



The *Great* Canadian
Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire
des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

**Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of
St. Joseph's Hospital, Glace Bay, Nova Scotia
1927**

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The Rt. Rev. James Morrison, Bishop of Antigonish

FOREWORD.

The development of hospital provision in Eastern Nova Scotia and Cape Breton Island is one of the bright spots in charitable endeavour among the active and public spirited citizens of this community. It is only by actual contact with such laudable undertakings that the general public can arrive at a proper appreciation of the wonderful work that is being accomplished through efficient hospital treatment. That such a desirable standard of public opinion has now been happily brought about, is abundantly evident from the active and sympathetic interest taken in hospital work by the general community.

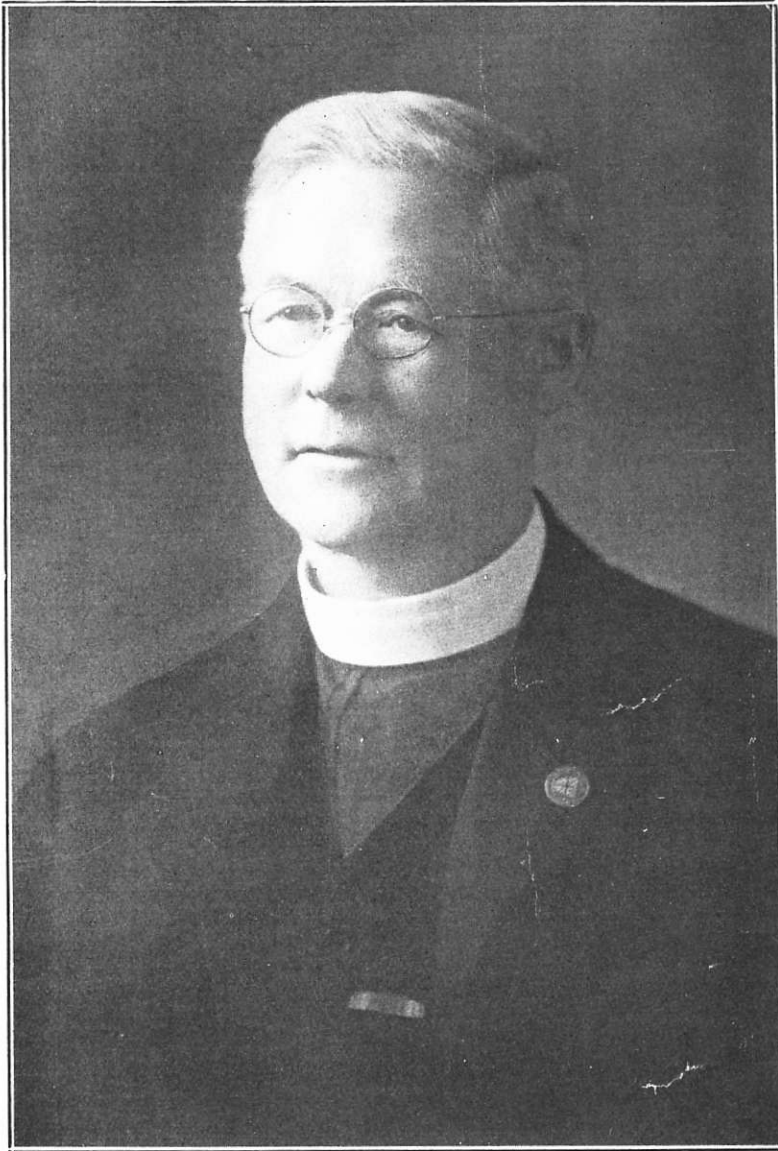
While the fullest measure of appreciation is had for present day activities in hospital work, we must in a special way stress the praise that is eminently due to St. Joseph's Hospital in the Town of Glace Bay, which can truly be designated as the pioneer hospital in this eastern part of the Province. At a time when hospital service was not so highly valued, or perhaps not so well understood by the community at large as it is at the present time, the foundation and equipment of such an excellent hospital as St. Joseph's has proved itself to be, required clear vision, sound judgment and an abiding faith in the future on the part of its Founders and their associates. Those Reverend Fathers gave of their best to provide efficient hospital treatment for the general community without distinction of persons, and it is a happy recollection to know that in their untiring efforts to promote this worthy undertaking they had the willing and generous support of their community. Since that time St. Joseph's Hospital has kept in the very forefront of efficient service to its constituency, and has maintained a rank that has made it a recognized model of superior service in hospital work.

Now that St. Joseph's Hospital is about to celebrate the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of its Foundation, we take great pleasure in congratulating that worthy Institution, its Founders, and its Management through these twenty-five years, and also its friends and supporters, and we bespeak for it in the years to come that same spirit of loyal support which it has been its good fortune to have had in the past, so that as time goes on and new problems arise, there may always be at hand a loyal and public-spirited community to maintain this excellent Institution in the vanguard of hospital progress.

✠ JAMES MORRISON,

Antigonish, N. S.,
April 25th, 1927.

Bishop of Antigonish.



The Rev. Ronald MacDonald, Founder

Our Jubilee Message

On the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding, St. Joseph's Hospital greets its friends and supporters with the proud consciousness of duty well done, of steady progress effected, and of noble ideals realized. The work, begun, on the part of many at least, in fear and trembling because of its magnitude and because it involved the venturing into practically untried ground, has prospered beyond the hopes even of the few ardent optimists who refused to see difficulties and laughed at the fear of failure. Blazing the trail for the institutions which sprang up after it, it has continued to show them all the way in progress, efficiency, and service. When, a few years ago, the director of Hospital Activities for the United States and Canada, Dr. MacEachern, paid his first visit here, he found that St. Joseph's had considerably more than the requirements for a standard hospital. When he looked further into its administration and learned more of its efficiency he placed it first on the list of standardized hospitals in Nova Scotia, and since then he has spoken frequently all over America of his amazement at finding an institution of such high rank in far off Cape Breton, where there were no models to copy and where the great results obtained could only be made possible by an administration combining energy, foresight, and the zeal for knowledge in an eminent degree.

X For many years before St. Joseph's was built the need for hospital accommodation was keenly felt. In the numerous mines operated in the vicinity accidents were frequent, and the difficulty of treating badly injured men at home was apparent to all. The Dominion Coal Company seems to have had the building of an hospital in mind for many years, but the idea was never carried into effect. However, two of the company's houses in the No. 2 district were given over for hospital work. The plan was only a makeshift, and the best that could be said of it was that it made conditions a little better than they were before. The need for more and better accommodation was becoming more and more apparent. Finally the Reverend Ronald MacDonald, pastor of St. Ann's Parish, a man of exceptional zeal and remarkable organizing ability, together with the Reverend C. W. MacDonald of Bridgeport, who is still associated with the hospital as president of the Board, took the matter into consideration. With them they associated men of weight and influence in the community, and after much discussion it was decided that the time to build a real hospital had come. It took some time, however, before work could be begun. There were no models near at hand to copy, local architects had little knowledge of hospital construction, and there was, besides, the question of

upkeep to be settled before it would be safe to make a definite move. The promoters, ardent as they were, had to move cautiously. First of all, Fathers Ronald and Charles MacDonald were asked to go to the United States and learn what they could from a study of its hospital institutions. After their return a Sydney architect, Mr. Hutchinson, was called in, and, using the ideas on the subject obtained by the Fathers MacDonald, drew the final plans. Prominent laymen were called in to give the benefit of their advice and experience, notable among whom were Messrs. Alex. MacEachern, Patrick Neville, Thomas Casey, John Cadogan and D. M. Burchell, with the members of the medical profession, especially Doctors MacKeen and MacKay, who proved twin towers of strength to the hospital afterwards on the surgical and medical staffs. Next came the question of making sure of sufficient support. It was realized by all that some system of regular contribution on the part of the miners was necessary for this purpose. Father Ronald and Father Charles once more took up the burden of work, and entered each pit operated by the Company in turn, canvassing the men at their work. As anyone who knows our Cape Breton miners would expect, the response was instant, enthusiastic and generous. The question of support was thus settled, but there was still many who feared that the work was being undertaken on too large and expensive a scale, and that the burden would prove too heavy for the community to be served. But those who had studied the question most thoroughly and saw the need most clearly were not to be shaken in their faith, and so the work was begun. On July 24th, 1901, the Earl of Minto, Governor General of Canada, turned the first sod, and a little less than a year after, on July 1st, 1902, the hospital was formally opened.

The first report, issued in 1904, and covering the work from August 1st, 1902, to Dec. 31st, 1903, shows that the hospital, fully equipped, was erected at a cost of \$42,000. It was a great sum for those days, though it looks small by comparison with the amounts spent since in improvements and repairs. Nearly half the amount, or \$20,000, was received in contributions from the Dominion Coal Company and its employees and private donors; the remainder was borrowed, the principal lender being the Eastern Trust Company. The income for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1903 was \$19,631.33 and the current expenditure \$15,301.41. The total number of patients admitted during the year was 406 and the cost per day for each patient was \$1.28 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The first superintendent of the hospital was Miss Janet Cameron, a graduate of the Massachusetts General Hospital, a most capable nurse and a lady of great executive ability. No small part of the credit for the high standing St. Joseph's attained

from the beginning is due to the efficient nature of the service rendered by Miss Cameron. When the first report was issued she had a staff of twelve, consisting of a head nurse, an operating room nurse, nine student nurses, and one probationer. The housekeeping department was in charge of the Sisters of St. Martha, founded a short time before by the late Bishop Cameron.

Each succeeding report is a record of steady growth. The year ended Dec. 31st, 1904, saw 514 patients treated, while the staff had been increased by two. The following year the number treated had risen to 564, and again the staff was increased by two, making a total of sixteen, besides the superintendent. During this year (1905), the first graduates received their diplomas, among them being two sisters of St. Martha. In this report also the Secretary, Rev. C. W. MacDonald, announces that the Board has decided to erect a Nurses' Home and provide more accommodation in the hospital by converting the nurses' and sisters' quarters into an extra ward and private rooms. This work was begun as promised and the present Nurses' Home was erected at a cost of \$21,715. The renovations thus made possible in the hospital proper provide accommodation for twenty-five more patients. The superintendent's report for the year following (1906), shows that the total number of patients had risen to 673. In the following year the number was 704, then it rose to 833, and in 1909 all previous records were broken with a total of 1009.

In 1909 Miss Cameron resigned and was replaced by Miss Margaret Conroy, who completed the year. The report of 1912 shows Miss Cameron again in charge, after having made a course in Hospital Administration at the Massachusetts General Hospital. During this year the number of patients admitted rose to 1236, while the staff consisted of three graduates and twenty-eight student nurses. This year also saw the passing of Dr. MacKeen, whose talents and services to the hospital receive due praise from other contributors to this booklet, and of Mr. Henry MacDonald, a faithful and most useful friend of the institution, who was its first treasurer and served in that capacity till his death.

