

Chinese Nurse Association during the Republic of China

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Abstract: On August 19, 1909, “eight nurses founded the Central Nurses’ Association of China in Jiangxi, soon renamed the Chinese Nursing Association. After the association changed its name several times. In 1914, it changed its name to the Nursing Association of China, in 1923, it changed its name to the nurses’ Association of China, in 1936, it changed its name to the Nursing Association of China, in 1942, it changed its name to the nurses’ Association of China. The association was aimed “to contact the national nurse feelings, improve the nurse education, and the benefits of membership and occupation development”. In 1949, it was standstill. After the founding of New China, which will be restored, in 1964 renamed the Chinese Nurse Association so far. After the founding of the Chinese Nurse Association, founded "the Nursing Journal of China" published "Nurse Communication" and a lot of care books; hold regular annual meetings and lectures, providing a platform for academic exchanges; development of nursing education, and actively promote care professional; Participate in field and disaster aid, practice the spirit of patriotism. Carry out this series of activities dedicated to advancing the dissemination of scientific knowledge and practice of Chinese Nursing, trying to construct China's nursing career development system for China's blueprint drawn nursing career has made important contributions.

In 1909, “To cope with the training of Chinese nurses and improve the level of Chinese care”^[1], eight European and American nurses in China established the “Central China Nurses Association” in Jiangxi, and immediately changed its name to “China Nurses Association”. After that, the Association changed its name several times. In 1942, it was renamed the Chinese Nurse Association, with the aim of "communicating the feelings of nurses across the country, improving nurse education, and collaborating on the welfare of members and the development of the profession."^[2]In 1949, the The Nursing Journal of China was suspended, and the society was in a state of pause. After the founding of New China, the association was restored. In 1964, it was renamed the Chinese Nurse Association. As a professional nurse group with great influence in the modern and contemporary history of China, the Society actively constructs the Chinese nursing science system by issuing publications, holding annual conferences, holding speeches, participating in battlefields and disaster relief, and making efforts to promote the development of China's nursing industry. it is good. Based on relevant information, the author attempts to examine the development history, main activities and basic propositions of the Chinese Nurse Association and reveal its important position in the history of Chinese nursing.

The origin and development process

In ancient China, medicine, medicine, and care were not divided, and care was mostly carried out by female relatives in the family.^[3]In the modern era, the country opened, and with the increasing penetration of Western medicine in the east, Chinese modern nursing science was introduced to China, and Elizabeth Mckechnie, Ella Johnson, and C.E. Simpson played an important role.^[4]With the increase of nursing staff, Establishing nursing organizations has become an inevitable choice for the development of nursing business. In 1909, under the repeated appeals of C.E. Simpson and

P.B.Cousland, the Chinese Nurse Association was established in Jiangxi. Since then, China's nursing industry has begun to have its own professional organization. At first, the Association set up a president, a director, a secretary, and an editor, and Hurd Maddox Hart was the first president. In 1932, the Society revised the "Constitution of the Chinese Nurse Association" and the "Rules of the Chinese Nurse Association" to "contact the feelings of nurses across the country, seek common development of nurses and improve nurse education".^[5] According to the constitution, there are 5 directors, 2 alternate directors, 3 supervisors, and 1 alternate supervisor. In 1914, Chinese nurse Zhong Maofang participated in the nurses' meeting and was elected as the vice president. Since then, Chinese members have gradually increased.

With the continuous expansion of the conference, the staff proposed to form a branch. As of March 1948, 20 branches including Beijing, Shanghai, Sichuan, Henan, Guangdong and Chongqing have been established.

The outbreak of the war has disrupted the development of the Association. In December 1937, the Association was moved from Nanjing to Wuhan and a temporary office was set up. It went back to Nanjing office in April 1938. In 1940, the Association sent Pan Jingzhi to Chongqing to organize an office. In 1941, the National Government forcibly cancelled it on the grounds that the Association did not report work and registration to the government in time. Through many efforts, the association prepared for reorganization, and held a meeting in Chengdu in February 1942. It was named the Chinese Nurses Association, and re-registered with the government. The meeting elected Liu Ganqing as the standing supervisor, Wang Yafang and Zhu Bihui as the supervisors, Sun Xiude as the alternate supervisor, and Xu Wei as the chairman. Under the extremely difficult conditions, the Institute held 16 meetings of the directors and supervisors, and continued to carry out the nurse surveys and participate in field rescue operation. After the victory of the Anti-Japanese War, Sun Xiude arrived at Nanjing via Chuanshan Road with important documents of the Association. In 1946 and 1948, the Chinese Nurse Association held the second and third National Congresses after the reorganization, and continued to promote the development of nursing in China.

Since the establishment of People's Republic of China, China's nursing industry entered a new period of vigorous development. In 1964, the name of the Association officially was changed to the Chinese Nurse Association and became an integral part of the Science and Technology Association of the People's Republic of China. Since then, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, the Chinese Nurse Association has united most nursing workers to play an increasingly important role in developing China's nursing science and protecting people's health.

The main activities

In the development history of more than 40 years, the Association is actively devoted to the institutionalization of China's nursing science. In summary, main aspects are as follows:

Issue journals and publish books. In 1919, the Executive Committee invited Miss Hearn and Miss Pumphrey to prepare professional journals. In January of the following year, the very first edition of The Nursing Journal was officially published in Shanghai. From January 1920 to January 1949 (except 1942-1946), a total of 25 volumes and 97 issues were published, one volume per year and four issues per volume. From October 1945 to February 1946, the Society also published three issues of Nurse Newsletter.

As soon as the The Nursing Journal was published, both sales and prestige were increased. According to the statistics of The Nursing Journal, the number of subscriptions of The Nursing Journal reached 480. It covers a wide range of topics, including hospital care, the teaching condition of nursing school, various nursing techniques, dynamics of the nurse association, translations of nursing, work reports, etc.. It was aimed at "giving the good ways of health care and saving lives, promoting the culture of the world, enhancing the learning of the individual, advancing the civilization of the world, and raise the realm of the people."

Many books have been published, most of which are books which was translated from foreign medical textbooks. And also there are books which are specially written for Chinese nurses. According to the statistics, up to 19 kinds of nursing books were published between 1916-1926, such as "Guidelines for Receiving Production", "Tuina Law", "Nursing Diet", "Practical Nursing", "Infectious Diseases Prevention Law", "Otorhinolaryngology Care Law", "Surgical Care Law", "Nursing Personal Hygiene", "Nursing Applied Chemistry", "Nurse Psychology", "Knowledge History", "Internal Medicine".^[6]

Hold annual meetings and speeches. Holding annual meetings is an important measure for members to exchange feelings and to discuss meetings. Article 22 Chapter 4 of the Chinese Nurse Association Constitution stipulates that the General Meeting or Congress of the Association shall be held every two years. From 1909 to 1949, the Association held 20 annual conferences. The annual meeting was nearly held every year 1909-1915 (not in 1911 due to the outbreak of the Revolution of 1911). The annual meeting was held every two years from 1961 to 1949 (not in 1938, 1940, 1944 due to the war).

The first National Congress was held in Shanghai in 1914. It mainly resolved the charter on the registration of nurse schools and it will decide the chinese translation of nurse . When the verb nurse in English first came to China, it was translated into care . Zhong Maofang thought it was inappropriate. In her opinion, the nurse is the name of people who were occupied in nursing professionally. Care is the meaning of protecting and raising, and scholar refers to scholars. Nurses are the people who have knowledgeable to protect and raise the sick. That means, nurses are those who must be professionally trained. In October 1936, the Chinese Nurse Association held its 13th annual meeting in the auditorium of Nanjing Jinling University. The annual meeting discussed topics such as nurses' administration and developing nurse's service working in rural places. The meeting elected Steffen, Shi Xien, Wu Zheyang, Pan Jingzhi, and Wang Yafang to form the board of supervisors, Lin Sixin as chairman, Liu Ganqing and Xu Aizhu as vice presidents, also directors, editors, accountants and other committee staffs.

