

Christchurch Hospital, contd.NORTH CANTERBURY HOSPITAL BOARD.

1885.

In October, 1885, the first election of members took place.

The contributing Counties and Boroughs were:-

Amuri County	Akaroa Borough
Akaroa "	Christchurch "
Ashley "	Kaipoi "
Cheviot "	Lyttelton "
Kaikoura "	Rangiora "
Selwyn "	St. Albans "
	Sydenham "

The members representing the different districts were:-

R. Beetham	C. Louisson
F. Bromley	J. Macfarlane
A. Chalmers	R. Moore
R. Coop	H. H. Halder
J. Forrester	R. Westerra
T. Harrison	W. White
A. Ivory	W. D. Wood
H. P. Lance	H. Toomer
W. Vincent.	

The first meeting of the North Canterbury Hospital Board was held in the City Council Chambers, Tuesday, 5th November, 1885.

There were present:-

W. Vincent	A. Chalmers
R. Beetham	W. White
R. Westerra	J. Forrester
F. Jones	F. Bromley
R. Moore	H. V. Halder
H. W. Toomer.	

Absent:- C. Louisson and A. Ivory.

Mr. Vincent was appointed to preside by the Governor under Section 9 until a chairman was elected. At a further meeting on 17th November, T. Beetham was elected chairman. He suggested that steps should be taken to draw up regulations for the guidance of the institutions under the control of the Board. J. E. March was appointed Secretary and Treasurer pro tem. A Finance and By-law committee was appointed and also a House Committee.

Harper & Company (Solicitors) informed the Board that a legacy of £1,000 less duty was left by the late Edward Constable Maxwell and was now payable to the hospital. The Board recommended a ward for children, to be called the "Maxwell" ward. Mr. Maxwell died at Tunbridge Wells, England, in 1884 and also left £2,000 to such charitable institutions in the Provincial District of Canterbury "in such proportions as the Executors, in their absolute uncontrolled and unfettered discretion, should think fit."

Holmes and Loughrey were appointed Solicitors to the Board, and the Standing Orders were drawn up and printed.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

The following were appointed the Hospital Staff:-

Doctors Anderson (Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon),
Frankish and Townend (Hon. Physicians),
Stewart and Guthrie (Surgeons), Bakewell,
Synes and Westerra.
Miss Paton, Matron.
H. J. Hobden, Dispenser.
William Miller was appointed Secretary and
House Steward.

1886.

Allowing £ for £ subsidy from the Government,
£3,400.9.5. was required to be contributed from the
local authorities as follows:-

COUNTIES.

Anuri		£124. 2. 7
Akaroa		183. 14. 10
Byreton Road Board	£74. 14. 1	
Byreton W. " "	33. 1. 4	
Ashley " "	54. 13. 9	
Cust " "	29. 1. 5	
Kowhai " "	95. 19. 0	
Amberley Town " "	5. 15. 0	
Waipara Road " "	193. 14. 9	
Oxford " "	81. 19. 0	
Mandeville " "}	103. 9. 11	
Rangiora " "}		672. 8. 3
Cheviot County		75. 7. 8
Kaikoura " "		53. 0. 0
Selwyn " "		1,307. 2. 4
		<u>£2,445. 15. 8</u>

BOROUGHS.

Akaroa	£11. 2. 6
Christchurch	624. 7. 1
Kaiapoi	17. 19. 9
Lyttelton	73. 16. 0
Rangiora	26. 10. 4
St. Albans	97. 3. 9
Sydenham	133. 14. 4
	<u>£984. 13. 9</u>

<u>TOTAL:</u> Contributions from Counties	£2,445. 15. 8
" " " " " " " " " " " "	984. 13. 9
	<u>£3,400. 9. 5</u>

Certain material improvements took place in the management of the Hospital. In 1886, Dr. Westerra was appointed Resident Medical Officer and was responsible for initiating that each nurse was given an annual holiday of fourteen days, and they were also provided with uniforms. The wardmen were given a blue serge jacket embellished with a Maltese cross in red.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

The Board found it necessary to consider the question of building an operating theatre with a light from the roof. As the heating of the operating theatre was to be effected by means of a system of hot-water pipes, it was considered to be a most opportune time for introducing the same, for heating and ventilating Ward 6 (Men's Surgical), and supplying hot water for baths. The previous method of heating consisted of two unsightly detached fireplaces, which were quite inadequate to perform the purpose for which they were intended.