The report of 1914 is the last issued with Miss Cameron as superintendent, for the following year the hospital was in charge of the Sisters of St. Martha, with Rev. Mother Faustina as Superior and Sister Maris Stella Superintendent of nurses. Mother Faustina was the first Mother General of the Congregation, and has served over and over again in that capacity. A woman of the deepest though most unobtrusive virtue combined with remarkable administrative ability, she commands in an exceptional degree the love and veneration of the sisterhood as well as the respect and confidence of both clergy and laity. St. Joseph's was more than fortunate in having her at its head during the first

two years of the administration of the Sisters of St. Martha. The same year, 1915, saw the Rev. C. W. MacDonald in the President's chair. Father Ronald MacDonald, the first President, had held office up to this time, and only relinquished it when he left Cape Breton for another field. His name will always be associated with St. Joseph's, for it was his overmastering zeal, his unconquerable optimism and his splendid organizing ability, which, more than anything else, made possible the realization of the dream of those who saw the need for such an institution. His successor has remained continuously in office since that time, giving freely of his time and his talents to the service of the hospital, and not a little of the credit for the great progress it has made in recent years is due to his able and unremitting labours in its behalf.

The report of 1916 bears the name of Sister Ignatius as Superintendent of Nurses. Here again fortune smiled on St. Joseph's, for the connection of Mother Ignatius, (as she is now), with the hospital, has brought about such improvements as have placed it in the very forefront of such institutions in the Maritime Provinces. Mother Ignatius served as Superintendent of Nurses for four years under Sister John Baptist, a most kindly and capable superior whose services are remembered with affectionate gratitude by all friends of the institution. In 1920 she became superior, and the report of that year shows a record of a truly gigantic task accomplished. Father MacDonald's report to the Board of Directors gives a summary of the work. It involved the complete remodelling of the basement, and can best be described by quoting the words of the report: "In the new arrangement the partitions for the first four feet will be of cement on a metal lath, the remainder of the ceiling hard wall plaster on wooden laths, while the floors will be of Terazza set on strongly reinforced concrete in all rooms and halls with the exception of the storerooms, which will be of reinforced concrete alone. When completed we shall have in the basement a new and commodious kitchen, a scullery and storerooms, a dining room for the help, an office and record room, an X-ray room, a laboratory, a dispensary, a nurses' diet kitchen, bathrooms, a clothes room for patients, and a morgue. Then again there has been a complete reconstruction of our heating plant. This entailed the erection of a new brick boiler house 38 x 31 feet, in which are installed two 90 horse-power boilers, and also the erection of a new reinforced concrete coal shed 31x21 feet, as well as the replacing of a number of radiators badly placed and the addition of considerable more radiating surface. A new electric elevator is being put in which involves the building of a new shaft. In addition to this a new brick cold storage building 22x21 feet has been completed, as also a water-tank capable of holding fifty-

five thousand gallons. All this means the expenditure of much more money than was spent when the hospital was built, but it is going to improve conditions to a great extent and make for the care and comfort of the patients."

The cost of the improvements thus effected, and by means of which St. Joseph's was placed on the list of standardized hospitals in 1921, amounted to no less than \$120,000. That so much was accomplished with so little of the publicity which usually accompanies such achievements is little short of marvellous. It required more than ordinary courage to make the attempt, and far more than ordinary ability to carry it out. In Mother Ignatius St. Joseph's had a head who possessed the knowledge of hospital requirements, the energy and capacity for work, and the organizing ability which turned a remote possibility into a splendid reality. Her influence made itself felt, also, in other and equally important ways. She had the faculty of inspiring her staff with some of her own enthusiasm and devotion, and the effect of her leadership showed itself in an ardent spirit of zeal and a high sense of duty which made the hospital unequalled in the province for quality of service. It is hardly necessary to say that her work, more than any other factor, has given St. Joseph's the enormously increased prestige it has gained in recent years, or that it misses sorely her firm but tactful leadership, her knowledge of its needs, her devotion to the welfare of its inmates, and the inspiration of her example.

Since the hospital was standardized in 1921 the work of improvement has gone steadily on. The Social Service Department, organized in 1923, of which mention is made elsewhere, is doing a very important and very necessary work. It provides not only for the care of patients outside the hospital, but also for the organization of nursing classes, and child-welfare and tubercular clinics. In 1926 the operating room was renovated, improvements were made to the laundry, and a sun-porch was built, at a total cost of \$14,000. A modern ice-plant will be built this year which will cost about \$3000. The number of patients admitted is rapidly nearing two thousand per year. The needs continue to grow, and St. Joseph's Hospital will continue to meet them. As difficulties were met and overcome in the past, they will be met and overcome in the future. Improvements are still needed, and will be made; increased accomodation is needed, and will be given. Our supporters are the most loyal and generous in the world. It only remains to hope that their loyalty and generosity will be matched by the wisdom and devotion of those to whose care the conduct of affairs is entrusted. With such a combination we shall surely go on "from strength to strength," showing the way for the future as for the past, in service, progressiveness and efficiency.

ST. JOSEPH'S, ITS HISTORY AND PROGRESS.

July 1st, 1902, St. Joseph's Hospital opened its doors to receive and care for the sick and hurt of Eastern Cape Breton. The building was sufficiently large and commodious and fully equipped to meet the needs of twenty-five years ago. It was completed at a cost of \$42,000.00, and was, in all its appointments a credit to those who, in the face of many difficulties, undertook to supply in this mining community a want keenly felt for many long years.

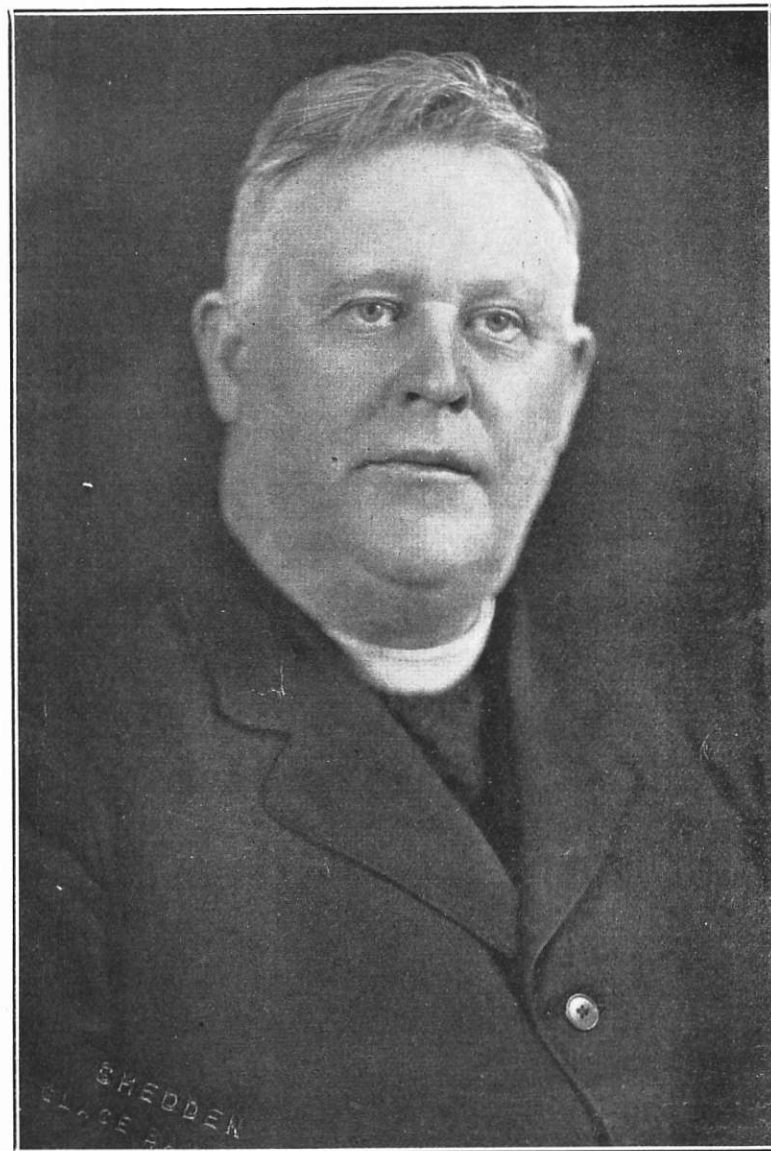
It had not long entered upon its humane mission, however, when additions, extensions, improvements and remodelling had to be made to meet the requirements of a clientele that continued to increase year after year, as well as to keep pace with the advancement being made in the science of Hospital management. To realize that there is a constant demand for greater facilities it is only necessary to mention the fact that in the year 1903, the first year it was in operation, 406 patients were treated, while in 1926 the number increased to 1826, and it may be interesting to note the further fact that during the twenty-five years of its existence 28,829 patients were treated.

The addition to the buildings, the extensions to the equipment and the improvements in all its departments, added to the original cost, represent an expenditure of well over a quarter of a million of dollars in the quarter of a century, that is its lifetime, to bring St. Joseph's Hospital to its present state of efficiency and to occupy the place it does in the foremost ranks of the humane institutions of Canada.

NURSES' HOME.

The most important addition was undertaken in 1905, when the Nurses' Home was completed at a cost of \$21,715.00. Previous to this the nursing staff had their living quarters in the Hospital, and there proper accommodation could no longer be provided, as all available space had now to be utilized in meeting the requirements of the increase in the number of patients.

The Home is a separate building having connection with the Hospital through an underground passageway. It was designed to provide comfortable living quarters for the staff then in service, which numbered about thirty, with a study room and a chapel, each sufficiently large to meet the requirements of that day. The past twenty-two years have increased the staff to about



Rev. C. W. MacDonald, President

forty-five, with the result that the sleeping apartments are now overcrowded and the study, recreation and demonstration rooms so necessary in the life of the student nurse, as well as the Chapel, where patients, staff and help come for religious service, are all now entirely too small. An addition to the Home and several improvements will have to be undertaken in the near future. The nurse is subject to great strain, mentally and physically, and that she may give the highest degree of service to the patients it is necessary that her health be maintained. For this reason, the Home should be sufficiently large to provide every comfort and to furnish every facility to fit her for the strain she is constantly called upon to endure.

INSTALLATION OF X-RAY.

In 1917 a most valuable and necessary addition was made to the equipment by an X-ray unit.

Last year a portable apparatus was added which permits of plates being taken at the bedside of the patient.

RENOVATION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WARDS.

In the year 1918 there was a demand for more private wards, so it was decided to remodel a section of the second floor used as a public ward and convert it into private wards. At the same time the bathrooms were tiled and hard-wood flooring was laid in the public wards. The total cost of the work was \$12,720.00 and the expenditure was warranted as accommodation and sanitation were both improved.

RENOVATION OF BASEMENT.

In the year 1920 the important work of renovating and remodelling the basement was completed at a cost of \$120,000.00. This was a very large expenditure but the improvement in the internal arrangements is most valuable and has added very greatly to the facilities and convenience of the house. When the Hospital was built there was no provision made to utilize the basement except as a boiler-room, a kitchen and a few store-rooms, and these divisions were made by rough board partitions. The space was too valuable to be allowed to remain in idleness, and the remodelling was undertaken. The old wood work was torn down, and now the walls and all partitions are of cement on metal lathing to a height of four feet and the remainder to the ceiling finished in ordinary plastering. The floors throughout are of a terrazzo on reinforced concrete, with the exception of the store-rooms, which have concrete only.

The general entrance to the building is on the first floor and immediately inside the entrance is a well equipped office

and record room. Then on either side of the corridor are the following: A large, commodious, well equipped kitchen with a scullery attached, large store-rooms, a dining room for the help, nurses' diet kitchen, an X-ray room, a laboratory, a pharmacy and the out-patient department. At the same time an elevator operated by electricity, was installed.

As a result of the basement being now used for other purposes, it became necessary to build a brick boiler house. The whole heating system was completely re-constructed and two new 90 horse-power boilers were installed.

As it has already been noted these improvements entailed a very large expenditure, but they contributed very largely towards bringing the Hospital to that degree of efficiency that entitled it to the standardization of the American College of Surgeons, that it attained the following year.

SOCIAL SERVICE.

The Social Service Department established in 1923 has been so far-reaching in its benefits that it is impossible to estimate the extent to which it has preserved the health of the Community during the past four years. Through the operations of this Department not only is the Hospital enabled to carry on its special mission of caring for the sick beyond its own wards, but also to engage in the praiseworthy eleemosynary service of providing food and clothing for the poor and needy. Some idea of the extent of the service given by this Department may be had from the following brief enumeration of its activities since its establishment:

Visits made to the homes of patients.....	8163
Visits for the surgical and obstetrical follow-ups.....	475
Number of Surgical Dressings and Treatments.....	6349
Patients receiving medicine and surgical supplies.....	585
Visits to patients suffering from tuberculosis.....	185
Patients for whom sanitarium treatment was secured.....	7
Tubercular clinics held.....	11
(with a total attendance of).....	121
Child welfare clinics held.....	31
(with a total attendance of).....	176
Child welfare public meetings held.....	3
Number of cases referred to the Social Service by physicians	649
Number of cases closed.....	360
Number of cases expired.....	22
School children examined.....	1782
Home nursing classes conducted by the Social Service Nurse	8
(with an attendance of).....	123
Home cooking classes conducted by Social Service Nurses..	8
(with an attendance of).....	123

There was distributed among poor families 480 pieces of clothing. Charitable organizations and friends assisted very materially in this work and contributed \$893.00. Of this amount \$113.00 was spent for the transportation of tubercular patients, and the remaining \$780.00 was spent in providing milk and nourishing foods for needy persons.

The Social Service Department and those benefited by it are deeply indebted to that noble band of social workers, the Catholic Women's League, for the very valuable assistance given by them to the Department in all its activities. The total expenditure in equipping and maintaining the Department amounted to

\$7,581.20, and of this amount the C. W. L. handsomely contributed \$4,241.78. So that it may be readily seen that without the co-operation of this splendid organization the Social Service of St. Joseph's Hospital would not have been so great a success, and this assistance and co-operation is being continued. This is gratifying and encouraging as the Hospital is now preparing to further extend the usefulness of its Social Service. A few years ago two Sisters took a short course in Dietetics and Infant Feeding at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, and are at present taking a year's course at the MacDonald Institute, Guelph, Ontario. Plans are now underway to have these two Sisters give the district the benefit of their special training by conducting in all the Colliery Districts short courses in house management, which will include cooking, infant feeding, laundry work, sewing and everything pertaining to the home. It is the intention to have these courses open about the first of August 1927, and it is hoped they will prove of immense benefit to the community at large.

REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS OF 1926.

In 1926 repairs and renovations were undertaken and completed at a cost of \$14,000.00. The first item of these was the reshingling of the building with fire proof shingles. Gutters, door spouts and valleys were all renewed in copper, and the windows, which were becoming loose, were made wind-proof with oakum, this adding to the comfort of the wards by eliminating drafts.

The Operating and Sterilizing rooms received special attention, and the improvement made in these rooms is greatly appreciated by the medical staff. Tile floors were laid in both. The Operating Room was considerably enlarged and completely made over. Both rooms were replastered, the wainscoting being of sani-onyx in the Operating Room to a height of five feet and of four feet in the Sterilizing Room. The lighting was

greatly improved by the placing of a new steel frame window with plate glass and in a position to bring the light directly to the table. There was also installed a modern electric light.

A very important addition was the building of a sun porch on the south-western corner of the Children's Ward on the third floor. This is found to be of great value in the treatment of children suffering from rickets and such diseases as need much sunlight. The infants' ward was improved by having the floors and walls of the bath-rooms tiled. Three new cabinets were added to the furnishings. One of these, the instrument case, is a very beautiful piece and placed at a cost of \$224.00. Another cabinet was placed in the nurses' work room and also one in the infants' ward. All these improvements and additions were made by the Parson Ed. Company Limited, under the superintendence of J. H. Beck, and the manner in which the work was carried on and completed gave every satisfaction.

LAUNDRY IMPROVEMENTS.

In 1926 also the Laundry Room was improved with concrete flooring, and new up-to-date equipment was installed to replace machinery that had now become delapidated after the constant use of over twenty years. The more important items were, a large new washer at a cost of \$1,724.00, an extractor at a cost of \$585.00 and a modern type clothes dryer.

COLD STORAGE AND REFRIGERATING PLANT, 1927.

After an experience of many years of the difficulties of securing a sufficient quantity of ice and keeping it from melting in the ordinary ice-house throughout the entire season, the Hospital found it necessary, the past few years, to purchase ice as required from local dealers. This proved expensive and unsatisfactory in many ways. This year then a first class freezing plant was decided upon as the best solution of the ice problem.

In the month of March a contract was entered into with the Linde Canadian Refrigeration Co., Limited, of Montreal, for the installation of a refrigerating plant on the "Linde System." This plant consists of a five horse-power electric motor, a vertical twin cylinder ammonia compressor, ice making tank, and all necessary equipment. The cold storage building was renovated and remodelled to meet the requirements of this plant, an addition of brick, with concrete flooring, for motor and compressor was built. This plant has been satisfactorily installed at a cost of about \$3,000.00. It is now in operation and at a very small cost, it is capable of making all the ice needed for the institution and furnishing the most satisfactory cold storage facilities.

EFFICIENCY TO BE MAINTAINED.

The foregoing is a rough outline of the large and more important improvements to St. Joseph's Hospital during the past twenty-five years. Every effort has been made to maintain the efficiency of the institution. With that end in view such improvements and extensions were made from time to time as were found necessary to meet the exacting requirements of the standardization to which it attained six years ago, and it will always be the aim and purpose of the management to continue to maintain that efficiency that the patrons of St. Joseph's Hospital may always rely upon the best service.

THE EARLY DAYS OF ST. JOSEPH'S.

BY DR. JOHN STEWART, HALIFAX.

When I think of St. Joseph's Hospital in its early days, certain names come to my mind. First I think of Father Ronald. It was he that had the vision of a House of Healing in his parish. Some scoffed, many doubted, but the house is there, growing greater and doing greater things than perhaps even he dreamed of. I trust that Father Ronald in his present quiet country parish has pleasant memories of those strenuous days. And then I think of my dear friend, Dr. Arthur MacKeen, of whose character and ability Dr. Sullivan spoke so eloquently at the recent dinner of the Dalhousie Medical Society. It has sometimes been the case that the opening of a hospital in a new locality has tempted a doctor, legally qualified to practice surgery, but with neither experience nor natural aptitude, to undertake operations which have only been successful because God was kind. And indeed I think every honest surgeon can recall times when he himself was in this position. For we all must learn from experience. But MacKeen was what old folk used to call "a natural-born surgeon." He had a "gift." Next to the Hospital comes the Man, and the success of this Hospital was largely due to this one man. Indeed, it would perhaps be better to say the man is the prime necessity and the hospital comes next. Perhaps it was because Father Ronald had observed Dr. MacKeen and his colleagues were doing first class surgery in very difficult circumstances, that he first saw his vision.

Then a third name comes to mind, that of Miss Cameron, the Superintendent who set such a high standard of hospital management, and trained so efficient and dexterous a nursing staff, as to contribute in great measure to the attainment by St. Joseph's Hospital to its proud position on the highest standard of the American College of Surgeons.

It was sometimes my good fortune to operate here, and I well remember the sense of comfort and confidence I had in operating with MacKeen and Murphy and Sullivan and MacLennan and E. O. MacDonald, whose recent death we all mourn.

In one respect St. Joseph's Hospital was fortunate in its situation. In the centre of a large mining area, with a busy railway service, there were frequent serious accidents. There was probably a larger percentage of "industrial surgery" here than in any other part of the Maritime Provinces. The condi-

tions were similar to those that made Leeds such a centre of the best surgical work. But the surgery, though so largely "urgent surgery," in which diagnosis and decision have both to be prompt, is not all of this type, and as the reputation of the surgical staff rose, and such emergencies as acute appendicitis, perforations of gastric or duodenal ulcers, strangulated hernias, were treated successfully, an increasing number of all kinds of surgical diseases presented themselves, and now the whole range of surgery and gynecology is represented in the wards and the indications are that another extension to the Hospital is needed. And I have said nothing of the great benefit, the life-saving value of the Hospital to the community in medical and obstetrical cases.

I should like to refer to two of your staff who lie in soldiers' graves. Doubtless you are all familiar with the manner of their passing. Kenneth MacCuish fell in the actual battle front hastening to take the place of a brother officer who had been killed. He was carried to No. 3 Casualty Clearing Station, at Remy Siding, both thighs shattered. He never rallied. Walter MacLean had had a heavy day in the operating room, for wounded were arriving continuously. Late in the afternoon he was persuaded to go and have a cup of tea before taking up the next case. While crossing the court-yard he was struck by a bursting shell and so severely wounded in so many places that there was no hope. He did not recover from shock sufficiently to have an operation done, even if such were possible. He had attracted the attention of all the Consultants in his area. Sir Anthony Bowlby asked him where he had studied. He replied "At Dalhousie College." "But where did you gain your surgical knowledge?" "All I know of Surgery I learned from Dr. Arthur MacKeen at St. Joseph's Hospital."

GREETINGS TO ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL GLACE BAY, NOVA SCOTIA.

By

MALCOLM T. MACEachern, M. D., C. M., D. Sc.
Chicago,

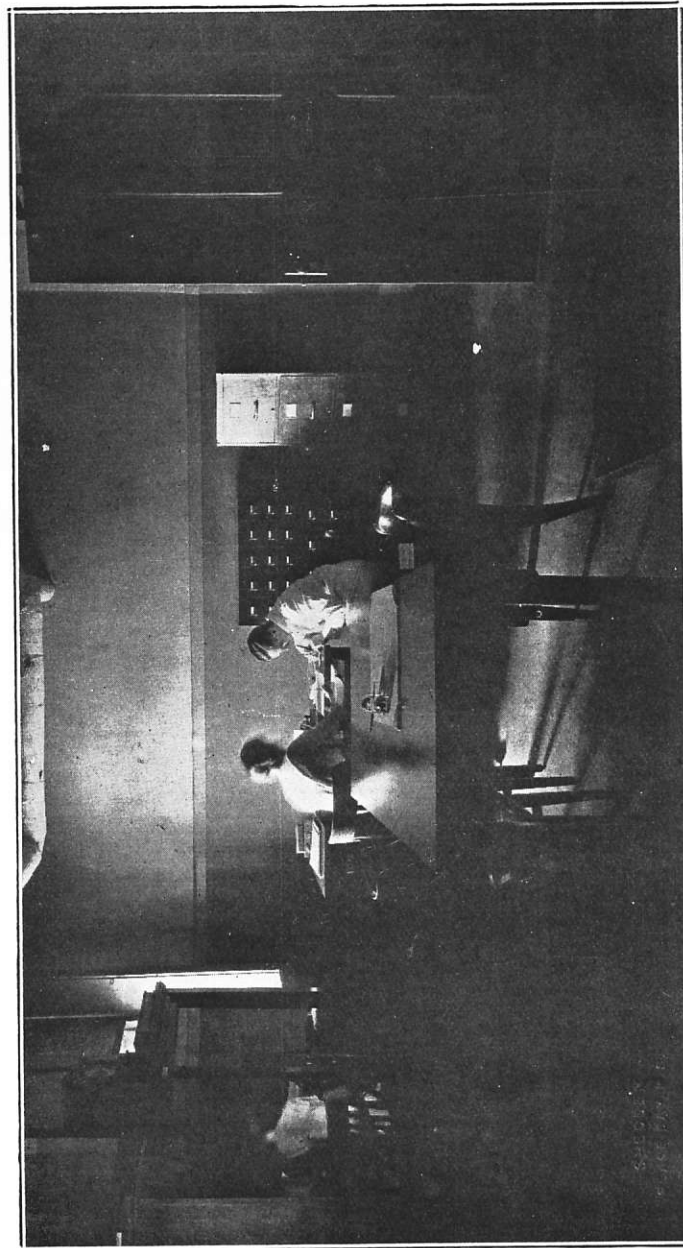
*Associate Director, American College of Surgeons
and Director of Hospital Activities.*

On behalf of the American College of Surgeons I extend congratulations to St. Joseph's Hospital on its silver anniversary. May there be many happy returns of this day in the years to come.

Twenty-five years of devoted service, such as St. Joseph's Hospital has given, is an achievement most worthy of being recorded in the history of hospitals. It is well known that the permanency of any great institution or work depends directly on the kind of service rendered and its value to society. In this respect St. Joseph's Hospital has fully demonstrated its fitness through the role played in the saving of human lives, the relief of suffering mankind, the prevention of chronic invalidism, the promotion of health, the education of the public, and the training of doctors and nurses for their professions. If all this could be capitalized in dollars and cents what a wonderful contribution St. Joseph's Hospital would have made to the community and the nation at large during the past twenty-five years. There is no other utility in the community which pays a greater dividend than does a hospital in the terms indicated above.

My intimate knowledge of St. Joseph's Hospital during the past few years has impressed me with the willingness and sincerity of effort which characterizes this institution in complying with modern principles of hospital service. This was notably demonstrated a few years ago when the movement of Hospital Standardization was presented by the American College of Surgeons. Because Hospital Standardization was a good feature for patient, doctor, nurse and others concerned, St. Joseph's Hospital was one of the first in Canada to adopt the requirements and become a fully approved hospital worthy of hanging in its halls a certificate of approval as a public attestation that it stands for the right kind of service to the patient. Not only did they desire to adopt this standard in letter, but also in spirit.

The Hospital Standardization movement is now in its tenth year of active development. Over seventeen hundred hospitals



The Record Room

in Canada and the United States have adopted these principles and put them into effect, with remarkable improvement in results generally. Hospital Standardization is a nation-wide and international movement to improve service for the sick and make the Hospital a better place for all concerned. It aims at surrounding the doctor, nurse, and others participating in the care of the patient with an environment conducive to giving the patient the best service. This is accomplished through the adoption and application of certain definite standards setting forth practical principles providing for proper organization, adequate diagnostic and therapeutic facilities, trained personnel, scientific procedures, competent supervision and check-up; always keeping in mind that the patient is the first consideration and the objective or perspective upon which all services must focus.

The day is rapidly approaching when no man, woman or child will trust their lives to a hospital not meeting the requirements, or approved in this manner. Life is too valuable to tamper with excepting under the most guarded and protected conditions, as are afforded in a truly standardized institution. It is the moral and legal responsibility of every hospital to protect the public in this respect.

Finally, the right kind of hospital today must have two well blended aspects—the scientific and the human. Side by side with the urge for more scientific institutions comes a similar plea to keep the hospital human. A hospital in physical aspects and in general atmosphere must approach that of a home so as to minimize the physical reaction of the transfer of the patient from the latter to the former. It must also be remembered that closely associated with the patient is a mentally ill family or group of friends or relatives, which the hospital cannot disregard. The desirable spirit which should permeate the service of every institution is well expressed in My Pledge and Creed, a contribution of The Modern Hospital to the hospital field, which should be adopted by every hospital and apply to all concerned with the welfare of the patient.

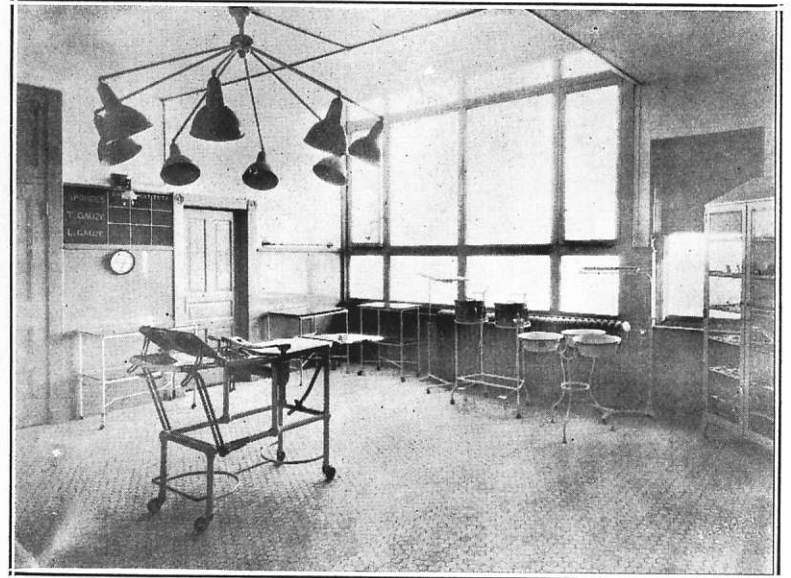
MY PLEDGE AND CREED.

REVERENTLY do I pledge myself to the whole-hearted service of those whose care is intrusted to this hospital.

TO THAT END I will ever strive for skill in the fulfilment of my duties, holding secret whatsoever I may learn touching upon the lives of the sick.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the dignity of the cure of disease and the safeguarding of health in which no act is menial or inglorious.

I WILL WALK in upright faithfulness and obedience to those under whose guidance I am to work, and I pray for patience, kindness and understanding in the holy ministry to broken bodies.



The Operating Room



The Operating Room—an Operation

A GREAT INSTITUTION.

BY G. H. MURPHY, M D., HALIFAX.

"I now declare this hospital open and dedicated for all time to the claims of suffering humanity." These were the concluding words, as I recall them, of the address delivered twenty-five years ago by Rev. Ronald MacDonald before a very large assemblage of men, women and children who had come from towns and country side to witness the formal opening of St. Joseph's Hospital.

It was in the days when much building was the vogue in Glace Bay. But this was something different. A number of the men and women with the instinct and vision to do something really great for the ill and the injured had thrown themselves with surpassing zeal into the effort, and the hospital was the result. No prospect could have had a better leader; and back through the quarter of a century intervening I throw my tribute of respect and praise to the grey haired, magnetic and far seeing philanthropist, Father Ronald MacDonald, then parish priest of Glace Bay. He stands on the front veranda of the hospital delivering the opening address; and there is the glow of accomplishment in his countenance, and the lilt of victory in his voice.

I was just beginning practice and could see in the new hospital great possibilities for development along professional lines. For twelve years following, it was my privilege to serve on the visiting staff; and recalling and analysing those years one is struck with the really vital hold the hospital and its influence have had on one's life.

Space compels brevity; but there are two names I must mention because they did most to form the high character of St. Joseph's which it has since retained. I mean the late Dr. MacKeen and Miss Janet Cameron. The former soon gave the hospital a high Surgical standing, and the latter's great ability and resourcefulness as superintendent, head nurse etc., were a Godsend in evolving high standards of nursing and organization.

Death has claimed some of the visiting staff with whom I was associated. Time has added others; the hospital has grown in size and has kept step with the most modern developments; and remains true to high ideals.

In conclusion, here is remembrance for my former confreres who have passed on; greetings for them who remain; and heartiest congratulations to you, St. Joseph's, on this your Jubilee year.

JUBILEE GREETINGS.

By W. W. KENNEY,

Superintendent Victoria General Hospital.

I congratulate you on your Silver Jubilee. I knew you in your infancy, you were even then comely and vigorous. I have, with sustained interest, followed you to the full years of your maturity and have admired and enjoyed your steady development of Institutional strength.

I visited you in your youth. Miss Cameron was then your Superintendent. She impressed me as being a person of fine capabilities though she was not without her Institutional troubles. She was then having them. Out of my then elementary hospital experience, including troubles, I tried to help her. I wonder if I succeeded.