In order to further spread and popularize the knowledge of nursing science, the Society also held speeches at the annual meetings. At the 1932 annual meeting, Zhou Meiyu gave a speech on Country Nurses' Career, Liu Ganqing The Future of Chinese Male Nurses, Li Ting'an Peiping First Health Station, and Zhu Bihui Why China Needs Public Health Persuaders and so on. At the 1934 annual meeting, Zhang Wei delivered a speech about China Urgently Needs Public Health Nurses Today, emphasizing that "If people want to learn public health, the only way is to participate in public health work. Each nursing student must disseminate the benefits of public health". At the 1946 annual meeting, Dai Tianyou gave a speech on Nurse's Education Program, Jin Baoshan Nurse's Administration Plan, and Zhou Meiyu Progress in Military Care Education.

In addition to the annual conference speech, the Association also held speeches on Nightingale Memorial Days. For example, in the commemoration of the Anlu Puai Hospital in 1924, Steffen gave a speech entitled Nursing are Indispensable for the Country and Liu Ganqing's speech The Nurse's Relationship to the Country and the Individual. In 1937, the Wuhan Branch held the Nightingale Memorial Ceremony. Sun Xiude and Yan Fuqing gave speeches on the subjects of The Life and Career of Nightingale, The Lessons of Nightingale's Life and The Current Facilities that should Be Deployed. In 1948, Stuart's speech was particularly eye-catching. He talked from Nightingale's life, then about him devoting himself in nursing and the progress of China's nursing career. Finally, from the women's occupation, the scientific era, serving humanity, and the patriotic movement, it describes the sublimity and greatness of the nursing profession.^[7]

Develop nursing education and promote. The history of Chinese nurse education was first initiated by missionaries in China. The missionaries opened hospitals to treat patients and created a system of nurse apprentices. Later, school nursing education replaced the nurse apprentice system and became the leading one of nurse occupation. According to Zhou Meiyu's recollection, in 1900, Hankou Pu'ai Hospital first established a nurse school, recruited nurses, and applied formal nursing

training for three years. After the expiration of the period, if the students passed the qualification examination, the school gave him the certificate. This is the beginning of the nursing school in China. Afterwards, nursing schools gradually increased, and nursing education changed with each passing day. At that time, every nursing school belonged to different church groups or hospitals, and unified nursing education standards were not formed, which seriously affected the further development of professionalization of nursing education.

On that account, after the establishment of the Association, it actively did the management of nursing education. In 1912, the Association began discussions on improving the status of Chinese care, developing their practice, and advancing their teaching methods. In the following year, an office was organized to select formal courses for nurses, and resolve the examination regulations of the Chinese Nursing Association. In 1922, the Nurses Education Committee was set up to "improve the level of nurses and manage the affair of Chinese Nurses' Association on nurse education, nurse schools, nursing books and textbooks."^[8]With the support and help of the Nurses' Education Committee, various rules and regulations on nursing education, such as school registration, curriculum development, textbook publishing, national examinations, and certificate issuance, were gradually improved.

