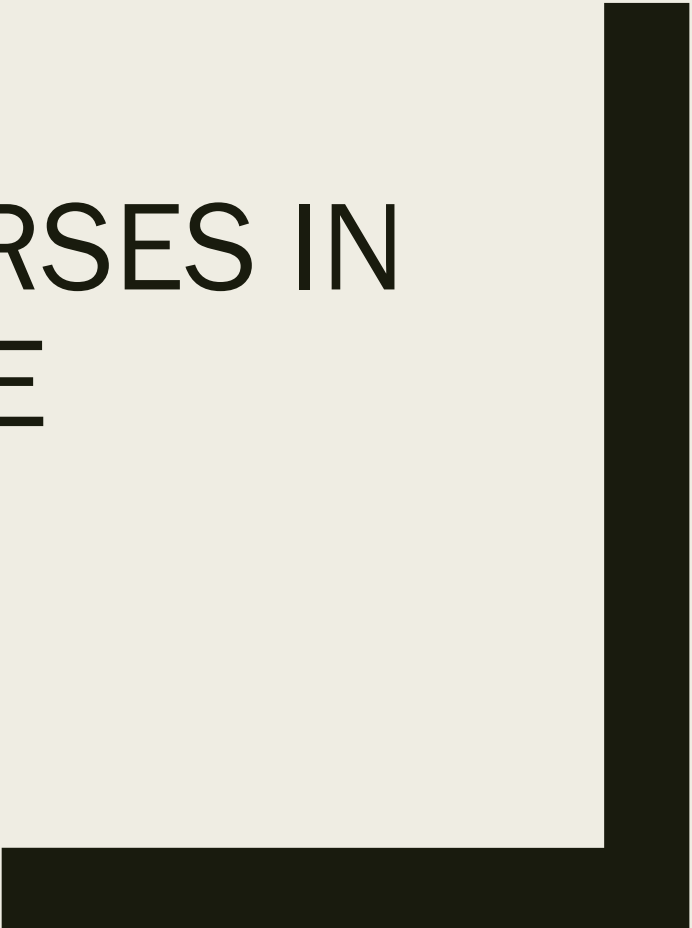




FEMALE CANADIAN NURSES IN WORLD WAR ONE

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History 4250- Gender and Health in History
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Research Paper Statement

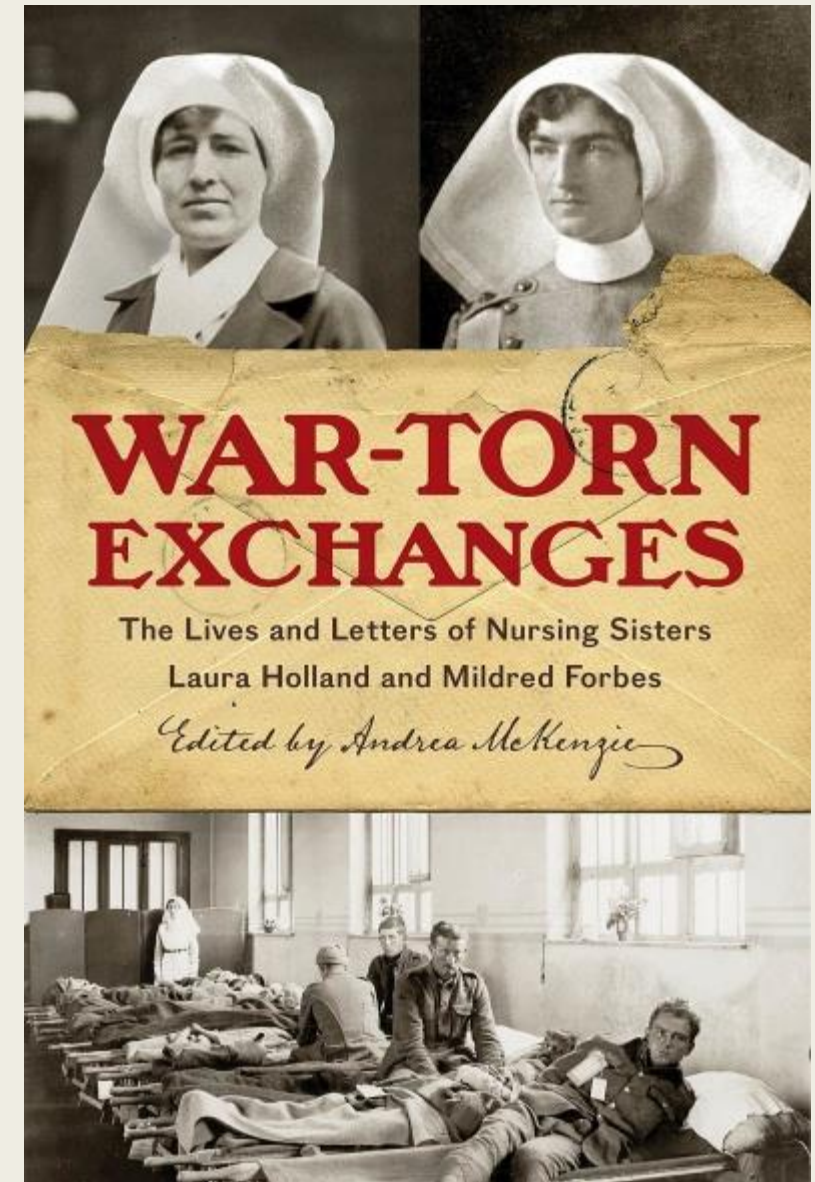
- Throughout my research paper I will examine the role of female Canadian nurses in World War One. I will focus on their contributions to Canada in terms of health, what their health was like, as well as how being a female in the medical field in the war impacted them.
- Military Nurses:
 - Nursing Sister (NS) “Bluebirds”- Canadian Army Medical Corps (CAMC)
 - Voluntary Aid Detachment Nurses (VADs)