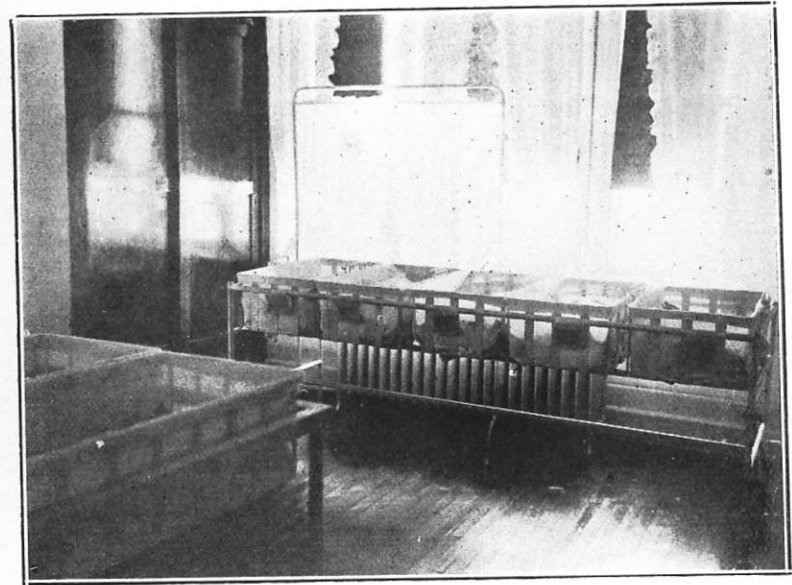
Much more recently, after you had been thoroughly rehabilitated, I visited you again, unannounced. Sister Ignatius, the able mistress of all the complexities of hospital organizations and progress, was then directing your destinies.

What a pleasant visit! There was a cordial greeting, and immediate consciousness of a general atmosphere of welcome, a noticeable air of restfulness in the quiet precision, and tone of your halls. I was impressed, for though I had visited many hospitals in Canada and the United States, I had not seen a better one of your size and class.

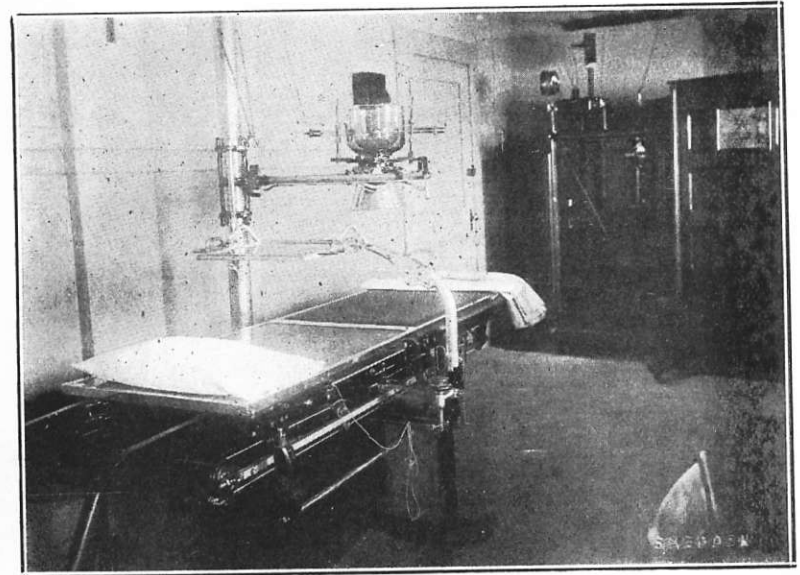
You were the fifth member of the Provincial Hospital Family, now grown to twenty-eight, and were among the first in the rural-ward hospital movement, which is still active.

You have always held a forward place in the family ranks, have been ambitious in construction, organization, equipment and service, and so have achieved success and have won confidence. The family then had one bed for every 1900 persons in the Province, now it has one for every 360. Then its full bed capacity was for 3000 patients per annum, now for 29,000, and so we have quietly and steadily grown.

You have until recently maintained in service capacity a place next the Mother Institution. A younger sister, however, has recently supplanted you. I am sure you will accept this friendly challenge. We shall see.



The Nursery



Corner of X-Ray Room

I shall not be this-wise honored on the occasion of your Golden Jubilee, but under the direction of that world-wide and greatly beloved Order of Sisterhood now watching over you, your noble activities will go on to that day and beyond.

My parting admonition is that you keep your doors widely open, beckoning to your house of mercy all those who with maimed and broken bodies, turn their longing eyes towards the friendly beacon light on the hill, where, we and they know, there await them skilled Surgeons, Physicians, Nurses, and withal and above all, a truly devoted exemplification of the spirit of the Great Physician who "went about doing good."

EARLY RECOLLECTIONS.

By J. S. MacLENNAN, M. D.

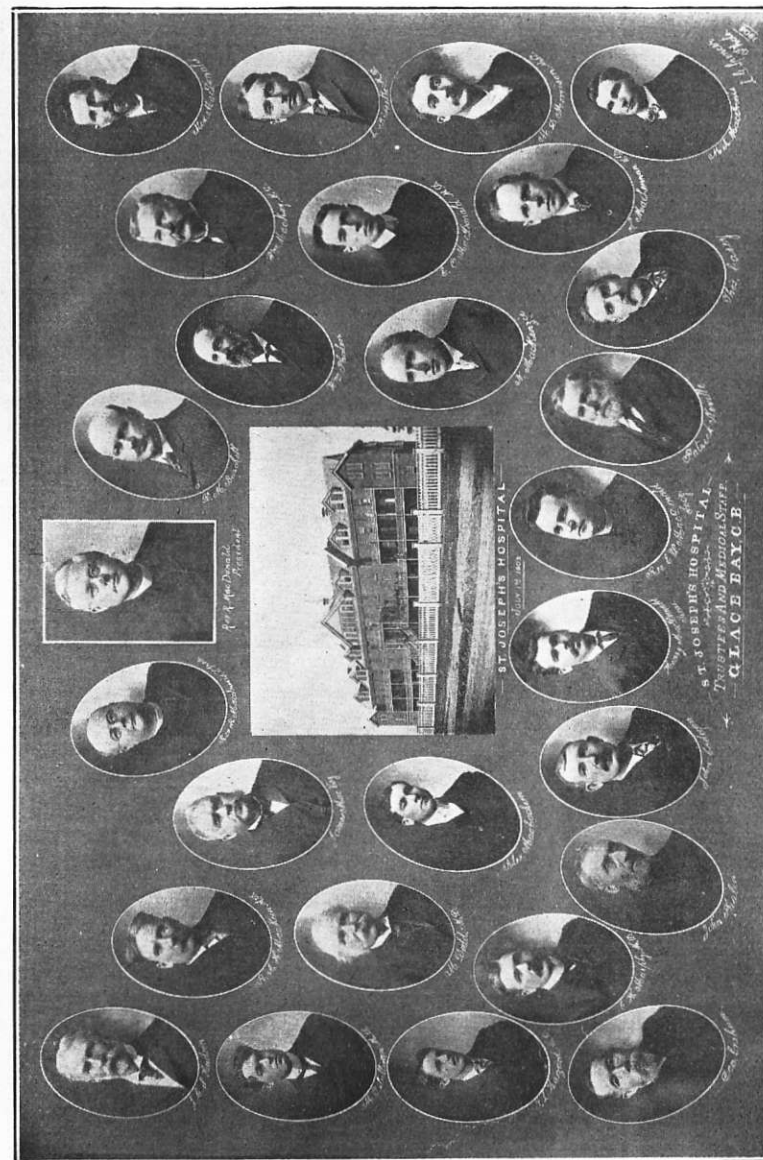
Halifax.

The SILVER JUBILEE of St. Joseph's Hospital! Twenty-five years! Well might Ovid say—"Tempus edax rerum, tuque invidiosa resustas." What memories and what recollections of the early days have survived through the years. Space compels them to be restricted to a few tributes. First of all, I think that the old Staff will agree that the most fortunate thing for St. Joseph's Hospital was the fact that Miss Cameron was its first Matron. A most capable woman, trained in a splendid school, with a perfect genius for nursing, she literally carried the organization on her shoulders. Few people had such a weird prescience about the result of a case, and if Miss Cameron had good hopes of a patient, one always felt encouraged. The influence of her personality seemed to contribute to the patient's recovery. The writer remembers with special gratitude the assistance received from her in his early Cataract operations, as with her light touch and firm hand she made an excellent assistant.

To his late colleague, Dr. E. O. MacDonald, the writer can only offer the tribute of appreciation of his fine character. Quiet and reserved, without any self-assertiveness, he did his daily work most efficiently and cheerfully, though handicapped by long and severe ill health.

The writer cannot refrain from referring to the two men to whom he owed the most in the early days of his profession,— Drs. MacKeen and MacKay. They were exceedingly able medical men, but their memory will last for other qualities as well. Such geniality, humour and other gifts of personality it would be hard to equal, and impossible to surpass. One has seen men whom greater opportunities enabled to advance further in the profession, but taken all in all the writer, in spite of the glamour of the past, does not expect to look upon their like again.

Lastly, one cannot close without referring to the "Deus ex Machina" of the Hospital, its conceiving genius, "Father Ronald," still doing duty in another field.—Ave, semper floreat.



The Original Staff and Board

St. Joseph's
CLARENCE BAYNS
ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL
TRUSTEES' MEDICAL STAFF.
1927

The Present Staff

IMPRESSIONS OF ST. JOSEPH'S.

By W. H. HATTIE, M. D.,
Halifax.

It is a great pleasure to respond to the invitation to write something of the impressions I received of St. Joseph's Hospital during the years in which it fell to my lot to inspect it in an official capacity. It was my privilege to see the wonderful advances made in the accommodation and equipment of the hospital which won for it the recognition of the American College of Surgeons. At every visit I was impressed with the dauntless courage of those charged with the administration, and the splendid spirit with which all concerned entered into their work. At no time was there the least indication of slackening effort, but, on the contrary, there was steady progress from better to better. Within a few years the difficulties which had handicapped the institution were successfully removed, and it was brought up to a high standard of excellence. I cannot recommend too highly the earnestness, devotion and enthusiasm of those who have made possible the proud position which St. Joseph's has attained in the hospital world. With such executive and professional personnel as the hospital can boast, there is every reason for confidence in the quality of the service it renders. May it continue to prosper and to fulfil its high purpose!

SOME REMINISCENCES.

BY M. T. SULLIVAN, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Glace Bay.

As the only practitioner on the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital who was also a member of the first staff I have been asked to become reminiscent and say something of my impressions of the hospital and its progress during the past twenty-five years. It is not a few pages of a booklet such as this which one who has been so long connected with this institution would find adequate for such a purpose, but a whole volume. It must be enough for me, however, to make some of the high lights of its history visible to my readers.

