The Development of the First School of Nursing in the Seventh-day Adventist Church

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Abstract
Problem
This study sought to follow the development of the School of Nursing within Seventh-day Adventist Church. This demanded the study of the School of Nursing within the United States.

Method
This study was historical in its method. Two key parts of this study are historical analysis of the contexts of the United States and Seventh-day Adventist Church in the time when Schools of Nursing of these two entities developed.

Conclusion
Historical context of the United States reveals that the main reasons for development of the School of Nursing in this country were advancement of medical science and technology along the Civil War. The first School of Nursing in the United States was modeled after the first School of Nursing, St. Thomas Hospital, by Florence Nightingale in London, England. It was discovered in the second chapter that the key persons in this
process, Dr. Catherine (Kate) Lindsey and Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, were closely related to the first School of Nursing in the United States, Belleview School of Nursing. They received medical training at this school, adopted many procedures and methods, and included them in the curriculum of the School of Nursing within Seventh-day Adventist Church. Study of the historical context of Seventh-day Adventist Church in the time of the development of the School of Nursing showed that three foundational developments that paved the way for the School of Nursing were development of Health Reform, Educational System, and first Hospital. Even though there is a resemblance between the procedures and methods used in the School of Nursing in the United States and within Seventh-day Adventist Church, the latter placed emphasis on the missiological aspect of nursing profession.

Subject Area
Nursing schools--History; Seventh-day Adventists--History

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Seventh-day Adventists history traces back to the early 1800s. Understand the roles William Miller and Ellen White played in founding the church. Today’s Seventh-day Adventist Church had its beginning in the mid-1800s, with William Miller (1782-1849), a farmer who lived in upstate New York. Originally a Deist, Miller converted to Christianity and became a Baptist lay leader. After years of intensive Bible study, Miller concluded that the Second Coming of Jesus Christ was near. Eight years after the church was incorporated, the Seventh-day Adventists sent their first official missionary, J.N. Andrews, to Switzerland. Soon Adventist missionaries were reaching out to every part of the world.