Setting up an education scholarship is an important step in advancing the career of nursing. Scholarships available to members include maternity scholarships, C.E. Simpson Scholarships, and graduate nurses' scholarships for advanced study. In 1940, the American Anglican Church and Foreign Women's Missionary Society donated 560 yuan to the Institute. The Institute has decided to use this amount as the C.E. Simpson trust fund. The principal is used as a time deposit. The interest was used as C.E. Simpson Scholarships. The scholarship is specifically allocated by the C.E. Simpson Scholarship Shares. In 1946, the 16th Joint Meeting of Supervisors and Directors decided that if the graduation nurses want to get the scholarship they must meet the following conditions:

- (1) paying membership dues on time;
- (2) serving more than five years in an institution;
- (3) excellent scores with a sacrifice spirit;
- (4) having a good character and can set an example for others.^[9]

Conduct academic exchanges at home and abroad. The Association actively carry out academic exchanges. In 1920, the Association participated in the China Public Health Education Association jointly sponsored by the Chinese Medical Association and so on, spreading medical and health knowledge to people. In 1930, the Association held a joint annual meeting with the Chinese Medical Association in Shanghai to discuss conference affair cooperation and conduct academic exchanges. In 1936, it cooperated with the Red Cross Society of China to organize the relief committee.

In terms of international exchanges, the Chinese Nurses Association joined the International Nurses Association in 1922. In 1925, the Chinese Nurse Association sent Wu Zheyang, Gage, and Simpson to attend the 5th meeting of the International Nurses' Association. Gage made a speech entitled The Discussion of China's Disease Protection Education Issues, which was affirmed by the participants. The conference elected Gage as the president of the International Nurses Association. In 1926, the Chinese Nurse Association sent Wu Zheyang to attend the second Eastern Red Cross Conference in Japan and was elected as the vice president and chairman of the nursing committee. In 1929, 1933, 1937, and 1947, Chinese nurses sent representatives to participate in the International Nurses' Association, and several members were selected as staff members of the International Nurses Association. Through participating in academic exchanges at home and abroad, the Chinese Nursing Association has strengthened its ties with social organizations at home and abroad and has enhanced mutual understanding and friendship.

Participate in battlefield and disaster rescue. In the summer of 1931, floods occurred in the central provinces of China. "it has only been seen in the past 100 years once because of the very vastness of the disaster areas and the very numerous suffering people." In order to relieve the

victims, the hospitals and nurses of the Association were actively involved in the rescuing work, and also prevented the spread of the epidemic. After the "September 18th" Incident, "the nurses and nurses of the nursing schools of the Association are as enthusiastic as they are, or assist in the relief of the victims, or the preparations for the ambulance." The nurses and nursing students of the Ximen Affiliated Hospital Or respond to the recruitment of a nearby sports school, serving as a professor's first aid method, dressing method, bandage method, bed making method, infectious disease prevention method, injection of disease prevention serum and bacterial liquid method, etc.; Not only the bandages, but also the knitting club, the garments, and the Shanghai victims. After the "128 August" Incident in 1932, there were more and more wounded soldiers in Shanghai. The members and nurse schools have formed ambulance teams to participate in ambulance activities. "The ambulance team was established, no less than a dozen places, or refugees and disaster areas, or rescuers from the battlefield." During the North China Incident, the nurses took the risk to go ahead. The ambulance workers, who have injured the patients in the rear hospital, those who have prepared military first-aid kits, those who train students in emergency care, and those who donate subsidies, can do their best and perform well.

The conclusion

The Association was born in the late Qing Dynasty and was a nursing organization established by foreign nurses in China. Examining the development of the Association, the Chinese Nursing Association has effectively promoted the institutionalization of Chinese nursing science by publishing issues, holding annual conferences, and delivering lectures. It is undeniable that as a civil organization, the development of the Chinese Nursing Association is not plain sailing. First of all, the turbulent political situation has objectively restricted the development of the Association. Secondly, at the beginning of the establishment of the Association, most of the members were European and American nurses, which led to some measures suffering great setbacks because of the differences of both national conditions and national psychology. Once more, the funding problem has always restrict the development of the Association. Due to the lack of stable financial support, many of the Association's plans have not been implemented, and many backbones of the Association's have resigned. The existence of all these factors seriously restricts the healthy development of the Association. The experiences and lessons of the development of the Chinese Nursing Association are worthy for later generations to sum up, reflect and learn from.

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