The history of the institution, its founding, its early progress, and the extraordinary development it has undergone in recent years, will be read elsewhere. With others, who were in a position to see the need, I rejoiced when the final decision to undertake this great work was made. I had then been in practice a couple of years and knew well how utterly inadequate were the facilities provided by the Dominion Coal Company's hospital. It had accommodation only for fifteen to seventeen patients, and we sometimes had that many accidents in a single day. As might be expected, the situation was not without its difficulties even after the new hospital was opened, for it was the first institution deserving the name in Cape Breton, and most of us were lacking in real experience. However, there was one advantage we had, and it has been one of the greatest factors in raising St. Joseph's to the proud position it occupies today. Though the young members of the staff were practically untried, they were enthusiastic and eager to learn, and Providence furnished us an ideal leader in the person of Doctor MacKeen. Doctor MacKeen was perhaps one of the most remarkable surgeons Canada has ever produced. He had wonderful natural ability, a love for the work which amounted almost to a passion, and, combined with all this, he had the faculty which is so often lacking in extremely clever men, the faculty of imparting his knowledge to others and inspiring them with his own enthusiasm. Even with the limited facilities at his command in the Company's hospital, he did remarkable work, and when the opportunity came to work in a well-equipped institution he developed very quickly into a surgeon of the first rank. The young men who worked with him will always remember his kindness, his readiness to assist in emergencies, and his willingness to instruct. No doubt every contributor to this Jubilee booklet will have words



The First Graduating Class. Earl and Countess Gray in Foreground

of praise for Doctor MacKeen, and he deserves them all. The reputation for good surgery which St. Joseph's had then and still holds is due to his work, and the sense of a great loss which his death brought has not yet passed away.

After Doctor MacKeen one naturally thinks of Doctor William MacKay, whose medical skill did much for St. Joseph's in its early days. He is remembered by all who knew him as a most kindly and charitable man, whose jovial disposition made his very presence in the sick-room a tonic. Doctor MacKay was a practitioner of the fine old school, who thought of his work and his patients first and his fees last. His kindness to the poor was proverbial, and because of it he lived and died a poor man himself. Doctor Dodd was already far advanced in years when the hospital was built, but remained a few years in active practise. He was a physician of the same type as Doctor MacKay, beloved for his kindness as well as respected for his skill. Doctor Dodd was a son of Judge Dodd of Sydney, and a member of a distinguished family which played a leading part in the early history of Cape Breton.

Doctor E. O. MacDonald, whose untimely passing is still keenly remembered by his friends, was one of the younger members of the first staff, and developed into an able surgeon. Later, he devoted his fine talents almost entirely to the study of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and became one of the leading specialists of the Province. I never knew him otherwise than as a conscientious, faithful, and most reliable man, devoted to his work and his patients. He was always a close student, and his death was a sad blow to the hospital, to which his special knowledge made him a tower of strength.

Among the men with whom I have been associated on the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital, there are two whose names memories sad but proud join together inseparably. They are Captain Kenneth Angus MacCuish and Major Walter L. MacLean. Both were associated with the late Doctor MacKeen before his death. Doctor MacCuish practised at Glace Bay all, or nearly all the time between his graduation in 1903 and his going overseas with the St. F. X. Hospital Unit in 1916. He made an excellent reputation for himself in the medical service. The manner of his death showed at once his courage and his devotion to the high ideals of his profession. The medical officer of a Canadian Battalion having been killed in action, Doctor MacCuish volunteered to take his place, though the battalion was under heavy fire at the time. He received wounds which proved fatal. Doctor MacLean met his death the same year—1917—being mortally wounded by the bursting of a shell. His remarkable work as a war surgeon attracted the attention of some of the

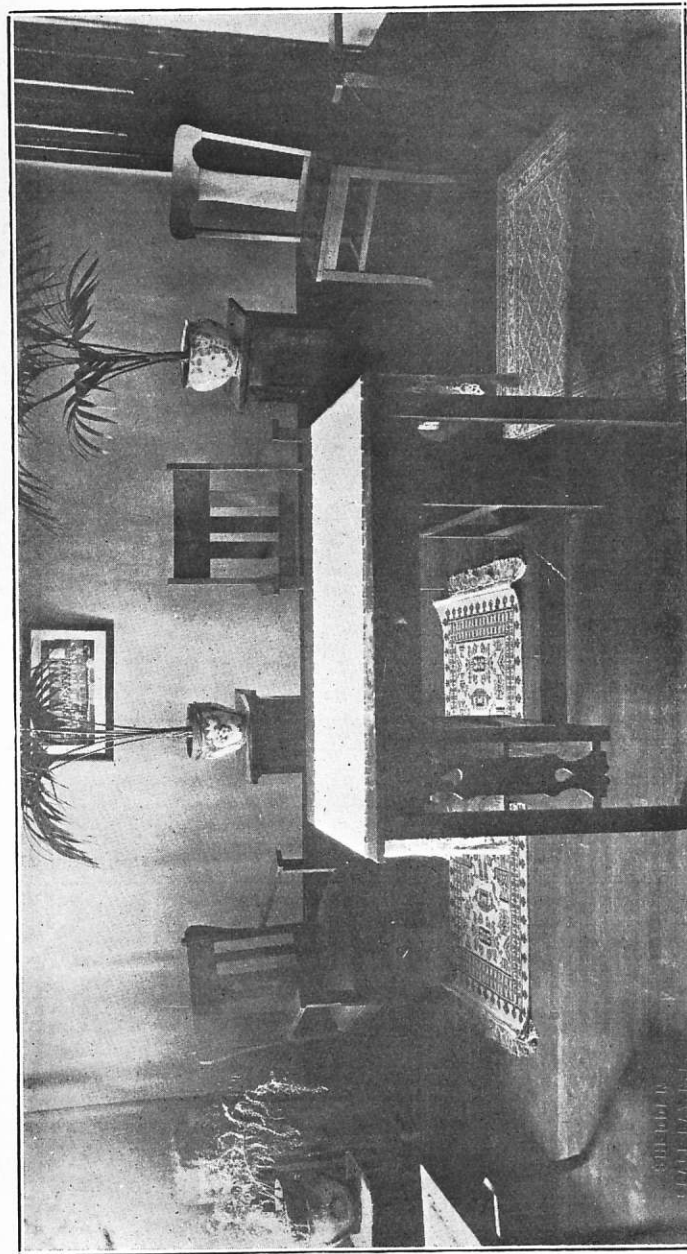
highest officers in the army medical service. Both men received their practical training at St. Joseph's Hospital, and no finer testimony to the quality of that training could be found than the work of these two fallen heroes.

Among others of the first staff who have left us for broader fields are Doctor S. J. MacLennan, who is now one of the leading eye and ear specialists of Halifax, Doctor Morrison of the Compensation Board, an able practitioner who has made good in his new field, and Doctor George Murphy, who has risen quickly to the first rank among the physicians and surgeons of Halifax. Another member of the staff who made a distinguished name for himself is Doctor Hugh A. Chisholm, C. M. G., who rose to high office in the Canadian Army Medical Corps.

I must not forget to make mention of one of the younger members of the staff, whom death claimed on the threshold of what promised to be a useful career. No one who knew him has any but kind memories of Doctor John W. Gannon. Doctor Gannon took a special course in diseases of children, a subject now making marvellous strides, and one for which he was peculiarly fitted by his kindness and gentleness of disposition. He showed great proficiency in this specialty, and his early death was a great loss to St. Joseph's as well as to the community he served.

My reminiscences of staff members have carried me perhaps beyond the space I should take up, but I cannot close without adding a few words of praise which it would be most unjust to withhold.

While St. Joseph's Hospital was always conducted in a highly efficient manner, yet it seemed to have attained a new growth and efficiency over night when it came under the direction of the Sisters of St. Martha. And let it be said at once, without prejudice to the work of anyone else, that its present position is due principally to the prodigious labours and wonderful ability of Mother Ignatius, former Superintendent of Nurses, Superior of St. Joseph's, and now Mother General of the Congregation. With a broad knowledge of hospital requirements, she saw that extensive improvements were necessary if the hospital was to make real progress, and set herself to a task whose magnitude would have appalled anyone of less zeal and force of character. Her great talent for organization brought into being Women's Societies which entered enthusiastically on the work, and at the same time she commanded in the fullest degree the respect and confidence of the men. In six months improvements were effected costing \$120,000. The raising of smaller sums than this has often been accompanied by hectic campaigns, with endless



Reception Room

tooting of horns and blowing of trumpets; but in this industrial heart of Cape Breton the work went on so smoothly and quietly that comparatively few knew of its magnitude till it was completed. Undoubtedly such results could not be accomplished so well without the directing genius of Mother Ignatius. She set herself to the task of having St. Joseph's recognized as a standard hospital, and so well did she succeed that when Dr. MacEachern, Director of hospital activities for the United States and Canada, came to inspect the hospital, he found it actually equipped in excess of the standard requirements. Mother Ignatius' promotion to the highest position in the Congregation has made necessary her removal from St. Joseph's. We feel, however, that she still has a special affection for the scene of her greatest labours, and certainly everyone who has at heart the welfare of the institution has reason to hold her name in benediction.

Among other provisions for increased efficiency it may be mentioned that a few years ago the directors enacted a by-law governing the staff to the effect that no doctor shall be allowed to practise surgery till he has satisfied them of his competency. This wise provision makes for the protection of both hospital and patients.

It has always been a matter of pride to us that the surgical death rate in St. Joseph's is lower than that of any other hospital in Nova Scotia. The hospital, however, is now overcrowded, and it is to be hoped, despite the great sums spent in recent years, that the directors may soon see their way clear to increase the accommodation by the addition of a number of private rooms.

Finally, while we may find more magnificent institutions, there are none that surpass St. Joseph's in quality and service. Its progressiveness has aroused a spirit of competition in other hospitals which has done much good. It has kept abreast of the times and has shown the way to the hospitals of the province. There is no reason to fear that its glory will be dimmed by any competitor, or that the high standard of its efficiency will be excelled.

THE STANDARDIZED HOSPITAL.

BY T. R. PONTON, M. D.

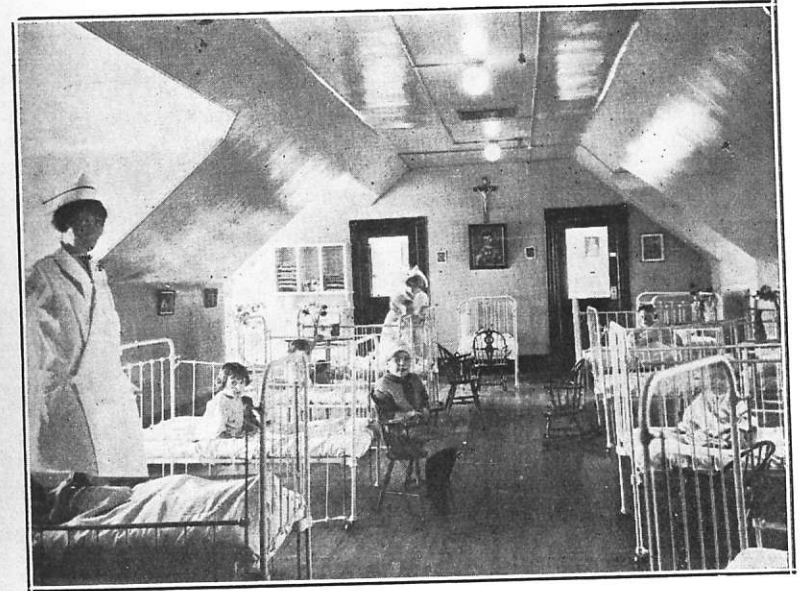
General Superintendent Hollywood Hospital, California.

