

Birth of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina (1970s)***Nascedouro do Conselho Regional de Enfermagem de Santa Catarina (Década de 1970)**

Maria Lígia dos Reis Bellaguarda¹, Maria Itayra Padilha², André de Faria Pereira Neto³, Miriam Susskind Borenstein⁴

* Extract from the Doctoral thesis titled "Nexos e circunstâncias na história do Conselho Regional de Enfermagem em Santa Catarina (1975-1986)", presented to the Graduate Program of the Federal University of Santa Catarina on May 23, 2013.

¹ Nurse, Ph.D. in nursing. Professor of the Estácio de Sá Santa Catarina College. São José, Santa Catarina, Brazil. E-mail: bellaguardaml@gmail.com.

² Nurse, Ph.D. in nursing. Associate Professor of the Nursing Department (NFR) of the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC). Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. E-mail: padilha@nfr.ufsc.br.

³ Historian, Ph.D. in Collective Health. Professor of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation. Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. E-mail: apereira@fiocruz.br.

⁴ Nurse, Ph.D. in nursing. Adjunct Professor of the NFR/UFSC. Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. E-mail: miriam@nfr.ufsc.br.

ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to analyze the circumstances of the creation and establishment of the Regional Nursing Council in the state of Santa Catarina. The research was qualitative and socio-historical, and used content analysis for data treatment. This resulted in two categories: the movement for the creation of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina and the circumstances surrounding the creation and establishment of the Regional Council of Santa Catarina in 1975. The creation of the Professional Nursing Council arose from the socio-historical and political transformations of health care work in Brazil. The leadership of the Brazilian Nursing Association ensured a certain professional autonomy and power over its work, even when confronted with the fragile understanding of the aims of an agency that supervised its members' nursing work. The study enabled the understanding of the nexuses of influence on the council of nursing, which institutionalized the profession with a registry of nurses, and which also regulated and disciplined the profession.

Descriptors: Nursing; History; Specialty Boards.

RESUMO

Estudo cujo objetivo foi analisar as circunstâncias de criação e instalação do Conselho Regional de Enfermagem em Santa Catarina. Pesquisa qualitativa, de cunho sócio-histórico, que utilizou análise de conteúdo para tratamento dos dados, emergindo duas categorias: O movimento para a criação do Conselho Regional de Enfermagem de Santa Catarina e Conjunturas de criação e instalação do Conselho Regional de Santa Catarina em 1975. A implantação do Conselho Profissional de Enfermagem seguiu as transformações sócio-históricas e políticas do trabalho em saúde no Brasil. As Lideranças da Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem atuaram garantindo certa autonomia profissional e poder sobre o seu trabalho, mesmo diante da fragilidade de entendimento da finalidade do órgão fiscalizador do fazer enfermagem pelos membros. O estudo possibilitou a compreensão dos nexos de influência do Conselho sobre a Enfermagem, institucionalizando a profissão com o registro de profissionais, regulamentando e disciplinando o exercício da profissão.

Descritores: Enfermagem; História; Conselhos de Especialidade Profissional.

INTRODUCTION

The building of nexuses in a profession, endorsed by the legal, disciplinary and supervisory character of representative agencies, ensures quality and security to the profession. The Brazilian Nursing Association (ABEn) spearheaded the organization of representative bodies of nursing in Brazil. It also made possible the definition of the profession as "self-employed" in 1940, and ensured the right to create a union for the defense of its interests⁽¹⁾. The ABEn and its state divisions formed a coordinated network for the creation of the Nursing Council in the 1970s.

The ABEn was crucial for the organization of the Council in the state of Santa Catarina, since the movements for the creation of the Federal Nursing Council (Cofen) and Regional Nursing Councils (Serem) were planned and integrated within the ABEn and its sections. The Brazilian Nursing Association – Santa Catarina section (ABEn – SC), from its start in 1962, led by sister Cacilda and the hard work of a few nurses of Florianópolis and Santa Catarina actively participated in this initiative with other Brazilian nurses.

