

Plan Complete New Operating Room Set-Up

Work Will Begin When First Patients Moved Into Pavilion

As soon as the first patients are moved into the new Pavilion work will be started on the south wing of the third floor of the present building that will provide for the expansion and remodeling of the new operating room suite. During the past number of years a great deal of hardship has been experienced by the hospital in attempting to cope with the ever increasing volume of surgery being performed through the Charlottetown Hospital. With the addition year after year of newer and better techniques, and the enlargement of the field of surgery for more and more conditions, the present facilities have been strained to the point where the Board of Government has decided that a complete new set-up is required to handle the increased volume.

For the past year expert technical advice has been obtained from many hospital experts in both United States and Canada to bring to this department the very latest in Operating Room specifications and techniques. Featured in the new Operating Room will be twin operating theatres in which major surgery can be performed almost continuously by passing from room to room with a continuous set-up.

These main major Operating Rooms introduce to the Province specifications as to size, make-up, and equipment which hitherto have not been available. Designed with special shockproof lighting fixtures, decorated in green plastic tile, these rooms will provide adequate space for all equipment necessary in a modern operating room. Special conductive rubber floor tiling similar to the delivery rooms in the new Pavilion will be provided, and all linen, drapes, towels, and gowns will be done in this green to give the maximum lighting facilities for the operating room table. The new operating room table will be situated the most modern in operating room sterilizing equipment. A new washer sterilizer which will permit dirty instruments to be taken from one operating table, brought to another operating table in eleven minutes completely washed, rinsed, and sterilized in an automatic single operation will be a feature

of this department. Another high-speed three minute sterilizer will also be available for clean instruments.

A completely new Orthopedic Department will be established in the new suite. This will consist of a large operating room theatre with an adjoining storage compartment for all the equipment used in orthopedics. A special table will be available offering the Surgeon the adaptability of position which is so important in orthopedic surgery. Another new feature will be the Urology Room where a new cystoscopic table complete with x-ray on the spot facilities where the latest in urological techniques may be carried out. Available in this department also will be a dark room for the developing of x-ray films taken on the operating room table during the course of the operation. Spacious rooms for minor procedures and for a nose and throat department will be completely air conditioned.

Another feature being added to the operating room facilities of the Charlottetown Hospital will be the Recovery Room where all anesthetized patients will be taken in bed following operation, and where they will be under the competent care of a full time graduate nurse who has specialized in recovery procedures and who will be under the direct supervision of the head of the Department of Anaesthesiology. Here, the patient has available to him suction apparatus, oxygen, blood, other pertinent fluids, and all modern aids in recovery. The patient will be kept in this department until he is completely recovered from his anaesthesia. He will only be returned to his room after the danger of anaesthesia has completely passed.

An office will be provided for the director or supervisor of the operating room complete facilities for nurses, doctors dressing rooms and rest rooms will also be included. Special scrub-ups enabling all doctors operating to scrub at the same time will be added. This whole unit will offer for the first time in the Province a complete operating room service department, and equipped for all surgical procedures.



CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL founded 1879 by His Lordship Bishop McIntyre. This property stood on the north side of Dorchester Street on part of the grounds now occupied by the Basilica.

Efficiency Depends

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macist is Sister Mary Dorothy, who at the present time is preparing for her registration in Pharmacy. In the early part of 1949 Sister Vincent de Paul was sent to Boston where, under the direction of Dr. Walters of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, she took a special course in the Fenwal technique which is being established in the hospital at the present time.

X-RAY DEPARTMENT

Radiologist for the hospital is Dr. W. L. Macdonald, who is Director of this Department. The Technician in charge is Sister Mary Edith, who received her course in radiological technique at the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston, Ontario. Sister Mary Edith is a member of the Canadian Society of Radiological Technicians and is also a member of the New Brunswick Society. Sister Mary Edith is also in charge of the Department of Physiotherapy and Electroradiography.

LABORATORIES DEPARTMENT

The Department of Laboratories is under the direct supervision of Dr. H. E. Shaw, Provincial Pathologist, Director of Laboratories of the Prince Edward Island Department of Health. In charge of the technical staff is Sister Mary St. Hugh, who for 20 years has been supervising this department at the Charlottetown Hospital. Sister St. Hugh took her Science at St. Francis Xavier University and is a graduate technician from St. Joseph's Hospital, Glace Bay. She later took courses in Pharmacy at Dalhousie School of Pharmacy from which she graduated in 1932. Studies in Bacteriology and allied technical subjects were carried out at the Pathological Institute at Dalhousie University. Sister St. Hugh was a Registered Technician with the American Institute of Clinical Pathologists and in 1935 was one of the first members registered with the Canadian Society of Laboratory Technologists. Sister St. Hugh is also a member of the Prince Edward Island Pharmaceutical Association, and a member of the American Society of Record Librarians. She did extensive post graduate study at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, in technique of blood transfusions at Mercy Hospital, Chicago, in Hematology, and during the past year took a special course in Serology at the National Hygiene Laboratories in Ottawa.

