crane
 \$ 4,000.00

 Mrs. Frederick Mosley Sackett
 10,000.00

 Mrs. Eliza A. Browne
 16,000.00

 A. N. Spanel and Winfield Baird Fund
 20,000.00

 50,000.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_\$967,034.33

<sup>\*</sup>Income added to principal.

# REVENUE RECEIPTS

Statement of Donations and Subscriptions Paid May 1, 1955 to April 30, 1956

May 1, 1900	to April 30, 19	90	
SUMMARY:	Contributions	Benefits and Bargain Box	Totals
Alpha Omicron Pi and Baird			
Social Service Funds	8 10.469.48		\$ 10,469.48
Baltimore Committee			994.00
Boston Committee	5,536.93	\$ 1,058.24	6,795.17
Chicago Committee		φ 1,000.11	7,100.93
Cincinnati Committee	8,144.00		8,144.00
Cleveland Committee	10,408.27		10,408.27
Daughters of Colonial Wars	2,904.40		2,904.40
Detroit Committee	25,605.75		25,605.75
Hartford Committee	1,406.50		1,406.50
Kentucky:*	1,100.00		1,100.00
Blue Grass Committee	7,306.00		7,306.00
Louisville Committee	6,881.22		6,881.22
Miscellaneous Kentucky	987.49		987.49
Minneapolia Committee	2,586.00		
Minneapolis Committee		4.750.00	2,586.00
New York Committee	27,543.96	4,750.00	32,293.96
Philadelphia Committee	4,772.65	750.00	5,522.65
Pittsburgh Committee	11,498.61		11,498.61
Princeton Committee	795.00		795.00
Providence Committee	1,183.00		1,183.00
Riverdale Committee	1,375.00		1,375.00
Rochester Committee	2,158.28	0.044.00	2,158.28
Washington, D. C. Committee	4,018.35	3,044.80	7,063.15
Miscellaneous	6,448.51		6,448.51
Totals	\$150,124.33	\$ 9,603.04	\$159,727.37
*Total for Kentucky \$15,174.71			
O D			
OTHER REVENUE RECEIPTS:			
Fees for Frontier Graduate School	9		
of Midwifery		\$ 7,770.00	
Payments from Patients:			
Income from Nursing Centers			
Medical and Surgical Fees			
Hyden Hospital Fees	8,293.30		
Hyden Hospital Clinic Supplies	1,421.41	21,244.49	
Royalties on book Wide			
Neighborhoods		85.25	
Wendover Post Office		3,563.60	
Investment Income		40,662.94	
Sales of Books and Post Cards		108.58	\$ 73,434.86
		100.00	The second secon
Total All Revenue Receipts			\$233,162.23
Transfer from Reserves		\$ 5,000.00	
Transfer from Legacy		10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Total All Receipts			\$248,162.23
20001 2211 20001 P00			φ=10,101.10

# LAST YEAR'S EXPENDITURES AND THIS YEAR'S BUDGET

L	AST TEAR S EXPENDITURES AND THE	J I IIII N D	ODGE
I.	FIELD EXPENSES: (Hyden Hospital, Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery, Wendover, and Six Nursing		
	Centers)	1955-1956	1956-1957
	1. Salaries and Wages	67,465.52	\$ 69,000.00
	2. Medical Director (Note 1)	1.441.68	
	3. Dispensary Supplies (Note 2)	11.141.67	15,000.00
	4. Running Costs: food—minus board of residents; cows, fuel, electricity, laundry, freight, haulage, et cetera (includes \$1,495.05 paid to outside hospitals for our patients—additional to Social Service,		
	costs below)	37,231.05	37,000.00
	5. Feed and Care of 22 Horses and Mules (Note 3)	8,220.07	8,200.00
	6. Jeeps (16), Truck, Station Wagon Am-	6 280 10	6,300.00
	bulance	24 185 44	23,500.00
	7. Maintenance of Properties	#155 074 69	\$166,000.00
	Total Field Expense	\$100,914.02	\$100,000.00
	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE:  1. Salaries, accounting, auditing, office supplies, postage, telephone, telegraph, printing, etc.  SOCIAL SECURITY TAX		\$ 31,500.00
III.	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	\$ 1,950.95	\$ 2,000.00
IV.	SOCIAL SERVICE (including payments to outside hospitals)		
V.	GENERAL EXPENSE: 1. Insurance (Fire—\$296,000.00 coverage, Employer's Liability, full coverage on truck, 16 jeeps and station wagon)		\$ 5,500.00 270.00
	2. Interest		210.00
	3. Quarterly Bulletins (covered by sub-	3 611 73	4,000.00
	scriptions)	1 001 00	
	4. Statistics 5. Miscellaneous Projects such as: Doctors and Nurses for study and observation		730.00
	professional books and magazines		100.00
	6. Miscellaneous Promotional Expenses beyond the mountains	710.25	
	Total General Expense Total Expense	\$ 12,318.95 \$211,007.70	\$ 13,500.00 \$220,000.00
Note Note Note	<ol> <li>During only 2½ months of the year</li> <li>Approximately 1/3 of supplies relayed to districts</li> <li>Four animals belong to FNS employees, who must ride to</li> </ol>	o work	
	NEW LAND AND BUILDINGS, MOTOR VEHICLES EQUIPMENT, AND LIVESTOCK	\$14,	788.01

# LAND, BUILDINGS, LIVESTOCK AND EQUIPMENT (From Exhibit C of the Audit)

### INVENTORY

Our auditors set a value of \$372,961.82 on these holdings, after adjustments. Among the major holdings are the following:

# Hyden

A stone Hospital, one wing of which is the Mary Ballard Morton Memorial, one wing the Mary Parker Gill Memorial, and the frame Annex, a Memorial to "Jackie" Rousmaniere; Joy House, home of the Medical Director, a gift of Mrs. Henry B. Joy; Aunt Hattie's Oak Barn, gift of Mrs. Henry Alvah Strong; Mardi Cottage, the Quarters for the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery; The Margaret Voorhies Haggin Quarters for Nurses; three water tanks; two employees' cottages; and outbuildings such as garages, work shop, pig house, forge, pump house, fire houses and the Wee Stone House.

### Wendover

Three log houses, as follows: the Big House ("in memory of Breckie and Polly"); the Old Cabin and the Ruth Draper Cabin; the Garden House; the Upper and the Lower Shelf; the Couriers' Log Barn and Aunt Jane's Barn; numerous smaller buildings such as the cow barn, horse hospital barn, mule barn, tool house, chicken houses, forge, apple house, pump house, jeep shed, fire hose houses, water tanks, and the Pebble Work Shop.

# Georgia Wright Clearing

A caretaker's cottage and barn, extensive pasture land for horses and cows; a bull's barn and stockade; two wells.

Jessie Prestion Draper Memorial Nursing Center (Beech Fork; Post Office, Asher, Leslie County)

Frame building and oak barn; deep well, pump house and water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

Frances Bolton Nursing Center (Possum Bend; Post Office, Confluence, Leslie County)

Frame building and oak barn; deep well, pump house and water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

Clara Ford Nursing Center

(Red Bird River; Post Office, Peabody, Clay County)

Log building and oak barn; fire hose house; walled-in spring; deep well, pump house and water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

Caroline Butler Atwood Memorial Nursing Center (Flat Creek; Post Office, Creekville, Clay County)

Frame building and oak barn; fire hose house; walled-in spring; deep well, pump house and water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

Belle Barrett Hughitt Memorial Nursing Center (Bullskin Creek; Post Office, Brutus, Clay County)

Frame building and oak barn; jeep shed; fire hose house; walled-in spring; water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

Margaret Durbin Harper Memorial Nursing Center (Post Office, Bowlingtown, Perry County)

Frame building and oak barn; fire hose house; walled-in spring; deep well, pump house and water tank; fenced acreage for pasture and gardens.

# **Subsidiary Clinics**

Six small clinic buildings on the following streams: Bull Creek, Stinnett (Mary B. Willeford Memorial), Grassy Branch, Hell-for-Certain Creek, the Nancy O'Driscoll Memorial on Cutshin Creek, and Sizerock on Upper Bullskin.

### Livestock

Seventeen horses; one mule; one registered Brown Swiss bull; nine cows; two heifers; registered Hampshire brood sow, and four pigs; over two hundred chickens.

### Equipment

Equipment includes: sixteen jeeps; one Ford station wagon-ambulance; one three-quarter ton truck; tanks; engines; pumps; farm implements; plumbers' tools; sixty-two pairs of saddle-bags; saddles; bridles; halters; hospital and dispensary supplies and hospital and household furnishings in twenty-seven dwellings variously located in a seven-hundred-square-mile-area.

# II.

# REPORT OF OPERATIONS

The data in this section are supplied by the statistical department of the Frontier Nursing Service; by records kept on guests and volunteer workers; and by the social service secretary maintained by the Alpha Omicron Pi Fund.

# 1. MEDICAL AND SURGICAL

From the point of view of medical care, this has been the hardest fiscal year through which we have gone since we built Hyden Hospital in 1928. Except for its first fiscal month (May, 1955), before Dr. Frances L. Zoeckler left us for Iran, and its last six weeks, when Dr. John A. Walker came as temporary medical director, we were without a regular resident physician at Hyden Hospital. Three things made it possible for us to keep the hospital open during this time of appalling difficulty. First, we had in young Dr. Gene Bowling, a private practitioner in Hyden, a friend as well as a physician who gave medical care to our hospital patients. Our nurses were able to work under his orders, and he answered every emergency call we made, day or night.

Second, our very sick children were relayed, after Dr. Bowling had seen them, to that wonderful Children's Hospital in Cincinnati where they were given superb pediatric care by as fine a staff of physicians as any in the world. Never has this Children's Hospital refused a child, and their care was, as always,

given without charge—just as is ours.

Third, the problem, constantly recurring, of surgical emergencies, accidents, and complicated obstetrical cases had to be met in a variety of ways. Most of the grown-up people, other than maternity cases, were transported to Hazard or Lexington. We assumed full responsibility for accidents to our children, of course, including their hospital charges in Hazard or Lexington if their families could not afford to pay these charges. As to the complicated midwifery cases, 4 of the regular registered patients were delivered by 2 surgeons and 1 obstetrician at our own Hyden Hospital, as were 3 emergency patients. We transferred by ambulance to Mount Mary Hospital at Hazard 23 registered

patients and 3 emergencies. To the Red Bird Mission of the Evangelical United Brethren Church Hospital at Beverly in Bell County we carried 4 registered complicated maternity cases. And to the Seventh Day Adventists Church Hospital at Oneida in Clay County we carried 5 such patients. In other words these patients, some of whom were in the districts covered by our outpost nursing centers, were moved to the hospitals beyond our territory that were nearest them. There were 35 such maternity patients, and possibly none of them would have survived without expert medical care. That they did all survive was not only due to the medical care but because our nurse-midwives recognized the danger signals in time.

We did not have Dr. Francis Massie come up from Lexington for our surgical clinic in the fall of 1955 because we could not assume responsibility for the patients after Dr. Massie had left. However, he did come in April, 1956, for his spring clinic, bringing with him Dr. D. S. Corbitt, his surgical nurse Louise Griggs, and his anesthetist, Christine Reynolds. Our happiness in having Dr. Massie back was almost equal to our gratitude.

Our gratitude is given anew this year to other physicians and surgeons in Lexington, in Hazard, in Louisville, in Cincinnati, who gave courtesy care to patients and members of our staff. Dr. H. C. Reineke of Cincinnati read, without charge, the x-ray pictures we mailed to him. We are grateful to the Kentucky Crippled Children's Commission and to the Kentucky Cancer Clinic for the free care given the patients we referred to them.