Nursing congresses were venues for socialization and for discussions. Under Ingrid Ibsen's administration (1972 – 1976), the movement's growth throughout Brazil was at its peak and the creation of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina reached its peak. The research presented here was based on the sociology of professions defended by Eliot Freidson⁽²⁾. This author says that it is a professional body's role to judge behavior and to control deviant actions and self-regulate itself. The author refers to professional councils as institutions that present self-regulation processes and that have analytical and practical importance for professional performance. Therefore, Councils are legal and private.

The Professional Council for Nursing in Brazil was created for professional qualifications, management, instruction and research in the profession. The Council maintains the profession's credibility through supervising and overseeing qualified and safe nursing practices for

society⁽³⁾. In these practices, the nurses' critical and reflexive actions and open dialogue facilitate the reconsideration of individual and institutional responsibility in workplace relations, thus transforming these relations⁽⁴⁾.

This study presents a view of the history of the constitution of this representative organ, which became fundamental for the development of nursing in Brazil and, specifically, for nursing in Santa Catarina. It tells of the untold history of nursing in Santa Catarina. In comparison to the national events that took place during the establishment of the Cofen/Coren system, this study also shows the historical moments which contributed to the development of nursing as a profession during the initial stages of the establishment of the Council in Santa Catarina. One of its goals is to analyze the circumstances of the creation and establishment of the Regional Nursing Council in Santa Catarina - Coren/SC (1970s). The professional Council is an articulator and interlocutor for the profession in areas of politics, science, technology and human resources. It functions in the strengthening of the professional collective, qualifies actions, standardizes procedures and guarantees, along with health care managers, dignified work conditions⁽⁵⁾.

This research contributes to the profession's visibility, which in turn contributes to the profession of nursing, to the health care field and to society. It discusses the value of this organization for nursing knowledge and for its care practices.

METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

Qualitative, socio-historical research was conducted, based on the theoretical philosophical aspects of New History and Elliot Lázaro Freidson's sociology of professions⁽²⁾. The time period includes the period of creation of the agency that regulates the nursing profession in Santa Catarina, in July 12, 1975 and the creation of the Federal Nursing Council (Cofen) by Ordinance No. 3.059, of March 5, 1975, established in April 23, 1975. This study was composed of subjects who

previously accepted to participate in the research and followed the pre-defined inclusion criteria: nursing professionals who were part of the organizational and administrative structure of the Serem/SC, during the creation and development of the agency in the abovementioned period. Seven professionals who were part of the creation and establishment of the Serem in Santa Catarina (SC) participated.

The method of thematic oral history in conjunction with documental analysis were the methodological choices for data gathering, which took place between December 2011 and March 2013. We presented to the subjects, observing resolution 196/96 regarding research on human beings, a free and informed consent form and a copyright transfer form, after approval from the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Federal University of Santa Catarina (CEPSH/UFSC), under ruling no. 2.329 FR474.453, of 11/28/2011. At this time, the participants agreed to the use of their complete real names to identify their testimonies. After explanations and acceptances, we applied a semi-structured interview script, which was digitally recorded. Afterwards, we transcribed it and sent it back to the subjects for validation. Regarding document sources, we used the archives from the Cofen, Coren/SC, ABEn, ABEn-SC and the private archives of the study's subjects.

The analysis and interpretation of the narratives followed the cross analysis of thematic oral history, which consisted of comparing the speeches of the interviewees, as well as their association to evidence from document sources. The flow of the analytical process observed the three stages defined by Bardin ⁽⁶⁾: pre-analysis, data exploration and treatment of results. Charts were organized that were composed of complete speeches from each subject. From that, ideas and facts were classified and organized. In the enunciation technique, which used thematic categories, the codes were grouped by meaning. Two categories emerged from analysis: the movement for the creation of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina and the circumstances of the

creation and establishment of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina in 1975.

RESULTS

The results of the compilation of relevant units comprise the first category, which refers to the dynamics for the creation of the Regional Council in the State of Santa Catarina, the ABEn as the precursor of this whole movement and the weakness that comes with the lack of knowledge of what constitutes a professional council and its implications. In the second category, the creation process itself is discussed as are the circumstances of this movement in the scope of the nursing field in Santa Catarina.