Nursing Sisters

- Helen Fowlds
- Laura Holland
- Mildred Forbes



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Health

“their contributions to Canada in terms of health, what their health was like”

- “As well as providing medical services for Canadian and Allied troops... the CAMC operated treatment facilities and hospitals” (Canadian Nurse, The First World War’s nursing sisters)
- “Families [back home] expected nurses to watch over the health of their beloved enlisted brothers and cousins” (Meryn Stuart, Social Sisters, 27-28)
- “It was also a respite posting for medical and nursing staff who might need an extended recovery period from their own illness or from the harsh conditions encountered” (Cynthia Toman, A Loyal Body of Empire Citizens, 8)
- “Lives of Canadian Nursing Sisters who served during the First World War, and whose deaths were attributed to three categories; general illness, Spanish Influenza, and killed in action” (Dianna Dodd, Canadian Military Nurse Deaths, 327)

Gender

“how being a female in the medical field in the war impacted them”

- “The Great War was Canada’s first military engagement... [which] strove to provide a ‘proper’ space for women within a **male-dominated sphere**” (Meryn Stuart, “Social Sisters”, 25)
- “Women’s wartime history was, and often is overlaid with myth... {and] they have their **own stereotypical roles to fill**” (Cynthia Toman, “A Loyal Body of Empire Citizens”, 9)
- “As thousands of Canadian men rushed to enlist... and be part of war... Canadian women found their options for **patriotic service more constrained**” (Linda J. Quiney, Gender Patriotism, 103)
- “Canada’s first female war casualties, suggests a gendered construction of illness at work in the CAMC... While nurses tried to prove themselves good soldiers, their illnesses and deaths to horrific war conditions deemed **unsuitable for women**” (Dianne Dodd, Canadian Military Nurse Deaths, 327)

Past, Present, Future of this Paper

- Past:

Struggles finding a topic

- Present and Future:

Writing the essay

Making the essay overall clear, concise, and coherent

- Good argument

- Using only important information from my sources; no filler information

Recommended Readings in this Topic

- McKenzie, Andrea (Ed.). *War-Torn Exchanges: The Lives and Letters of Nursing Sisters Laura Holland and Mildred Forbes*. UBC Press, 2016.
- Quiney J, Linda. "Gendering Patriotism: Canadian Volunteer Nurses as the Female 'Soldiers' of the Great War." In Sarah Glassford and Amy Shaw (Ed.), *A Sisterhood of Suffering and Service: Women and Girls of Canada and Newfoundland During the First World War*. UBC Press, 2012: 103-125.
- Toman, Cynthia. "'A Loyal Body of Empire Citizens': Military Nurses and Identity at Lemnos and Salonika, 1915-1917." In Jayne Elliott et al. (Ed.), *Place & Practice in Canadian Nursing History*. UBC Press, 2008: 8-24.

Conclusion

- Overall, I want my paper to explain the roles of female Canadian nurses in World War One, and be able to show how the topics of gender and health relates to nurses in this time, with the material and evidence I have been collecting over the term.

Bibliography

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- Stuart, Meryn. “Social Sisters: A Feminist Analysis of the Discourse of Canadian Military Nurse Helen Fowlds, 1915-1918.” In Jayne Elliott et al. (Eds), *Place & Practice in Canadian Nursing History*. UBC Press, 2008: 25-39.
- “The First World War’s Nursing Sisters.” *Canadian Nurse* (Nov 2016): 17.
- Toman, Cynthia. “‘A Loyal Body of Empire Citizens’: Military Nurses and Identity at Lemnos and Salonika, 1915-1917.” In Jayne Elliott et al. (Ed.), *Place & Practice in Canadian Nursing History*. UBC Press, 2008: 8-24.