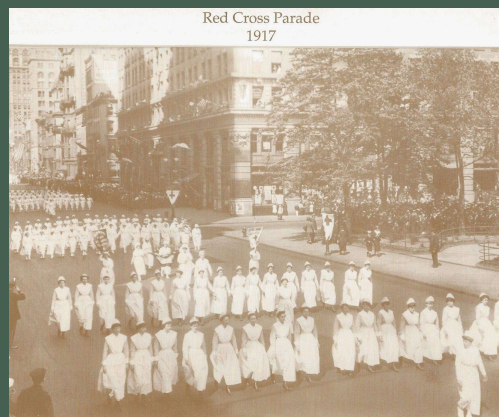


# EPIDEMICS OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

Cornell University New York Hospital School of Nursing

Our students marched in the 1917 Red Cross parade just as the United States was about to enter World War One.



Our graduates volunteer to serve as Red Cross Nurses during World War One in England and Europe, many returning home having contracted Spanish Flu.



Many of our graduates volunteered to serve as Red Cross Nurses during World War I. This was the Red Cross uniform the young nurses wore as they sailed out of New York Harbor to overseas destinations.



British Nurses worked alongside American Nurses to care for soldiers with the Spanish Flu.



As usual, nurses performed whatever work needed to be done, including transport of patients on litters.



Wherever the climate allowed, patients were isolated and cared for in outside tents.





Nurses improvised facemasks and isolation curtains.



At Arlington national Cemetery, a special section holds the graves of Army/Red Cross nurses who died of Spanish Flu.



As a gift from a woman whose own invalid mother had been cared for by nurses, this Long Island home was opened for nurses returning from the war who needed a place to recover from the Spanish Flu.



## Original Nurses House Dining Room



unette

Dining Room

Nurses House

BAByLON, L.I., N.Y.



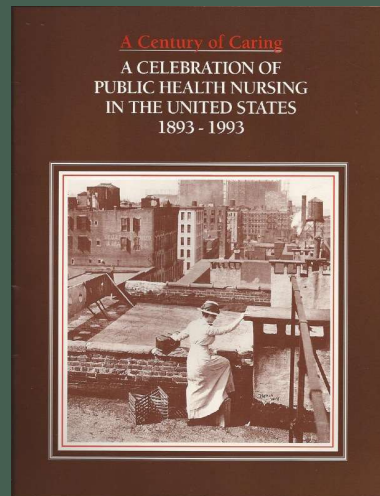
The home, named Nurses House, was eventually sold with the proceeds establishing today's charitable fund for nurses in need due to illness.



Four of our graduates worked on Ellis Island screening and caring for immigrants who arrived with Spanish Flu.



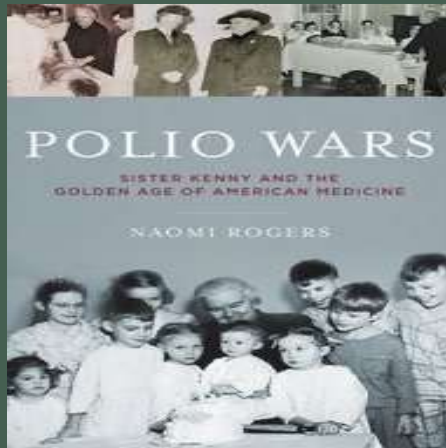
Along with Lillian Wald, Class of 1892, other graduates would have cared for many victims of the flu on the Lower East Side.



POLIO



Polio struck with a vengeance throughout the world in the 1950's, killing and leaving thousands with permanent paralysis of the legs. Even today, we see patients with recurrent "post-polio syndrome"



The Iron Lung created negative pressure that enabled patients to breathe despite paralyzed chest muscles.





## A hospital polio ward



An Australian nurse, Sister Kenny, initially was criticized for her treatment of polio victims. She persisted and was later honored for realizing that passive movement of legs during polio recovery prevented permanent paralysis.



**Panic plays no part in  
the training of a nurse.**

Elizabeth Kenny  
(AND THEY SHALL WALK 1944)

This building in Australia where polio victims were hospitalized has been renamed The Kenny Clinic





Dr. Jonas Salk creates the live vaccine that offers immunity to people.



Children were immunized against the polio virus by intramuscular injections through school and community programs. The injections were later replaced with the oral Sabin vaccine given on sugar cubes.



Pictured here with Israel's first Prime Minister David Ben Gurion, Jonas Salk was honored throughout the world for his discovery of the polio vaccine. The vaccine stopped 20,000 deaths and an unknown amount of paralysis throughout the epidemic.





## Rejection by Nobel judges

While respected throughout the world, Jonas Salk was never awarded the prestigious Nobel Prize for medicine. He was nominated twice, in 1955 and 1956, and rejected each time. The judges claimed that since Dr. Salk combined and applied other discoveries in his work to create the vaccine, it did not meet the criteria of a “new” discovery and, therefore, “cannot be considered as Prize worthy”

## An international, intentional slight

The treatment of Dr. Salk is considered one of the greatest “slights” by the Nobel committee, probably motivated by post World War II prejudices of committee members against Americans and Jews.

Dr. Salk’s biologic institute has since produced five Nobel Laureates in physiology and medicine.

Our own connection to Jonas Salk was his psychologist brother Lee Salk, PhD, who taught CUNHYSN students in the 1960's. A favorite professor, Dr. Salk gave the graduation speech to the Class of 1971A. He highlighted our commitment to treating patients with "humanity".



AND THEN, AIDS

Anthony Amodia, EdD, RN, a member of the Class of 1971A was one of the original founders of the Gay Men's Health Project in Greenwich Village.



In the forefront of all disease pandemics, nurses have cared for victims, participated in life saving research, and continuously educated the public about prevention and treatment. We hold steadfast to our commitment to humanity.