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FROM - ADDIS ABABA

**SUBJECT - End-of-Tour Report - Dorothy J. Edgar, Nurse Adviser
Project 663-11-570-005 Nurses Training & Advisory Service,
Eritrea**

REFERENCE -

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Attached is the End-of-Tour Report of Miss Dorothy Edgar who served as Nurse Adviser at the Itegue Menen School of Nursing from November 1962 to November 1964. Miss Edgar is now on home leave and will return January 20, 1965 to continue to perform the same capacity. Miss Edgar's supervisor - the Chief Nursing Advisor - comments as follows:

"Miss Edgar pinpoints her job oriented needs for developing "scientific concepts" in curriculum and assistance to students in integrating these basic science concepts in the nursing care skills.

"Miss Edgar did a fine job in developing with others the basis nursing curriculum for Ethiopia - not a simple or easy task especially since it involved many national groups."

It is recommended that a copy of Miss Edgar's report be placed in her personnel file.

KORRY

ATTACHMENT: End-of-Tour Report

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End-of-Tour Report
Dorothy J. Edgar
Nurse Advisor
The Itegue Menen School of Nursing
Asmara, Ethiopia

Project: Nurse Training, Asmara
Itegue Menen School of Nursing

Objectives:

1. Continuation of presently established School of Nursing; curriculum based on nursing, and public health nursing needs in Eritrea, goal to increase from present 70 total annual enrolment to 100 students (first through fourth year).
2. Graduation of 20-25 qualified nurses each year.
3. Have qualified national nurses carrying responsibility for administration, supervision and teaching in Nursing School by 1969-1970.
4. Reorganization of midwifery training on a post-basic level and development of auxiliary midwifery training when need indicated.
5. Assist Nursing Advisory Services with educational activities designed to improve qualities of auxiliary personnel, health education, background of teachers, etc.

Job Description of this Technician

1. Responsible for teaching and supervising of science class and laboratory work of students.
2. Preparing and organizing lesson plans and instructional materials.
3. Coordinating science teaching with the rest of the school curriculum.
4. Sharing in the formulation, revision, implementation and evaluation of the administrative policy and of the entire teaching program of the Itegue

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Menen School of Nursing.

Activities and Accomplishments

A. Teaching and Supervision

Previous to November, 1962, the teaching of science in the Itegue Menen School of Nursing was being carried out by various American members of the Asmara community. No one person was responsible for the program of science instruction and the instructors were limited in their understanding of nursing. In addition, the instructors had full time positions in other institutions to which they were primarily responsible. The courses now being taught by this technician are: General Science, 74 hours; Anatomy and Physiology, 183 hours; Microbiology, 80 hours; and Introduction to Pharmacology, 30 hours. Course outlines and lesson plans in each of these subjects have been developed. Laboratory experiences in Anatomy and Physiology and Microbiology have been started and correlated into the classroom material of each course. In General Science, it has been necessary to rely on classroom demonstrations instead of individual experimentation because of the lack of facilities and space for such experiences and also because of the lack of previous experience on the part of the students in laboratory work. The students have evidenced a keen interest in the subject matter of science and even after completing courses have returned voluntarily for refreshing on various aspects. The students have also asked for the assistance of the science instructor in the understanding of disease conditions and the solving of nursing care problems. This technician has begun attending ward conferences in Medical-Surgical nursing with the hope of assisting the students in the application of scientific knowledge to the understanding of specific disease entities.

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B. Curriculum Planning and Development

In the beginning of 1963, the Nursing Council of Ethiopia decided to develop a basic curriculum for recommendation as a minimum standard for all schools of nursing in Ethiopia. The Itegue Menen School of Nursing faculty was directed to draw up the course outline in Medical-Surgical Nursing integrating Diet Therapy and Drug Therapy. This technician chaired the committee and presented the work of the committee to the Nursing Council. It was then requested that this technician return to draw together into an acceptable format the work of all the committees. During a three week stay in Addis Ababa, in which daily meetings with the various committees were held, a satisfactory basic curriculum was drawn up and approved.