Movement for the creation of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina

The struggle for the creation of the professional council in the state and in the country was motivated by ABEn's activism and through the leadership, companionship and responsibility of the nurses who composed the entity. Some reports reveal this memorable moment:

The Brazilian Nursing Association had been struggling for 30 years for the creation of the Council due to a series of problems, also political. [...] there were other professionals inside the nursing group, other categories that also wanted that Council (Lydia Igenes Rossi Bub).

It was something that the ABEn was doing, because the ABEn created the Council. We had a strong leadership, ABEn was strong (Ingrid Ibsen).

Behind the Council, there was the ABEn, surely. We were already well-known because of the ABEn, because we were always militants in that area, in social movements (Lúcia Herta Rockenbach).

Ethical guidelines were the basis of the development of this whole process of institutionalization and consolidation of nursing in Brazil and in Santa Catarina.

Credibility in the defense of care and of ethical standards in health work were arguments for the engagement of people and directed the creation of the Council. This fact is evidenced in the following reports:

We had very firm values to be preserved by nursing. The profession's ideal, professional attitude and ethics prevailed. So we have friendships that last to this day. We were always swapping roles because we were so few. The religious and the nurses worked very closely on this policy, which was the ownership policy. So this group spirit, this body spirit was built like that, there was no division between seculars and religious, we fought for the same cause, to institutionalize Santa Catarina's nursing (Eloita Pereira Neves).

We used to think that we had to occupy the services, but no. I used to think that the Council would change budget assignment, would demand the presence of the profession so that the basic health units would have nurses, in order to bring the nursing we dreamt about to reality, that I believed in. That's why I fought and accepted, because I believed that the Council would do that (Ingrid Ibsen).

The movement for the creation of the Professional Nursing Council was inspired by the dedication and initiative of the ABEn. In the state of Rio Grande do Sul, the Nursing School had already been created, which showed the commitment of the nurses and professors to the Brazilian movement and motivated the nurses from Santa Catarina. The history of this organization reveals that, in the state of Santa Catarina, the professionals were committed to participating in this task. If the movement did not expand, surely the many ventures of the draft projects would not have culminated in the creation of the nursing regulatory agency. The deponent Eloita Neves told us:

There were professors in the Nursing School of the URGs, which were professors Vani Maria Chicá Faraon and Maria Elena da Silva Nery, who corresponded with me

and, since they were leaders of this movement in Rio Grande do Sul, and they were real militants, they had family ties with ministers. Rio Grande do Sul was involved in national politics, so it was certainly in touch with me. I know they were very focused in establishing the Cofen/Regional Councils system, and with all difficulties at the time, I remember that she sent me some document, but I don't remember which one right now, I don't know if it stayed in the ABEn-Santa Catarina Section or in the Coren/SC (Eloita Pereira Neves).

The nursing professionals in Santa Catarina at the time also had problems understanding what a professional council was and what its creation would entail for the profession. Leadership was concentrated in organizing the whole process in the state. However, they showed their lack of knowledge regarding the nursing council that was to be established.

I know that they (nurses from the ABEn-RS) were very active in the establishment of the Cofen/Coren system. They already talked about the difficulties to establish a Council, when people still questioned if it even was a profession. So I think it is an ongoing battle, I don't know if it is already finished or if we still have to prove that we are a profession (Eloita Pereira Neves).

I got involved in this movement of establishing the Council in Santa Catarina without clearly understanding what it meant to have a Professional Council, but I got involved. We even started a movement in Blumenau, because there were too many technicians and aides in the clinics of the industries (Solange Wink).

The movement for the creation of the Professional Nursing Council in Santa Catarina was inspired by one of the goals of the Federal Council and secondly, was concerned with the establishment of the regional councils in Brazilian states.

Circumstances of creation and establishment of the Regional Council of Santa Catarina in 1975

When composing the regional Councils, Lydia Ignês Rossi was tasked with the direction of Santa Catarina's representation. She was the Alternate Counselor of the first Board of Directors of the Federal Nursing Council. Some reports confirm this idea.