The present is an age of specialization when the individual no matter what his trade or profession, tends to narrow his work to one particular branch and to become highly skilled in that branch. The medical profession has yielded to the tendency of the period, but unfortunately, the parts of the body cannot be segregated so that every specialist requires the assistance of some other specialist and all must have good laboratories available. This so complicates the "Case" that written records become necessary.

This complication of modern medicine created a need for co-ordination of the work which in some places has to a certain extent been met by group practice, but which has been more effectively met in hospitals by the program of hospital standardization carried on under the guidance of the American College of Surgeons. It is because this program meets a need and meets it in a reasonable manner that it has been so favorably received by all the hospitals of the continent.

The program was in the nature of advice to the hospitals as to the best method, under modern conditions, for the betterment of service and its acceptance was purely voluntary on the part of the hospital. The College advised, in its Minimum Standard, that Laboratories should be available for the study of the patient's condition; that the practice among the medical men should be ethical and not tinged with commercialism, thus encouraging consultation; that written records should be systematically kept, and that the medical staff at monthly meetings should study each other's work.

St. Joseph's Hospital in all the years of its existence has always striven to make service to the patient its first consideration, and early in the period of hospital standardization commenced studying how to put that program into effect. The result of this progressive spirit was that in 1921 the College found that the hospital had complied with the requirements of the Minimum Standard and admitted it to the approved list.



The Children's Ward



The Sun Porch

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE FIRST STAFF.

BY DR. M. D. MORRISON, HALIFAX, N. S.

I have certainly a vivid recollection of the beautiful summer day in 1902 on which St. Joseph's Hospital was opened and dedicated to the worthy cause of suffering humanity by its great promoter, Rev. Father MacDonald; and I have an equally warm recollection of my fifteen years' experience as a member of the Hospital Staff. At the head of that Staff, as first organized, was Dr. R. A. H. MacKeen representing the surgical side, and Dr. Wm. MacKay the medical. Associated with them, and actively engaged in both branches of the profession, were M. T. Sullivan, S. J. MacLennan, G. H. Murphy, E. O. MacDonald, Dr. Haszard and the present writer. Presiding over the Institution with great dignity, but charming personality, was the Matron, Miss Janet Cameron.

Dr. MacKeen was an enthusiast on the matter of pre-operative preparation, and those of us who worked about the operating table were truly moving symbols of surgical purification. None of us shall ever forget his majestic appearance as, equipped in full operating-room paraphernalia, he courageously attacked a complicated surgical problem and invariably brought it to a satisfactory solution. The assistants for the day would be keyed up to the highest tension; the silent nurses would be dexterity personified; the amiable matron would be hovering around during the trying ordeal, casting her well-trained eye over the whole situation, and bringing the sunshine of her cheery smile wherever she appeared.

St. Joseph's has been much enlarged and improved since those early days, and is now placed on the standard list for Canada. But this is a portion of its history that shall be featured by another writer. My sincere hope is that it may long flourish and continue the good work inaugurated by its founders a quarter of a century ago.

GREETINGS FROM THE CATHOLIC HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION.

FROM FATHER MOULINIER, S. J.

Gladly would I favor you with a short article for your celebration of the 25th anniversary of the opening of St. Joseph's Hospital, but how can I say anything that will be especially appropriate for such an occasion. I have seen your hospital, have met your Sisters and doctors, but do not know the story of your struggles and heroic work.

That you have had many struggles, long and trying, there can be no doubt. Your faith and love of God have given you strength to face and overcome every difficulty. You undoubtedly have had some fine co-operation from the doctors and from the people, not perhaps all that you should have had but enough to encourage you to go on with the work for the Christian relief of the sick and poor.

As you look back over the twenty-five years of your existence as a hospital you very likely recall humble beginnings and crude and unsatisfactory work in view of your present standardized hospital. Now with your enlarged facilities and adequate equipment you are blessed with the satisfaction of knowing that you are at last, after all these years, able to take your stand as a modern, up-to-date hospital, equal to the best in the land.

I congratulate most heartily, the Sisters, nurses and doctors and general public of Glace Bay on the splendid achievements resulting from twenty-five years of long, hard, persevering and conscientious effort to give to your patients the very best within your power of diagnosis, treatment, nursing and institutional management. May your next twenty-five years be a repetition of this high spiritual purpose of progress, ever reaching out for what is safest and best in the service of the sick. May God bless you for the years to come.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

C. B. MOULINIER, S. J.

FROM FATHER GARESCHE, S. J.

The Reverend Superior, Staff and Personnel
of St. Joseph's Hospital,
Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

Dear Friends:

I wish to send you a few words of cordial greeting and congratulations on the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the opening of your hospital.

On my recent visit to Nova Scotia and to St. Joseph's Hospital, I could realize how courageously and successfully you are working in spite of difficulties to bring your hospital to the highest standard and to give your people all the advantages possible for the preservation or recovery of that precious gift of health.

It is a pleasure to know also that you are working to provide through the Sodalities and Chapters of the International Catholic Guild of Nurses, and through the encouragement of good reading and of conferences, the highest ideals of mental and spiritual life in your hospital personnel. It is the soul of the hospital which gives vigor, strength and perseverance to its outward ministries.

Hoping that God will bless you all abundantly, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

E. F. GARESCHE, S. J.,
Editor Hospital Progress.

THE SCHOOL OF NURSING.

Too frequently, we accept as a matter of course, opportunities and advantages which are ours, without considering any of the features which make them possible.

It is evident that many of us realize the value of a well-constructed and efficient hospital service to a community, but perhaps few of us consider the great work which a hospital carries on as an educational centre. This is surely one of its greatest achievements. Not only is the patient benefitted by such a form of education, but the whole community as well. Every nurse who goes forth as a graduate from the Hospital can and ought to help all who come in touch with her.

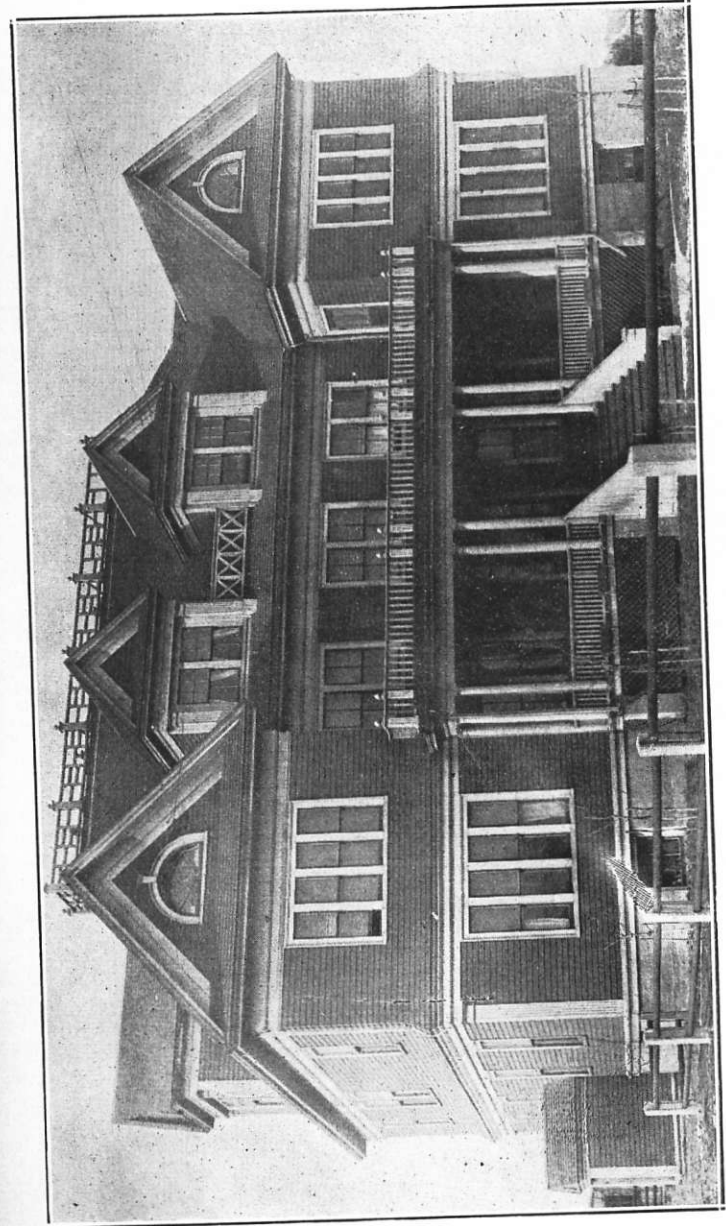
Needless to say, a Nurse's work is service,—not only a service to suffering, growing and dying humanity, but a service to the community to which she belongs and to all mankind. By tact and delicacy she can instruct the public in the prevention of disease, in better methods of cleanliness, sanitation and proper living. In a word she can spread the "gospel of health" throughout the length and breadth of the land.

A nurse is a valuable citizen to a community. Her knowledge and experience constitute her a valuable asset to any locality, be it in the crowded city, the industrial centre, or the most remote rural district.

Furthermore, the very nature of a nurse's education fits her admirably for her future duties of home-maker, wife and mother. Every day she can apply her knowledge to her home life, and she will invariably find that her profession renders her a valuable asset to her home and family. There is no lack of opportunity here, and if she takes advantage of these, happy indeed is the home that possesses her, and thrice happy is the man who wins her!

Then, perchance, if a nurse is destined to live a life of single blessedness, she will find that her profession places many advantages in her way which she would otherwise be denied. The benefit of her service to mankind is so far-reaching and enduring, that she is rightly considered a boon and a blessing to the country in general.

Happier still, and with far greater opportunities, is the nurse whose love for sacrifice and whose devotion to humanity prompts her to devote her entire life to the sole object of helping those in need by consecrating herself to God in the Religious State.



The Nurses' Home

What a valuable member she becomes for her Order or Congregation! Nor does the world lose anything by such a choice, but rather becomes richer and nobler because of her multiplied and continual service. In this vocation, what opportunities are her's, when by her triple vow she consecrates her whole life to Him, who, too, lived His Life for others!

This, then, is a brief summary of what a School of Nursing does for a community. It sends forth year after year, graduates who fulfil their duties faithfully in either of these three states of life, and who have made the world brighter and better for their presence.

This by no means is the least of the many blessings St. Joseph's has shed over this part of the world during the past quarter of a century. One hundred and seventy three remarkably clever and devoted young women have gone forth as graduates from the school, and the greater number fulfilled their duties in every walk of life nobly and well. When the great World War sounded the clarion call of duty loud and clear, St. Joseph's graduates heeded and responded to the call. Nor is less credit due to those who gave unstintingly of their services at home, though under a less brilliant light. Particularly when the deadly ravages of the Flu swept over the country were their fidelity and self-sacrifice thoroughly appreciated.