Associated with Sister St. Hugh is Miss Louise Avar, B.Sc. (M.S. Allison) of Charlottetown, who is a graduate of Prince of Wales College and of the Division of Labor-

atories of the Prince Edward Island Department of Health. Student technician is Miss Joyce Cudmore who is at the present time training at the Charlottetown Hospital under the direction of Dr. Harold Shaw of the Provincial Laboratories.

OPERATING ROOM

Plans for the complete new Operating Room Suite are now completed and, with the transfer of patients to the new Pavilion, work is expected to begin early this Spring. The Operating Room is under the general supervision of Sister Paul of the Cross, R.N., who is a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital, Glace Bay. Since 1940 Sister Paul of the Cross has been Operating Room Supervisor. She did post graduate work in Operating Room Technique in the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn. In 1942 and in 1948 she did further post graduate work under Dr. Walters at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston.

Associate Supervisor is Miss Mary C. Macdonald, R.N., who is a graduate of the Charlottetown Hospital in 1948.

THE PEDIATRICS DEPARTMENT

The children's ward in a general hospital has too often been incidental to the rest of the institution. The tendency has been to crowd the Pediatrics Department into any space that could not be used for other purposes, regardless of its suitability. Sick children should have the most ideal location which the hospital affords. This department should be separated from the rest of the hospital so as to lessen the danger of infection and for the comfort of the adult patients. This is provided for in the plans of the new Pediatrics Department in the Charlottetown Hospital.

As any patient in this nursing unit is considered to represent a potential case of contagious disease, the rooms are divided by glass screen cubicles. This provides segregation but also allows a feeling of companionship which is a necessity for every child.

Although this department is still in the planning stage the following description applies to the new Pediatrics unit as it will be when completed.

The various rooms are equipped with bassinets, cribs or beds to accommodate children up to twelve years. The cribs are made of enameled iron and equipped with large roller casters. The sides of the cribs are adjustable for the convenience of the nurse but are so secured that they cannot be released by the child. The beds for the older children are adjustable, and the unit is provided with an overbed table, bedside table, chair, nurse's call signal, etc. The rooms

are cheerful and attractive in appearance. The walls are painted in a soft warm color; the pictures and decorations, which are simple, are at the level of the children's eyes when they are sitting in bed.

This department has also a well equipped diet kitchen, linen room, service room and nurses' station. A play room for the convalescent children is a distinctive asset to this department. There is also an examining room.

The formulas for the babies are prepared under the supervision of the dietitian in the formula room in the ground floor. It is delivered to this department in heated trucks.

It is felt that this department is one of the most modern in the hospital and is splendidly equipped to carry on its special work—the care of the future generation as aspostrophized by the poet: 'Thou eager wee epitome of man'. So curious, so apt for any lore Of words, or faces never known before

Groping with tiny hands, for life's great plan.

SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Charlottetown Hospital was one

of the first hospitals in the Maritimes to inaugurate a Social Service Department which for many years has done a great deal of service in the City of Charlottetown.

Since the inauguration of the Catholic Social Welfare Bureau, the Social Service Department of the hospital has been carried on under the jurisdiction of this body in conjunction with the hospital work. Field Secretary is Sister Mary Eugene who took her preliminary education at Prince of Wales College, St. Dunstan's University, and later post graduate work and is a graduate of the School of Social Work at the University of Toronto from which she received her diploma in 1945. Associate Field Secretary, Administrator of the Sacred Heart Home, Sister John of the Cross who is also a graduate of the University of Toronto School of Social Work and who at the present time is carrying on part time work with the Catholic Welfare Bureau. Sister Mary Eugene and Sister John of the Cross are the first full graduates in Social Work in this new field in Prince Edward Island.

Visiting nursing service of the

Charlottetown Hospital under the direction of the Catholic Welfare Bureau is conducted by Miss Noreen Coyle who is a graduate of the class of 1947 from the Charlottetown Hospital. Her duties entail the visiting of patients discharged from the hospital, caring for sick patients who are not admitted to hospital, and carrying on general visiting nursing service as part of the Social Welfare Department of the hospital.

MAINTENANCE

Probably nobody in the hospital field gets less credit for the actual operation of the hospital than the large group of workers whose labors perhaps do not partake of some of the glamour that is attached to the care of the sick, but who are so necessary for the proper func-

tioning of all the various departments. Mr. Frank Murphy, who is chief engineer, has associated with him in the care of the heating part of the hospital Mr. Joseph Desroches, Mr. Lloyd Desroches, and Mr. Lawrence Daley all of whom are employed as firemen. In charge of maintenance is Mr. Isadore Gallant. Cleaning Department is under the direction of Mr. Oryl Dolron and Mr. Frank Kelly. In charge of the Laundry is Sister Mary Ignatius, and in charge of maintenance laundry equipment is Mr. Austin Griffin. The Sewing Room is in charge of Sister Mary Rose who has associated with her Miss Jennie Costello who is also in charge of repair and upholstering for the whole institution. In charge of the Chapel and Sacristy is Sister Mary James. Miss Susie Perry is in charge of the Chaplain's Refectory.