For all these courtesies we extend heartfelt thanks. Our special thanks go out to the Kentucky State Department of Health for the kindness and coöperation of its Commissioner, of the Directors of its Divisions, and particularly the Acting Director of Maternal and Child Health, Dr. Clyde F. Shelton.

# 2. HYDEN HOSPITAL

Hyden Hospital—with 25 beds and 12 bassinets—was occupied 6,687 days last year by 1,007 patients with a daily average of 18.3 patients at a cost per patient day of \$8.51. Of the 1,007 patients cared for at the Hospital during the fiscal year, 104 were sick adults, 482 were obstetrical patients, 115 were chil-

dren, and 306 were new born. There were 6 deaths in the Hospital, of which 5 were new born. There was no maternal death. There were 28 operations performed. The Medical Director's clinics in the outpatient department were held only during the early and the latter parts of the fiscal year, when a medical director was in residence. Because of this, there was a drop of nearly 50% in attendance—a total of 3,951 visits were received.

# 3.

## DISTRICT NURSING

In the 12 districts operated by the Service from the Hospital, Wendover, and six outpost centers, we attended 10,576 people in 2,339 families. Of these, 5,155 were children, including 2,550 babies and toddlers. The district nurses paid 24,839 visits and received 15,119 visits at their nursing centers and at their special clinics. Bedside nursing care was given in their homes to 759 sick people of whom 6 died. At the request of the State Board of Health, the Frontier Nursing Service gave 3,216 inoculations and vaccines against typhoid, diphtheria, smallpox, whooping cough, et cetera, and sent 1,756 specimens for analysis.

This part of our report has reference to general district nursing only and does not include midwifery carried day and night by the nurse-midwives along with their district nursing. The figures for midwifery are covered under the following section.

### 4.

# MIDWIFERY Registered Cases

The nurse-midwives and the midwifery students of the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery (under supervision of their instructors) attended 479 women in childbirth and gave them full prenatal and postpartum care. Of these 479 women, 4 were delivered by the Medical Director and consultants at Hyden Hospital. Under MEDICAL AND SURGICAL we have explained how we transferred 35 other registered cases for medical care to hospitals beyond the territory we cover. There were 478 live births and 6 stillbirths; 6 deliveries of twins; 336 new cases admitted; 546 closed after postpartum care; 1 miscarriage. There was no maternal death.

# Emergency Cases—Unregistered

In addition to these regular registered maternity cases, the Medical Director (when we had one) and the nurse-midwives were called in for 21 emergency deliveries, where the mother had not been registered or given prenatal care, which resulted in 8 live births, no stillbirths; and 13 emergency miscarriages (9 early, 4 late). Three such emergencies were transferred to Mount Mary Hospital, Hazard. Postpartum care was given to 16 other unregistered mothers. There was no maternal death.

# Outside-Area Cases

There were 268 women from outside our area who were carried for prenatal care. Of these, 44 were closed before delivery. Most of our outside-area patients move into one of our districts or our Hospital for delivery. In that case they are transferred to our regular midwifery service. However, the nurse-midwives did go outside our area to deliver 38 such patients of 38 live babies, in their homes, with no maternal death.

5.

# FRONTIER GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MIDWIFERY

The Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery has two classes annually, each of six months' duration, which start on October 15th and April 15th. During the past year 12 registered nurses were graduated from the School. The thirty-second class since the School opened in 1939 is now in attendance. When its work is completed on October 15th, the School will have sent 163 nurses, qualified as midwives and in our frontier technique, to render service all over the world. Graduates of the School are in a number of our states, and Alaska, the Philippines, India, Thailand, South Korea, Canada, France, the Middle East, and in parts of Africa and South America.

6.

### VOLUNTEER WORKERS AND GUESTS

Sixteen couriers and six other volunteers worked for the Service a total of 1,597 days.

As in other years the Service entertained guests, for observation and study of its work, from all over the world. Guests of the Service during the past year have included not only Americans, but people from Europe, Thailand, Japan, Chile, India, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Canada, Australia, Burma.

7.

# SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT (Alpha Omicron Pi Fund and Other Grants)

During the past fiscal year the Social Service Department of the Frontier Nursing Service has given financial aid to 156 families or individuals as follows:

Provided monthly allowance to one person.

Provided monthly pension to one person.

Administered an Idiot's Claim for two persons.

Gave grocery orders to 32 families—a total of 115 orders.

Provided starlac for 3 families.

Provided seed potatoes and garden seed for 23 families.

Aided 5 burned-out families.

Bought 4 bus tickets for patients.

Bought shoes and clothing for 7 families.

Paid school fees for 11 children.

Made loans to 2 families.

Bought glasses for 19 children. (New Eyes For The Needy)

Paid dental bills for 6 patients.

Bought coal for 2 families.

Paid Lexington hospital bills for 9 patients.

Paid Hazard hospital bill for 1 patient.

Paid Oneida hospital bills for 3 patients.

Provided canning jars for 1 family.

Purchased second-hand typewriter for school girl's use.

Purchased fire screen for 1 family.

Paid clinic bills for 10 families.

Paid for ambulance service for 21 patients.

Many patients have been transported to and from the Frontier Nursing Service Hospital and outpost centers. In addition there were:

22 trips to Hazard—21 children and adults for eye examinations, 17 patients to Hazard Clinic, 4 patients to Haz-

ard hospital, and one patient to the Public Assistance Department.

1 trip to a Kentucky Crippled Children's Clinic in Man-

chester with 6 patients.

31 trips to Lexington with 37 patients—8 patients to Lexington hospitals, 2 patients to Lexington clinics, 17 patients to the Kentucky Crippled Children Commission, and 10 patients to doctors in Lexington.

16 trips to Cincinnati Children's Hospital with 16 patients.

1 trip to Danville with 1 patient to State Hospital.

- 1 trip to Frankfort with 1 patient to Kentucky Training Home.
- 1 trip to Staunton, Virginia, with 1 patient to Vocational Rehabilitation School.

General services and aid have been given other families and individuals, such as:

Distributed hundreds of articles of clothing, shoes, books, etc. to needy families and local schools.

Supervised 2 college students doing field work in the Social Service Department.

Aided the Christmas Secretary in distributing clothing and toys, and in arranging Christmas parties.

Services and time given in a number of other cases of a miscellaneous nature, and in coöperation with the County Welfare and Health Departments, the local Red Cross Chapters, the county judges, the county child welfare and vocational representatives, and the Frontier Nursing Service Medical Director, district nurse-midwives, and hospital staff.

# 8. CHRISTMAS

The Frontier Nursing Service gave toys and candy to more than 5,000 children at Christmas, and clothing to those that needed it. The Service also held Christmas parties at many different places for these children, with Santa Claus, Christmas trees, and Christmas carols. All of this was made possible by the generous response of hundreds of people to our annual request card for the children's Christmas.

# III.

# THIRTY-ONE-YEAR TOTAL

It will be of interest to our members to read a few totals covering the whole thirty-one-year period of work.

Patients registered from the beginning		46,940
Babies and toddlers	19,500	
School children	8,682	
Total Children	28,182	
Adults	19,758	
Midwifery cases (reg.) delivered		10,928
Inoculations		197,132
Patients admitted into the Hyden Hospital*		16,945
Number of days of occupation in Hyden Hospital*		

<sup>\*</sup> For 26 years and 6 months. The FNS Hospital at Hyden was opened in the fiscal year 1928-1929 and operated only six months in that year.

# CONCLUSION

T.

There are times in the life of an organization, just as in the life of a person, when troubles pile up like thunder clouds. Oddly enough the troubles that beset the Frontier Nursing Service during the fiscal year that closed on April 30th were not financial ones. As our report will have shown you—our subscribers—we received enough money through your generosity not only to see the year through but to replace the \$20,000 we had borrowed from our Reserves during the lean summer months.

The figures in our statement of Last Year's Expenditures need an explanation. It will be seen that the small amount of money spent for a medical director is offset by the large sums of money spent for outside hospitalization of patients that we could have taken care of at Hyden Hospital under normal conditions. In this year's Budget we have righted the balance.

This subject of medical direction carries our story well into the current fiscal year. Dr. John A. Walker, who came to us in March, and gave excellent medical care to our patients, stayed with us until July 1st when Dr. W. B. Rogers Beasley arrived to take over. Dr. Beasley, surgeon as well as physician, is so fine that the biggest of our thunder clouds has disappeared.

### II.

From the point of view of administration, we have never gone through such a difficult fiscal year as the one now ended. Our bookkeeper, Lucile Hodges, part and parcel of us for many years, had to go home for an absence of indefinite duration because the mother who is so dear to her is not only elderly but infirm. To tide over the first months of her leaving, Juanetta Moore took over the FNS books. But Juanetta could not plan to keep them beyond December because of her approaching marriage. We were so fortunate as to get another bookkeeper a month before Juanetta left who agreed to stay with us for awhile and to let us know at least a month in advance if she wanted another post.

Now Juanetta Moore had been assistant to the executive secretary, Agnes Lewis, for several years. Those of you who read *The Rainbow File* in the Spring Bulletin will know that this work cannot be carried by less than two people. Even now Agnes hasn't a permanent assistant, although after "Timmy," she has had volunteer help from the couriers, and has a young girl for the summer months who goes to college in September. For Agnes this has meant long hours of work after work hours.

Our statistician for the past ten years, Kay MacMillan, had married, and early in this fiscal year she had to take up her duties at her own home. It was not for some weeks that we secured in Polly Hicks a new statistician. Meanwhile, our assistant director, Helen E. Browne, carried on with the help of the field supervisor, Jane Furnas. Then Brownie broke Polly in to our methods of statistics. All of this meant for Brownie long hours of work after work hours.

As you will have read in the Spring Bulletin, the director's secretary left to take up the work she has wanted, that of teaching children. This happened during a period when there was no medical director at Hyden so that Hope Muncy, who had been the secretary to the medical director for more than five years, was transferred to Wendover. After handling one type of work for so long, Hope wanted a change to the type of work she is handling now. The Hyden post was filled, like that of the executive secretary's assistant, first by a volunteer and then by summer relief.

Upon the shoulders of Betty Lester, hospital superintendent and an assistant director, fell the strain of running the Hospital for months without a resident medical director. This too meant long hours of work after work hours. The Hospital was not short of nurses. Whatever anyone says to the contrary, the young nurse of today is willing to give her time for months and even for years to meeting the needs of a rural area like ours as a part-time volunteer. As for our full-time volunteers, the couriers, we could not have carried on without them. Older ones came back to help us; juniors stayed on for months after their winter and spring assignments. Their department is one of two that ran smoothly. The other one was Social Service where, under Barbara Hunt, there was no break and no letdown.

## III.

There is no one on the staff of the Frontier Nursing Service, whether nurse or secretary, but is a part-time volunteer making a gift of from a half to two-thirds of her time. Industry can raise its wages and salaries and pass them on to the consumer. Government at any level can do the same and pass them on to the taxpayer. But privately supported philanthropies and charities would go into debt if they spent more income than they received. We must remain solvent or betray the trust that you—our trustees, committee members, and subscribers—repose in us. This solvency, in this time of ever rising prices, is due to the devotion of the volunteer couriers and a staff that serve as part-time volunteers.

Private charity is the finest flower of private enterprise. It is possible that private enterprise itself would fall if it failed to support, through funds and through service, the charities of this great nation. For the generous help in money and in service rendered the Frontier Nursing Service by all of you who read this report, we do thank you. And in closing, we thank anew our thousands of patients for the coöperation they never failed to give us during all of the hard months of this most difficult year.

MARION S. D. BELKNAP, Chairman (Mrs. Morris B. Belknap) EDWARD S. DABNEY, Treasurer MARY BRECKINRIDGE, Director

# FLAT CREEK SHOOTING



DANIEL DAVIDSON, SHERIFF OF CLAY COUNTY, KENTUCKY (right), and his father

JIM DAVIDSON, MEMBER OF FNS COMMITTEE AT BRUTUS

ON BULLSKIN CREEK

The lovely Caroline Butler Atwood memorial nursing center is in Clay County at the mouth of Flat Creek where it flows into the Red Bird River. On the evening of Saturday, August 4th, the nurse-midwife at this center, Ruth Burleigh, heard a man outside one of the doors. She stepped out on the porch and spoke, but no one answered. The beams of her flashlight revealed a man crouching on the ground, head down, and holding a revolver.

Ruth went back into the house and the man began shooting—six shots in all—at the house. One shot, which broke a mirror, came pretty close to the head of Ruth's housemate, Miss Irma Gall, a school teacher connected with the Evangelical United Church of the Brethren mission. At the break of day, on Sunday, Ruth got into her jeep and came to Wendover to report.

Now, in all its thirty-one years, nothing like this had ever happened in the Frontier Nursing Service. Since the *Manchester Enterprise*, in Clay County, and the Lexington and Louisville papers reported the incident, we think it best to tell our Bulletin readers how it is being handled.

Just as soon as the telephone exchange opened at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, we got the Clay County sheriff's wife, Mrs. Daniel Davidson, over the 'phone at their home in Oneida. She located the sheriff out on his rounds and he went at once to the Flat Creek nursing center. Ruth, with the FNS field supervisor Anna May January, went back to meet him there. From then on things moved swiftly. Mr. Bascomb C. Bowling, chairman of our Flat Creek Committee since it was formed nearly thirty years ago, called the committee together for an evening meeting which I attended with Dr. Beasley, Jane Furnas, Anna May January, Jean Becker and Leigh Powell, chief courier. Eighteen members of the Committee were present, nine men and nine women. Their concern over the incident and their eager offers of help were comforting.

Before this meeting took place, on August 14, the sheriff had been busy getting information. He arrested several men on the grounds of disturbing the peace. They were released on bond. One of them said to the sheriff, "You know I wouldn't harm them nurses. They helped me raise my children." In this remark lies the pith of the problem. It is out of character for any normal mountaineer, drunk or sober, to shoot at any woman, let alone one of his own nurses. It is the consensus of opinion that the shooting could only have been done by a mentally disturbed person who needs custodial care. The problem is to identify him. Preliminary hearings held at Manchester have resulted in no identification as yet.

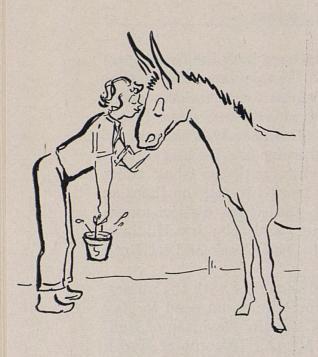
You will want to know how we have handled the district nursing and midwifery at Flat Creek. Ruth Burleigh, a courageous young thing of twenty-six, went back with the field supervisor for a night or two to persuade the one expectant mother who was due, to go into Hyden Hospital for her confinement. This she willingly agreed to do. The sheriff, who came to see me at Wendover, thought that neither Ruth nor Miss Gall should return to the Flat Creek center for the present. We all felt that there should be two nurses at the center until the whole thing was cleared up. Anna May January offered to stay on there as long as was necessary. Jean Becker, the Hyden district nurse, volunteered to spend a week with her; and then Joy Hilditch, our Wendover nurse, offered to go to Flat Creek and let Ruth Burleigh carry her district here.

It was felt that for awhile a man should be with the nurses. Various men on the Flat Creek Committee volunteered to stay a night, in turn; and two old friends, Mr. Jim Davidson of Bullskin Creek, the sheriff's father, and Mr. Curt Wooton of Hyden volunteered for a week each. Since Mr. Wooton, though elderly, is an active man, he worked every day on various repairs needed at the center. He also dug up the garden and sowed it in turnip

greens for the fall and winter.

This is a hard tale to tell, and I wish I could give you a happy ending-or even an ending. The case comes before the court at Manchester after this Bulletin is in the press. It will be attended, as the last hearing was, by several of the men of the Flat Creek Committee of the Frontier Nursing Service. You will have to wait for the Autumn Bulletin to get the sequel. In the meantime, we can assure you that the case is being handled by as fine a sheriff, and as intelligent a one, as can be found anywhere in the world; and by a completely devoted committee.

many Brechundge





Kitty Biddle

# SALUTE TO TENACITY

Tenacity, Tenacity, I envy your capacity To do whatever comes your way And bear the burdens of the day.

And not with resignation's sigh, But with a twinkle in your eye You prove the universal Plan That he who will is he who can!

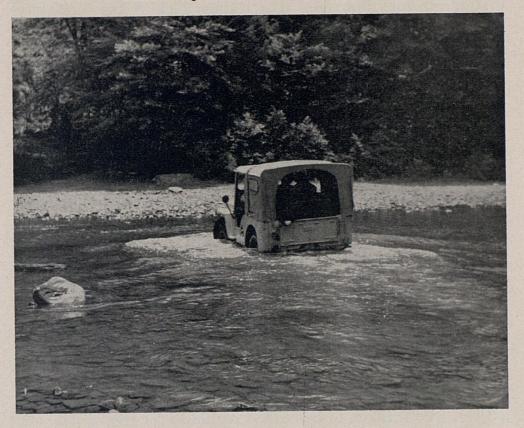
Now that your day is nearly done, You wink into the setting sun To welcome that far greater Will Who whispers to your heart, "Be still."

Tenacity, Tenacity, I bow to your sagacity.

"Chela"

# THE JEEP AND I

by
THELMA EKBERG
(Mrs. Frank Ekberg)
Philanthropic Director, Alpha Omicron Pi



Biddle

Being a city-bred person and having little or no experience with either country or mountain living, my visit at the Frontier Nursing Service last spring was an experience I would not have missed for anything.

My traveling from place to place, before visiting the Frontier Nursing Service, usually consisted of a well-cushioned automobile over well-paved highways, so my first jeep ride was a complete surprise to me. However, I am now a confirmed jeep-rider in addition to a very ardent Frontier Nursing Service "backer." In "Apple Pi," the Alpha Omicron Pi jeep, I was very capably taken from hill to hill on my visits with Barbara Hunt, the Social Service secretary.

My first trip, made on a Sunday, in Apple Pi was down Muncy Creek and across the river to reach Wendover from Hyden. When we left the main road, I was sure Barbara was lost as I could see no road or path—except the creek-bed. It didn't take long for me to find out that that was the road, and that it ran into the river—the Middle Fork of the Kentucky. Then Apple Pi's motor stopped. Barbara didn't know it, but I had visions of getting out and wading or swimming the rest of the way across. But I found out that such events are all in a day's (or night's) work for a Frontier Nursing Service jeep. We finished our ride across safely.

My first memory of Wendover is of two little signs by the road at the first pull-gate. One says: U. S. Post Office, Wendover, Ky., and the other reads: Wendover, pop. 21 approximately—two very small signs to foretell the warm welcome I received there. The couriers, Agnes Lewis, Mrs. Breckinridge—were all so gracious, and the afternoon tea and vesper services in the small chapel, all added to the feeling of peace and quiet which I am sure is felt by all visitors to Wendover. When you reach Wendover, you feel that even though you have left the busy world outside—here you have found the purpose and reason for life itself—a life of service.

During the next few days, Apple Pi took me over beautiful hills and down many creek-beds on my visits with Barbara. I met many people who somehow seemed familiar, as I had read of them in the Bulletin. I met little Joseph, the cerebral palsy patient, who is taken to Lexington regularly for treatments, and who reluctantly demonstrated his new crutch for me; Mrs. Perkins and her crippled son who live on the gap of a mountain, which we climbed one day. I met a little "preemie" who was so small at birth, but who is now growing into such a beautiful and healthy baby.

I am grateful to that jeep for making it possible for me to visit several of the outpost Centers. Possum Bend at Confluence and Red Bird are two places I hope I can visit again. When I alighted from Apple Pi upon arriving at Red Bird, my first thought was that this is the place I want to retire to some day. On my rides through the hills I had seen some beautiful scenery, but the view from the porch at Red Bird outshone any I had

seen. The nurses who staff the centers are amazing to me: tending their patients; going out on their calls in any kind of weather; raising their chickens, caring for cows, horses and dogs. It is to me a miracle of selfless service.

I am so glad to have been able to visit the Frontier Nursing Service. I feel that I was privileged to meet some wonderful people—the nurses who are so capable and gracious, the couriers who are so full of fun, the staff at Hyden Hospital who treated me royally, and the people of the mountains whose pride, simplicity, and gratitude made a lasting impression on me. I am also grateful for that wonderful modern invention, the jeep, which took me over the mountains and through the creek-beds. I am grateful, most of all, that my sorority, Alpha Omicron Pi, has had the opportunity for so many years to share in part of all this.

# JUST JOKES

Little Boy Flea took a little Girl Flea to the show.

When they came out he asked her, "Do you want to walk home, or shall we take a dog?"

Baby sardine was happily swimming in the ocean near his mother when he saw his first submarine. He was so frightened.

"Don't worry, honey," assured Mama Sardine, "it's just a can of people."

What one mother kangaroo said to another mother kangaroo: "I hope it doesn't rain today; it's awful when the kids have to play inside."

He had taken his youngest son to the pet shop to pick out a puppy as a birthday present and the lad spent half an hour looking over the assortment of pooches in the window.

"Decided which one you want?" asked his father.

"Yes," replied the lad, pointing to one puppy which was wagging his tail enthusiastically, "the one with the happy ending."

# CAROLYN BLUEBONNET AND MR. SALTEENA



Go Tell Aunt Rhody, De Ole Gray Goose Is Daid.

Both died in early June, 1956. Seventeen years ago, in May, 1939, Mrs. George Chase Christian of Minneapolis came to visit the Frontier Nursing Service, of which she had been a trustee for a far longer time. While she was at Wendover our old goose, Splash, mate of our old gander, Waddle, died on her nest. Waddle stayed by the nest refusing all food. Mrs. Christian, with her quick sympathy, saw how imperative it was to get a companion for him. At her behest, our Bucket and Freddy Holdship scoured the regions along Red Bird River to bring back her gift of another goose. We named the new one Carolyn, after her, and added the word Bluebonnet because her head was blue, and to distinguish her from Mrs. Christian. Waddle accepted her as a companion, much as Robinson Crusoe accepted his man Friday. But Waddle was old. When he died we bought a mate for Carolyn Bluebonnet whom we named Mr. Salteena after the character in Daisy Ashford's The Young Visiters. They lived happily together for some sixteen years. Then she became ill from a bad infection under her wing. Although Brownie and Jean gave her expert care, we knew she should be put out of her misery. While we hesitated to do this, because of her mate, Mr. Salteena suddenly dropped dead. So, he and Carolyn Bluebonnet were not divided by death, and their bodies are buried in the same grave.

# A WILD GOOSE CHASE

by

VIRGINIA BRANHAM ("Jinny")

(New England Courier)

Here in the mountains it seemed a simple enough request: to find one young mateless gander. Wendover was in the strange situation of being ganderless. Carolyn Bluebonnet and Mr. Salteena, the well-known geese personalities, to whom Wendover had been home for many years, had died. On its being known that Mrs. Breckinridge wanted a new pair, a lovely and lonely goose from Bowling Bend was presented to her by Orie Adams, one of the men working at Wendover. The King is dead, long live the King—but alas, we can find no King.

Word is passed up the creeks, the forks, the branches—still no gander to meet her specifications. Word goes out to all the outpost centers. Finally rumor has it there are geese—possibly the gander we are looking for—down river at Confluence.

By now I am learning a bit more about geese. Beforehand I was only aware of their hissing and honking abilities and habit of lying in the shade under jeeps. If a gander is located, Mrs. Breckinridge all but wants a sworn notarized affidavit stating said gander is mateless. It seems they mate for life and under no circumstance is a happy goose family to be split asunder. Secondly, it is equally important that he be young.

Gander Day starts innocently enough, by taking interested and delightful guests to Hyden Hospital for lunch and in midafternoon heading down the river road with them to the Possum Bend Center at Confluence. Both nurses, Carol Banghart and Molly Lee, are in and greet us cordially when we arrive. In due course the inevitable question: "Have you got a gander?" "Well no, but we have been asking everywhere, and they say that Gusta Eversole at the head of Wilder Branch has geese."

Very shortly thereafter Carol and I start out in jeep Woody. As we drive up the rocky branch it narrows and gets steeper. It is slow going. We stop while Carol makes a sick call. Now our sole destination is Operation Gander. Slowly and carefully we pick our way up the branch. On the back seat an empty carton slides back and forth.

At the head of the branch we leave Woody and climb up to the Eversoles. Children and puppies come bouncing out to greet us. "Yes, Daddy has geese." Mr. Eversole, arriving home soon from the mine, says certainly we may have a gander. He picks one out who is without a mate, but he has no idea of the age, having gotten the geese down river from Joe Stidham.

Now what? Carol and I look at each other—we know what we have to do: a trip with the gander to find Joe Stidham. We buy a handsome—and we hope young—gander, put him in the carton and slowly make our way back down Wilder Branch. Carol drives carefully to spare Woody, herself, and me—to say nothing of our important passenger. I hold the carton trying to spare the gander. Every now and then a loud HONK—once beautifully timed in reply to Carol's, "How are you doing?"

On reaching the Possum Bend center I don't know who is more glad to see us, Opsy whose spoonbread is about to fall, or Molly and her guests, all of whom enter into the spirit of the hunt. A delightful dinner, then onward and down river. Carol, gander and I again join Woody. By now it is dark as we rattle down the river road. After several miles we reach an impasse—a slip that blocks the entire road with earth and rocks from the mountainside. With flashlights and our carton full of gander we start out on foot. The mist is rising from the river and all is still. On you side the mountains are sharply silhouetted by the rising moon.

"That's the Stidhams." We approach through a cornfield. Nary a light nor sound. As Carol knocks she calls, "It's the nurse." In no time "just a minute" and Mr. Stidham greets us blinking his eyes. He invites us in and Carol explains our mission to him and his wife who has joined us. To one and all it is an important and understandable mission. They examine our then mute friend and both emphatically agree it is the only gander they raised last year.

We decline their gracious offer of a late dinner—doubly gracious as we wakened them out of a sound sleep. After sincerest thanks and apologies we triumphantly head back to Woody the jeep. The moon has risen over the crest of the mountain and it is a soft misty world—the only sounds an owl, a whippoorwill, and an occasional honk.

They wait up for us at the nursing center and all share in the success. The last leg of the safari the gander, Woody and I make alone, back to Wendover. We thought alone, but after a dozen miles of dirt road we slow down as jeep headlights approach. Yes, a search party—Freddy and Jane Furnas from Wendover. There being no phone at Confluence I haven't been

able to explain the long delay in my return.

Although Carol, Molly, and I shared in the joy of giving our gander to Mrs. Breckinridge, I was the one privileged to make the presentation. Her reception was enthusiastic. But the goose from Bowling Bend received him with less rapture because she had never, in her life of some sixteen months, met one of her own kind before. She had been hatched by a hen and raised by the hen among chickens. For quite a while she kept looking for her mother among the Wendover hens. She even roosted at night on the top of a shed, while the gander stood below mournfully looking up at her. Finally she came down from her perch and consented to stay on the ground with him. Now they are inseparable. Due to their hesitations in getting acquainted, we have been calling them Dilly and Dally. I trust that they will live together happily ever after. Once more Wendover resounds to the honking of geese.

# ANYTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN?

"If you hit us so hard, Mr. Smith, I must really denounce you as a Communist. . . . Shall we join the ladies?"

—Yeast, by Charles Kingsley, 1851

"It was as true as taxes is . . . And nothing's truer than them."

—Mr. Barkis in David Copperfield

In our Autumn 1951 Bulletin we printed these remarks from books written over a hundred years ago. We reprint them now for emphasis—to show unchanging human nature after a century that has revolutionized the physical world.

# HORSE SENSE IN GUERILLA WARFARE

Taken from a letter of August 18, 1956 by MRS. RAFAELA T. BITENG

The spirit of the Frontier Nursing Service is so wonderful and inspiring . . . Everybody was busy. I saw three couriers grooming the horses. I was fascinated as I watched the girls do the rough jobs of cleaning the feet and shoes of the horses.

One of the girls said, "Now, keep still like a good boy." I was amazed that the horse obeyed the orders. Miss January patted her horse which gave her a soft, gentle whinny.

These reminded me of my horse during World War II. My tiny horse had been my constant companion in my travels to different guerilla outposts in the mountains giving simple First Aid instructions to members of the Women's Auxiliary Service of the "L" Co. 3rd Bn. 121st Inf. USAFIP, NL (Guerilla Unit). Those were the most perilous moments when the enemies were ever cruel to both civilians and guerillas who were caught.

One late afternoon, as I was returning to the Guerilla Headquarters located between two mountains in a thick wooded place, I met a soldier who had malaria and an ugly tropical ulcer. I stopped to dress the ulcer and gave him some Atabrine tablets. This delayed me to arrive at the headquarters before pitch dark had fallen. I decided to pass along the left side of the wide river where the houses of farmers were located, and to stop there for the night. As I hurried my horse up the river, he made a sudden jerk and would not go. He wanted to go up the right side of the river. I was scared for I was not familiar with the trails and the night was coming fast. Still I would force my horse to go to the left side, and again he would jerk his head. Then I remembered what my late father had said, that horses can foresee dangers. I prayed God for protection and to lead me safely to the headquarters. I followed the whims of my horse and about a mile up the river I met two runners panting for breath. They told me that the enemies had gone down the left side of the river with some civilian captives, hands tied at their backs. Indeed, my horse saved me from danger.

# OLD COURIER NEWS

Edited by AGNES LEWIS

# From Mrs. Howard Serrel (Miggi Noble), Greenwich,

Connecticut—June 5, 1956

I had a marvelous visit with "Pebble" Stone in Colorado where both of us were attending The Garden Club of America annual meeting. We discussed old times and reviewed our personal history! She never changes and we did enjoy thinking of "Lassie" and "Gabriel Oak," "Waddle" and "Splash."

My daughter and I are off on Thursday for Stockholm and the Equestrian Games. She is very excited and so am I, never having been further than England myself.

# From Amy Stevens, North Andover, Massachusetts

-May 26, 1956

You all seem so far away and I don't like it—not one bit. The flight home was a good one. No sooner did I arrive home than I jumped into my wagon and was off to collect Hobo [her dog] from his country club. Seems he didn't really think it was one, as Miss Davies pointed to a hole a good foot deep that he dug out regularly every day, and they filled in every day! He began to whine madly even before he'd seen me, and when he was let out my coat and pocket book went flying to the ground. It was so good to see him. When we got home, he wouldn't leave me, he was so afraid I was going off to leave him again!

—July 6, 1956

Guess what? Yesterday the 'phone rang and when I answered and heard Jinny Branham's voice, I nearly died. My!, but it was nice to hear all the news. Jinny drove up from Hingham to North Andover for Sunday dinner and spent the night. We had the most wonderful time talking about old times in the FNS.

I am going out West with three Vassar chums, probably leaving July 30th, and expect to return about the middle of September. We are traveling to Colorado and Wyoming mostly. I

hope to spend a few days—maybe a week—in Denver the end of August.

—July 21, 1956

Jinny and Freddy Holdship are coming up to Sunapee on Monday and I can't wait to see them. Mother and Pop are taking their vacation next week so we shall have the house all to ourselves, which should be nice.

# Cheyenne, Wyoming—August 21, 1956

We have had the most wonderful two weeks—camping out in the Green River area and then at Jenny Lake near Jackson, Wyoming. We went fishing, climbing, riding and to a rodeo; and oh! we did so many things. Now, two of us are on our way to Denver and other parts of Colorado through the first week in September. We will be starting back by auto September 11th. After a week or so at home, "Hobo" and I will be delighted to come to Wendover.

# From Virginia Branham (Jinny), Hingham, Massachusetts—August 15, 1956

Freddy came on several weeks ago and we drove to New Hampshire and the coast of Maine. There were two high spots: visiting Amy at Lake Sunapee, which was lots of fun; and spending several days at Mt. Desert, Maine. Though I knew it was meant to be beautiful, I had no conception of how truly gorgeous it was—mountains and high cliffs rising out of the ocean. What's more, we caught lots of fish too! Even had two seals swim by our ocean-side cabin at breakfast time one morning. We went to a discourse at the Jackson Laboratories. They have scientists hard at work there trying to find out the whys as to cancer et cetera. They raise billions of mice which are shipped all over the world. You would have loved it—3,000 mice born each day!

# From Georgia Hart, Harrodsburg, Kentucky—August 6, 1956

What a happy time I had with all of you the past six weeks. Wouldn't take anything for my experiences at FNS. Am collecting clothes and will soon have a box full.

# From Mrs. John Robbins (Peg Harrison), Edmonton, Alberta, Canada—July 28, 1956

It was good to get the news of you and others from Lydia Thompson and Betty Hillman (Hilly). I hope they made it to Kentucky. This is a busy time of year for us in Alberta, with wild fruit to pick, canning, et cetera.

# From Mrs. Robert Keyes Poole (Lee Hatheway), Litchfield, Connecticut—July 10, 1956

We are now back home after a wonderful year in Germany. Joyce is just marvelous now and is getting awfully cute. Bob is teaching summer school at Taft in Watertown, Connecticut, and we'll be there again this fall for the year. We will be living at the school.

# From Ann Eristoff (Nano), Highland Falls, New York

—August 22, 1956

As happens so frequently, I have been thinking and talking about the FNS and am inspired to drop you a note. The occasional letters and news from Wendover give me great pleasure always.

Quite frequently I see Dusty Pruyn and caught a glimpse of Dexter Smith last winter, all flourishing and working hard! I am still being lazy, with one more year of Law School before I get "out into the world." I'm spending the summer as general "baby sitter" and helper, out on Long Island. It seems very tame after the last years' trips to Alaska and Mexico, but very quiet and peaceful; and it gives me a chance to catch up on some reading and correspondence, at last!

# From Lenore Frederickson (Len), Syracuse, New York

-August 24, 1956

It's hard to believe that after three years of corresponding with you, my dream to be a courier came true. I can honestly say that I've had the best summer in 19 years. I met so many wonderful people and had so many good laughs that I just love to sit down and think back on all the things I did. I'll always remember all of it and all of you.

The trip home was great! (Mainly because I had never flown before.) I went right out to our lake and until Sunday did nothing but swim, sleep, and watch the Democratic Convention! I'm taking a three-day canoe trip with a friend of mine up in the Adirondacks next week. We'll no doubt freeze, but it will be worth it I'm sure.

# From Kate Ireland, Cleveland, Ohio—August 27, 1956

It's so good to get all the FNS news. I feel so far away from it and yet the minute I hear news I'm right back with you all. As this job develops [President of the Junior League, Cleveland], I can see that I'll not have any time to get down this year. I love all the work but it is time-consuming.

Martini had four pups. Three females and one male. I'm giving one male and one female to friends of mine in Cleveland and sending the other two South for training. They are all white and just as cute as can be. Martini is very proud, as am I.

Mary Forrest Zabriskie had been here only ten days when she got news of the sudden death of her father and left at once for her home. Our deepest sympathy goes out to her and to her family in their sorrow.

We send our loving sympathy to Miggi Noble Serrel who lost her mother in the winter, but the news only reached us in late May.

# WEDDINGS

Mrs. Elizabeth Pratt Yeomans (Betty Pratt) of Norwich, Vermont and Mr. Edmund Hendershot Booth of Hanover, New Hampshire on July 15, 1956, in Norwich. Mr. Booth is a professor of English at Dartmouth College. They will make their home in Norwich.

Mrs. Marianne Stevenson Magnuson of Lake Forest, Illinois —Chairman of our Chicago FNS Committee—and Mr. Paul Church Harper of Chicago on August 18, 1956 in Edgartown, Massachusetts. They will live in Lake Forest. "Tips" has inherited four grandchildren!

Miss Paula Granger of Bethesda, Maryland, and Mr. Timothy Atkeson of Philadelphia, on August 18, 1956, in Washington. After October 1, they will be at home in Philadelphia where Mr. Atkeson will practice law and Paula will continue her studies this fall in the Bryn Mawr School of Social Economy.

Miss Julia Shaw Davidson of Washington, D. C. and Mr. John Rutledge Cheshire on September 15, 1956, in Mechanics-ville, Maryland. Immediately after her engagement was announced, Julie was good enough to come down the middle of July to help us out for ten days. See Field Notes.

Miss Mary A. Sayres of Fayettesville, New York and Mr. Charles Foster Weeden, Jr. of Newtonville, New Jersey on September 8, 1956—this news comes to us just as this column goes to press.

We wish for these charming brides and their lucky husbands rich, full and happy lives together.

### A BABY

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Peter R. Ehrlich (Selby Brown) of New York City, a son, Peter Richardson Ehrlich, Jr., on July 12, 1956. His mother writes:

A "man child" was born to us July 12th at New York Hospital. Peter Junior was born without a mark and in good health. He is quite a handsome boy and we have already mapped out a medical career for him. You may expect him well-trained and with good character sometime around 1984. Next time we'll work on a courier.

#### THANKSGIVING DAY REUNION IN ENGLAND

Miss Nora K. Kelly takes pleasure in inviting all old members of the Frontier Nursing Service now in Britain, to meet at the Watford Maternity Hospital, King Street, Watford, Hartfordshire, for the Thanksgiving Day Reunion of 1956. Come any time from 2:30 p.m. on through the afternoon and evening of Thursday, November 22nd. Overnight hospitality can be arranged. Please write Miss Nora K. Kelly, Matron.

There are frequent trains from Euston and Baker Street to Watford High Street Station; also Green Line bus service from Victoria. Trains from the north stop at Watford Junction.

## WHITE ELEPHANT



DON'T THROW AWAY THAT WHITE ELEPHANT Send it to FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE, 1579 Third Avenue, New York 28, New York

You don't have to live in or near New York to help make money for the Frontier Nursing Service at the Bargain Box in New York. We have received thousands of dollars from the sale of knickknacks sent by friends from sixteen states besides New York. The vase you have never liked; the *objet d'art* for which you have no room; the party dress that is no use to shivering humanity; the extra picture frame; the old pocketbook; odd bits of silver.—There are loads of things you could send to be sold in our behalf.

If you want our tags, fully addressed as labels, for your parcels—then write us here at Wendover for them. We shall be happy to send you as many as you want by return mail. However, your shipment by parcel post or express would be credited to the Frontier Nursing Service at the Bargain Box if you addressed it

FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE 1579 Third Avenue New York 28, New York

Please note that the street and zone numbers have changed. The old Bargain Box house is being torn down, and we, along with the other charities that run this thrift shop, have moved to a new location 20 blocks further up Third Avenue.

# OUR MAIL BAG

Sometimes the letters we receive have the magic of a fairy tale—written of things so far away and long ago. For the lovely poem called *Ashes of Roses* from an old manuscript scrapbook, we are indebted to Mrs. Cyrus S. Radford, widow of Brigadier General Cyrus S. Radford of the United States Marine Corps. As a foreword to the poem, we print, with her permission, parts of her first and second letters telling the story about it, and a little of the story of its author, her grandmother, Mary Walker Meriwether Bell.

From the letter of July 16, 1956: Three years ago I read Wide Neighborhoods, your fascinating semi-autobiography and excellent account of your life-work. It is surely necessary that the complete record of the Frontier Nursing Service be preserved in print, and you have made the task a delight to your readers as well as a fine reference book for those who follow where you have pioneered. . . . I have wanted to tell you how pleased I was to find in your book a quotation from an old-fashioned poem, "author unknown" you said, written by my grandmother, Mary Walker Meriwether Bell. She signed herself M.W.M. and under that signature published much newspaper verse. She died before I was born and the complete poem, enclosed, I copied from her old manuscript scrapbook. You revived the quotation from your girlhood memories to illustrate the attitude of the period towards its young women.

From the letter of August 2, 1956: Of course, I am delighted to have you use Ashes of Roses in the Bulletin and shall look forward to seeing my favorite poem from the old scrapbook in print. . . . Mary Walker Meriwether Bell was the great-granddaughter of Mary Walker, one of the nine daughters of Thomas Walker of Albemarle County, Virginia. Her father, Charles Hunter Meriwether, was a professor of languages at the University of Virginia. After his death, her mother re-married and, again widowed, brought her three grown daughters to Kentucky on one of those historic visits of the period. She married them off. and all might have lived happily ever after-except for the Civil War. My grandfather was Darwin Bell, Captain of Cavalry, Confederate States of America. "Woodstock," the Meriwether "seat," where the Virginia kinsfolk were so hospitably received, is in Todd County, Kentucky, so close to Tennessee that the state line bisects the farm. . . . Kate M. Radford.

## ASHES OF ROSES

Velvet-lipped messengers, roses of spring,
What do you bring for me, what do you bring?
"The joy of our beauty, its brilliance of hue,
The wealth of our fragrance, the glitter of dew,
The promise of summer, the glory of spring,
To gladden the hearts of earth's children we bring."

These bright, lavish gifts for the many may be,
But more than all this do you bring unto me.
Your red leaves are written all over with legends
That call back the past from its shadowy regions.
The scent of your blossoms of snow and of amber
Wake the dim ghosts of the soul's haunted chamber.

And the joys and the sorrows of summers long gone Drift by as your leaves on the breezes are borne. While memory goes back to the years that are fled And all your fair sisters that bloomed and are dead Since I stole in my childhood, all breathless, to peep At the fairies I thought 'neath your flowerets asleep;

And wove in the dawn of my womanhood fair
Your buds into garlands to twine in my hair.
And gloried to think that a flower I caressed
Was worn as a trophy and cherished and pressed;
And blushed o'er the sonnets that rashly presumed
To liken my cheeks and my lips to your bloom.

We are queens in our girlhood and recklessly play
With the heartstrings of men as our fingers might stray
'mongst the chords of a harp, but are fain to lay down
With the white bridal roses our scepter and crown
To take up the sad, earnest duties of life
With the soberer pleasures of mother and wife.

Since then I have laid you, Oh! roses, to rest
In the chill, waxen fingers clasped over the breast
Of the loved and the lost, and have taught you to bloom
In all your wild loveliness over the tomb.
Have seen you all wet with the blood of the brave
Shed freely, yet vainly, a country to save;

And bathed with the bitterest tears of those
Who envied the dead in their blessed repose.
Thus all your bright blossoms of crimson and snow
Are darkened by shadows that fell long ago.
On the white lies the pallor of death, and the red
Seems stained with the blood of the valiant and dead.

While the dewdrops that lie on each emerald leaf Recall the vain tears of our passionate grief.

Keen sorrow is blent with the gladness you bring.

The thorn with the floweret, Oh! roses of spring.

# THE LAMP THAT NEVER GOES OUT

by MARGARET M. FOSTER, R.N., S.C.M.

This hospital is the radiating center of the nursing service in these mountains . . . The hospital is a temple of service where the lamp never goes out.

These words were spoken by Sir Leslie MacKenzie in his address on the occasion of the dedication cermony at Hyden Hospital in June 1928. But what keeps the lamp burning—and on whom does it shine—? These questions can be answered so easily in statistics—but how much more absorbing in practical experience.

Briefly—the fuel for the lamp of service is supplied by all those who work there—from the Medical Director, Dr. Rogers Beasley, the Superintendent, Miss Betty Lester, the staff and helpers of all categories—and of course through the gifts of

generous friends from both far and near.

The day starts with the arrival of another wee Kentuckian into the world. He is welcomed by us all and, in the course of time, is placed in a bassinet by the side of his mother—only one wee one (a three and one-half pound future baseball player) views the world in isolation through his own incubator window. The mothers in the midwifery wards exchange news and talk as mothers do the world over, and hug their babies whenever they feel like it.

In the children's ward of the general wing are our family of children—the boy who burnt his leg and arm; the boy who was bitten by a snake; the little man who needs more blood (and gets it while he lies peacefully enjoying a lollipop); the sick girl who needs special care, observation, and treatment; and the baby girl who has spent most of her first year of life in Hyden Hospital, receiving treatment and her quota of loving care. In a corner room the oxygen tent soothes the breathing of a sick child. Two surgical and one medical adult case lie in other rooms, making their way up the ladder to better health.

And what of the clinic? From early morning 'til late night a stream of people comes through its doors. A quietly organized

procession of patients is suddenly interrupted by the admission of the victims of a wreck. A car plunged off the road knocking over a house on stilts—thank God only one child is seriously hurt, but what a number of cuts to stitch and dress, and minor injuries to attend! Just as all is once again organized, a truck draws up to the door—complete with a bed, on which lies an old man, hurt and bleeding after a fall over a cliff. Another emergency is coped with, and again the consultations continue. Advice and care for cuts, bites, burns, pains, sickness, fever, broken limbs, and every disorder possible. Another emergency!! A little child of eighteen months must have surgical care immediately, following a car accident.

Not all our callers are sick or hurt; some do want to avail themselves of advice on how to keep well and to learn more about immunization shots—how to prevent Polio and measles—and what to do about worms.

Sunday afternoon, and only a few sick calls in the clinic, when suddenly an invasion of people sweeps through the doors. One's mind reflects "another wreck"? But no—welcome to a happy party of blood donors who volunteer to have their blood typed previous to making their contribution to life itself.

My recent experience in this twenty-five bed rural hospital—where medical, surgical, and obstetrical care is given, and where emergencies of any kind are dealt with—serves as a stimulant to my meditations on cause, cure, and control of our human bodily weaknesses. My public health mind keeps repeating that the answer to the question of shortage of beds, shortage of staff, and reduction of expensive drug bills in all hospitals lies in the prevention of illness. This is no new thought. But I suggest, with some trepidation, that Hyden Hospital is part of a Service where the care of the family unit as a whole, under one central administration, is unique. The dreams I have dreamed in other spheres are a reality here.

The rays—from the lamp that never goes out—radiate throughout the territory covered by the Frontier Nursing Service.

