

## A NURSES' STUDY HALL

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The origin of the nurses' study hall at the Jewish Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio, is the outcome of a paper prepared by Elsa E. Maurer for the National League of Nursing Education on the Planning and Equipment of Class and Lecture Rooms. This paper was read at the League's twenty-first annual convention at San Francisco, in the year 1915. Miss M. M. Russell, superintendent of the Jewish Hospital, and Mary M. Roberts, a graduate of that hospital, heard the paper read and discussed. The same day two members of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Hospital met Miss Russell and Miss Roberts and inquired about the meetings, whereupon they presented the new (but old) idea embodied in Miss Maurer's paper, that "the ideal place for class and lecture rooms in a school for nursing would be in a separate building, uninfluenced by the demands of hospital and dormitory." The result of the report was the erection of a compact school building for the education of the students in the School of Nursing connected with the Jewish Hospital. This building was "erected by the Sons of Fanny Straus in loving thought that she had been blessed with more than ninety years; furnished and equipped by the children of Ida Straus Henly"; dedicated and presented by Samuel Straus to the School of Nursing in the month of October, 1916.

The Nurses' Study Hall, Straus Hall, as far as we have been able to learn, has the distinction of being the first building of its type devoted exclusively to teaching purposes in connection with schools for nursing. It is built on colonial lines, of red brick with stone trimmings, is forty by sixty-six feet, and consists of two floors. The first floor contains nursing class rooms, cookery and science laboratories, recitation, supply, and service rooms.

The second floor is an auditorium. The dimensions of the assembly room are 34 feet 6 inches by 48 feet; vestibule and dressing rooms, 10 feet 4 inches by 11 feet 9 inches. The hall is equipped with a stage that is furnished with a reading stand and chairs, a moving picture projector and screen for illustrated lectures, and has a seating capacity of two hundred and fifty. The seats are in sections of four and are adjustable, so they can be easily folded and removed for social occasions. At each side of the stage are placed medallions that are reproductions of the Workum Medal, the school pin, designed and blocked by Sir Moses Ezekiel.

The woodwork of the auditorium, windows and seats, is finished a mahogany color, that of the class rooms is white enameled. The walls of both floors are stuccoed and painted a buff color. The windows on each side of the auditorium are seven feet wide by ten feet high, arranged on hinges to swing in, and have transoms. The windows at the front of the building are plain sash windows with stationary flower boxes on the outside made of cement. The windows of the class rooms are also sash windows. The floors of the auditorium and dressing rooms are of plain hardwood; of the vestibule, octagonal tile; and of the class rooms, cement. At the entrance and between the assembly room and vestibule are double doors with plate glass. On either side of the stage are exits with outside stairways.

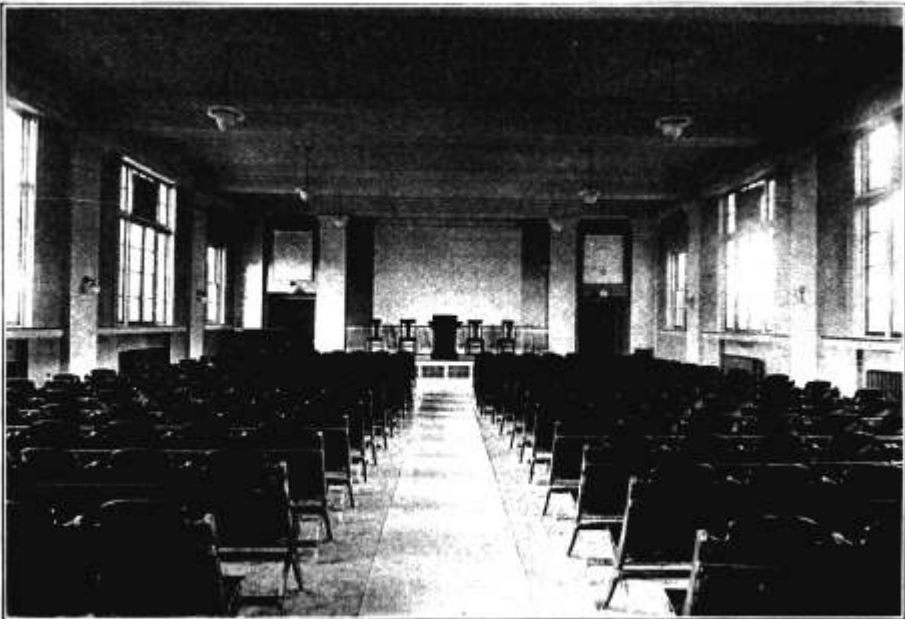
The recitation room is 15 feet 8 inches by 25 feet 6 inches. It is furnished with an instructor's desk having both gas and water attachments; a blackboard 4 feet by 10 feet; manikin, skeleton; cabinet; charts; chairs having arm rest, and a few photographs of pioneers in nursing. This room has an eastern and southern exposure, and is ideally located, possessing a quiet and pleasant atmosphere for school work.

