

REMARKS OF MRS. LYNDON B. JOHNSON INTRODUCING MISS
HELEN BROWNE, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE FRONTIER
NURSING SERVICE -- Wednesday, July 29, 1964

Friends:

I'm so glad to welcome all of you.

The longer I live -- the more I travel, the more impressed I am with the remarkable things which remarkable women are doing -- from my friend Ruth Johnson, who is the moving force for the Museum for Western Arts, Fort Worth, Texas, to Dr. Mary Bunting -- new arrival in Washington -- whom we are so pleased to have shaping the nuclear policy of this nation.

One of these remarkable women is Helen Browne, associate director of the Frontier Nursing Service -- a wonderful exponent of an idea started 40 years ago by Mary Breckenridge in the mountains of Kentucky.

Some of us may be surprised to learn that the circuit rider -- whether bearing medicine, mail or the gospel is not a figure of the past -- but of the present and the future. Today, the frontier nurses still make their rounds on horseback, as well as jeep. And, they are in demand to train foreign visitors for trails of mercy in their own countries.

I'm anxious to hear more about nursing frontiers -- as well as frontier nurses -- and I know you are.

LUNCHEON AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Wednesday, July 29, 1964

at one o'clock

Mrs. Johnson
Mrs. Dolph Briscoe, Jr.
Rancher, Uvalde, Texas
Miss Helen Browne
Associate Director Frontier Nursing Service, Wendover, Kentucky
Hon. Mary I Bunting
Member, Atomic Energy Commission
Mrs. Hodding Carter
Author, Greenville, Mississippi
Mrs. Jane F. Hanna
Deputy Director of Civil Defense - Army
Mrs. J. Lee Johnson, III
Amon Carter Museum for Western Arts, Fort Worth, Texas
Member of Board of Regents, The University of Texas
Miss Marya Mannes
Author, New York City
Mrs. Charles E. Marsh
Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Gale W. McGee
Wife of Senator from Wyoming
Hon. Perle Mesta
Former Minister to Luxembourg
Mrs. Walter F. Prude
Choreographer (Agnes de Mille)
Dr. Pauline Stitt
Chief, Health Studies Branch, Research Division,
U. S. Children's Bureau
Judge Juanita K. Stout
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Miss Helen Thomas
United Press International
Mrs. Matthew E. Welch
Wife of Governor of Indiana
Mrs. Samuel V. Weller
Jacksonville, Illinois
Mrs. Hugh Rudolph
Fur-trapper, Mackinac Island, Michigan

The Frontier Nurse Service founded in 1925 provides nursing care to rural families in remote areas of Southeastern Kentucky.

The medical headquarters are in Hyden in Leslie County, where the Service has a 27 bed general hospital and it is here that foreign visitors come to study the methods of the Service. Five miles away at Wendover are the administrative headquarters of the organization. In addition there are five outpost centers scattered through the 700 square mile area served by the Frontier Nurse Service. Since this region is rather inaccessible, the nurses must travel by horseback with supplies carried in saddlebags, although in some areas better roads make travel by jeep or automobile possible.

The fundamental job of the Frontier Nurse is bedside care. However, in addition to serving mothers during childbirth and those sick in bed, the Frontier Nurse devotes herself to a wide range of activities including inoculations, water purification techniques, and nutritional education. In every way possible this group of dedicated women strive to bring health and comfort to those they serve in this remote area of our country.

Mrs. Mary Breckinridge, the founder of the Frontier Nurse Service, remains today as its active director. She is assisted by the British born Miss Helen Browne, who is the Associate Director of the F. N. S. and our speaker for today. Miss Browne is a graduate of St. Bartholomew's Hospital School of Nursing and the British Hospital for Mothers and Babies in London. She joined the F.N.S. in July of 1938, and was appointed its Associate Director in 1958. In this capacity she handles all nursing correspondence and helps with the general administration of the Service.

In January of this year Miss Browne was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II.