# OLD STAFF NEWS

Edited by JANE FURNAS

From Ruth Brown in Belgian Congo—June 1956

My initiation to life in the Congo has been made complete now since having had some midwifery experience in the past few weeks. My delivery table is a rough board affair in my little temporary lean-to grass dispensary. Believe it or not, a mother walked off to her village just two hours after the delivery—or, that is, she would have walked all the way if I hadn't made her husband take her on his bicycle! Had some more excitement the other day. All of a sudden some of the patients began shouting excitedly and pointed off in the distance across the fields. Sure enough, there was a whole herd of 11 elephants!

From Geraldine Chappell in India—July 1956

Time like an ever rolling stream flows on leaving the past memories far behind, but now and then the pleasant experiences pop out of the past—midwifery being one. I search out all the news of those I know in the Bulletin. Can't say I use my midwifery much at the present time. Cholera and typhoid injections are the order of the day. Since writing you last I have been assigned a dispensary forty miles from here. I go once a week to check with the Indian nurse, take her medicines and discuss her work. We now keep powdered milk for any who can buy it.

# From Valborg Torkelson in Colombia, South America

—June 1956

The mountains of Colombia remind me a bit of the hills around Hyden. About a day's journey on horse from El Cocuy are some beautiful snow capped mountains. Living at an altitude of about 9,000 feet, it is easy to be in the clouds.

From Mary Heisey in Southern Rodesia—June 1956

My work continues to be very interesting, though part of my assignment has changed. I no longer have Homecraft—it

was hard to give up. The part of the work I like best is midwifery—of course. Many of the cases are normal. There was one woman who had twins who had a very long and difficult labor. I tried to send her on to a doctor but she refused to go. An interesting thing with these women is their ability to take a rough labor and then act like nothing happened. They are sturdy women.

# From Gloria Fuchs Becker in the Philippines—June 1956

Within the next few weeks we will be moving to our new house at Guinzadan. One of our projects aside from mission work will be planting and experimenting with an American vegetable garden. We have ordered a variety of seeds from home. Soil and climate are different from Wisconsin and Nebraska. We know that some kinds of vegetables will grow here because you can purchase them at Baguio market.

Now that we are well into the month of June we here in the Philippines are again entering the rainy season. The rains began in May, and now we have heavy rains almost every afternoon. We have already had one typhoon, which was fairly mild. There is one consolation about the rainy season; the sun usually shines all morning, which helps to begin the day bright and cheerful!

# From Vivienne Blake, Gold Coast, West Africa—July 1956

Am the Sister in charge of a small emergency hospital. We look after the employees of the company and their families, including midwifery. We also treat non-company people but there are not very many who are non-company. Also we look after the European staff and families. It is interesting work—have my antenatal clinic this afternoon which I always enjoy. Have thirty beds altogether, a separate European ward, midwifery ward, laboratory, theatre, X-ray room, and a large outpatient department. We are right in the Bush, but the sawmill being large, we have quite a neat town of our own with about forty European families. Am often showing my slides of the FNS to the enjoyment of everyone, especially me. I think I sit and look at Fanny [her horse] most of all.

From Briget Ristori Tothill in New Zealand—July 1956

It is strange to be back in full harness again. I feel rather as tho' I'd been given a second life. I couldn't have struck a nicer job. Altho' we have only 18 patients, the hospital is quite one of the nicest and best equipped I've seen. The nurses, doctors, and patients are so nice to work with. Nelson itself is a pleasant little town with a great variety of scenery—sea—river—lake—mountain—orchards and farms.

# From Clara Louise (Pete) Schiefer Johnson, Blairsville, Georgia—August 1956

Expect to be here until "pepper" season ends in October. We just bought a house in Cairo, Georgia, so will move into it when we leave here. If any FNS'ers whom I know are around Thomasville, Georgia, I wish they would get in touch with us.

From Esther Bacon, Sioux City, Iowa—August 1956

Janet Reinbrecht took over Sanoyea Dispensary (in Liberia) when I left. I was so glad Jan had had midwifery. Last year a building for midwifery was added to the log cabin dispensary. It is 3 rooms: one for prenatals, one for delivery and one room with four beds for the mothers and their babies. Walls are mud and stick, sanded with chalk and sand; cement floors; cement asbestos roof. From September when we moved in, all but two women I delivered had at least a little prenatal care. Most were normal deliveries. There were 41 deliveries this year to July 20th. About 50 prenatals were coming for care, including two scheduled for twins this month.

Incidence of complications seems ever so much lower in those who have even a little prenatal care. Last December one chief told me 28 women died that year, in and around his village, of childbirth. He was anxious for his people to have better care in their village, a day's walk from our dispensary.

## **NEW ARRIVALS**

To Mr. and Mrs. Norbert Becker (Gloria Fuchs) in Baguio City, Philippines, on May 20, 1956, a son, Paul Norbert.

To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stanley (Georgia Hibberd) in Helton, Kentucky, on May 31, 1956, a son Robert Eugene.

To Mr. and Mrs. Earl C. Roberts (Dodie Helwig) in Seattle, Washington, a son, born early this summer.

### WEDDINGS

Miss Anne Elizabeth Boyle (Nancy) and Mr. Karl Ifert on June 23, 1956, at Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania.

Miss Betty Ruth Scott (Scotty) and Mr. Emil Jakim on August 31, 1956, at Algonac, Michigan.

Miss Mary Brill and Mr. Victor M. Ryan on June 13, 1956.

## NEWSY BITS

Ruth Alexander Ingerson writes that her husband has been transferred to Baltimore. They have moved to Joyce Lane, Arnold, Maryland.

Nancy Wilson is spending a six-month furlough with her mother. Nancy says that the staff's biggest problem at Brent Hospital on the Philippine island of Mindanao is that of enticing the patients to the hospital. Sometimes she tells the mothers: "If you'll come to the hospital for prenatal care, we'll deliver your baby for nothing." Nancy has been administrator of the 60-bed hospital for four years. She is the only American on the staff of 11 graduate nurses, three doctors, and five attendants.

Mrs. Georges Selim (Maxine Thornton) is now living in Iraq, her husband's native country. She has been to one home delivery and found it very interesting and the midwife a capable woman. She is handicapped by the language, which is Arabic, but her husband's family all speak English and act as interpreters for her.

Mrs. Catherine Lory leaves the second week in September for orientation in Washington, D. C., before taking up her work with WHO in Liberia.

# LEXINGTON FOR THE AUDIT

by JANET S. BROUGHTON

Mrs. Breckinridge came over to call on me in my office one day in February. It is always a pleasure to have her come. However, this particular time she looked as if there was indeed quite some importance to her visit; and so there was, since she informed me that each year the FNS sends the bookkeeper to Lexington for about a week during the annual audit. We chatted about my prospective trip, and since I had never been there, I was all excited about meeting new people and seeing a new city.

A great deal of preparation is required at that particular time of year to get all the necessary information ready to go. Hobert has built a large wooden box equipped with lock and key in which the books and all the supporting information can be placed. I found myself working extremely hard to close the books in time to go down for the audit on the 12th of May.

Of course, packing your own clothes for a week is just a side line, and surprisingly, I found myself all packed and ready to drive to Lexington where I checked into the Hotel Lafayette on Sunday, the 12th of May.

Monday morning I went by appointment to see one of Lexington's leading dentists. By 9 a.m. I was in the office of the FNS auditors, Hifner and Potter. Later that day I made a visit to the Security Trust Company to see its president, Mr. Edward S. Dabney, who is the treasurer of the Frontier Nursing Service. Later still in the day I was back in the auditor's office.

The senior partner, Mr. Hifner, such a grand man, has audited the FNS books since its first year. It was indeed a big help to me to have him take time to explain the accounting procedures applicable to the FNS books and the varied and various accounts set up on the books. By the end of the week I had learned so much that everything was easier for me than it had been prior to the audit.

It was my good fortune to be in Lexington at the time of the Garden Club's Annual Open House in Kentucky. My only regret was not to have had an experienced guide, since I found locating the various horse farms a bit difficult in a strange area. But the few I did visit were lovely. Greentree Farm had a particular interest since my homestead in Wisconsin, recently subdivided, bears the name Green Tree Acres. The old-fashioned, high-ceilinged rooms with their beautiful collection of antique furniture and china were of great interest. The McIlvain flower gardens were most beautiful. Their greenhouse had quite a selection of rare plants and flowers. Mintwood Farm had quite a lovely collection of rare china platters in early English and American patters. Geraniums grew indoors along the sunporch entrance—extremely hearty plans and an unusual color. The stairway in this house was beautiful and led to a large upper hallway which was almost a room in itself. I saw antique pieces that just are not to be found except in old homes.

The late afternoons and long evenings under Lexington's Daylight Saving Time were made delightful for me by some of Mrs. Breckinridge's cousins. Dr. Josephine Hunt drove me out to Rolling Acres, the beautiful horse farm that belongs to Mrs. R. M. Bagby, where I was entertained. Mrs. Bagby's daughter, Mrs. Sarah Stanfill, took me to dinner one evening at the Campbell House, where she ordered choice filet mignon. Needless to say, the dinner was delicious. Dr. Hunt also had me to dinner in her own home with her brother and nephew.

The Hotel Lafayette is a delightful place to stay and almost as good as being at home. The TV programs in the lobby were interesting to watch in the late evening.

At the end of the week I returned to Wendover with my huge box of books and supporting information, happy in the thought that the week had been a success. Not only had the business hours been filled profitably, but I had enjoyed the off-duty hours too.

> There was a young man so benighted, He never knew when he was slighted. He went out to tea, And ate just as free, As if he had been there invited.

> > -Source unknown

## BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS

You, our readers, will notice on the White Elephant page the change of address for the Bargain Box. The grand opening of the new store was to take place on September 5. The old one is already being torn down. Our New York Committee, and the Committees of the other charities which sponsor this thrift shop, have been terrifically busy in getting the new premises ready, in moving their rummage, and in getting out notices about the change of address. Mrs. Seymour Wadsworth's report about it all left us breathless. We hope that you, the many donors of rummage to the Frontier Nursing Service through the Bargain Box, will visit the new premises when and as you can.

The publishers of *Wide Neighborhoods*, Harper and Brothers, brought out a sixth printing of the book in August. Although the sales of *Wide Neighborhoods* have not been spectacular after the first edition of five thousand copies—which sold so quickly that the book was on the best seller lists for six weeks—nevertheless, sales do continue month after month and year after year. We continue to get letters from people who hear of it and read it, and every year old friends give it away as Christmas presents. This, like the rummage given the Bargain Box, helps the Frontier Nursing Service.

Transylvania College, Lexington, Kentucky, oldest college west of the Appalachians, gave us, in the Frontier Nursing Service, deep happiness when, on June fourth, its President, Dr. Frank A. Rose, conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon our treasurer, Mr. Edward Settle Dabney, President of the Security Trust Company in Lexington. Mr. Dabney is a great civic leader. Among the philanthropic causes that he serves he is a trustee and secretary of the Kentucky Independent College Foundation, securing the support of industry and business for Kentucky's small, independent colleges; he is treasurer and director of the Kentucky Medical Foundation; and treasurer of Pine Mountain Settlement School as well as of the Frontier Nursing Service. Thousands of young people, from infancy on

through college, boys and girls, are bettered each year by his voluntary services so gladly and so generously given.

We have learned with pride and gladness that the trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston have named the neurosurgical floor in the new Clinical Research Building the Mixter floor after Dr. Jason Mixter, and that his pupils have had his portrait painted to hang on that floor. For nearly a generation Dr. Mixter has honored us by serving on our National Medical Council, and, until his retirement to Woods Hole, he and Mrs. Mixter were active members of our Boston Committee. They are, both of them, deeply interwoven with our lives.