Here it is fitting that we pay a passing tribute to the graduates who have already closed their earthly career in young, budding womanhood. They have made the world happier and brighter for their presence, and their passing away is sincerely mourned. Their friends are now happy in the thought that they are reaping the reward of their unselfish labors.

The first Graduation Exercises of St. Joseph's took place in 1905, when Miss Janet E. Cameron, R. N., was superintendent of the School of Nursing. To her fine initiative and good traditions, the subsequent success of the classes is largely due.

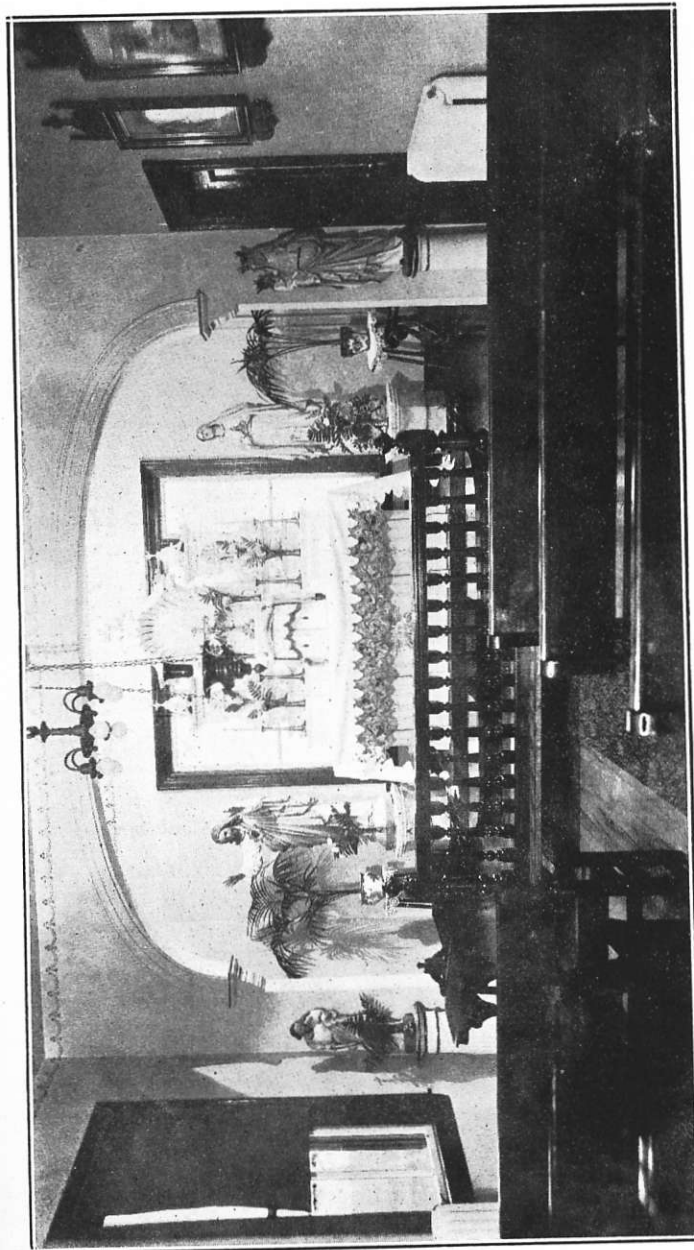
May St. Joseph's School of Nursing long continue to function in our midst, and may God multiply His Blessings upon our beloved Alma Mater!

THE DEAN OF THE STAFF.

BY A FORMER PATIENT.

As a former patient of St. Joseph's Hospital, and one who has been in somewhat close touch with its work for a considerable time, I look forward with a great deal of pleasure to the celebration of the Silver Jubilee, and to the appearance of the booklet commemorating the event. Doubtless the booklet will contain much that is interesting on the history of the founding of the hospital and its great progress since, as well as praise for those who did the initial work, and by their courage, zeal, and wisdom, made that progress possible. I think it is well, however, that those who are still associated with the hospital and whose skill and devotion do so much to maintain its high standing, should be remembered and should receive their need of praise. "De mortuis nil nisi bonum," of course, but surely it is more important still that the living upon whom the prestige and efficiency of the institution depends should be heartened to their work by commendation of their efforts. I trust that the booklet will do justice to those whose hands are still set to the plough, and who are cheerfully and bravely bearing the burden they have taken over from those who have gone to their eternal rest or are still labouring in other fields. I would that I could write of each individual who has a share in keeping St. Joseph's in the forefront among the hospitals of the Maritime Provinces, but I dare not attempt it, and perhaps the editor will refuse even this short contribution when he looks it over. However, I offer it, and since I cannot write of all I shall choose one, and one whose years of service, professional skill, and devotion to the interests of the hospital surely entitle to a word of special praise. Therefore, dear reader, let me, without further preamble, present the dean of the medical and surgical staff, the best-known and most highly reputed surgeon in eastern Nova Scotia, the physician who inspires a most exceptional confidence in his patients, whose striking personality commands attention as his ability commands respect, whose big heart is generally planning acts of kindness even while his tongue is stinging like the stroke of a lash. Reader, meet Dr. "Tom" Sullivan.

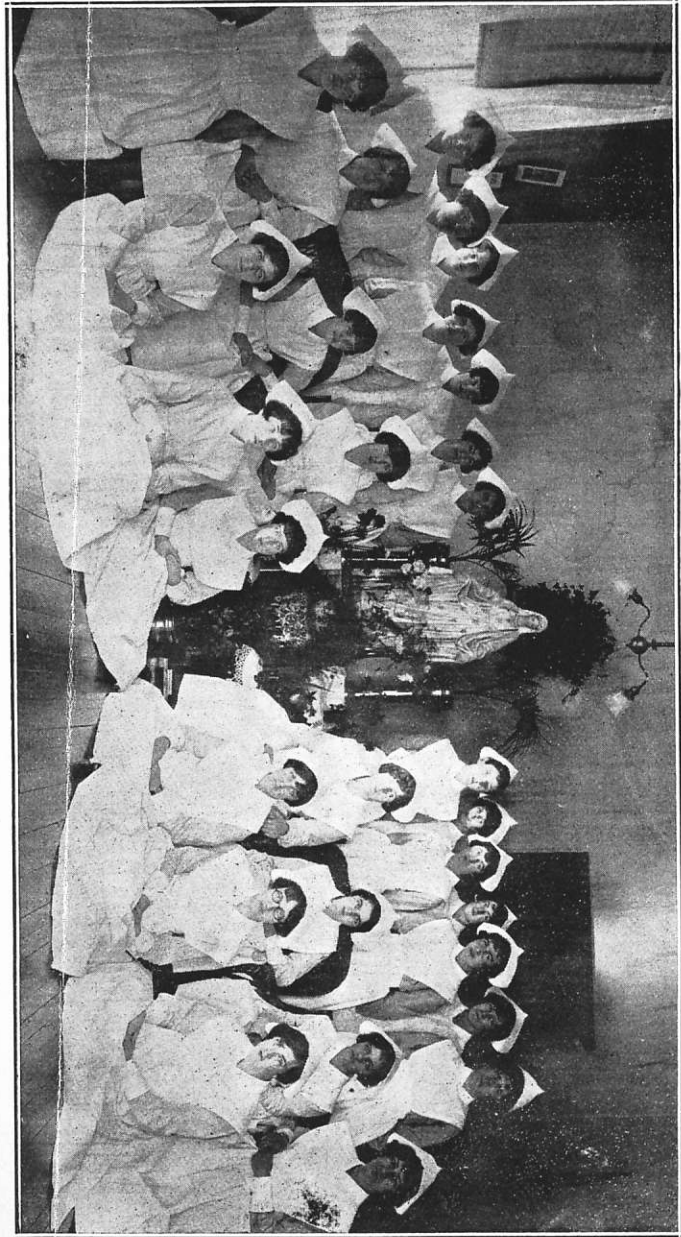
Dr. Sullivan was one of the younger members of the first staff of St. Joseph's Hospital. In the twenty-five years that have passed since then, he has seen some of its members pass on, their earthly work done, and others leave it for wider or more congenial fields. When Dr. MacKeen closed a singularly useful and all too short life ten years after St. Joseph's was founded, it was



The Chapel

Dr. Sullivan who was looked to, to fill his place and to maintain the prestige which the hospital had won under that grand old surgeon. Fifteen years have passed since then, and St. Joseph's reputation for high-class surgery has increased rather than diminished. Of course he had, and has, able confreres on the staff—St. Joseph's seems to have been particularly fortunate in this regard—but I feel sure public opinion would give practically unanimous support to the statement that, since the death of Dr. MacKeen, the skill and the personality of Dr. Sullivan have been chiefly instrumental in enhancing the reputation of the hospital. For it he has a special predilection, and in its service and for its honour he has slaved and sweated, has studied and travelled, has given all the power of his mind and all the skill of his hands. It is no selfish devotion he feels. He sees in St. Joseph's the institution which gave him the opportunity, as a young man, to perfect and increase his knowledge. He sees it as a place of healing for the sick and suffering, as a centre radiating light and knowledge to mitigate the terrors which ignorance of the means to combat it adds to disease, and to weaken its deadly grip. He knows what it has done, for he has worked in it and for it since it was founded; and with the vision which the garnered experience of a quarter century of service has given him, he sees that the accomplishments of the past are but a clearing of the way for still greater and nobler service in the cause of suffering humanity. Small wonder if he is likely to be impatient of anything which might impede its progress, if his eye is quick to detect faults and his tongue to administer salutary if sometimes caustic reproof. He would impart to everyone connected with the institution some of his own fiery zeal and unfailing energy, some of his own vision of its needs and possibilities, and of his own spirit of devotion and service. A fighter by right of his name and blood, he will not give up the struggle for the life of a patient till the decree of the Master of life and death has gone forth and the throbbing pulse is still forever. The spirit of hope which he radiates is an inspiration to his patients. They know him and trust him, and they know too that if he can put a sharp edge to his tongue to stir them up for a greater effort in their own behalf, his heart is big and warm and the hand which wields the merciless surgeon's knife can also dress the wound as gently as a woman's. The second generation of patients is growing up about him now. The children of those whom he brought into the world are imbibing their parents' confidence in the physician whose name has become a household word in the great industrial community he serves. And still he goes on, with the boundless energy of his youthful prime seemingly unimpaired. Who can estimate the value of such an asset to the institution whose welfare has become the passion of his life? May it be many a long year

before his powers begin to fail, and the cunning departs from his hand! Long years of useful service, let us hope, still lie before him. We may venture to hope that the best of his work for St. Joseph's is still to be done. This tribute is offered by one of his patients, and, harking back to its beginning, let me, while mindful of the honour due the dead, present it as a commendation justly due the living, whose services should be remembered with gratitude while remembrance and gratitude still have power to hearten them on their way and encourage them to still greater accomplishments.



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