Community Hospitalization

The opening of the new wing of the Charlottetown Hospital will introduce a new era in the administration of this historic institution. It will mean much greater accountability and better equipment, but it will mean also increased overhead and cost of operation. As a result of this new construction, the Hospital administration, after having exhausted its own endowments, will have assumed a debt on which the charges for interest and sinking fund provision will amount to an annual sum exceeding the full subsidy now received from the Provincial Government. When fully completed, with the necessary changes in the old building, the enlargement and new equipment will have cost in the vicinity of \$750,000.00. To this amount the Provincial Department of Health and Welfare, aided by the Federal Government, will have generously contributed in pursuance of its hospital construction program, as well as the Department of Veterans Affairs in pursuance of its program of assisting in the provision of hospital beds for veterans. These generous contributions towards the capital outlay, with the increased Provincial Government grant of 75c patient day, will have made it possible for the institution to enlarge its services, increase its benefits, and thus assist the Government in the execution of the heavy program envisioned by the Department of Health and Welfare.

GREAT VOLUME OF FREE WORK

It seems well at this time to call the attention of the public to the fact that all of the general hospitals of this province are community owned and operated. There are six general hospitals in Prince Edward Island, three of these being of standard requirements, and not until 1946 was any assistance for capital outlay given to any of them, either by the Province or by the City.

The Charlottetown Hospital was built by the people of the Province without any aid from the Provincial or Municipal Governments, and the heavy debts which it carried for years was borne by the hospital administration and finally liquidated. It took twenty-five years of effort and sacrifice on the part of residents of both rural and urban parishes to raise the funds necessary to retire the debt on what is now the old building.

By the time the present project covering the new wing of the Charlottetown Hospital and the new hospital at Summerside are completed, the capital outlay for construction by the general hospitals of Prince Edward Island will have totalled about \$3,200,000.00. Of this amount, approximately \$700,000.00 will have been contributed by the Federal and Provincial Governments, so that about \$2,500,000.00 represents the voluntary contributions of the various communities of Prince Edward Island.

No stronger arguments than the facts need to be presented to show how great has been the selflessness and how deep the public spirit of the citizens who have contributed and made possible these projects. If these works had been

undertaken by either the Government or by municipalities, their interest charges alone would have been close to \$100,000.00 per annum.

The great volume of work done by the Charlottetown Hospital in its early days cannot be computed in dollars and cents, for it was nearly all charity. From the time the present hospital building was opened in 1926 up to December 31, 1949, the value of free work done amounted to approximately \$1,045,000.00, which was about equally distributed between the city and the rural communities. The Government subsidy received by the institution during that period amounted in all to \$152,000.00, and the total of the contributions by the City of Charlottetown was \$17,000.00. This leaves a net value of free work done by the institution without Governmental or Municipal assistance at \$877,000.00 for the period in question.

The annual number of patient days in the general hospitals of the Province is around 140,000, and with the increased accommodation now being provided, will run to 150,000 or more. At the present time, the operating cost is about \$6.00 per patient day, and this cost is rising. This does not include, of course, doctors' fees or nursing fees or extraordinary services. In 1949, about 10,000 patients received treatment in the general hospitals of Prince Edward Island.

Enough has been stated above to show the great advantage which accrues to the Province in having its general hospitals community owned and operated. Regrettably, it seems to be the tendency of the day to expect the Government to do it all in any and every project. However, the Government, like an individual, can only spend according to its income. The money which it spends must be secured either by Federal or Provincial or Municipal taxes, or by payment for the services rendered. If the people of Prince Edward Island are forced into so-called free hospitalization, either by a State levy on the individual or direct contributions by the State, it will mean an annual cost to the Government of approximately \$1,500,000.00 instead of the approximate \$100,000.00 now being granted covering all of the general hospitals.

The general hospital considers it a duty and a pleasure to co-operate with the Government in the promotion of its Health and Welfare Program. The work accomplished by the hospitals is a source of pride to the people who have so generously supported them.

An important and essential department of each of these hospitals is its School of Nursing. These training schools for young ladies of the community desirous of entering the nursing profession have been provided and are staffed and operated without cost to the municipality. The City of Charlottetown is perhaps one of the most fortunate of Canadian communities in the matter of its hospital set-up. Now it will have within its corporate limits, two 200-bed hospitals, and a 160-bed Sanitorium to which it has not been called upon to contribute one dollar of the cost of construction.

BEST WISHES TO THE

CHARLOTTETOWN HOSPITAL

ON COMPLETION OF THE MODERN

NEW PAVILION

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in the humanitarian cause of our City and Province is

the opening of the

New Pavilion

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We are very pleased to have been associated with Mr. Wm. Hennessey, the General Contractor in the construction of the new addition to the Charlottetown Hospital, and congratulate the officials of this institution on their new and modern wing.

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