Dr. John Rock, another member of our National Medical Council who, along with his wife, is on our Boston Committee, has retired from Harvard University to become Clinical Professor of Gynecology, emeritus. His work for The Free Hospital for Women in Brookline, as director of the Rock Reproductive Study Center, and as consultant at the Massachusetts General Hospital has been of enduring value. Dr. Rock is one of the greatest experts in America on the perplexing problems of fertility.

Dr. Lance Townsend, Chief of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Melbourne, in Australia, was a guest speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association in August. We are honored that the subject of his address was the Frontier Nursing Service.

Professor Chasser Moir of Oxford University, England, whose visit at Wendover with Mrs. Moir is remembered gratefully by all who met them, writes us as follows:

"You may be interested to know that I have been asked to give several lectures to nursing organizations on the subject of this visit. I have been able to illustrate them with the color transparencies which I took, to which I added other lantern slides shamelessly rephotographed from many issues of the Bulletin. May I be forgiven!"

When our trustee, Mrs. Roger K. Rogan, was in Great Britain this summer she sent us a newspaper clipping of August 7, about the expected visit of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh to the Hebrides. It was to begin at Iona and end at Stornoway, in the Outer Hebrides, seven days later. Those of you who have read the Hebridean chapter in *Wide Neighborhoods* will know how enthralled we were to learn that the young Queen would go to such remote and lovely islands as Barra and Benbecula. We gather from this newspaper clipping that the royal visit could be achieved only after long conferences on related problems of transport and communications.

You, our subscribers, who support national charities might like to become members of the National Information Bureau at 205, East 42nd Street, New York 17, New York. You will then be eligible for their confidential reports on every such philanthrophy, including the Frontier Nursing Service. We suggest that you write them for a sample copy of their *Giver's Guide*.

"Philanthropy is the spirit of active good will toward one's fellow men, especially as shown in efforts to promote their

welfare."

-Webster's Dictionary

### TRIXIE AND RICK

In July we lost through death two of our beloved district dogs: "Trixie," the dog at Possum Bend, belonging to Carolyn Banghart, and "Rick," one of the Wendover dogs, belonging to Jane Furnas.

Loyalty and love can never die: "Though the long years may sweep between us, I never shall wholly lose you—nor forget."

## SAYINGS OF OUR CHILDREN

Small boy, speaking to brought-on volunteer, "I don't know your fancy talk. Why don't you learn me some of that fancy talk?"

M. L. P.

## FIELD NOTES

We are so happy over our new medical director, Dr. W. B. Rogers Beasley, that we want to share this happiness with all of you dear people who support the Frontier Nursing Service and subscribe to this Bulletin. Aside from Dr. Beasley's brilliance as a surgeon and physician, his deep kindness as a man, he has the added attraction of a charming wife and three delightful children. Young Rogers is 7 years old, Gabrielle is 5 and Battle Beasley is three. Joy House and its grounds are alive with the laughter of children.

Dr. Beasley is spending a day at each of the six outpost nursing centers, giving up his Fridays to them. The help that is to those lonely outpost nurse-midwives cannot be put into words. His clinics at the Hospital are enormous, and he has had a good deal of surgery, elective and emergency. Over a period of 16 hours on August 22 and 23, he did three Caesareans ending in three lovely babies. Two days later he had a fourth Caesarean—critical emergency—ending in a fourth lovely baby.

Speaking of babies, this is a good place to mention that the FNS delivered its eleven thousandth mother in July. We are now embarked on our twelfth thousand series. Although we have lost only eleven mothers, and our ratio of maternal deaths is less than 1 per 1,000, we shall always grieve that we did lose eleven. We are cheered by the fact that the last 2,000 midwifery cases have been carried through without the loss of a single mother. It wasn't too easy to safeguard our mothers during the months when we had no medical director, and thirty-five of these mothers had to be carried to hospitals beyond our territory. We feel that our nurse-midwives have each won an accolade.

On Tuesday evening, July 24th, our Hyden Committee welcomed Dr. Beasley and his family with a surprise party at Joy House. Everyone brought gifts of food, including home canned foods and fresh vegetables from their gardens. The Committee served delicious sandwiches, punch and coffee. Everyone had a wonderful evening getting acquainted.

Leigh Powell no sooner got back to her home on Long Island, after her marvelous five months' tour around the world, than she came down to us as resident courier to relieve for Jean Hollins' vacation. When she had to go home the middle of July to join her family in the Adirondacks for ten days, Julia Davidson of Washington, D. C., was good enough to come down and relieve for Leigh. [See Old Courier News.]

We have had top-notch junior couriers this summer to help Leigh and Julie with transport; Mary Forrest Zabriskie of Alexandria, Virginia [See Old Courier News]; Lenore (Len) Frederickson of Syracuse, New York, who stayed two weeks longer than scheduled to help break-in the couriers arriving for the second summer term; Georgia Rodes Hart of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, whose family has been interested in the FNS for years; Isabella Breckinridge of Baltimore, Maryland, niece of Mrs. Jefferson Patterson (Marvin Breckinridge), our first courier and now a trustee; Lela Van Norden of Woodbury, Connecticut, daughter of our courier, Mrs. John M. Eddison ("Beccie" Crane) who was here in our early years; and Lois Powell of Long Island, sister of Leigh. With the shortage of administrative staff this summer, the couriers have helped in a thousand ways, beyond the call of courier duty—bless them.

One of the most delectable things which happened to us this summer was a visit from Mrs. James McQueen who, as Peggy Tinline, was a nurse-midwife on our staff years ago. She left us in 1937 to get married to a Scotchman in England. Although Peggy served, hither and yon, as a floating nurse-midwife when she first came to us, she eventually took charge of the Caroline Butler Atwood Memorial Nursing Center at Flat Creek. No nurse at any outpost nursing center has ever been more greatly loved or longer remembered. When our American boys started going overseas during the war, Peggy offered hospitality at her house near London for soldiers on leave. Some of the Flat Creek boys visited her there. Now a widow, she has just made visits to a brother in Australia and a sister in New Zealand. On her way back to the Old Country she stopped off for a visit in Kentucky. We gave her a royal home-coming and then put her to work, guest though she was! She filled in for awhile as volunteer

secretary to the medical director—typing out dictaphone messages, the dear darling. She got to see her old friends, not only those at Flat Creek but those who had moved to Laurel County and to Cincinnati. We hope that when she has renovated her house and gotten good tenants for it she will again return to us as a member of the staff.

There have not been many staff changes this summer, but one of them is of real significance. Barbara Hunt, our social service secretary on the Alpha Omicron Pi grant, has gone back to her home and to her people. The inside front cover of this Bulletin gives a picture of Bobby with a little child. No one who has been with us cared more for children or served them more devotedly. Bobby, a graduate of Keuka College in New York, has done superb work. In her spare moments, which were few, she could usually be found in the children's ward hugging one of the sick babies—not too sick to be held.

We have been fortunate in getting Noel Smith, a graduate of Wellesley, as Bobby's successor—and having her come in June so that she could understudy Bobby for two full months. Her work is tops. The Alpha Omicron Pi summer student with the Social Service Department this year has been Mary Peterson of Montana. She has done good work, and enjoyed it too.

Helen Farrington, senior nurse-midwife at the Jessie Preston Draper Memorial Center, leaves us at the end of August to take a position with the Yale University School of Nursing, New Haven, Connecticut. Helen is a graduate of the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and of the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery. She has done the finest kind of outpost center work and we shall miss her deeply. We know that these young nurses of ours, who give us two or more years of their lives as part-time volunteers will, with few exceptions, move on to other organization which are eager to get qualified nurse-midwives for high positions at high salaries. We send them off with enthusiastic endorsements, and our good wishes follow them always.

Jo Ann Hunt succeeds Helen Farrington as senior nursemidwife at Beech Fork. She has with her Faye Noggle, a graduate of Harrisburg Polytechnic Hospital, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and of the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery. These two girls will carry admirably their responsiblities at our oldest

outpost nursing center.

Two new nurses who have lately come to us are Anne Cundle of England, a nurse-midwife who is working at Hyden Hospital until the influx of fall nurses releases her for the districts; and Olive Bodtcher, also working at Hyden Hospital until she enters the Graduate School on October 15.

We welcome, with the greatest pleasure, the new secretary to the medical director, Mrs. Ann C. Bracy. She is so well equipped for this post, professionally and personally, that it is a joy to have her.

Among our guests this summer were a number of distinguished foreigners who came to observe and to study our methods of work. Those who came under the Division of International Coöperation, Social Security Administration, Children's Bureau, included Dr. Jean Jules Snoeck of Belgium, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical School, University of Brussels; Miss Saturnina Latorre and Miss Felicitas C. Mercado, nurse supervisors from the Philippines; Dr. Armando Jose Petrozzi, Medical Chief, Maternal and Child Health, Rimac Health Center, Peru; and Dr. Marcel E. Sondervorst, a Belgian serving in the Belgian Congo. Dr. Sondervorst was so kind as to give an interesting lecture to the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery. These overseas guests give us as much as we can give them, and often more.

In this connection we want to refer particularly to Mrs. Rafaela T. Biteng, a nurse from the Philippines, who stayed long enough for us to feel that she almost belonged to us. Her enthralling story about her horse saving her from the invaders during the war is printed elsewhere in this Bulletin.

When Miss Mildred Disbrow, Chairman of the Department of Obstetric Nursing, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, and a graduate of the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery in 1949, came to us for an all too brief visit, she brought with her two attractive foreign students; Miss Elena Villarreal of Panama and Miss Azar Riahi of Iran.

The earliest of overseas guests to come to us was that most interesting person, Miss Mora MacLeod of the famous St. Thomas

Hospital of London, England, who came in June. The latest to arrive, at the end of the summer, as we go to press, is Dr. Constantin Saroglou, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Athens, Greece, who is visiting in the United States under the U. S. Department of State's International Educational Exchange Program. A great pediatrician, he is also a charming man.

Among our American guests were several from this area. Two most interesting women were Miss Elinore L. Hammond, Director of Nursing, and Miss Mildred Metz, Assistant Director—for education—from Norton Memorial Infirmary in Louisville, Kentucky, who visited us in June. Miss Margaret Holmes and Miss June Schnabel, who have been working in rural Kentucky, spent several days with us. We had an interesting weekend visit from five student nurses from The Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, Ohio.

We just cannot find the space to say much about the many pleasant people, other than doctors and nurses, who drifted in to see us during the long summer months. But we do want to say that we were especially grateful to Mrs. Kathleen Williams, Worthy Grand Matron of Kentucky, Order of the Eastern Star, for coming to see us on an official visit to our section, and bringing Marguerite Wilder of Lexington with her.

We much enjoyed visits from Mrs. Virgil E. Holcombe of Charleston and Mrs. Eleanor H. Haner of Madison, West Virginia. Mrs. Holcombe, a highly intelligent and lovely woman, is chairman of the National Project Committee of the Daughters of Colonial Wars. Their project is the Frontier Graduate School of Midwifery and we hope this fact will bring Mrs. Holcombe back to us often.

We were all delighted to have a short visit from Elizabeth Hillman (Hilly) and Lydia Thompson, old staff members who have been working in Alberta, Canada, and were on their way home to England. After leaving us Hilly and Lydia visited Jean Hollins on Long Island, New York, where they had a day's reunion on the beach with Pebble Stone and Peggy Tinline McQueen.

It was a joy to have Brownie's sister, Mary Browne en route from her civil post in Malaya for a furlough in England. We also had a delightful visit from Mrs. Breckinridge's cousins—the Whiting McIlwaines of Knoxville and Mr. Joseph Carson of Milwaukee, who was of immense help to us all. Readers of this Bulletin will recall a party he gave at the University Club in Milwaukee several years ago where we showed our moving picture, "The Forgotten Frontier."