Lydia Ignês Rossi was appointed for the Cofen in the triple list, and I remember she was an alternate and that certainly made her take part in the commission that established the Serem in Santa Catarina (Eloita Pereira Neves).

When the Cofen was officially created, Ingrid was president of the ABEn, so she brought from a congress the mission of organizing things here, to appoint representatives from here. I know that Lydia was appointed as alternate by the Cofen (Nelcy Terezinha Coutinho Mendes).

The social network, expanded by the ABEn members, made it possible for Secretary of Health Dr. Manuel Henrique Prisco Paraíso to provide physical space for the development of the commission and for the organization of the election of the regional council, which was entitled in the works of the Junta Especial (Special Union), as mentioned:

The director of the Public Health Department, Doctor Osvaldo de Oliveira provided a small room, kind of unoccupied, and we gathered there. Who would vote? Nobody was enrolled. There was no Council to enroll. Enrolling could only be done after there was a State Council (Lydia Ignês Rossi Bub).

Then, the establishment work began. The state had to verify some circumstances of quantities of people, of working conditions. And Santa Catarina was one of those who had little condition, then a commission was appointed by the Cofen. I remember that Ingrid, if she was not the president, she was the most active member, and

Ingrid had a very strong will, she decided we would have the Serem (Rosita Alves da Silva Morgado).

There was great effort from the nurses and nursing aides but the conditions of the ABEn-SC were limited because of the low number of associates. The summoning of professionals in Santa Catarina was done by different methods. The word was spread in public and private spaces throughout the whole state. This phenomenon can be observed in the following reports.

So we started promoting it, inviting and requesting, so that nurses and nursing aides would enroll, through radio, word of mouth. Or sometimes, for example, nurses who were part of the association in the state looked for nurses in their cities or in neighboring cities, where they knew there were nurses, and then invited them to enroll (Lydia Ignês Rossi Bub).

Through the ABEn we began doing that kind of thing. Lectures on the radio, in schools, to motivate students to study nursing. In the radio, we even talked about how an organized nursing was (Nelcy Terezinha Coutinho Mendes).

With the enrollment of professionals and the validation of the coalition by the Coren, the election campaign was carried out by the dispatch of ballots for the enrolled professionals and in loco voting. Leadership, as mentioned in the following reports, defined the nomination in a specific event of the ABEn-SC. Thus, the participation of a higher number of professionals in the council establishment ceremony was guaranteed. Some reports help us to better understand this important moment.

We decided that we would celebrate the Council nomination in a meeting after the end of the IV Jornada de Enfermagem (IV Journey of Nursing). I, as representative of the Federal Council, opened the session

for the nomination, then the counsellors were nominated (Lydia Ignês Rossi Bub).

It was in Joinville that we took the Journey as an opportunity to carry out the nomination. We used all the organization we had (Ingrid Ibsen).

The birth of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina was guided by belief in the new, in the consolidation of nursing with excellence, centered on standards defined by quality of attention, autonomy in care, responsibility for others and commitment to legality and ethics.

DISCUSSION

Procedures for the registration of a regulatory agency for the nursing profession lasted from 1944 to 1973 at the initiative of the ABEn. Reasons for the organization of the council resulted from the national crises in health and public policies, which were unable to restore or prevent the population's health problems. Furthermore, these procedures were part of the political and economic context of inclusions and exclusions of labor and union standards in the country. The agreement, through the ABEn, about the organization of a representative and regulatory agency for the interests of the profession was established aiming at professional control and the strengthening of the category.

Between the end of the 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s, there were very few nurses in Santa Catarina. At the time, they were affiliated to the ABEn Rio Grande do Sul (ABEn-RS). They felt somewhat isolated, both for geographical reasons and for differences in cultural and communication. In addition to that, they felt that health and nursing-related problems from Rio Grande do Sul were different from those experienced by the association in the neighboring state⁽⁷⁾. Santa Catarina, through the intervention and efforts of the nurse and nun Cacilda (Otilie Hammes) and a group of nurses, setup a session at that organization from Rio Grande do Sul in March 13, 1962. That was possible thanks to the participation of

eleven professionals who lived in the state. In that year, according to Neves⁽⁸⁾, the state of Santa Catarina had 26 nurses: 18 were religious and eight were secular. Four of the latter were out of work.

The group had strong ideals that followed the beliefs and principles of the national ABEn members and of the beginnings of nursing. The spirit and professional commitment of the group in conjunction with the responsibility of consolidating the nursing profession and keeping the population's health in mind, made for a select group of professionals engaged in the development of nursing. Freidson⁽²⁾ mentions a "special responsibility sense", where he discusses the use of wholesome professional practices and their consequences on the clientele which in this case were health care services users.

The respondents discourse portrays ABEn as the decision center and as the conductor of the legal, professional, scientific and cultural acts of Brazilian nursing. Even with all the social and political problems and the retraction of the state, nursing had considerable professional autonomy in comparison to medicine, despite being under its supervision, seeing as the ABEn was a nursing regulatory agency until the beginning of the 1970s⁽⁹⁻¹⁰⁾. Another important factor for the work of the professional group, was that, according to the understanding of the sociology of professions, it is in the professional sphere that society exerts cohesion⁽¹¹⁾. In this perspective, the movement for the creation of the Council in Santa Catarina, led by the nurses in the state, shows the cohesion and strength necessary for accomplishing this feat. The pioneers' work reflects the attitude, ethics and behavior that should imbue work activity, which corresponds to the realities of being a professional⁽²⁾.

The ABEn, in May 5, 1973, mailed Eloita Peres Neves two documents to be worked on with politicians from Santa Catarina in favor of the creation of a professional council for nursing. The first print was a copy of the project of the creation of the council, which had to go

through the Senate. The second was the project with modifications proposed by the National ABEn. The prerogative of dispatching these documents met the interests of the ABEn in mobilizing professionals in Santa Catarina to justify and demand support from federal congressional representatives, senators and from the Minister of Work Leitão de Abreu for the approval of the project with the indicated modifications⁽¹²⁾.

In the early discussions for the creation of a professional council, the goals of this agency were not clear for most nursing members. There was a dissonance regarding what a representative nursing agency would be in the sphere of the rights and duties of education and the profession. The National ABEn asked Professor Cesarino Júnior, renowned attorney in labor issues, for explanations regarding the competences and differences between a council and a union. After these explanations, the professor asked the group of nurses involved in the fight to create a representative entity to evaluate and choose which organ would best meet the interests of the nursing professionals. This resulted in the formulation of law projects that created the Nursing Council⁽¹³⁾.

The creation of the council would demand larger discussions, concerning the Midwives Union of São Paulo, National Union of Nursing Aides and the Conference of the Religious of Brazil. There was a dissonance between the proposals from the nurses and from the other occupations that performed nursing activities. The Federal Government and the Ministry of Labor, under Cofen Ordinance no. 01, of August 4, 1975, chose the creation of a single professional council that would include all categories of nursing⁽¹⁴⁾.

The demand for the creation of a council depended on the involvement and credibility of the agents of policy changes inside the profession. Therefore, real knowledge of the success of the professional council would be gradual. At the time, it was essential to unite the body of professionals to defend against the consequences of social transformations that demanded the consolidation of nursing in the first place. The people involved in this

movement would only worry about understanding the dynamics and goals of a professional council a little later, which, possibly, could explain the weakness in comprehension and even in performance of council development in the state to this day. Further, the nursing field was still questioned regarding its status as a real profession. This doubt was of concern to its members and motivated the struggle for the creation of the council. A relationship with the state could possibly establish the necessary formality needed for the professions' control over its own activities, over its own work⁽²⁾.

A sociological analysis of the professions showed that the movement for the creation of the Nursing Professional Council at the national level and, consequently, in Santa Catarina, came to control and defend the labor market. This ensured the performance of ethical, safe and competent work for society. In a controlled labor market, an occupation can only establish itself if its members are accredited and qualified⁽¹⁵⁾.