The nursing laboratory is the same size as the recitation room, having an eastern and northern exposure. This room, however, is a little too small and is not arranged to the best advantage with the supply and service rooms. For its size, it is well lighted and equipped. The furnishings are as follows: two adult beds, two bedside tables and chairs; Chase doll; one work table, 18 feet 9 inches by 5 feet 8 inches, with albarene top and having gas attachments; two students' tables, one 10 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, the other 2 feet 6 inches by 6 feet, with drawers; white enameled sink with drain board, hot and cold water; cabinet 6 feet by 6 feet 9 inches, the upper part having shelves and glass doors, the lower part divided into drawers of different depth, and cupboard space.

The cookery laboratory is 15 feet 8 inches by 27 feet 3 inches and is furnished for a class of twelve. The instructor's desk is 2 feet by 3 feet 9 inches and may be used if there is a class of fourteen. There are two students' tables 10 feet 5 inches long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet 11 inches high, placed parallel with each other with a space of 2 feet 6 inches between them. They are covered with an albarene top. Three gas plates with two burners each are placed on each table arranged for use by two students, though each student has her own desk equipment. The desks consist of two medium-sized drawers with cupboard space below and an adjustable seat which swings under the table. The other furnishings are a cabinet, refrigerator, range, supply table, blackboard, charts and white enameled sink which has



Straus Hospital, Jewish Hospital, Cincinnati, O.



Auditorium



Recitation Room



Nursing Laboratory



Cookery Laboratory



Science Laboratory

two drain boards. The desk equipment for each student is as follows: Rolling pin, Dover egg beater, lemon reamer, platter, strainer, cookie cutter, glass measuring cup, tin measuring cup, pepper and salt shakers, enamel plate, sauce dish, two teaspoons, two forks, paring knife, spatula, knife, two tablespoons, wooden spoon, cover, double boiler, two yellow mixing bowls, strainer, sauce pan, skillet, asbestos mat, soap shaker.

The science laboratory is the same size as the cookery laboratory. In this room are taught drugs and solutions, anatomy and physiology, bacteriology, chemistry and urine analysis. It is furnished with a microscopic table 2 feet 9 inches high, 1 foot 6 inches wide, and 12 feet long, containing three drawers; cabinet the same kind and size as in the nursing laboratory; two double chemistry desks 12 feet 4 inches long, 4 feet wide and 3 feet high with albarene top. The chemistry desks have two shelves for reagent bottles, gas and alternate hot and cold water attachments. The desks are arranged so that the light is directed on each student's work. The chemical table is 3 feet by 8 feet 6 inches, fitted with three gas burners and a chemical hood. A blackboard 4 feet by 10 feet, and stools, make up the remainder of the furnishing.