As the finances would not permit of building a new ward, it was decided to effect alterations to the old portion formerly used as a convalescent ward, so that it would contain two children's wards, one ophthalmic, one observation, and two convalescent wards, together with the necessary offices, giving a total of thirty-six beds. There was the urgent necessity of erecting a new kitchen, and connected with the laundry, a drying closet.

1887.

The Government voted £1,000 towards building a new fever ward, which consisted of two small wards of four and five beds each. The children's and convalescent wards and the corridor connecting the two portions of the hospital were completed and proved to be of great advantage. The success attending the heating of No. 6 ward by means of a hot-water system, prompted the carrying out of a like system for numbers 4 and 5. These three main wards left nothing to be desired, being cheerful and well ventilated. There were 146 beds available in the Hospital.

1888.

A proposition was made to the Board that it should assume the management of the Rhodes Convalescent Home. The representative of the Rhodes family conferred with a sub-committee appointed by the Board and stated that the building and lease-hold might be vested in the Board on condition of its being supported thereby. The Board could not see its way to take over the management. Action was subsequently taken by the petitioners to have the Home incorporated as a separate institution to which the Board, acting in the interests of the ratepayers, objected. An enquiry was held by Commissioners according to the Act, resulting in their decision being given in favour of the Board.

The question of admitting into the hospital for medical treatment, persons suffering from the effects of drink, occupied much attention. Copies of all correspondence relating to this matter, between the Minister of Justice and the Board together with that received from seventeen other Boards, were printed and distributed among the two Houses of Legislature for the purpose of showing that the ordinary hospitals were not the proper places for the treatment of such cases.

1890.

The completion of the original scheme for heating the wards, steam for laundry and drying room, and for kitchen purposes, was carried out, and hot water supplied for all purposes through the circulating system.

In consequence of the inconvenience and limited space afforded for the work attached to the Secretary's duties, the Board decided to make alterations, and a room was converted into an office and board-room in the half-timbered building now used by the Splint Department.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

The fever ward was furnished and in temporary use. Various improvements were carried out by ventilating wards 1 and 2 and corridors; by connecting all the wards with the House Surgeon's quarters by means of speaking tubes, and erecting chimneys for the out-door patients' department and side rooms of wards.

1891.

The inauguration of new by-laws and the admission of probationers as training nurses came into force in 1891, also the system of lectures to the staff by the House Surgeon and Matron. Examinations were held by the Honorary Staff. The first year's examination in nursing gave very satisfactory results. A grant of £50 was made for the Matron to provide material for nurses' uniforms as a distinctive dress while on duty. The out-door uniforms were provided in 1893. Following the practice in vogue in the principal hospitals in England and Australia, the nurses were distinguished by the terms:- Sisters, Nurses and Probationers, according to their various ranks of service and efficiency. Dr. Macgregor, Inspector of Hospitals alluded to the necessity of the nursing staff being composed of an educated and refined class, especially in the case of those in charge or head nurses.

1892.

Dr. Murray Aynsley pointed out that the pressure on the hospital accommodation was becoming excessive. The average age of the population was increasing, therefore, the diseases of old age were becoming more numerous, year by year. Arrangements in other centres of benevolent asylums and infirmaries existed; in Christchurch there was no such provision. He suggested four ways of remedying the affairs:-

- (1) Building new wards.
- (2) Building a convalescent home.
- (3) Building an infirmary or obtaining the use of Addington Gaol.
- (4) Obtaining the co-operation of various religious bodies, so that members of such could be trained as district nurses, and in this manner poor patients could be nursed in their own homes.

It had been urged that inebriate and senile patients should be sent to the hospital, but there was no accommodation for the extra staff which would be required for such cases.

1894.

The first practical step towards the erection of a Nurses' Home was taken by obtaining subscriptions. A meeting of subscribers, the Honorary Medical Staff, and members of the Board, took place with regard to choosing a site. Of the two sites selected in the hospital grounds, the lower was admirable, but there were legal difficulties to be overcome, therefore, it was decided to utilise the ground near the junction of Lincoln and Riccarton Roads. The Christchurch Domains Board approved of the proposed site subject to the design of the building being submitted. Plans of the building were finally approved, and on the 19th April, the foundation stone was laid with all due ceremony by Mr. R. H. Rhodes. The building, which was completed in 1895, was considered to be the most substantial and commodious Nurses' Home in the Colony.

Groups



Sister Griffiths - Ward IV.



First Nurses' Home.



Interior of Nurses' Home.

1895.

Nurses K. Turner, Collins, Cameron, Thorpe, Wellsman, Beck — Hiatt, Adams.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.HYMAN MARKS WARDS.1894.

An application was made to the Executive Council for a special grant for building a new wing to the hospital. Representatives of the Board proceeded to Wellington, and although they made a strong case, it was unsuccessful. The Government intimated that a Bill would be introduced to enable the Board to levy on local bodies for building purposes. It voted £1,500 towards assisting the Board in its objective.

1895.

Mr. Hyman Marks died in 1895 and left a large portion of his means to the poor and needy of Christchurch. Amongst the bequests was £5,000 for the establishment of a ward at the Public Hospital to be named "Hyman Marks Ward". The Board was then able to take the first steps towards the addition of the new wing to the hospital by obtaining the conditional grant of £1,500 by the Government. The trustees resolved to make a further gift of £500 provided that the Government subsidised the amount. The gift was also given to enable employment to be given to a considerable number of men during the winter months and with a view to removing the deadlock concerning the building of the ward. Messrs. Strouts and Ballentyne were the architects, and a tender was accepted for £7489.

Difficulties were found with the location - trial holes were sunk, and at the bottom of trenches it was found that there existed a wooded swamp, and at several places on the sand knoll unconsolidated ground was found probably caused by roots of forest trees. A supplementary estimate of £575 was furnished for the foundations. The architect asked for a publicity report and the District Engineer was instructed accordingly.

1896.

The foundation stone was laid on the 10th September, 1896, but considerable delay was caused in the work attending the erection of the Hyman Marks Wards. They were formally opened by His Excellency the Governor the Earl of Ranfurly on the 10th November, 1897. The Countess of Ranfurly presented two pictures for decorating the ward, and an order was given on the Art Gallery for more pictures. Mr. Stephen Powell, at the request of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, handed the Board their autographed portraits in 1901.

1897.1898.

An inspection was made in 1898 by Dr. McGregor, Inspector-General, who, after examining the plaster work, stated that it was impossible to use the wards for hospital work. The defective plaster work was reinstated. Reports on the plaster work were made by Messrs. Collins and Harman, J. C. Maddison and J. Whitelaw (architects) and forwarded to Wellington. The question of the plastering of the wards was settled by Arbitration. They were completed in April, 1900, - the large ward on the ground floor was used as a men's surgical ward, the small ward as an ophthalmic ward; the top ward though labelled "children's ward" was used as a surgical ward for women.

Christchurch HospitalHyman Marks Wards, contd.

Soon after the erection of the Hyman Marks Wards the Board recognized that a balcony on the west side of the upper floor and forming a verandah for the lower floor would be of great benefit to patients. On the receipt of the Dwyer bequest in 1907 the proposal was carried out.

A fire occurred in the roof of the Hyman Marks Wards in January, 1908; all patients were removed without injury. The cost of reinstating the wards was £2673.

1894.

Vast improvements were carried out in the hospital kitchen arrangements, and many minor requirements, bringing the institution up to a good working standard. The eight-hour system of nursing was working satisfactorily, and the benefit was fully realized both by the nurses and the patients.

Reports show that the hospital compared favourably with the other large hospitals with the exception of patients' fees - different conditions existed - Wellington had special private wards, from three to five guineas per week, which were seldom vacant.

1895.

Various religious denominations and Friendly Societies in the North Canterbury district were asked to co-operate in dedicating annually a "Hospital Sunday"; that the offerings of the people be taken up on that day and paid to the Hospital Board to be set apart from the general fund and expended in assisting all necessitous hospital patients and in the payment of all fees and charges incurred while inmates, and all funeral expenses in case of death.

Dr. J. H. Murray-Aynsley again drew the Board's attention to the inadequate accommodation with no provision for meeting any serious epidemic.

Drs. Campbell and Palmer offered to act as Honorary Medical Officers to a Gynaecological Department, but as the offer was not recommended by the Honorary Staff, the Board did not give its consent to the proposal.

1896.

The title of House Steward was disassociated from the position of Secretary and Treasurer, and many staff changes took place about this time. Mr. C. E. Hilson, Honorary Messour, resigned his position, Nurse Maude resigned from the Matronship (see District Nursing and Sanatorium files), and Miss Eileen Johnston was appointed Matron and Housekeeper (the position of Housekeeper having terminated). Dr. R. A. Fox took Dr. P. C. Fenwick's place as Assistant Medical Officer, and in May Dr. Walter Fox was appointed House Surgeon. Dr. Crosby was his assistant. The by-laws were amended and revised and came into operation.

Church services were discontinued in the wards, and it was decided that all religious services be conducted in the Board room on alternate Sundays.



Four Canterbury Nurses officially appointed -
South African War!
A. Hiatt, G. Littlecott, E. Peter, G. H. Webster.



Matron Ewart
1903.

Nurses Beck, Cruden, Joyce —
— — Nichols Matron Ewart, Rule, Clarke -



outdoor Uniform.
Sister E. Wiggins



Indoor Uniform.
Sister S. Killo.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.1898.

Miss Johnstone resigned and Miss Payne was appointed Matron, resigning in July. Miss Mary Swart took her place and held the position till 1908. Dr. Walter Fox resigned in June, 1899, as House Surgeon, and was appointed to the Honorary Staff. Dr. T. L. Crooke filled the vacancy.

The Board resolved that should the staff deem pasteurised milk necessary for use in hospital, they were empowered to order it. Tenders were called for pasteurised and ordinary milk.

1899.

An additional wing was attached to the boiler house, and £2,147 allocated for the boiler power and electricity. Two more wards for females and one for children were available. The ophthalmic and fever wards were also ready for use.

The Board expressed its thanks to Dr. Hedwill for the trouble taken by him in obtaining the X-ray apparatus and for the interest shown by him in hospital matters. Between £30 and £40 was expended on apparatus for a Bacteriological Laboratory. A part of the dispensary was reserved for the purpose of research work.

1901.

Dr. T. Leslie Crooke, House Surgeon, stated that the Out-patient Department had increased during the past year. He drew the Board's attention to persons suffering from the effects of drink being committed by the Justices of the Peace for hospital treatment. Dr. Crooke explained the difficulty and danger in coping with such cases where only female nurses were available, and suggested that a detached ward with a padded room be provided. The Doctor was authorised in the meantime to appoint a male attendant if necessary. At the same time, the question of the chronic and incurable cases was brought up. There were twenty-six such cases in hospital and six consumptives. The most suitable provision would be by the erection of a special ward. This resolution was forwarded to the Minister, but the matter was held over. (A deputation waited on the Minister in 1905 with the object of endeavouring to induce the Government to establish an institution.)

1902.

A contract was entered into for the laundry building, new machinery and hot water appliances were added. A tender was accepted for the operating theatre on condition that the work was completed within seven months of signing the contract.

1903.

Dr. Crooke reported that the female medical ward was constantly crowded owing to the difficulty in finding homes for the chronic cases. There were homes for old men, but none for women, and it was impossible and unnecessary to keep such cases in hospital. A home for incurables was urgently needed as the cases taxed the hospital accommodation severely.

1904.

Scarlet Fever cases were transferred from Ward 3 to the Bottle Lake Hospital. The ward formerly consisted of four small wards, two were put into use as an extra female ward, giving nine more beds; the other two being reserved for diphtheria and erysipelas cases.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.1905.

A conference regarding chronic cases was held in January, when the Board decided that the formation of an Incurable Ward would be quite inadequate to accommodate all chronic cases, and suggested that the Government should erect central homes for the care of chronic and incurable diseases. The Government passed the sum of £2,000 for wards for special cases at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin - £500 each.

1906.

A deputation from the Christchurch Odontological Society waited on the Board and offered to provide dental attention free to patients who could show that they were not in a position to pay the fees of an ordinary dentist. Although the Honorary Visiting Staff agreed to a properly equipped dental department, there were no facilities for carrying out the work, so the matter could not be considered.

The Public Trustee notified the Board that the sum of £1,000 was available from the late Henry Stark Drummond for founding and supporting an Inebriates' Home, and until such home was established, the interest accruing to be paid to the Hospital Board.

1907.

Mr. F. A. Hornibrook, who was a skilled Masseur, was appointed in an honorary capacity and continued to act till 1913.

Soon after the erection of the Hyman Marks Ward it was found that a balcony on the west side of the upper floor forming a verandah would be of great service enabling patients to benefit from outdoor surroundings and fresh atmosphere. The Dwyer bequest was devoted for this purpose. In 1908 the Ward was closed for many months owing to a fire which did much damage.

