

WENDY LEA, a physiotherapist at Fort St John General Hospital is shown here testing the new TNS (Transcutaneous Nerve Stimulator) that was donated by the Beta Sigma Phi of Fort St John. The machine will be used in the treatment of patients with severe pain problems resulting for injury or prolonged illness.

Beta Sigma Phi have new piece of gear for hospital

The Fort St John Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi presented the Fort St John General Hospital's Physiotherapy Department with a Transcutaneous Nerve Stimulator (TNS) yesterday afternoon.

The device is used in the location

and treatment of trouble areas in those patients who are suffering severe pain from accidental injury or on-going illness. It works on the theory of acupunture and in conjunction with other Physiotherapy treatments as the TNS machine is not a complete treament in itself.

Beta Sigma Phi is an international organization for woman, offering opportunities for friendship, development of cultural appreciation and community service.

The local group raised \$390 to buy the TNS.



THE FORT ST JOHN General Hospital received a new Transcutaneous physiotherapist at the hospital, are Colleen Bodnar(left) and Denise Sat-Nerve Stimulator on Tuesday. Presenting the TNS to Wendy Lea, tell(right) both of the Fort St John chapter of the Beta Sigma Phi.

Elks donate for hospital

A child is born in the Fort St John Hospital. It has a congenital heart defect and the doctors and nurses work constantly to keep the baby alive until it can be transfered to a larger centre. This could take from four to 48 hours.

The hospital does not have neonatal care facilities as such and the need for advanced equipment is great.

Through their combined efforts the Elks and the Order of the Royal Purple will be working towards the purchase of a \$7,000 portable neonatal intensive care centre.

May is Purple Cross Month and the lodges will be kicked off their fundraising campaign with a ceremony at City Hall this morning, which will include the reading of a proclamation by Mayor Palmer.

The first project for the Elks is a Breakfast and Car Wash, Saturday, May 2 at the Elks Hall from 7:00am to 1:00pm. Prices range from \$3.50 to \$6.00. The Order of the Royal Purple are presently selling tickets on a draw for a gold flake jewellery set.

The Ohio Neonatal Intensive Care Centre will cost \$6,975 and will be used for the care and treatment of 'sick' newborn infants.

It provides: a bed with fold down sides which makes treatment and care easier; an overhead light to provide extra warmth; oxygen and suction equipment for resusitation if necessary and facilities for the addition of monitoring equipment if required.



MEMBERS OF THE ELKS stand around a neo natal intensive care unit they have donated to the hospital, as Claire Harwood, head nurse of maternity, accepts a cheque. The unit provides interim treatment for new born babies requiring oxygen, suction and warmth before being transferred to Vancouver for specialized care. The ELKS raised the \$8,000 necessary for the

purchase of the unit with pancake breakfasts and a big event dinner held in the spring. Previously the hospital had used incubators to care for the babies but they were awkward and difficult to use. Doctor Moody, Chief of Staff, stands behind the unit.

Honour for Vi Woodward

On Thursday, Dec. 10th, some 22 Registered Nurses gathered in the Hospital cafeteria to honor a very special and worthy, retired colleague, Mrs. Violet Woodward.

Following a delicious Smorgasbord Chinese dinner, Mrs. Shealagh Garson read a brief resume of Vi's nursing history. She graduated from Vancouver General Hospital in 1933 and continued to work there for a time. In 1938, she moved to Cecil Lake to run the Red Cross Outpost, where her theory was put into practice and was often called upon to use skills she didn't know she had.

Except from a brief time spent on Vancouver Island, Vi continued at Cecil Lake until the early 1950s when the Red Cross Outpost was closed. For a period after the closure. Vi was not actually nursing, but friends and neighbours would call frequently at her home for advice or help. Today we would call her a 'resource person.'

In 1958, Vi returned to nursing full time at the Providence Hospital, now the Fort St. John General. She became the Head Nurse on Maternity and continued in that capacity until her retirement in 1973.

Vi has not only had a long career as a nurse, but has been active in various community

organizations. She has been a member of the Red Cross Society for many years and taught a home nursing course for them. She has participated in the Hospital Auxiliary and has organized and taught the Candy Stripers. Of late, Vi has been putting her efforts and talents to use for the Child Development Centre.

We, of the North Peace Chapter of the RNABC have been very fortunate to have Vi as one of our members, probably the longest active member. She has remained a faithful chapter member and over the years has gained experience and knowledge at the District level and also on the Provincial Board of Directors. With all this expertise, she has been a real asset to us as a chapter.

Vi Woodward, we as a chapter are very proud to have you as one of our members, and could think of no beter way to express our gratitude than by this Achievement Award.

Following the resume, Mrs. Peggy Mika, Director-at-Large Vancouver area, presented Vi with the framed award.

Peggy Mika then discussed the reecent 'green paper' on the reconstruction of the RNABC following the Executive Committee health Retreat held in October.

Many questions were raised from members including mandatory registration, post basic education, and the future plans of the association.

The meeting adjourned at 2130 hours.

On behalf of the chapter, I would like to thank Barb Godberson for arranging for the speaker and the award, and especially Maddie Wheeler for the lovely buffet supper.

Also, my apologies to Mr. Phil Jackson who was our guest speaker at the November meeting. My report was unfortunately swallowed up somewhere amongst the 'Blue Papers' at the AHN office. Phil delivered an excellent program on food-borne illnesses at the Health Unit. I hope to re-write the article early in the new year (and will before the hearings begin again!) for those unable to attend that meeting.

Next meeting: January 21st at the Hospital Conference Room, 7:30 pm. We hope to have Speakers from the B.C. Union Members on Labour Relations.

Until then, a Merry Christmas and Healthy Safe Happy New Year to all our members and families. M. Bailey



the Registered Nurses Association of BC Barbara Godberson, members of the local receives an appreciation award from the chapter. North Peace chapter for her work.

VI WOODWARD, DIRECTOR at large for Presenting the award are Peggy Mika and