The search for official recognition from the state and from society is a necessity for a professional group in order to define its specific field of work and the limits to its authority in the performance of the profession. Therefore, the associations, councils, orders and professional schools work to provide autonomy, ensuring ethical and moral attitudes and commitment in the performance of the profession. They also aim to guarantee reserves in the labor market⁽¹⁶⁾. For that end, they negotiate the shares of work, structure professional education and, thus, accredit the profession.

After a period of overturns, waiting, working and reworking, agreements and disagreements occurring in an interval of 28 years, the law for the creation of the Federal and Regional Nursing Councils No. 5.905, of July 12, 1973 was sanctioned by President Emílio Garrastazu Médici. However, another demand became important: the dispatch of the triple list, with the nomination of nine people that would occupy the first and alternate positions in the Federal Council, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security. The president of the Association, Glete de

Alcântara, dispatched a list of twenty seven names for the first positions and a similar list with alternates and insisted that the Ministry should quickly choose the councilor members. This fact was sealed with the publishing, by the Minister of Labor Arnaldo Pietro, of the Ministry Ordinance No. 3.059, of March 5, 1975⁽¹³⁾.

The demand was to establish regional councils countrywide, summon or recruit nursing professionals and register them so that the councils would be effectively organized. There still was the important task of creating the Ethical Code for nursing professionals, as well as standardizing the autarchy. At this point, nursing professionals in Brazil would be starting the necessary assessment of knowledge and professional ethics through examining the types of work regulation, channeled for the good of the public⁽²⁾. This whole orchestration was necessary so that the professions' official representatives could negotiate with the state in order to defend and expand the legal advantages, or even superiority, of the profession⁽²⁾. This organization was essential as a representative agency of the profession, for outlining work relationships inside the profession, among other health care professions and between the profession and society.

The next step was to officially register professionals for the voting to happen. To that end, "special committees" were created – committees in each state for registering the professionals and, afterwards, conducting the elections. The receipts of payment and the registration documents would correspond to the voting condition. The "special committee" provided a protocol that was similar to a voter registration card⁽¹⁵⁾. The abovementioned committee for the establishment of the regional section of Santa Catarina was defined by Coren Ordinance No. 001/1975. At the suggestion of the ABEn-SC, it consisted of nurses Ingrid Ibsen (President) and Lúcia Herta Rockembach (Administrative Assistant). Through the National Union of Nursing Aides (UNAE), Maria Alba Monguilhott da Luz (Member) was chosen⁽¹⁶⁻¹⁷⁾.

The professional group in Santa Catarina⁽⁸⁾ was inspired by the "collective mobility" described by Larson, since the interest was in creating economic and socially appreciated positions. Indeed, it was a moment for the visibility and strengthening of nursing in Brazil, of earned and respected spaces of work and professional action. Likewise, it was an issue of "market protection" or "market sheltering"⁽²⁾. Thus, the profession achieves control of professional access and guarantees the requirement for occupational and institutional credentials for performing their work.

After fulfilling the registration campaign for nursing professionals in Santa Catarina, the effort was focused on meeting the deadline for performing the election campaign in October 21, 1975. The tenure of the elected members was planned to be of three years: from October 31, 1975 to October 30, 1978⁽¹⁷⁻¹⁹⁾. After the effort of the "Special Committee", the names and number of enrolled professionals (without registration) were sent for the Cofen to compose the election of the Council in Santa Catarina.

As consequence, there was the need to organize a coalition with candidates that would be elected. The leadership began searching for names. These possibly emerged from those already circulating in the ABEn-SC and in the professional movements in Santa Catarina. In the state, there were one hundred fifty nurses. Of those, seventy-five were associated to the ABEn-SC⁽¹⁸⁾. After the electoral stages, the Coren validated the elected under Cofen Decision No. 3/1975, which addresses the results of elections for the Board of Directors of the regional councils. The day the results of the voting were expected, differed from the day when it was actually carried out by the Council in Santa Catarina. This happened because of a request from the Santa Catarina group for the Cofen to carry out the ceremony in Joinville on the last day of the IV Santa Catarina Journey of nursing, organized by the ABEn-SC.