The long felt want of a reservoir to supply water to the hospital was accomplished. Hitherto the system had been a pump direct from the artesian well. With the reservoir 2,500 gallons could be conserved and all anxiety as to a short supply of water was removed.

The Honorary Staff advised the appointment of a Pathologist and Bacteriologist, as any specimens requiring analysis had to be sent to Dunedin. Dr. Louisson had made a study of this particular branch, and was appointed to the Honorary Visiting Staff. The old operating room was adapted for this work.

1908.

In 1907 the Hospital and Charitable Institutions Act, 1885, was amended to enable Boards to raise funds through the contributory authorities for the purchase of land and for the erection of buildings. In 1908 the Charitable Aid Board took advantage of the provision of the Amendment to erect infirmary wards at "Tuarangi", Ashburton, and at the Queen's Jubilee Memorial Home, Woolston. The Hospital Board determined to provide through the Rates, the women's surgical ward at the hospital, thus making a second floor to the children's ward for which money had been subscribed by the residents of Canterbury. With these exceptions, no moneys had been raised through the rates for the purpose of buildings since the 1885 Act was in operation.

1909.

The Ladies' Committee for the children's ward, handed the Board a cheque for £3,070 as a donation towards the building fund. A site was chosen on the westside of the Hyman Marks ward and it was necessary to remove part of the isolation ward (known as Ward 3) to carry out the design of the new building. The foundations had given much trouble because of



Matron Ewart and Dr. Crooke.



Miss Thurston and Dr. F.L. Scott
1909-11

Nurses Kaubie, Molisauz, Bennett Green Taylor -
 Sarsjason Huergerford MinThurston W.F.L. Scott.
 Hickey Bulkeley Rose Gould Leibold McKay Stilliard.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

bad ground which had been encountered thus causing extra cost of upwards of £2,500.

1909.

The annexes at Woolston and Ashburton were not yet opened and difficulties of chronic cases existed. (Ward 3 occupied by women and children was to be used as an isolation ward). There were a number of homeless and incurable consumptives and it was hoped a sanatorium would be opened, or that special accommodation would be provided for such cases.

The Cheviot Doctor's subsidy fund asked for a grant of £50. The Chairman of the Hospital Board moved that a subsidy of £50 per year be granted to each of such persons as the Board may approve who will establish and maintain a Nursing Home or Hospital under the management of a qualified nurse in country districts having a scattered population outside 30 miles from the Christchurch Hospital. George Harper (Solicitor), advised that the Board could not grant a subsidy to Nursing Homes or Hospitals, nor had it any power to grant subsidies towards the maintenance of medical men in country districts.

In 1909 a fresh Act came into force consolidating and amending the 1885 Act. Under the 1909 Amendment, Charitable Aid Boards were abolished and the double function was placed upon the Hospital Board of maintaining hospitals and charitable aid relief.

The authorisation for the hospital system contained in the Act divided the Dominion into 45 Hospital Districts and set up an Hospital and Charitable Aid Board for each. The hospitals carried out the duties according to the policy outlined by the Department of Health.

1909 was the last year during which the North Canterbury Hospital Board had the services of its Secretary, Mr. Miller who had held office for 24 years. The Board placed on record its very high appreciation of his long and faithful services. Mr. T. C. Morris who had been for many years connected with the Ashburton and North Canterbury United Charitable Aid Board, was appointed Secretary and Treasurer to the new Board.

A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring members:- John Ingram (Chairman), Dunlop, Gapes, Morris, Horsley and Storry.

1910.

The final meeting of the Hospital Board was closed on 30th March, 1910 when the Administrative Body was re-constituted the North Canterbury Hospital and Charitable Aid Board.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.NORTH CANTERBURY HOSPITAL AND CHARITABLEAID BOARD.

1910.

When the new Board took office on 1st April, 1910, the Institutions administered were the Christchurch Hospital, Akaroa Hospital, Lyttelton Casualty Ward, Infectious Diseases Hospital, Burwood, Tuarangi Home, Ashburton, the Female Refuge (Essex Street), the Queen's Jubilee Memorial Home (Queen Victoria), the Orphanage, Waltham, Armagh Street Depot, the Samaritan Home (previously managed by Trustees), and the Consumptive Sanatorium, Cashmere.

The administration headquarters, pending suitable office accommodation at the Christchurch Hospital were temporarily centred at the Charitable Aid Office, Armagh Street (now in use as the Tuberculosis Dispensary.)

A special meeting was held to consider a letter from the Inspector-General of Hospitals regarding the constitution of the new Hospital and Charitable Aid Board. For the efficient working of the institutions under its control, twenty members, as suggested, was decided upon.

The statutory first meeting of the North Canterbury Hospital and Charitable Aid Board constituted under the provisions of the Act of 1909, was held at the Charitable Aid Office, Armagh Street, Christchurch, on the 1st April, 1910, at 11 a.m. The members elected were:-

Principal authority for conducting the election: Christchurch City Council	Messrs. C. Allison H. B. Sorenson W. W. Tanner Rev. W. L. Gless Mesdames Cunningham Enson Wilson
Counties of Selwyn, Waimairi and Tawera.	Messrs. T. Boag J. D. Hall J. Henderson D. McMillan W. P. Spencer J. Wolfe.
Waipara County, the Road and Town Boards in Ashley County and the Boroughs of Rangiora and Kaiapoi.	Messrs. G. F. Clothier F. Horrell R. Moore.
Counties of Akaroa, Mt. Herbert and Wairera and the Borough of Akaroa.	Mr. J. M. Murray
County of Amuri	Mr. J. H. Davison
Counties of Cheviot and Kaikoura.	Mr. E. O. Palmer.
Boroughs of Lyttelton, Sumner, Woolston and New Brighton.	Mr. C. Cook.

Mr. F. Horrell was appointed Chairman.

Christchurch Hospital. contd.

A temporary Executive Committee proceeded to consider the formation of a Standing Committee of the Board. Five committees, each composed of seven members of the Board with the Chairman ex officio, were formed, and a quorum of four was decided upon. The committees were:-

- (1) Hospital
- (2) Sanatorium, Bottle Lake, Akaroa Hospital and Lyttelton Casualty Ward.
- (3) Charitable Aid with Armagh Street Depot and Samaritan Home.
- (4) Institutions - Tuarangi, Queen's Jubilee Memorial Home, Female Refuge and Orphanage.
- (5) Finance, Estates and By-Laws.

The number of members on the Hospital Committee totalled eleven with the Chairman ex officio in order that the Chairman of the Honorary Staff might be added. Advantage was taken of the services of the Honorary Staff in an administrative as well as a professional capacity.

In the first year of office the general expenditure was heavy - £17,942 was the capital outlay, and £39,741 for maintenance. The receipts from local authorities amounted to £20,948, from Government subsidy £23,965, and from other sources £8,611. The fees from hospital patients were increased by upwards of £500. The total cost of the new wards amounted to £18,000, a large extra amount was required principally for foundations. It was anticipated that two hundred beds would be available, and should meet requirements for a few years. The number of out-patients totalled 12,695 (1909), many were considered to be "well-to-do".

One of the first problems which confronted the Board was the question as to who was entitled to hospital treatment, and it was a perennial question for many years. A suggestion was then made of "State" hospitals and the nationalisation of the medical profession was forecast.

A comprehensive scheme was advocated for hospital rebuilding including additions to the Nurses' Home. The employment of outside nurses who could not be accommodated was increasingly expensive and with the opening of the new women's ward and contemplated establishment of a ward for consumptive patients the nursing staff would be largely increased. With the new additions accommodation was provided for seventy-four nurses. The Hospital House was fitted up to accommodate twenty nurses pending completion of the extensions. A number of probationers were taken on and most of the hired nurses were dispensed with. There was also a large scheme for the rebuilding of the hospital involving an up-to-date administrative department, and gradually replacing wards 4, 5 and 6 by two-storied pavilions similar to the wards under construction. It seemed a particularly favourable time that rebuilding might well take the form of a memorial to the late King Edward VII. The Board had no funds to carry the proposals into effect.

In July, 1910, Dr. Crooke resigned and Dr. P. S. Foster was appointed House Surgeon till 1911. Owing to ill health, Mrs. Crooke resigned from the building committee of the children's and women's wards. She was largely

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

interested in the establishment of the children's ward, particularly in choosing the tiles depicting wellknown and colourful nursery rhymes.

1911.

Dr. F. L. Scott was appointed Medical Superintendent in June, 1911. (Dr. Pentreath had acted as locum tenens for three months.) With the remuneration offered the Medical Superintendent, the Board included a free house with fuel and lighting provided. Miss M. Thurston had been matron since 1908; she also undertook the duties of matron of the Sanatorium as well as those of the Christchurch Hospital.

Improvements were made to the engine house and plant; the hospital heating system was converted to atmospheric steam heating; and an extension to the Nurses' Home was commenced. Shelters were provided in the hospital grounds for long standing cases; the building of the Isolation Block was slow in progress, it was eventually connected with the main corridor by a brick covered-way. The workshops near the Isolation Block were pulled down and the quarters used by Mrs. Priestly (lupus case) were removed.

A portion of the administration block west of the laundry, and facing Riccarton Road, was proceeded with - the Secretary's office and main office, Board Room and store. The entrance was on the south-east corner through the present Clerk of Works' office and faced east. The general stores of both the Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards were placed in charge of one storekeeper.

The steel water tower was built to a height of approximately sixty feet with a capacity of 4,000 gallons. The formation of a subway under the extension of the main corridor for the removal of soiled dressings, garbage and laundry, also for the conduct of water and steam pipes and electric wires was carried out.

PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Part of the dispensary was reserved for research work in 1899, and approximately £60 was spent on apparatus. The old operating theatre was adapted for research work in 1907. Dr. Louisson, who arrived from England, was appointed to the Honorary Staff as Pathologist and Bacteriologist.

1912.

Dr. Chaptaloup (Dunedin) suggested to the Board that suitable rooms might be selected for a clinical pathologist at Christchurch Hospital, and that it ascertain whether any New Zealanders in England were qualified and available for the position. (Specimens were being sent to Dunedin for analysis.) The Board accepted the doctor's offer to report as to plans and duties.

Dr. A. B. Pearson, who was in England at the time, was communicated with and offered an appointment by the Board. The Department opened in 1912, and a five years engagement was entered into with Dr. Pearson on his arrival in New Zealand. Mr. Ross was appointed assistant in 1913, and Dr. Milligan in 1923, his status being that of Bio-chemist.

A new storey over the administration block of buildings gave double the space for the Laboratory which was transferred to the rooms vacated by the Dental Department. In 1927 the new rooms were devoted chiefly to the Bio-chemical Department.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.DENTAL DEPARTMENT.

Mr. F. M. Turrell was appointed honorary dental surgeon to the hospital in 1894, and Mr. A. L. Myers in 1901.

In 1906 a deputation from the Christchurch Odontological Society offered to provide dental attendance free to those who could show that they were not in a position to pay the fees of an ordinary dentist if the hospital would provide a well equipped dental ward and attendance of a probationer nurse. As there were no facilities for carrying out the work, the proposal was not entertained by the Board. Mr. H. G. Ell, M.H.B., drew attention in 1910 to the very great need for a free dental hospital in Christchurch as in Dunedin and Auckland.

1913.

On 3rd March, 1913, the Dental Department, primarily for the treatment of children, was opened. It consisted of two fully equipped rooms. Mr. J. L. Saunders was appointed Dental Surgeon, and an advisory committee consisted of twenty dental surgeons. (Mr. Saunders was appointed honorary Stomatologist in 1920.) The equipping of the rooms allotted to the Department was carried out under the direction of the Dental Advisory Committee. Two rooms were fitted with complete equipment for one operating chair. At the end of a month it was found necessary to ask the Board to install a second chair which was agreed to as with only one chair the services of the Honorary Staff would be of no avail.

A new scheme was introduced in 1921 - young women were to be trained, but the innovation did not meet with general favour. The Dental Association was opposed to the movement and the employment of women not qualified as dentists. The whole scheme under the Education Department was one of the welfare projects of the Government.

1926 showed a large increase in the number of patients treated. The unemployment which had been so prevalent had its effect financially on the Department. Besides the number of school children attending for treatment, the inmates of children's homes were also given care - St. Saviour's and Waltham Orphanages, St. Anne's and Fresh Air Homes. The training of dental students in mechanical work was undertaken. The Department moved into new quarters on the top floor above the Pathological Laboratory in 1927.

DISPENSARY.1914.

The original dispensary was situated in the old portion of the hospital next to Wards 1 and 2 which were demolished to make room for the old Nurses' Home in 1892. The dispensary was then moved to the half-timbered building adjoining the house surgeons' quarters, Board room, etc. In 1914 provision was made in the administration block for the dispensary as it now stands. The cellar was extended under the out-patient waiting room in 1925. Miss Laursen, who had been in the dispensary for a number of years, was promoted and given charge of the department in 1925.

From 1912 the dispensary has been controlled by women. This did not meet with the ideas of the N.Z. Pharmaceutical Society, and exception was taken in 1921 to women being employed in Hospital Dispensaries.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.

