

Interestingly enough, during the depths of the depression in 1933, the first industrial nursing manual written by Violet H. Hodgson made its appearance.

In 1939, as things began to look a little rosier, the Kellogg plant in Rochester, New York, was purchased by Brake Shoe, not because we wanted to get into the air compressor business, but in order to round out our metal-working facilities by the addition of a light, accurate machine shop.

Our Medical Department began to assume real stature in 1941 when Dr. Hamlin decided to "hang out his shingle" with Brake Shoe by becoming our first Medical Director. Also in that same year, Miss Mathews joined the company as nurse at Amsco, Chicago Heights. We think it's grand that both of them are with us today.

In the same year, the U.S. Public Health Service appointed for the first time an industrial nursing consultant to its Division of Industrial Hygiene, now known as the Division of Occupational Health, to work in an advisory capacity with State departments of health in developing State and local industrial nursing consultation services.

In 1942, the American Association of Industrial Nurses was organized at a meeting in Philadelphia.

Also, that same year, Brake Shoe put its medical program "on the road," so to speak, by acquiring a portable, knockdown X-ray unit which traveled from plant to plant in a station wagon. While a definite forward step in our health program, the unit was not too efficiently and it was an awfully tough job for the technician. It wasn't many years before we made a change.

By 1943, the number of industrial nurses had grown to over 2,800; and Brake Shoe, keeping pace, added to the family, Electro-Alloys Corporation at Elyria, Ohio, for the production of high alloy castings.

A year later, in 1944, we held our first nurses' conference in Chicago which was attended by our 13 nurses, our superintendent of nurses; and, of course, Dr. Hamlin and his staff.

As a result of a process developed by the Metallurgical Research Laboratories for making iron castings dimensionally accurate and with a smooth finish, a small foundry in Rochester, N.Y., was purchased to produce these castings on a commercial scale. Thus, in 1946, our most recent operating division was formed--Engineered Castings.

In 1948, we acquired the mobile X-ray bus which is still in operation. So far as we have been able to ascertain, Brake Shoe was the first industrial company to acquire such a unit. In that same year, we held our second nurses' conference, this time at Niagara Falls, New York, with 27 nurses in attendance, and with Dr. Hamlin again presiding.

World War II, and more recently the Korean situation, provided further stimulus for the expansion of both industrial nursing and Brake Shoe. Today there are reported to be 16,000 registered nurses employed by industry. In Brake Shoe, we have 40 nurses serving 47 of our 57 plants.