In this way, the group intended to give visibility to the creation of the council in Santa Catarina. Nurse Lydia

Ignes Rossi, representative and member of the Cofen, named the board of Directors of the Regional Nursing Council of Santa Catarina in October 22, 1975, in Joinville Tennis Club, in the city of Joinville, in a gala event that saw a congregation of state professionals.

After the IV Santa Catarina Journey of Nursing was over, there was the first extraordinary meeting of the Serem/SC, where the work began for the election and induction of the members of the board of Directors of the Regional Council. In this act, the nurse Rosita Saupe (now Rosita Alves da Silva Morgado) was elected President; nurse Otilie Hammes (Irmã Cacilda) was elected Secretary; nursing aide Helena Xavier was elected treasurer and Rosita Saupe was elected Delegate-Elector⁽²⁰⁾. At this time, a professional idea became reality. The professional representation agencies began acting as regulation devices between professionals and clients and in inter-professional relations, ensuring legal knowledge for the creation of rights and duties within the sphere of the profession⁽²¹⁾.

The movement for the creation and establishment of the Santa Catarina Regional Council gave nursing a link between society and state, its pertinence, its legality and its value.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Santa Catarina Section of the Brazilian Nursing Association and the people who were part of it, undertook, through effort and a fighting spirit, the search for visibility and the acknowledgement of nursing as a profession for the care, education and management of health.

The history of the birth of the Council in Santa Catarina shows the possible origins of the weak points in

its practice that are still observed to this day. The mistakes regarding the aim of the council remain its weak points, since the professionals at the time faced geographical limits, financial restraints and a limited understanding of what it meant to create a council and the professional goals of such an organization. However, the council lasts to this day, which points to the opportunity for new research to find out the reasons for the lack of faith in the strength and quality that the Professional Council brought to the nursing profession and the credibility that it brought to its members' professionalism.

The realization of the creation and establishment of the Santa Catarina Regional Council gave nursing a link between society and state, its pertinence, its legality and its value.

A perspective of the political and economic history of the country is presented in the movement for the creation of the Professional Council for Nursing. The maturation of the profession, new labor laws emerging from the Brazilian government and the difficulties of defining public and social policies, warranted, at a determined time, the creation of the Federal and Regional Nursing Councils.

In order to understand the nexus of influence on the Professional Council in the development of nursing in Santa Catarina, one needs to analyze the commitment and responsibility of the ABEn. The limits and possibilities of these influences come from the ethical, legal, political, cultural and scientific organization of the Nursing Association. Each of the structural aspects of the Professional Nursing Council of the state were determined by a nexus of influences.

REFERENCES

1. Bock LF, VaghettiHH, Bellaguarda MLR, Padilha MI, Borenstein MS. A organização da enfermagem e da saúde no contexto da idade contemporânea (1930-1960). In: Padilha MI, Borenstein MS, Santos I, editores. *Enfermagem história de uma profissão*. São Caetano do Sul: Difusão Editora; 2011. p. 253-94.

2. Freidson E. *Profissão médica: um estudo de sociologia do conhecimento aplicado*. São Paulo: UNESP; 2009.

3. Bellaguarda MLR, Padilha MI, Pereira Neto AF, Pires D, Peres MAA. Reflexão sobre a legitimidade da autonomia da enfermagem no campo das profissões de saúde à luz das ideias de Eliot Freidson. *Esc. Anna Nery* 2013;17(2):369-74.