This technician has assisted in evaluation and revision of the curriculum of the Itegue Menen School of Nursing and has tried to interpret the contribution of science subjects to the overall program.

C. Testing

Entrance examinations were given to ninety-six students in September of 1964. Into the battery of tests of this year and last were incorporated instructor devised tests in science and in mathematics.

D. Library

An attempt was made during the summer months to reorganize the School of Nursing library so that reference material would be more accessible and books could be withdrawn with less fear of loss. With the assistance of a Peace Corps Volunteer, a preliminary cataloguing and accessioning of books has been done following the National League for Nursing's "A Library Handbook for Schools of

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Nursing". However, much more work needs to be done in the library.

E. Newspaper

This technician served as sponsor and counsellor for the members of the staff of the school newspaper. Monthly issues were distributed and rather widely read. Contributions of articles came from students and graduates of the school.

Problems

1. The admission of students to the school with a ninth grade education presents a large problem for the Science Instructor in a professional nursing school. The students have little knowledge, backgrounds are uneven, and previous laboratory experiences are practically non-existent. The purposes of planned experimentation are totally unknown. The type of thinking required in science courses is able to be carried out by only a few students. The period of time devoted to science in the school is insufficient for the development of a broad background and a scientific way of thinking.

2. Although a large amount of materials for science instruction such as microscopes, models, slides and demonstration materials have been acquired, the physical plant of the school prohibits any more than a minimum of laboratory exercises. There is no laboratory. A part of one of the classrooms is presently being used for this purpose. Since there are only two classrooms, entry to this area is only available in between classes or at times when classes are not in session.

There is space for about eight students at the tables while laboratory sections usually have 12 students. There are no gas outlets, no hot water, no electrical outlets at the tables. There is only one water tap for cold water.

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3. Specimens for laboratory dissection are not available uncut from the local slaughter house because of sanitation requirements.

4. Attempts to correlate sciences with Nursing Arts have been impossible since there have been three Nursing Arts instructors in the past two years.

5. A majority of boys in recent classes has stimulated fairly good performance in science classes. However, it is disheartening to see time and effort spent and then encounter such a high withdrawal rate among the male students due to poor motivation for nursing.

6. The limited clinical practice area for the students has not given them sufficiently varied experience to apply their scientific background to a large variety of cases. There is insufficient communication and understanding of the role of the nurse by medical and laboratory personnel so they do not contribute to the student's understanding of the patient and his condition. This lack may be somewhat alleviated after the reorganization of the hospital has been developed to a greater extent—a process which now seems to have been started and is continuing.

Financing

As previously stated, equipment for science teaching has been acquired. However, the greatest need is for a well equipped laboratory where students can carry out individual experimentation.

Cooperation with Other Projects

The school has been fortunate in being able to utilize the Veterinary Institute, the municipal waterworks and other local facilities for field trips for the purpose of observing the work and maintenance of standards.

Audio-visual aids have been available through the film service of Kagnev

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Station. This service will be withdrawn this year because of an American Army regulation preventing the use of its films for showing to nationals of other countries.

Training

No counterpart in science has been selected because of the previous poor background of the graduates of the school in science. It is hoped that a member of the present third year class may be selected but it will require a long period of preparation before a graduate of the school could take over the program.

The use of a science instructor who is not a nurse employed as a full time faculty member may be feasible. However, part time instructors in this area would not be a solution to the problem because of lack of interest and continuity.

Recommendations for Project Activities

1. There is a need for increased interest on everyone's part in the science program of the school of nursing. Ways should be explored for obtaining funds for the building of better laboratory facilities.

2. Consideration should be given to the possibility of strengthening the science background of nursing personnel in the clinical areas who are assisting in the supervision and teaching of students.

3. A long range plan for the development of an Ethiopian nurse science instructor with a good background and a real interest and inclination for teaching should be developed as soon as possible.