#### *Science Laboratory Equipment*

*For Biology:* 1 oil immersion microscope, 2 Spencer type 64 A. microscopiers; 3 hand lenses; 12 dissecting pans (paraffine); 12 forceps; 12 scalpels; 12 scissors; 1 box culture tube labels; 1 glass covered specimen jar (3 qt.); 6 fermentation tubes; 2 enamel trays (14x21); 6 casseroles, 250 cc., with cover and wooden handles; 1 dissecting board; 1/2 pound dissecting pins (2 inch).

*For Materia Medica:* 15 funnels; 12 graduates (8 oz.); 11 enamel pitchers (2 qt.); 12 medicine glasses; 36 bottles and corks, assorted sizes; 5 one-gallon jars; 1 two-quart jar; distilled water; 1 box powder papers; 1 box Dennison's labels; alcohol (95%); potassium permanganate crystals; bichloride of mercury (1-10); phenol (95%); oxalic acid crystals; formalin; cresol Sol.; boracic acid crystals; chlorinated lime.

*For Bacteriology:* 18 petri dishes; 36 slides (plain and hanging drop, 12); 1 box cover slips; 36 St. Louis prepared biological slides; 12 platinum loops; 12 students' boxes (for supplies); 38 medicine droppers; 3 enamel solution bowls (5 oz.); 3 glass bowls (5 oz.); 2 boxes blue and red litmus; 14 staining agent bottles; 2 enamel trays; culture media; gelatin; tooth picks.

*For Chemistry:* 12 asbestos mats; 2 retort stands (3 rings); 15 tripods (35 rings) 8 in.; 15 Bunsen burners (wing tops); 15 wire

gauze for tripods; 3 beakers nested with lip (70, 120, 180, 270 cc.); 10 Florence flasks (1000 cc.); 6 Erlenmeyer (250 cc.); 12 thistle tubes (12 in. long); 6 glass mortars and pestles (4 oz.); 12 deflagrating spoons (16 in. long  $\frac{3}{4}$  dia.); 2 Liebig's condensers (15 in. long); 14 test tube clamps; 13 test tube racks with drying pins; 12 test tube brushes; glass cover slides 16 oz.; 19 rubber corks with 2 holes; 47 rubber corks with 1 hole; 6 rubber corks (plain); 12 evaporating dishes; 12 porcelain crucibles with covers 1 oz.; 12 clay triangles; 12 watch glass covers; 6 graduated cylinders (50 cc.); 144 soft glass test tubes; 12 hard glass test tubes; 1 lb. glass tubing (by the lb.) for drinking tubes, etc.; 62 glass rods for stirring, etc.; 12 pans for collecting gases (18x5); rubber tubing for connecting Bunsen burners; 72 reagent bottles for concentrated acids; 6 test tube wire baskets; 18 copper wire 3 in. long; 3 long stemmed glass funnels; 1 scales; 7 graduates (500 cc.); 1 retort; 36 wide mouthed bottles; 2 urino-meters; 3 magnets (horse shoe); 1 Beaumé hydrometer (acids); 1 Beaumé hydrometer (alkalies); 7 spatula (medium sized 5 in. blade); 24 coarse towels; 24 dusters; 1 staining jar for slides; 3 water bath copper 6 in.; 12 files; 7 match holders; powdered charcoal; sand; manganese dioxide; gypsum; zinc filings.

Miscellaneous: 1 box paraffine; splinters; filter paper; assorted corks.

This nurses' study hall, in the short time it has been in use, has more than justified the expense of its erection and its equipment. Both the faculty and the student body have derived much pleasure from the formal and informal gatherings held in the auditorium. In addition the splendid class rooms and laboratories have greatly facilitated and strengthened the carrying out of the curriculum, and it seems safe to say, at the end of eighteen months, that this pioneer and experimental school house has proven to be a valuable asset in the progress of nursing education.

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If there is anywhere a thing put in two sentences that could have been as clearly and as engagingly and as forcibly said in one, then it's amateur work.—  
*Letters of Robert Louis Stevenson.*