Another cousin, little Carlyle Carter, came in early July for her annual visit. We invited Carrie Lou Morgan, daughter of our old friends, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Morgan (Leona Pace Morgan) of Hyden to visit us at the same time. These future little couriers groomed horses, helped with getting and serving tea and made themselves useful in the best courier tradition. Late Sunday afternoon, at Evensong, each played a hymn for us and played it beautifully. Every minute of their visit was a joy to all of us.

No guest ever gives us more happiness than Margaret Gage of Santa Monica, California. Her rare visits are red-letter days for us, days that leave us refreshed in spirit. Elsewhere in this Bulletin, under Kitty Biddle's Cartoon, you will read her poem to Tenacity, signed "Chela."

Wendover played host to a wedding on the thirtieth of June when Miss Lillian Cornett, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hobert C. Cornett, was married to Mr. James M. Hayes of Decatur, Arkansas. This wedding was of particular interest to us because Lillian's father has been foreman for Wendover and the six outpost nursing centers over a long period of years; and the whole family are neighbors and friends.

About sixty relatives and friends attended the ceremony which took place in the living room of the Big House by candle-light. The bride was lovely in a white gown and veil, and had as attendants a matron of honor, a bridesmaid and two little girls. The bride and groom both taught school last year on Upper Bull Creek and are now teaching in Arkansas. We wish them every success and much happiness.

A meeting of the Hyden Committee of the Frontier Nursing service took place in the Margaret Voorhies Haggin Quarters, for nurses, on Tuesday evening, August 28. The chairman, and trustee, Mr. Emmitt Elam, presided, and Mrs. J. D. Begley was

elected permanent secretary. It was indeed a pleasure for the members of this, our second oldest committee, to meet together again and to welcome Dr. and Mrs. Rogers Beasley.

Reports were given by Mrs. Begley on the work of the Women's Auxiliary to the Hyden Hospital; by Mrs. Vaughn on the various insurance policies now carried by a number of our patients; and by Mrs. Breckinridge on the proposed expenditure of the \$10,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. A letter received from the Foundation, and read aloud, stated:

"The description of the use of the funds in your letter is completely satisfactory to us."

Mrs. Breckinridge advised that a dictaphone for the medical director to use in his clinics and a water conditioner to prevent corrosion of pipe lines and equipment were already on order; and that an electrical dish-washing machine, to meet State Board of Health requirements, and other needed equipment were now under consideration. We are profoundly grateful to the Ford Foundation for making it possible for us to get these items of essential new equipment.

The Hyden Committee decided that it was in agreement with the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees in that a number of our patients were now able to pay higher fees; and that the charge of \$5.00 a day for adult patients should be raised. It was the general feeling of this committee that, starting with the new year on January 1, 1957, we could now make a charge of \$8.00 a day for those adults (other than maternity patients) who could pay it; and that the only extras would be oxygen and a few very expensive drugs. Maternity cases would continue to be received at a flat fee of \$30.00 which includes prenatal and postpartum care, as well as delivery, and a minimum of eight days of hospital care. The fee for major surgery for years has been \$100.00, including all charges, and that remains unchanged. As everyone knows, there is no hospital charge for children; but we gratefully accept gifts for the children's ward.

All through the summer months we have been busy, as we are each year, on the repair and upkeep of our vast and widely scattered properties. The costs on most things have risen beyond our estimates under the URGENT NEEDS section in the Spring Bulletin. It is a pleasure to name one item given in that

section which cost us less in cash money, instead of more. We figured the complete rebuilding of the old heifer barn at the Clearing would cost approximately \$1,000.00. With more gratitude than we can express, we want to acknowledge the gift of all the lumber for this barn from Mr. John H. Asher—3,919 feet. Apart from his gift, the cost of roofing, nails, creosote et cetera and labor came to \$652.32. We would love to get some checks to help out on that, so that the heifer barn would be a pure gift.

Every summer all thirteen of our heating systems are carefully checked, cleaned and serviced by our own two foremen-Alonzo Howard for the Hyden Hospital plant, and Hobert Cornett for Wendover and the six outpost centers. Every five years we have a brought-on heating expert inspect them, reset the hot air furnaces—there are nine of them—and put everything in order for another five years, unless in the meantime there is a breakdown. Such a repairman is here now and has found that some of the furnaces need extensive repairs and that we need six automatic draft controls to lessen the fire hazard of hand-fired furnaces becoming overheated, and to prolong the life of the furnaces. When last we bought one of these the price was \$80.00 -now it is \$100.00! We will welcome help from any of you who are able to give it on these repairs and controls. We could not get the estimates in time to list them under URGENT NEEDS in the Spring Bulletin.

Helen E. Browne, Assistant Director, our Brownie, has taken a furlough this summer back with her own people in the Old Country. She is to return by air around September 10. During her absence of over three months Jane Furnas has relieved for her. Although we have missed Brownie, it has been a source of deep happiness to us to know she has had this long period of recreation after carrying so many of the burdens of the past year.

We are sure that our readers will forgive the many imperfections in this section of our Bulletin. It has been written by several of us, and then thrown together. We have, at least, given you much of the news that you like to read about in the field covered by the work we do in your behalf.

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S.C.M. stands for State Certified Midwife and indicates a nurse, whether American or British, who qualified as a midwife under the Central Midwives Boards' examination of England or Scotland and is authorized by these Boards to put these initials after her name.

C.M. stands for Certified Midwife and indicates a nurse who qualified as a midwife under the Kentucky Department of Health examination and is authorized by this Department to put these initials after her name.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

For the convenience of those who wish to remember the Frontier Nursing Service in their wills, this form of bequest is suggested:

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath the sum of dollars (or property properly described) to the Frontier Nursing Service, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Kentucky."

# HOW ENDOWMENT GIFTS MAY BE MADE

The following are some of the ways of making gifts to the Endowment Funds of the Frontier Nursing Service:

- 1. By Specific Gift under Your Will. You may leave outright a sum of money, specified securities, real property, or a fraction or percentage of your estate.
- 2. By Gift of Residue under Your Will. You may leave all or a portion of your residuary estate to the Service.
- 3. By Living Trust. You may put property in trust and have the income paid to you or to any other person or persons for life and then have the income or the principal go to the Service.
- 4. By Life Insurance Trust. You may put life insurance in trust and, after your death, have the income paid to your wife or to any other person for life, and then have the income or principal go to the Service.
- 5. By Life Insurance. You may have life insurance made payable direct to the Service.
- 6. By Annuity. The unconsumed portion of a refund annuity may be made payable to the Service.

The principal of the gifts will carry the donor's name unless other instructions are given. The income will be used for the work of the Service in the manner judged best by its Trustees.

## FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE, Inc.

Its motto:

"He shall gather the lambs with his arm and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young."

Its object:

To safeguard the lives and health of mothers and children by providing and preparing trained nurse-midwives for rural areas in Kentucky and elsewhere, where there is inadequate medical service; to give skilled care to women in childbirth; to give nursing care to the sick of both sexes and all ages; to establish, own, maintain and operate hospitals, clinics, nursing centers, and midwifery training schools for graduate nurses; to educate the rural population in the laws of health, and parents in baby hygiene and child care; to provide expert social service; to obtain medical, dental and surgical services for those who need them at a price they can afford to pay; to ameliorate economic conditions inimical to health and growth, and to conduct research towards that end; to do any and all other things in any way incident to, or connected with, these objects, and, in pursuit of them, to cooperate with individuals and with organizations, whether private, state or federal; and through the fulfillment of these aims to advance the cause of health, social welfare and economic independence in rural districts with the help of their own leading citizens.

Articles of Incorporation of the Frontier Nursing Service, Article III.

## DIRECTIONS FOR SHIPPING

We are constantly asked where to send gifts of layettes, toys, clothing, books, etc. These should always be addressed to the FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE and sent either by parcel post to Hyden, Leslie County, Kentucky, or by freight or express to Hazard, Kentucky, with notice of shipment to Hyden.

If the donor wishes his particular supplies to go to a special center, and will send a letter to that effect, his wishes will be complied with. Everything will be gratefully received, and promptly acknowledged.

Gifts of money should be made payable to FRONTIER NURSING SERVICE.

and sent to the treasurer
MR. EDWARD S. DABNEY,
Security Trust Company
Lexington 15, Kentucky

Subscribers are requested to send their names and addresses—with their checks—for the convenience of the treasurer in mailing his receipts to them—as required by our auditors.

# WILDERNESS ROAD AWARD

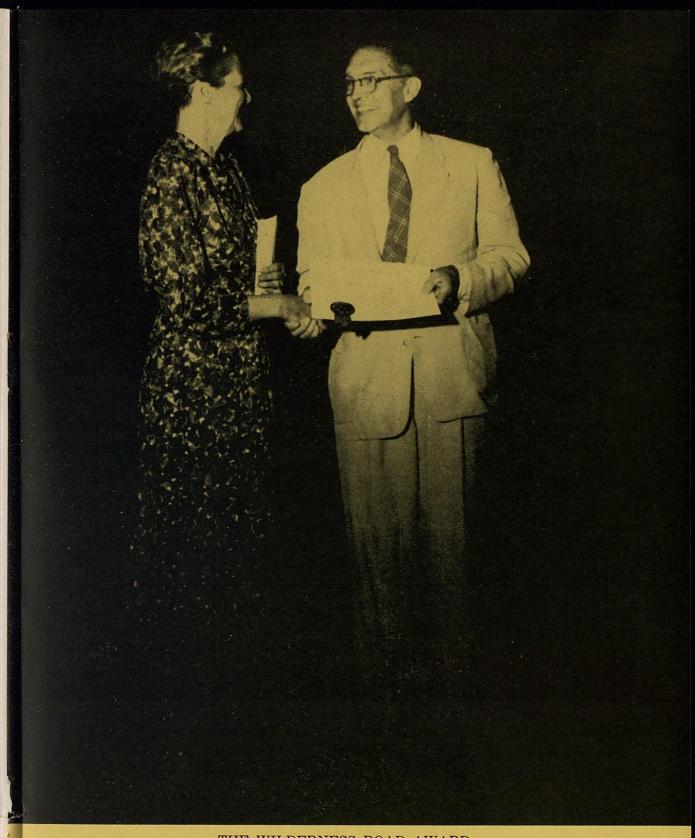
Berea College takes great satisfaction and pleasure this evening in presenting a WILDERNESS ROAD Award to Mary Breckinridge and the Frontier Nursing Service.

Christian society has long been mindful that mothers and children require special care and consideration. Many organizations have been created to bring loving service to mothers and their babies.

In our own Kentucky mountain area the need for such care was recognized years ago by Mrs. Breckinridge, and she assumed the responsibility of bringing modern midwifery, mother and child care, to a rugged and needy portion of Kentucky, her home state and that of her forefathers. In the formation of the Frontier Nursing Service, she established an institution outstanding for its quality of medical service and for its social outreach, and brought to this activity the finest medical advice from specialists throughout the country. In addition to rendering service in thousands of humble mountain homes, the program has also embraced the only rural school of midwifery in the United States.

Berea College considers it a very great privilege to present this WILDERNESS ROAD Award in recognition of the inspired and stimulating leadership of Mrs. Breckinridge and in recognition of the splendid service rendered by her associates of the Frontier Nursing Service.

FRANCIS S. HUTCHINS July 19, 1956



THE WILDERNESS ROAD AWARD
Accepted on Behalf of the Frontier Nursing Service
by Miss Betty Lester
from Dr. Francis S. Hutchins, President
of Berea College
July 19, 1956