Through Mr. H. G. Ell, M.B.E., a gift was made by an anonymous donor to the Board. On passing the Hospital gates, he was impressed by the fact that many visitors and young women with babies in arms, were waiting in the cold to be admitted. An offer of £100 was made towards the cost of a suitable and presentable waiting room for visitors. This generous gift was gladly accepted by the Board.

1913.

In 1913, the Board had practically the largest Hospital and Charitable Aid district in New Zealand, but Wellington and Auckland had superior accommodation for hospital uses. It was considered that the hospital would have to be rebuilt within the next ten years; the most important matter being the erection of a ward for chronic cases. The Board adopted the site of Ward 1 for chronic cases as it was the only one available and the possibility of obtaining a portion of the Domain appeared to be somewhat remote.

The foundation stone of a new annex at the main entrance to the hospital on the Riccarton Road was laid. The building consisted of Porters' Lodge, the Superintendent's and Matron's offices, Visitors' waiting hall, and the Honorary Medical Staff's room; divided from this by the main hospital corridor was the large hall for out-patients, dispensary, X-Ray room and minor operating theatres and the staff dining room; the upper storey contained the junior surgeons' bedrooms.

The buildings which were used as offices in the half-timbered section were very dilapidated and most unsuitable for administration purposes.

CHOLMONDELEY HOME.1913.

Mr. Heber Cholmondeley offered the Hospital Board eleven acres of land at Governors Bay valued at approximately £2,000 for the purpose of a convalescent home for children, also £1,000 in cash. At his death the home would be endowed with at least £600 per annum; three acres of land would be set aside for the building, the eight remaining acres could be sold if advisable later, and the money held in trust. The institution was to be undenominational and to be regarded as an adjunct to the children's ward, Christchurch Hospital, the beds not required for children from the ward to be filled by children of those in poor circumstances.

The Board expressed its sense of gratitude and appreciation for the generous offer, but it was not disposed to go further with the matter unless Mr. Cholmondeley was prepared to secure to the Board the future income after his demise and made the necessary transfers to give effect to the premises made. Advice was received that his offer must stand or fall at the gift of the grant, the payment of £1,000, and his promise to endow the children's home with an annual income of not less than £500. The Board was unable to avail itself of Mr. Cholmondeley's offer.

Christchurch Hospital, contd.MASSAGE DEPARTMENT.

Recommendation was made by the Medical Superintendent regarding the appointment of a masseuse in 1912 as the honorary masseur was unable to devote enough time for the treatment of all the patients requiring massage. It was also necessary to enable nurses to be instructed in the art of massage. 1913. Miss Albrecht was appointed in 1913, and Miss Peterson in 1915. She obtained leave of absence to undertake work for the military authorities and was unable to resume her duties at hospital as she returned with the reinforcements in June, 1916. Miss Peterson's duties were undertaken by Mr. Sarelius. This, with the work required from him as honorary masseur, proved more than he could undertake. The Misses Burbury and Dixon were appointed to do Miss Peterson's work.

Miss G. M. Hilson, a qualified masseur, operated on three cases of nervous disease in the Christchurch Hospital in 1893, and in recognition of his services, the medical staff appointed him honorary masseur to the hospital. He resigned in 1895. Mr. F. A. Hornbrook was appointed honorary masseur in 1907, and did much valuable work. He resigned in 1913 owing to the amount of time which had to be devoted to massage treatment. The Board then considered that a stipendiary rather than an honorary position should be made. Mr. W. Sarelius was engaged, and resigned in 1917.

The Inspector-General asked the Board to institute a system of training in massage for nurses who had completed their term of training in hospital. On the resignation of Miss Burbury fourth year nurses were stationed in the department and supervised and taught by Miss D. Wilson who held a certificate from the Dunedin University.

The Physio-therapy was under military control when the Orthopaedic Unit was established in 1919, and later it was controlled by Dr. J. L. Will who was transferred from the Defence Department. There were six masseuses, and Sister S. L. Clark was in charge until 1925.

The benefits of the department were made widely known especially for cases of deformities and paralysis in children.

Owing to the number of infantile paralysis cases in hospital, it was found necessary to strengthen the staff of the Massage Department in 1925. Leave of absence was granted to Dr. J. L. Will to enable him to visit Australia for the purpose of investigating a new method of treatment of paralysis.

Miss J. Erwin was appointed sister-in-charge in 1926.