Report of the Young Women’s Christian Association of the Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania for the Year Ending March 1, 1912

By Miss Augusta A. Sassen, President

We appreciate the opportunity of coming again before this Society with a summary of the last year’s work of our Association. We feel sure that the fact of our having any place on your program is our assurance of your interest in our efforts.

On March 1, 1911, Dr. Hattie F. Love, the retiring president turned over the Association, free from debt, to the care of Dr. Lovisa I. Blair, president-elect. With the incubus of the debt removed we gladly turned our attention to other matters, as urgent and important as finances in the ultimate fate of the Society.

In calculating the budget for the year we counted upon our usual sources of income—rent from rooms, dues, sales and entertainments, and individual gifts. Receipts from all quarters during the year amounted to $1021.61. Of this sum $150 went to the North India School of Medicine, the balance helped to meet our routine expenses and gifts with a balance of about $100 at the close of the year.

We had a student membership of 72. Our life members number 60, all of whom, being alumnae, are recruited from your honorable body. Our new constitution provides for a third class of members, sustaining members. Anyone upon the payment of $2 or more per annum becomes such a member.

The Thursday evening meetings have aimed to satisfy a definite need among the students. The first ten meetings in the fall were devoted to a course of lectures by Dr. Ella B. Everitt on “The Harmony of the Testaments,” as arranged by the Bible Study Committee. The later meetings were led by students and visitors. A mission study class on “Western Women in Eastern Lands” deserves mention also. Under excellent committee management the two Hospital Services each Sunday have proved an inspiration to students as well as patients.

The social work, consisting of a fall reception, weekly teas, and an occasional party have helped to keep us all alive and human. Four students attended all or part of one of the summer conferences.

Brinton Hall Library acquired a number of additions this year, chief among them being some much needed medical books, a gift from the library of the late Dr. Charlotte B. Mitchell.
Miss Biddle's gifts of a number of volumes of story, travel, and biography have been much appreciated. We need more books, medical and fiction. We also need current magazines—a year's subscription to some of the best.

One achievement of the year has been the draughting, revising, and adopting of a new set of By-laws. We endeavored to frame an instrument that would render us valid before the law as a corporation. To Drs. Leffman, Potter, and Tracy we are indebted for help in this work. Thus we have spent a quiet year of humble duties faithfully performed, and withal we have striven to send forth a body of women imbued with the highest ideals of Christian living and service.

Accepted as read.

The President: I hope all will bear in mind the needs of the Association in the way of books and magazines.

Unfinished Business

The President read the names of the Membership Committee to be elected for 1912 and 1913, as follows: Drs. Annie Bartram Hall, Ruth Anne Miller, Annie L. Conner, Esther M. Weyl, and Nellie C. Craig.

It was moved and seconded that this Committee be elected by vote of the Secretary.

The Secretary announced that the ballot had been cast.

Resolutions to be sent to His Honor Mayor Blankenburg concerning women interns at the Philadelphia Hospital were offered by Dr. Bitting-Kennedy, as follows:

To the Honorable Rudolph Blankenburg,
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

Dear Sir: In behalf of the Alumnae Association of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, I am instructed to present the following Resolutions adopted by unanimous vote of the Association now in session:

WHEREAS, A notice of the Civil Service Examination for Internships at the Philadelphia General Hospital having been sent to the Dean of the College from the office of the Director of Charities and Corrections, it was posted on our Bulletin Board. Five students took the examination and all secured places on the eligible list. Three of these students were among the first fifteen and one stood No. 2, and the remaining two ranked Nos. 38 and 39 on a list of 90 names; and

WHEREAS, The Director of Charities and Corrections failed to appoint a woman; and

WHEREAS, The said Director, Dr. Joseph S. Neff, said in a letter to the Dean, "I am in favor of such appointments, as I believe they increase the general efficiency and morale of the Resident Staff. . . ." and