4. Freitas GF, Oguisso T, Fernandes MFP. Fundamentos éticos e morais na prática de enfermagem. *Enfermagem em Foco* 2010; 1(3):104-108
5. Silva MN, Albuquerque GL, Barreto IS. Organização político-profissional da enfermagem: Sistema Cofen/Conselhos Regionais na luta pelos ideais da enfermagem brasileira. *Enfermagem em Foco* 2011; 2(1): 46-5
6. Bardin L. Análise de conteúdo. Lisboa: Edições 70; 2010.
7. Zago AT, Martins CR, Borenstein MS. Projeto: a trajetória da Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem - Seção de Santa Catarina: atos, fatos e imagens(1962-2009). In: Zago AT, organizadoras, Série Memória ABEn: contribuições da ABEn para a enfermagem catarinense. v. 1. Florianópolis: Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem- Seção Santa Catarina; 2010. p. 09-20.
8. Neves EP. A Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem - Seção Santa Catarina e a repercussão na criação do Curso de Graduação em Enfermagem na UFSC. In: Zago AT, organizadora. Série Memória ABEn: contribuições da ABEn para a enfermagem catarinense. v. 1. Florianópolis: Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem-Seção Santa Catarina; 2010. p.21-46.
9. Almeida FO. Reforma sanitária e política: as relações entre o processo de profissionalização dos médicos de São Paulo e políticas de saúde de governo estadual de Adhemar de Barros (1947-1951). [dissertação]. São Carlos: Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Programa de Pós Graduação em Sociologia; 2010.
10. Ribeiro JMS. Autonomia profissional dos enfermeiros. *Rev. Enf. Ref.* 2011;serIII(5):27-36.
11. Barbosa MLO. Para onde vai a classe média: um novo profissionalismo no Brasil? *Tempo Social.* 1998;10(1):129-42.
12. Ministério do Trabalho (BR). Enfermagem criação e instalação de sua autarquia profissional. Relatório apresentado pelos membros designados na Portaria nº 3.059, de 5 de marco de 1975 do excelentíssimo senhor Ministro do trabalho, Baixada de acordo com o disposto no artigo 21 da Lei nº 5.905, de 12 de julho de 1973. Gestão 23 de abril de 1975 a 22 de abril de 1976. Brasília: COFEN; 1976.
13. Carvalho AC. Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem, 1926-1976: documentário. 2 ed. Brasília: ABEn Nacional; 2008.
14. Bellaguarda MLR, Bub LIR, Ibsen I. A Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem-Seção Santa Catarina e a criação do Conselho Regional de Enfermagem de Santa Catarina. In: Zago AT, organizadora. Série Memória ABEn: contribuições da ABEn para a enfermagem catarinense. v. 1. Florianópolis: Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem-Seção Santa Catarina; 2010. p. 47-56.
15. Freidson E. Para uma análise comparativa das profissões: a institucionalização do discurso e dos conhecimentos formais. *Revista Brasileira de Ciências Sociais.* 1996;31(11):141-54.
16. Ferreira MF, Silva CFR. Reformas da gestão na saúde - desafios que se colocam aos enfermeiros. *Rev. Enf. Ref.* 2012;serIII(8):85-93.
17. Garcia CLM, Moreira AA. Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem e a criação do Conselho Profissional no Brasil. *Rev. de Pesq.: cuidado é fundamental*[Internet]. 2009 [acesso 2011 Jul;1(1):97-110. Disponível em: <http://seer.unirio.br/index.php/cuidadofundamental/article/viewArticle>
18. Ministério do Trabalho (BR). Conselho Federal de Enfermagem. Enfermagem: criação e instalação da sua autarquia profissional. Relatório apresentado pelos membros designados na Portaria n. 3.059, de 5 de marco de 1975 do excelentíssimo senhor ministro do trabalho, baixada de acordo com o disposto no artigo 21 da Lei n. 5.905, de 12 de julho de 1973. 23 de abril de 1976. Brasília: Ministério do Trabalho; 1976.
19. Oliveira MIR, Ferraz NMF. ABEn na criação, implantação e desenvolvimento dos conselhos de Enfermagem. *RevBrasEnferm*2001;54(2): 208-12.
20. Conselho Regional de Enfermagem (SC). Ata da 1ª reunião ordinária de plenário, realizada no dia 22 de outubro de 1975. Livro 1, p. 1- 3. Florianópolis: Coren; 1975.
21. Oguisso T, Schmidt MJ, Freitas GF. Fundamentos teóricos e jurídicos da profissão de enfermagem. *Enfermagem em Foco* 2010; 1(1):09-13.

Recebido: 20/03/2014.

Aceito: 05/02/2015.

Publicado: 30/06/2015.