

Public Health Nurse: Important Link in Chain of Family Services

by Mrs. F. Jamieson, R.N.
Georgetown Unit

A Public Health Nurse is a Registered Nurse with advanced preparation at University. This University education is directed towards preventive rather than the curative aspect of nursing.

When the Public Health Nurse takes a district, she, as a community health worker is part of a team from Halton County Health Unit, your official agency, interested in the promoting of the optimum in community health. Frequently she is the link between the family physician, your hospital, allied health agencies, social agencies and the community agencies. You may have met your Public Health Nurse at a prenatal class at immunization clinic, at chest clinic, but her main responsibility is family-centred home visiting.

The health of the family is determined by the individuals within the family as a whole. If a member of the family or the family as a whole has problems, this can adversely affect not only the health but the effectiveness of the family within the community.

WORKS WITH DOCTOR

What does the Public Health Nurse do in a home visit and what kind of visits does she make? The Nurse is well aware that today's family possesses a greater knowledge than their ancestors about health and their ability to solve problems is greater. But frequently the family's approach to the problem is subjective, whereas the Nurse's approach is objective, because she is not emotionally involved with the problem. The Nurse through her visit offers scientific knowledge, guidance, experience and support and the family decide on their course of action. Perhaps, I should explain, the Nurse in no way replaces the family physician. As a matter of fact she works with the physician in order to restore the individual or family to the community.

VARIED FIELDS

Our visiting leads us into varied fields, such as:

A. Maternal & Child Hygiene

This may be to visit a mother-to-be; new-born baby (be it the first or fifth) a pre-school child where health teaching or a demonstration of a nursing procedure may be offered.

B. School Child:

1. It may be a follow up on a hearing, vision or other physical condition.

2. Need for immunization.

3. Students who are having difficulties other than educational and the nurse may be of assistance to the school,

or the parents in helping to achieve better overall health for a student.

C. Mental Health Field:

1. Recognition of personality dis-

orders and referrals to the parents and family physician.

2. Follow-up visits made to individuals who have attended Mental Health Clinic.

3. Taking of Social Histories for those who will be attending a Mental Health Clinic.

4. Follow-up for patients discharged from Mental Hospital.

B. Senior Citizens:

We are very much aware that we have more senior citizens in our communities today due to increasing life span, and we are interested that they enjoy the best possible health. At the present we are visiting only a few but hope to visit more in the future.

CONTINUALLY ASSESSED

These service areas are continually being assessed so that we may offer to you the most up-to-date services in all aspects of our programme. You may be interested to know that your Health Unit promotes "in-service education" to the staff to keep them stimulated and up-to-date in their respective fields. These services, which you as taxpayers have voted for, have been accordingly granted, and are entitled to the available service for the family within the community, so as they are physically, mentally and socially healthy.



Mrs. Allan Burke, Rexway Drive, watches as Georgetown Public Health Nurse Mrs. Ann French shows how baby Russell should be prepared for his bath.

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Furnace and Ski-Doo are Loot in Robberies

During the period January 8 to January 14th, 1967, inclusive personnel of the North Halton Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police, worked a total of 987 1/2 hours and patrolled a total of 10,325 miles on area highways. As a result of patrol, 35 traffic charges were preferred, 78 traffic violation warnings were issued, and 27 convictions registered.

During this period 8 property damage accidents and 2 personal injury accidents were investigated resulting in 2 persons being injured and approximately \$4,200. in property damage. Contributing factors in accidents were: speed too fast for road or traffic conditions; drivers losing control; icy pavement; defective equipment; inattentive driving and improper turns.

There were 32 general occurrences reported, including Break and Enter of a storage shed at Pinegrove School in which an old type McClary furnace was stolen; theft of a Ski-Doo; the property of Mr. A. Scott, No. 17 Sideroad, Esqueping Twp.; two frauds were investigated including passing of counterfeit \$10. bill at Crawford's Store, Hornby. There were three liquor seizures resulting in two charges under the Liquor Control Act. Remaining occurrences were of a minor nature.

Sec. 68 (2) of the Highway Traffic Act — Left Turn at Intersection — states: "The driver or operator of a vehicle within an intersection intending to turn to the left across the path of any vehicle approaching from the opposite direction shall not make such left turn until he has afforded a reasonable opportunity to the driver or operator of such other vehicle to avoid a collision."

IN THE MAIL BAG

Information, Controversy is Aim Of Civic Group

January 16th, 1967

Dear Mr. Editor:
Almost every province, city, town and club has special plans for Canada Centennial Year.

Most of these plans provide for celebrations and entertainment.

The 'Georgetown and District Civic Group' thinks it might be a good idea to strike a slightly more serious note by providing information and controversy. For this reason the Group plans to have at every meeting in 1967 a panel or speaker, discussing various topics of general interest, like education, town planning, town management, religion, politics, civil rights and welfare measures, etc.

Yours sincerely,
— John Sommer,
45 Charles St.

The surface of the earth is a thin crust, less than a mile thick under the ocean floor, 10 miles thick beneath the great mountain ranges. Between this crust and the earth's core are thousands of cubic miles of magma, half gas, half liquid, which seethes in temperatures from 1800 degrees Fahrenheit upward. Let a crack or fissure develop in the crust and the boiling insides, explode into the air. This is a volcano.

Five Member Local Branch

A five member staff makes up the Georgetown branch of the Halton Public Health Unit. Mrs. Frances Jamieson, RN, is Senior Nurse, and Mrs. Velma West, RN, secretarial department head. Other nurses are Mrs. Ann French, RN and Mrs. Marion Logan, RN. Miss Gail Sligger is secretary.

Public Health Nurses at other North Halton Centres are Mrs. Loveday-Tuck at Milton; Mrs. Elizabeth Mercer at Acton and Nassagaweya; and Mrs. Ruth Smith at Esqueping.

The Director of Nursing is Miss Grace J. Leavey.

Honour County Towns is Idea For Bazaars

A different Halton town will be honoured each year in a Spring Bazaar under the organization of Halton Centennial Manor Women's Auxiliary. It was decided at the W.A.'s regular monthly meeting Wednesday.

Mrs. Stan Allen, president, welcomed the Auxiliary back after the holiday season, and introduced one new member.

It is hoped that by featuring the towns, one per bazaar annually, all towns will eventually have helped at one program.

The Auxiliary would be pleased to hear of any groups who would volunteer to help in decorating a wing of the Manor for different seasons or days, like Easter, Spring Fair, Halloween or Christmas.

The discoverer of penicillin was Alexander Fleming.



THEY CARRIED THE TORCH

THIS TEAM OF HIGH SCHOOL RUNNERS carried the torch that ignited the town's Centennial Bonfire of Christmas trees east of the Dolrex-Market Centre Saturday evening. The torch was ignited from a flame at Centennial Park on Main St. S., the town's Centennial Project, and carried through the streets to a stand at the bonfire site where it was handed by the last runner to Mayor Joseph Gibbons who touched it to the heap of evergreens. In the front row from left are: D. Street, K. Nielsen, J. Riley, D. Pedwell, R. Bragg-Smith, L. Urse, G. Wingrove; back row from left, D. Chamberlain, D. Wiles, D. Gardhouse, B. Hall, D. Densmore and M. Hansen. Missing from the photo is T. Martin.

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