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JPN is Published by the National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service, Inc. (NAPNES), the oldest LP/VN organization in the world. The early history of NAPNES is in itself a history of the occupation of licensed practical/vocational nursing. NAPNES leaders were catalysts for the creation of this new vocational occupation, which emerged in the 1940s. As new one-year courses for practical nurses were opened, the concept of the "practical nurses" as glorified "domestics" skilled in simple nursing duties disappeared, and in its place came the reality of a well-prepared practitioner with sound clinical experience. NAPNES leaders secured funds to set up the first model schools of practical/vocational nursing outside of New York and so gave national prominence to this new standard of education for nurses. In 1944, NAPNES spearheaded an historic conference in Washington, D.C., bringing together representatives of NAPNES, vocational educators throughout the country, and public health nurses at the call of the U.S. Department of Vocational Education. After a week of debate, it was voted unanimously to add practical nursing to the list of vocational programs, and practical nursing students became eligible for federal funds. The fight for mandatory state licensing laws, as well as formulation of curriculums and analysis of functions that came with the admission of practical/vocational nursing to the list of vocational studies, was all part of NAPNES early history — the history of the birth of the occupation of the Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse.