Report of the Upton Mental Hospital management committee: group no.XVI for year ended March 31st, 1950 / Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

Contributors

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LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

REPORT

OF THE

Upton Mental Hospital Management Committee

GROUP No. XVI.

For year ended March 31st, 1950

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LIVERPOOL REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

REPORT

OF THE

Upton Mental Hospital Management Committee

GROUP No. XVI.

For year ended March 31st, 1950

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OFFICERS

| | LI | CERS |
|--|-----|---|
| Medical Superintendent and Co sultant Psychiatrist | | C. L. COPELAND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. |
| Deputy Medical Superintendent a Consultant Psychiatrist | nd | CEDRIC HOLMES, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (Edin.), D.P.M. |
| Consultant Psychiatrist | | I. FROST, B.Sc. (Lond.), M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.M. |
| Senior Hospital Medical Officer | | A. S. W. BUCHANAN, L.R.C.P., & S., (Edin.), L.R.F.P. & S. (G), D.P.M. |
| Senior Hospital Medical Officer | | W. V. A. ERSKINE, L.R.C.S., & P. (Edin.). L.R.F.P. & S. (G), D.P.M. |
| Senior Registrar | | L. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M. |
| Registrar | | VACANT |
| Junior Hospital Medical Officer | | J. McGLADE, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Junior Hospital Medical Officer | | F. J. GALLAGHER, M.B., Ch.B. |
| House Officers | | Four Vacancies. |
| PART-TIME CONSULTANTS:- | | 2 ott Pitotiois. |
| Consultant Psychiatrist | | G. T. JAMES, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.M. |
| Mental Deficiency Adviser | | N. FRASER MacKENZIE, M.B, Ch.B., D.P.M. (Edin.). |
| General Surgeon | | H. L. WARREN WOODROFFE, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., M.D., M.Ch. |
| Ophthalmic Surgeon | | E. F. WILSON, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O. |
| Orthopaedic Surgeon | | G. T. PARTRIDGE, B.A., M.A., M.B., B.Chir., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. |
| Radiologist | | R. F. INNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.M.R.E. |
| Dermatologist | | J. H. T. DAVIES, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. |
| Tuberculosis Officer | | D. W. C. TOUGH, M.B. (Edin.), Ch.B. (Edin.) D.P.H. |
| Pathologist | | W. H. GRACE, B.Sc., M.D. (Lond.), M.B., B.S., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H., F.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. |
| Ear, Nose and Throat | | A. W. McCAY, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. |
| Physician | | A. B. PAUL, B.A., M.A., M.B., B.Ch. |
| Obstetrician and Gynaecologist | | J. G. WIGLEY, M.A., B.Ch., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. |
| Neuro Surgeon | ••• | A. SUTCLIFFE KERR M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. |
| Dental Surgeon | | T. BYRON PLACE, L.D.S. |
| C. of E. Chaplain | | REV. JOSEPH PHILLIPS. |
| R.C. Chaplain | | The SUPERIOR of the Franciscan Monastery, Chester. |
| Nonconformist Chaplain | | REV. E. J. LAWSON, M.A. |
| Secretary and Finance Officer | | FREDK. REGINALD MILLET, F.H.A. |
| Resident Engineer and Maintenan Officer | | G. O. LONEY. |
| Supplies Officer | | G. CATHERALL, A.H.A. |
| Matron—Upton Mental Hospital | | EDITH BOSWELL. |
| 10.1 | | ELLEN HARTLEY. |
| Hand Mala Manag | | WILLIAM PRITCHARD. |
| manufactured missessively | | NESTA I. R. CLARKE |
| *************************************** | | VERA CAMPION. |
| Danish (min's Gardel Illenber | | VACANT. |
| Obtained to | | HERBERT LEONARD DEAN, M.Ch.S. |
| Dadie and to | | A. E. SMITH, M.S.R. |
| Contract to the Contract of th | | H. V. RIDPATH, F.I.M.L.T., M.R.I.P.H.H. |
| Object Dhammasiai | | P. H. G. ROCHELLE, M.P.S., D.B.A. |
| Danler | | Westminster Bank Ltd., Chester. |
| Bankers | | Western Dank Doc., Offester, |

| Service | | | | | | | | - | | |
|-----------|--------|-----|------|-----|------|--------|----|----|---|---|
| Patients | 44 | 1 | 45 | 46 | 1 | 47 | 2 | _ | _ | - |
| Broadmoor | | | | | | | | | | |
| Patients | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | _ | 2 | 1 | _ | _ | |
| | | | | | | | _ | _ | _ | - |
| | 689 | 967 | 1656 | 725 | 1017 | 1742 | 36 | 56 | _ | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 36 | | |
| * | | | | | | | | _ | | - |
| | | | | | | | | 92 | | 6 |
| | | | | | | | | 6 | | |
| | | | | | | - 1 | | _ | | |
| | | | | | 1 | Increa | se | 86 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

The accommodation provided at the Hospital is as follows:
Males. Females. Total.

834 1,079 1,913

The following member of the staff has retired and been placed on Superannuation:—

Miss Constance Eleanor Wharam ... 40
(Assistant Matron)

Mr. Lemuel Bowen (Tinsmith) retired on account of ill-health and was granted a short service gratuity.

The following building and painting works, etc., have been carried out, or are at present in progress:—

The six new staff cottages on the Bache Hall Estate are now occupied to the common satisfaction of the Hospital Committee and to the inhabitants

The conversion of the Dining Room (Old Front) into a Sewing Room is completed, and provides an example of the excellent workmanship and modern lighting provided in the Hospital.

Ward FM.14 has been redecorated, also the new Staff Dining Room.

The exterior painting of a large proportion of the Annexe and of the houses on the estate was carried out during the year. These had been, owing to war conditions, somewhat neglected but now present a transformed appearance and show off a good proportion of the buildings.

The new lighting scheme for the Recreation Hall and Stage is now in operation. From the stand point of visiting Concert and Dramatic Parties, the new arrangements on the stage have enabled us to present this kind of amenity to the patients in a more pleasing and efficient manner. All parts of the Economiser exposed to pressure have been renewed.

Main and Annexe Kitchens — the old equipment has been replaced by modern equipment.

Work is now in progress on the new Staff Kitchen and Dining Room and permission has been received to complete the equipment and it is hoped in a very short time, will be put into use.

The reconditioning of Bache Hall is now nearing completion.

During the year the Fire Services of the Hospital have been completely re-organised and a Brigade of volunteers from members of the staff has been formed and much enthusiasm is shown by these members.

On the 7th October, 1949, the Management Committee and officials of the Upton Mental Hospital and "The Manor" visited the Royal Albert Hospital, Lancaster, for educational purposes.

The Farms and Gardens Sub-Committee made their annual inspection of the farms and gardens in August and gave a favourable report on their general condition.

The transfer of the patients and staff from "The Home." Everton, to "The Manor," Great Sutton, was completed smoothly on the 5th July, 1949, and the formal opening of "The Manor," by Sir Henry Cohen, took place on the 23rd September, 1949.

The installation of a mechanical laundry at "The Manor," has been approved by the Regional Hospital Board and it is expected that this will be put into operation in the near future. This laundry will be of great advantage, from an occupational point of view, to the patients.

Dr. A. B. Paul was appointed General Practitioner to "The Manor" and Mr. T. Byron Place, L.D.S., appointed Dental Surgeon.

Miss Doris Scott, housekeeper, resigned on the 31st October, 1949, to take up a similar appointment at Winwick Mental Hospital. Her post has been filled by Miss Vera Campion, and the Committee also appointed Miss Elsie Whittle as her deputy. The appointment of these two ladies has given great satisfaction throughout the Hospital.

Miss Elsie Baines, Senior Assistant Matron, was appointed Deputy Matron to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Kathleen Abbott, and Miss Dorothy Cross has been appointed Senior Assistant Matron. It is with regret the Committee have to report the death of Councillor Joseph Oakes, a Member of the Management Committee, whose valuable services will be sadly missed. The vacancy has been filled by Councillor J. T. Dunne.

The reports of the Medical Superintendent are appended and also the reports of the Commissioners of the Board of Control on their recent visits to the Upton Mental Hospital and "The Manor."

The Committee acknowledge with thanks a grant of £100 from the Merseyside Hospitals Council for reconditioning the billiards table in Ward M.3 and for providing tennis nets and posts, cricket and football equipment.

The Committee wish to record their appreciation of the high standard of work performed by the Staff and the splendid team spirit shown by all members without exception.

W. N. COPLAND.

Chairman.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Upton Mental Hospital, Chester.

February, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent for the year 1949.

The following summary shows the changes in the Hospital population.

| population. | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. |
| Number of patients on the | | | | | | |
| books, 1st January, 1949 | | | | 689 | 967 | 1656 |
| Admissions:- | | | | | | |
| Direct | 181 | 322 | 503 | | | |
| Transfers | 8 | 21 | 29 | | | |
| Total number of admissions | | - | - | 189 | 343 | 532 |
| | | | | | - | |
| Total number under treatment | | | | 878 | 1310 | 2188 |
| Discharged and removals | 116 | 244 | 360 | | | |
| Died | 37 | 49 | 86 | | | |
| Remaining on the 31st Decem- | | | | | | |
| | | | | 153 | 293 | 446 |
| | | | | | | |
| ber, 1949 | | | | 725 | 1017 | 1742 |
| Present accommodation | | | | 834 | 1079 | 1913 |
| | | | | | - | |
| Excess or deficiency in accom- | | | | | | |
| modation | | | | 109 | 62 | 171 |
| | | | | | - | |

ADMISSIONS

The total number of admissions during the year was 532 (189 males and 343 females). Twenty-nine of these were transferred from other Mental Hospitals (8 males and 21 females).

One hundred and eighty-six Voluntary patients were admitted during the year (62 males and 124 females). Four Temporary patients were admitted.

The reopening of closed wards and overcrowding by 20% over the statutory accommodation (1,594 beds) has enabled us to admit 191 more patients than in 1948. The increase was most marked in the Female Voluntary patients (124 as against 40 last year) following the reopening of F.13 as an open door Voluntary Ward.

DISCHARGES

The total number of discharges during the year was 360 (116 males and 244 females). Fifty-six males and 132 females were discharged recovered, making a proportion of 37.4 per cent. to the number of direct admissions.

Of the 360 patients recovered, 3 were sent out on a period of trial, at the end of which they were discharged.

Twenty-six males and 75 females were discharged relieved, and 8 males and 21 females were transferred to other Hospitals.

DEATHS

The death rate has been in the region of about 5.5 per cent. for some years. In 1947 it fell to 4.9 per cent., and in 1948 to a still lower figure of only 4.2 per cent. For the year 1949 the death rate was 5.2 per cent. The causes of the 86 deaths during the year were as follows:—

| | | | | | | Male | S | Females |
|----------------|-------|-------|------|-------|----|--------|---|---------|
| Tuberculosis | *** | | *** | | | 4 | | _ |
| Cancer | | | | | | 5 | | 4 |
| Diseases of th | he Ci | rcula | tory | Syste | em | 20 | | 24 |
| Pneumonia | | | | | | 2 | | 5 |
| Senility | | | | | | 3 | | 7 |
| Unclassified | *** | | | | | 3 | | 9 |
| | | | | | | _ | | - |
| | | | | | | 37 | | 49 |

The Pathological Laboratory was unable to function for practically the whole of 1949. Mr. Reid, our Chief Technician, was off duty with inoperable cancer of the stomach and died on April 24th, after giving 25 years of unstinted valuable service to the hospital. His assistant, Mr. Teague, unfortunately has been stricken with Pulmonary Tuberculosis and has been away since October, 1948. In these circumstances the Chester Royal Infirmary came to our aid and carried out 2,444 Pathological investigations on our behalf during the year. I would like to place on record our grateful thanks and appreciation of all the extra work this involved to the Pathologists and Technicians at the Infirmary, who had all their own work to do as well. Owing to lack of housing accommodation in Chester there was great difficulty in filling Mr. Reid's vacant post. Eventually the services of Mr. H. V. Ridpath were secured from the London County Council's Hospital Service. He commenced work here on December 1st.

The work done by Mr. T. Byron Place, our Visiting Dentist, has grown and the question of an increase in the number of Dental sessions will have to be considered by the Regional Board The following is a summary of work done in the Dentistry Department during the year:—

| Visits of patients | | | | | 534 |
|-------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| Extractions | | *** | | | 416 |
| Scalings | *** | | | | 54 |
| Fillings | | *** | | *** | 41 |
| Dentures supplied | | | *** | | 19 |
| Repairs to dentures | | | | | 28 |
| Miscellaneous treatment | S | | | | 84 |
| General Anaesthetics | | | | | 6 |

In the X-Ray department 657 examinations were made and in addition 60 treatments by Radiant heat and Diathermy were given.

The appointment of a Chiropodist in 1948 has been a success. In his first complete year Mr. H. L. Dean has given 614 treatments to 223 patients and staff and has added greatly to their comfort.

During the year 123 patients left the Hospital after Convulsive Therapy. Eighty-five of these were completely recovered and 37 substantially improved. In all 193 patients received this treatment.

Six patients suffering from General Paralysis were treated either with Malaria, or where their general condition was not sufficiently robust, Penicillin was used. One was discharged, another substantially improved, and it is hoped that the progress of their disease in the remaining 4 has been arrested.

Twenty-two Major Surgical Operations were performed during the year. After January, 1949, the Regional Board arranged for all Leucotomy operations in this region to be carried out at Winwick Mental Hospital, Warrington. Our patients are transferred there for about a fortnight and then returned to us again for their after treatment. In 1949, twenty-two of our patients had this brain operation carried out under these arrangements. In considering the results of the Leucotomy operations two points must be considered:— Firstly, the operation is only performed in cases where other forms of treatment fail to produce recovery, and secondly slow improvement takes place for 2 years or more afterwards. Bearing these points in mind the results of all our Leucotomy patients from July, 1947, to the end of January, 1950, are as follows:—

- 48 patients have now had the operation.
- 13 patients have been discharged recovered.
- 3 patients have been discharged relieved into the care of relatives.
- 16 patients have shown improvement, are still with us, and further improvement is expected in some of these.
- 12 patients have shown no improvement so far, but some have only recently had the operation.
- 4 patients died. Three of the deaths were associated with the operation.

The Insulin treatment, which began tentatively in 1948 had to be abandoned from shortage of Medical staff as mentioned in last year's report. We succeeded in recommencing a full scale Insulin Unit in September, 1949, under Dr. Dewi Heulun Jones, our Senior Registrar. It is too soon to quote figures of the results, but it is already obvious that this treatment is a valuable part of the Hospital service, and it is to be hoped that the severe nursing staff shortage will not prevent its development. The Unit is in a hut left by the War Time Emergency Hospital.

The Psychiatric Out-Patient Clinic held at the Chester Royal Infirmary on Monday and Thursday afternoons has continued to expand in spite of the opening of two other Clinics staffed from this Hospital and an increased number of Clinics opened by the Regional Board in Birkenhead. Five Medical Officers are needed to cope with the Chester Clinic, and the continued expansion is well seen in the following figures:—

In 1938 there were 182 attendances by 69 patients. In 1947 there were 475 attendances by 287 patients.

In 1948 there were 791 attendances by 357 patients.

In 1949 there were 955 attendances by 409 patients.

In addition to this Clinic at the Chester Royal Infirmary two other Out-Patient Clinics were started by Dr. I. Frost in June, 1949. These are held at the Runcorn Victoria Memorial Hospital, where there were 61 attendances by 38 patients, and at the Ellesmere Port Hospital which had 70 attendances by 35 patients. The total attendances therefore reached the figure of 1,086 by 482 patients, which should be compared with the figures quoted above for the year 1938. When it is remembered that North Wirral patients no longer attend our Clinics the continued increase is surprising.

Ten members of the nursing staff obtained the Final Certificate of the Royal Medico Psychological Association and two passed the Preliminary Examination. This examination is coming to an end and Student Nurses who came here since January 1st, 1947, have to sit for the General Nursing Council's State Examination Already 12 of our nurses have passed the Preliminary State Examination. We succeeded in obtaining the services of a second Male Tutor, Mr. Nutter, who commenced in September. This has enabled the Preliminary Training School, demanded by the General Nursing Council, to be established. At present there are 6 male nurses and 3 female nurses away for General training. The scheme which sends 2 men and 2 women away each year for General training will eventually be of great benefit to the Hospital; 2 men have returned during 1949.

The improvement in the number of nurses recruited has been very slight, we are still short of 64 (last year 57) male and female nurses for a 48 hour week. We are using 81 (last year 74) part time female nurses who work a 30 hour week. Since April 1st all the rest of the Nursing Staff now work a 48 hour week. At the end of 1949, Male Wards 11 and 13 are still closed, but we are expecting to have these opened within a few months. The re-opening of all the Female Wards in response to the great demand for female beds in the region has caused great difficulties in keeping the wards staffed, and the Female Nurses are stretched beyond the limits of safety.

Work on the Bache Hall Scheme to provide further staff accommodation commenced during the year and is still in progress. The new sewing room was completed and occupied in December, thus allowing more freedom for work to continue with the urgently needed Staff Kitchen and Dining Room at the site of the old Sewing Room. The railings of F.1. Court were set back with consequent great improvement to the amenities of the court. The new lighting scheme for the entertainment hall and stage was completed. Other new works during the year included the provision of a lavatory in Male 2 Court and a sink in F.7 Tuberculosis Verandah for separate washing of crockery, side-room shutters for F.14 ward, and the instalment of a petrol pump. The new playing field opened last year enabled inter-ward cricket matches to be started during the summer, and the patients' Annual Sports were held for the first time for many years. Previously there was no site available.

It is of interest to report that 3,313 books were added to the Patients' Library during the year, making a total of 7,366 extra books since April, 1945.

The following changes in staff occurred during the year 1949:-

Dr. Llewelyn Jones left on January 3rd to a post at Mapperley Mental Hospital, Nottingham, and Dr. K. Ford was unable to obtain married accommodation in Chester and went to Hatton Mental Hospital, Warwick, on February 22nd. Dr. D. H. Jones commenced as Senior Registrar on March 14th, obtained his D.P.M. in July, established our full scale Insulin Unit for us and leaves on February 1st, 1950, to a more senior post at Abergavenny.

- Dr. I. Frost was appointed by the Regional Board as Psychiatric Specialist and commenced on April 25th.
- Dr. G. T. James, also Psychiatric Specialist started in May his services are mainly in Clinics in Birkenhead, and he only comes to us part time mainly as a link with the Board's extensive Mersey Side Clinics and Hospitals.

Mr. T. R. Roberts commenced on February 28th as our first full time dispenser, but he was unable to obtain married accommodation in Chester and left on July 23rd. He was replaced by Mr. P. H. G. Rochelle on December 1st

Miss Abbott, Deputy Matron, obtained a Matron's post at Rubery Hill, Birmingham, and left on July 27th. Miss Baines was promoted to Deputy Matron. Two Senior Assistant, Matron posts remain vacant in spite of extensive advertising.

Miss Scott, Housekeeper, left on October 31st to a similar post at Winwick, and was replaced on October 28th, by Miss V. Campion. We also succeeded in finding a Deputy Housekeeper, Miss E. Whittle, who started on November 23rd. The services of these two ladies will be invaluable in starting the new Staff Dining Room in 1950.

The important post of Psychiatric Social Worker, approved by the Committee nearly four years ago, still remains vacant. There are not enough of these highly trained workers.

In addition to the death of Mr. Reid, referred to in the Pathological section of this report, there is also the sad duty to record the death of Male Charge Nurse Stanley Little, which occurred on December 3rd, after 30 years service to this Hospital. On October 2nd, Mr. Joseph Oakes died, after being 31 years on the Nursing Staff. He retired in July, 1946, and later became a member of the Hospital Management Committee.

A complete year has now been worked under the new Health Service Act. Heavy burdens have fallen on all the officers and staff. The increase in admissions and the opening of closed wards has stretched the nursing staff beyond the limit of safety. May I take this opportunity of putting on record publicly the steadfast way in which the difficulties have been faced by all concerned. May I also thank the Chairman and Committee for their continued support and advice.

In September our Chairman sustained a serious accident and was for a long time in hospital seriously ill. As I prepare my report news comes that at last he has turned the corner and is now convalescent.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I,have the honour to be, Your obedient Servant,

C. L. COPELAND,

Medical Superintendent.

The Management Committee, Upton Mental Hospital, Chester.

REPORT OF THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT AND MATRON

"The Manor,"
(M.D. Institution),
828, Chester Road,
Great Sutton,

Wirral.

March, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1949.

The two most notable events in the year were the transfer of the Institution on the 5th July from the old premises at "The Home," Everton Terrace, to "The Manor," Great Sutton, and the formal opening of the new home by Sir Henry Cohen on September 23rd.

For two years previously structural alterations at "The Manor" had been proceeding and under the authority of a Certificate from the Board of Control a small party of patients and staff had been in residence for cleaning and maintenance purposes.

The main building at "The Home" was very old, being built in the early 19th century and it had become obvious for a number of years, owing to the gradual development of major structural defects due to age, that alternative and more modern premises would have to be sought. The depreciation of the fabric was accelerated during the War years, with the inevitable difficulties of maintenance, and the timely purchase of "The Manor" by "The Home" Committee in 1947 on the advice of Mr. Belford, our Chairman, opened a new chapter in the history of the Institution. Thereafter only essential maintenance was carried out at "The Home" and the energies and resources of the Committee were concentrated in an endeavour so as to develop and extend "The Manor" premises that the new home would be representative of all that was best in modern Institutional structure, standards and equipment.

"The Home" was left not without a pang of regret. For 86 years it had provided a much-needed home and sanctuary for destitute young women and probation cases, in addition to its relatively more recent development into a training establishment for mentally defective young women. "The Home" had much to be proud of in its history, and there is no doubt that, in its time, it had served its purpose well.

The well-designed premises of "The Manor" with its delightful situation and charming grounds, constitute a home and training-school that is a credit to all concerned in its conception and development.

"The Manor" was formally opened by Sir Henry Cohen at the official opening ceremony on September 23rd, before a large gathering of members, friends and officials of the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board and of the Management and House Committees. Afterwards the guests viewed the house and grounds and were waited on at tea by the patients.

As yet the premises are incomplete. Plans are, however, well forward for the completion, as originally planned, of a small but comprehensive mechanised laundry in the out-houses already converted for this purpose. The laundry will be of great help in the treatment of the higher-grade types of defectives for which the accommodation in "The Manor" has been planned. Not only is laundry work interesting to, and appropriate occupation for, these types, but, like domestic work, forms a most useful training for those ultimately to be sent on licence into the community. Until the laundry is in operation, difficulties may well be experienced in taking up the full bed complement, if high-grade unstable types are to be admitted. The present interim programme of occupations, however satisfactory it may be for the medium and lower-grade types, cannot be regarded as a satisfactory long-term equivalent and at present occupational space is encroaching on day-room accommodation which is not desirable.

PATIENTS' OCCUPATIONS

The present programme has been satisfactory in fully employing and training the patients and has been organised by dividing the various activities into three main groups:—

- (1) Housekeeping and Domestic training:
- (2) Needlework in all forms (sewing, knitting—simple and advanced—including personal mending) and various Craft occupations including rug-making, embroidery, raffia work, etc.;
- (3) Garden Work (both floral and kitchen garden).

Work in these three spheres is steadily expanding and the patients are interchangeable as between the groups.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

This is of an evangelical character and forms an important and basic part of the syllabus and a background to all the various activities of the patients. A party of patients goes each Sunday morning to the Parish Church; in the evening a Service is held at "The Manor," the Chairman of the House Committee taking an active interest in its organisation and regularly inviting suitable preachers to conduct the services, which have always been a feature of the work of the Institution. Mid-week services are held in the house by Pastor MacFarlane and his helpers from the Chester City Mission. The girls look forward very much to the spiritual services rendered by Pastor MacFarlane and his helpers, and derive great benefit from them.

PHYSICAL TRAINING AND RECREATIONS

Regular classes of physical training, including group exercises, folk-dancing and drill, are held when the weather is favourable on the lawn and at other times in the Recreation Room. A special dancing lesson is given on one evening each week and a special singing class on another evening. In addition, both organised and spontaneous games on the lawn and indoor games in the evening are held and encouraged at every opportunity.

PATIENTS' ENTERTAINMENTS

At the end of the year, arrangements were completed for regular visits by the patients to a local Cinema.

At Christmas time all the patients visited the Theatre in Chester and greatly enjoyed the Christmas Pantomime.

All the patients were invited to the Christmas Party at Newchurch Hospital and shared in the fun and entertainments with the patients there. Our patients had been specially trained in Christmas Carol singing and sang a selection of carols from the stage which earned much appreciation. An entertainment by a Concert Party in the evening rounded off a very happy day for the patients. Arrangements are being made to expand the principle of mutual visits as between the patients of the various Institutions in the region and to make this a regular feature

DENTAL TREATMENT

This is carried out by Mr. T. Byron Place, L.D.S., who took up his duties as part-time dentist to "The Manor" on 1st November. Patients attend his surgery regularly for routine examination and as required for treatment.

DISPENSING OF MEDICINES

These are obtained as required by requisition from the Dispensary at Upton Mental Hospital.

X-RAY AND LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS

Arrangements have been completed for these to be done, as required, at Upton Mental Hospital.

STAFF CHANGES

Miss I. Gerrard (House-Matron) resigned on February 28th for domestic reasons.

Mrs. J. J. Piconis (Deputy-Matron) resigned on March 25th for personal reasons.

Mr. R. Griffiths (Gardener) commenced duty at "The Manor" on April 4th.

Miss K. B. McCulloch (Handicrafts Assistant) resigned on June 9th for domestic reasons.

Miss M. Davies (Ward Orderly) commenced duty on June 20th.

Miss M. Dolman (Deputy-Sister) and Mrs. F. Corley (Staff Nurse) were appointed on June 29th. Miss Dolman commenced duty on August 2nd, but Mrs. Corley withdrew from her appointment and the post has not since been filled.

Miss Daniels (Housemother) died in Hospital on August 14th. Miss Daniels had been in impaired health for some considerable time.

Miss S. Humphreys (Ward Orderly, previously Laundry Mistress) resigned on August 21st, on retirement.

Miss L. Greenway (Ward Orderly) commenced duty on December 30th.

For the greater part of the year Dr. N. Fraser MacKenzie has been our psychiatric adviser and has undertaken all psychiatric aspects of the care and treatment of the patients. In addition to carrying out a complete survey and classification of the patients, Dr. MacKenzie has advised on questions of staff establishment and in the re-organisation of the interim syllabus, and has introduced completely new systems of patients' case records, a new patients' register, and a system of weekly monetary rewards to the patients for industry and good conduct. Dr. MacKenzie has also introduced a scheme of mutual entertainments between the various Mental Defective Institutions in the Region, as part of the general rehabilitation of the patients. His advice and guidance in all matters of general administration have also been invaluable to me.

Dr. A. B. Paul took up his duties as Medical Officer on September 1st, 1949. Dr. Paul holds a weekly session at "The Manor" as a routine, but comes more frequently as required. Dr. Paul has concentrated his attention more on the physical welfare aspect and has been assiduous in his care of and interest in the patients. His physical examinations have included the full serological examination of the blood in all cases; the laboratory work is carried out at present by the Chester Royal Infirmary laboratory.

My grateful thanks are also due to Mr. Millet, Secretary of the Hospital Management Committee, who in the difficult transition period, was of much help to me, and who has been of ready assistance in all matters relating to the day-by-day management of the Institution.

VISIT

The Board of Control, represented by Dr. R. G. Anderson, Commissioner, and Miss A. J. Crozier, Inspector, paid their official visit to "The Manor" on the 12th October.

STATISTICAL TABLES FOR 1949.

PATIENTS ON THE REGISTER DURING THE YEAR 1949

Imbeciles.

3

Feeble-minded.

The majority of the patients on the Register during the year have been admitted following moral lapses or have been in moral danger, and therefore constitute a highly selected group and a special problem in treatment. None, however, are in the true "moral defective" class, though most are unstable types showing defects of temperament, and are also handicapped by coming from unsuitable or definitely unfavourable homes.

GENERAL STATISTICAL TABLE

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The number transferred included a mass-transfer of nine patients to the Lea Colony, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, on July 18th. They had all been originally admitted to "The Home" from the Wolverhampton area and had been accepted back to that Region as accommodation became available, so releasing an increased number of vacancies for use in the Liverpool Region.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Mr. Belford, the Chairman, and Members of the House Committee for all the valuable work they have done in the past and are doing, and for their unfailing help, consideration and support to myself throughout the year.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant.

ELLEN HARTLEY,

Acting Superintendent and Matron.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Management Committee, Upton Mental Hospital, Chester.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Upton Mental Hospital, 9th March, 1949.

On July 5th, 1948, this hospital passed from the administrative charge of the Visiting Committee to that of a Hospital Management Committee of the Regional Hospital Board for the area. The hospital is being grouped for administrative purposes with a small institution for defectives at the Manor, Little Sutton. In addition to being designated as a mental hospital, Upton has also been designated for the admission of cases under sections 20 and 21 of the Lunacy Act, 1890: since July 5th, 1948, 7 men and 5 women have been so received

The numbers upon the statutory books when I commenced my visit yesterday were 697 men and 971 women; one woman was absent upon leave and the total number of patients actually in residence was 1,667. The strength of the nursing staff available for the care of these patients was 121 men and 192 women; of the latter 78 perform part time duties only. These figures are better than those of twelve months ago when the corresponding ones were 100 male and 163 female nurses of whom 50 were part-time workers. There are still difficulties on the female side, largely due to the lack of experienced nurses (only 7 of the part-time workers are certificated or registered as mental nurses), but on the whole I thought that the standard of nursing care was good.

The impressions of patients and their relatives are affected to a great extent by their first view of a hospital. I was very pleased to see that the grounds are everywhere being restored to their prewar condition and that at the instance of Dr. Copeland a number of the ward gardens are being re-grassed and redesigned, hedges are being cultivated to take the place of unsightly iron railings, and the roads have now been re-surfaced with hard material.

The arrangements for the admission of patients appear to be satisfactory. In all cases except those in which the immediate admission to an acute ward is required, patients are received at the entrances to the male and female admission wards in the Annexe and do not have to enter the Main Building at all. There are modern reception and examination rooms on each side. Classification on the female side is better now that Male Ward 10 is no longer used for admission purposes, as was the case during the war years—and until recently—but the side rooms lead off a corridor at right angles to the observation dormitory and are not beyond earshot of the patients there. This is a difficulty which it may not be possible to overcome until a modern reception hospital is built here.

The arrangements for discharge of patients have recently been improved. Whereas formerly a certified or temporary patient was brought before the whole Committee for the purposes of discharge under Section 77 or 79, such patients are now seen by a small Sub-Committee in the Medical Superintendent's office. This is a far less formal (and formidable) proceeding for the patient. Discharges by order of members of the Hospital Management Committee should become fewer in the future in view of the powers of discharge now given to the appropriate relative by Section 72. Dr. Copeland informed me that this right had been widely exercised already.

The after-care of discharged patients or of voluntary patients who have left cannot at present be undertaken by the hospital. It has not yet been possible to secure the services of a Psychiatric Social Worker for this purpose. Written information is given to the Medical Officer of Health for the area to where the patient goes and to his own Doctor, if known: the diagnosis, condition on discharge, treatment received and prognosis are all set out, together with a statement of the patient's willingness or otherwise to receive after-care. The need for a Psychiatric social worker is most felt by those patients whose families or friends have ceased to visit or to write to them and, presumably also at the Out-Patient Clinic where her services in taking histories would save the time of Medical Officers. The opening of further Out-Patient Clinics at Birkenhead, Tranmere, Wallasey and Ellesmere Port will make the need for this kind of help even more acute.

A great deal has been done to improve the wards by repainting the walls and also the beds in cream and other light shades. More looking glasses are needed on the female side in the washing rooms throughout the hospital. In the female admission ward and other wards where it is important to encourage patients to regain their self-respect and to take a pride in their appearance, at least one full-length mirror should be provided. The appointment of a professional hair-dresser and the equipment of a room for her use are valuable steps in this direction.

The heavy iron grilles on the verandahs at the Annexe are being replaced by light wire mesh. Wash basins have been fitted in the treatment room in Ward F.3 and in the dormitories in Wards F.15, M.10, and M.11. Ward M.8 has been re-wired and the lighting has been modernised. I discussed with Dr. Copeland his proposal for dividing horizontally the two large wards M.6 and F.6, each containing at present more than double the number of patients in any other ward.

Mrs. Clarke, the Occupation Officer, is gradually reviving the activities which were before the war so conspicuous a feature of this hospital. Now that the Annexe Wards have been restored to

use and the Occupation Rooms on each side there are available, she has been able to find room for approximately fifty women and thirty or forty men. When staff become available, occupation classes will be resumed in the wards as formerly. Mrs. Clarke has three fully trained assistants; one of these works part-time only. Allentown, the male Occupation Centre, where utilitarian work is done, such as brush-making and wire-netting construction, is in charge of a male nurse. Library books for distribution to the wards are kept here, although the main Library is at the centre of the Main Buildings.

A Dietician from the Ministry of Health has recently visited the hospital and reported upon the preparation, distribution and service of food to patients and staff. Her report is to be considered by the Committee. A new Staff Kitchen and Mess Room is already in the course of construction; the Mess Room will occupy what is at present the Sewing Room. The need for the early completion of the Staff Kitchen and the provision of its full equipment seems to be urgent, if both male and female Nursing Staff are to cease taking their meals on the wards or in isolated parts of the hospital.

The laboratory is at present closed owing to the illness of the Chief Technician and his assistant. The necessary work is being done at the laboratory of the Chester Royal Infirmary, but it is, of course, hoped to re-open the laboratory here as soon as possible, and in the event of an epidemic the matter would become urgent.

No cases of dysentery or diarrhoea have been recorded here since 1946. Twenty-six men and 15 women are at present suffering from some form of tuberculosis: in twenty-five male and six female cases the disease is pulmonary. These patients are nursed in Ward 7 on each side, except for three reputed in Ward F.15 and two in Male Ward 1. Of the total number six male and one female are regarded as "active" cases. Dr. Copeland pointed out to me the difficulty of washing crockery and other utensils used by female patients in Ward F7 apart from those used by other patients in the same ward. The patients concerned are those nursed in bed on a verandah, and the provision of supply of hot water and a sink is being considered. Spoons used by tubercular patients are distinguishable by the holes drilled in their handles and their linen is also distinctively marked.

Leucotomy operations hitherto performed here are in future to be done at Winwick where patients will be transferred for this purpose. It is proposed to re-commence insulin treatment when the Psychiatric Specialist and the Registrar appointed for the purpose commence their duties. Since the last visit, twenty-four women and one man have sustained fractures of bone. These figures undoubtedly reflect the lack of experienced nurses on the female side. Most of the patients involved were elderly ones.

During 1948 there were 68 deaths (27 men and 41 women). Five men and 7 women died from tuberculosis. Two women died of diphtheria. There were three inquests in circumstances already reported to my Board. The mortality rate for the year was 4.2 per cent. or 4.0 per cent. for men and 4.3 per cent. for women.

I have been impressed by the efforts which are being made here to overcome the difficulties—common to all mental hospitals—which are caused by shortage of staff and of supplies. I think it is due to those efforts that the patients now enjoy conditions which are better in many respects than those of two or three years ago and which will eventually be better than those which obtained before the war.

Dr. Copeland has to assist him Dr. C. Holmes as Deputy Medical Superintendent, Dr. A S. W. Buchanan and Dr. W. V. A. Erskine as Senior Assistant Medical Officers, and Dr. F. J. Gallagher, Dr. J. McGlade and Dr. Alwyn Griffith as Junior Assistant Medical Officers. I am indebted to Dr. Copeland and all those members of the Staff who assisted me in the course of my visit.

(Signed) H. R. GREEN,

Commissioner of the Board of Control.

REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE MANOR

The Manor,
Great Sutton,
Wirral.

Cheshire.

The patients who were at The Home, Everton Terrace, Liverpool, were moved on 5th July, 1949, to the premises known as The Manor, 838, Chester Road, Great Sutton, which formerly was ancillary to The Home, and had five patients in residence.

Today, accompanied by Dr. MacKenzie, Medical Superintendent of Newchurch Homes, near Warrington, we visited The Manor. Dr. MacKenzie is also Psychiatric Adviser to the last mentioned Institution. We found that there were 19 girls in residence all over 16 years of age, but we understand that there is accommodation here for 41 patients. The Manor is under the same Hospital Management Committee as the Mental Hospital, Upton, Chester.

It was a great pleasure to see the patients in their fresh and comfortable surroundings with ample outside facilities for recreation and good gardens for the cultivation of vegetables and fruit.

It has not yet been decided whether the principal industry of "The Home" namely laundry work will be continued here. We were given to understand that there is an opening for a laundry in the district and there is the accommodation on the premises where one could be provided. It is good training for certain types of mental defectives, and need not be laborious. Alternatively the out houses in question might be adapted to house an occupation therapy centre.

The Manor is very attractive, but it is not a labour saving house. Each girl has her own locker, but we thought that more mirrors might be provided. Representatives of the local fire service have seen over the house and we understand that they are satisfied with the fire precautions. We were glad to hear that the girls do fire drill once a month.

We saw and spoke with all of the patients who looked very neat in their coloured blue and pink dresses. These patients took a very active part in the preparations for the move to this house helping to make curtains, table cloths, and other furnishings. The girls also help to make their own clothes. We were shown some of their other hand work, much use is being made of materials which would otherwise have been thrown away. Domestic work and garden work are among other occupations for the patients.

Outings for the day and visits to the local cinema have been arranged. Pocket money varies from 1/6 to 4/- per week.

Dr. Paul, of Chester, visits weekly and more frequently if required. Monthly weight records are kept. There is a sick bay with two beds for use in case of illness. We should like to mention at this juncture that the medical cupboard needs an inner locked compartment for provisions.

Routine dental inspection is arranged to take place twice a year, but those in need of dental treatment go to the Dentist's Surgery in Chester.

Since the last visit to "The Home," Everton Terrace, one patient whose Order lapsed has been re-admitted, and there have been no discharges, but ten patients were transferred elsewhere.

In addition to the Matron, Miss Hartley, the staff consists of her Deputy, who is doubly trained, a nursing orderly who also takes classes in physical training, a cook, and two ward orderlies, a gardener, a handy man. There are vacancies for two more nursing orderlies.

The Matron was with us throughout our visit and gave us every assistance.

R. G. ANDERSON,

Commissioner of the Board of Control.

A. J. CROZIER.

Inspector of the Board of Control

REPORTS OF THE CHAPLAINS

The Vicarage, Waverton,

Chester

2nd February, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to be allowed to present to you the Thirteenth Annual Report for the period ended 31st December, 1949.

In presenting this Report as Church of England Chaplain to the Upton Mental Hospital, I would wish once again to pay tribute to the remarkable work carried on at this Institution—a work which reflects the highest credit upon all responsible for it.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

I am pleased to say that regular services for the patients have been held week by week in which many of the staff have also taken part. The fervour and devotional spirit shown at these services has been most impressive. The patients join with zest in the singing of favourite hymns and there is a real spirit of true worship in the devoutness with which prayers are said and responses are uttered. It is a great joy, too, to see the members of the staff joining with the patients in these spiritual devotions; indeed these services through the year have been real "times of refreshing" which have, I am sure, raised the whole tone of the Institution, and made it possible for the work to be carried on smoothly and with the least possible friction.

ENTERTAINMENTS

These have been continued throughout the period and must be considered as of therapeutic as well as of social value. Weekly dances, wireless, talkies, and numerous indoor games are provided. It has been a joy to see the pleasure and interest shown by the patients in the football matches, and makes one realise how vital it is that by these means some contact should be preserved by them with the outside world.

The usual Christmas and New Year Festivities were held. Foremost among these was the Patients' Fancy Dress Ball which was a very great success. These jollification naturally throw a good deal of extra work upon the staff, but with their usual unselfish zeal they rose nobly to the occasion, and what is more, seemed to enjoy it as much as the patients did. One cannot speak too highly of the spirit of happy fellowship which animates these functions.

GRATITUDE

I have once again to thank most heartily the Medical Superintendent, the Matron and their staffs for their kind co-operation and willing assistance, and I wish to express my own deep appreciation for the unfailing interest that you, Ladies and Gentlemen, continue to display in all the affairs of the Institution, and for the time and help you give so readily to all that concerns the welfare of the patients.

I remain.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

> (Signed) JOSEPH PHILLIPS, Church of England Chaplain.

To: The Chairman and Committee of Visitors, Upton Mental Hospital, Chester.

> Franciscan Friary, Grosvenor Street, Chester

30th January, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting my report for 1949.

Since my appointment as Roman Catholic Chaplain to the Upton Mental Hospital, Chester, in February, 1949, I am very pleased to report that in the exercise of my duties I have received full support and co-operation from all the members of the staff.

In the performance of my duties I have visited the wards each week, and where circumstances have required, have made special visits to patients.

Holy Mass has been celebrated every Sunday morning at nine o'clock. A special service on Good Friday was duly given. During Holy Mass a suitable instruction is given, and Holy Communion administered to those who wish to receive and are capable of doing so. Holy Communion is also given to the sick whenever they request it, and the Last Sacraments to those who are dangerously ill. During the past year sixteen patients received Extreme Unction: many of those recovered.

Notification of a patient who has become dangerously ill or who is in danger of death has been sent at all times, day or night without delay. Perfect attention by the Staff is always given to the sick and the dying. I am pleased to note the splendid attendance each Sunday at Holy Mass, and am glad to know that arrangements are being made whereby both members of the staff and patients are given facilities for attendance at Mass.

I wish to take this opportunity of expressing to all members of the staff my gratitude and appreciation for their willingness at all times, to co-operate as far as they can in the exercise of my duties as Roman Catholic Chaplain.

(Signed) VINCENT GIBLIN,

R.C. Chaplain.

To: The Chairman and Committee of Visitors, Upton Mental Hospital, Chester.

9, Chichester Street,

Chester.

March, 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for 1949.

First let me acknowledge the co-operation and sympathy which have been given to me, as one of your Chaplains, by all members of the Hosiptal staff, with whom I am in close contact in my work.

During the year I have visited the Wards and other Departments of the Hospital with regularity. In this activity I find many opportunities for exercising my spiritual and pastoral office. Over the years the patients in many cases have become friends, whose faces light up with welcome when we meet week by week. Special attention has been given as formerly to the Hospital Wards, and to members of the staff temporarily sick. Here especially there is scope for brief prayers of blessing and comfort which many invite and welcome.

In the O.T. Departments I see the therapeutic purpose of the Hospital expressed under conditions which help the patients towards recovery. Their friendliness is self-evident, and their craft work fills me with admiration. Finally, in this connection, I often visit the Canteen where one is certain to meet many patients spending their pocket money. Many pleasant moments during the year are spent among them in these relaxed conditions with benefit to me, and I trust to them.

The Chapel Services during 1949 have been well sustained. They often form a topic of conversation during the week. We have a particularly good congregation on Sunday afternoon when the singing of familiar hymns reaches a high standard. Holy Communion has been celebrated monthly, and is well supported. The demeanour of the Communicants is reverent and devout. The Sacrament is also observed at Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide. Apart from these great Festivals of the Christian Year other peak moments come on Good Friday, and the Harvest Thanksgiving. On these occasions the services take on the colour of the season. Special music, anthems and solos are provided by members of the choir and other friends; and addresses given suited to the day. I can only add that to minister to this congregation is a privilege and I look forward to it eagerly week by week, and seek to give of my best.

We are much indebted to Mr. S. Griffiths who provides flowers for the altar almost every Sunday. At Christmas, Easter, and the Harvest Festival the Chapel becomes a bower of beauty. In 1950 for the first time it was fully decorated for Christmas with berried holly, and gave a seasonable background to the Festival, and much pleasure to the patients. To Mr. Griffiths, and to the Ward Sisters who assisted to prepare the Chapel for these occasions I tender my grateful thanks.

Miss Baker, the Chapel organist, has also given me great assistance during the year in selecting suitable hymns, and providing special music. She very willingly invites musical friends to sing solos and augment the choir on great occasions.

I am much indebted to the Steward of the Hospital for providing an additional supply of new hymn books and tune books.

My relations with my two colleagues continues as cordial as ever, and I work in close co-operation with the Church of England Chaplain. In the early part of the year the R.C. Chaplain, the late Father Arthur, unfortunately passed away. He was a most devoted and popular priest. I was privileged to represent the Hospital at the Requiem Mass at St. Francis' R.C. Church, Chester.

I have continued to distribute magazines of suitable nature as opportunity offers. The officials of my former Church in Chester very generously continue to provide copies of the Church Monthly Magazine for this purpose.

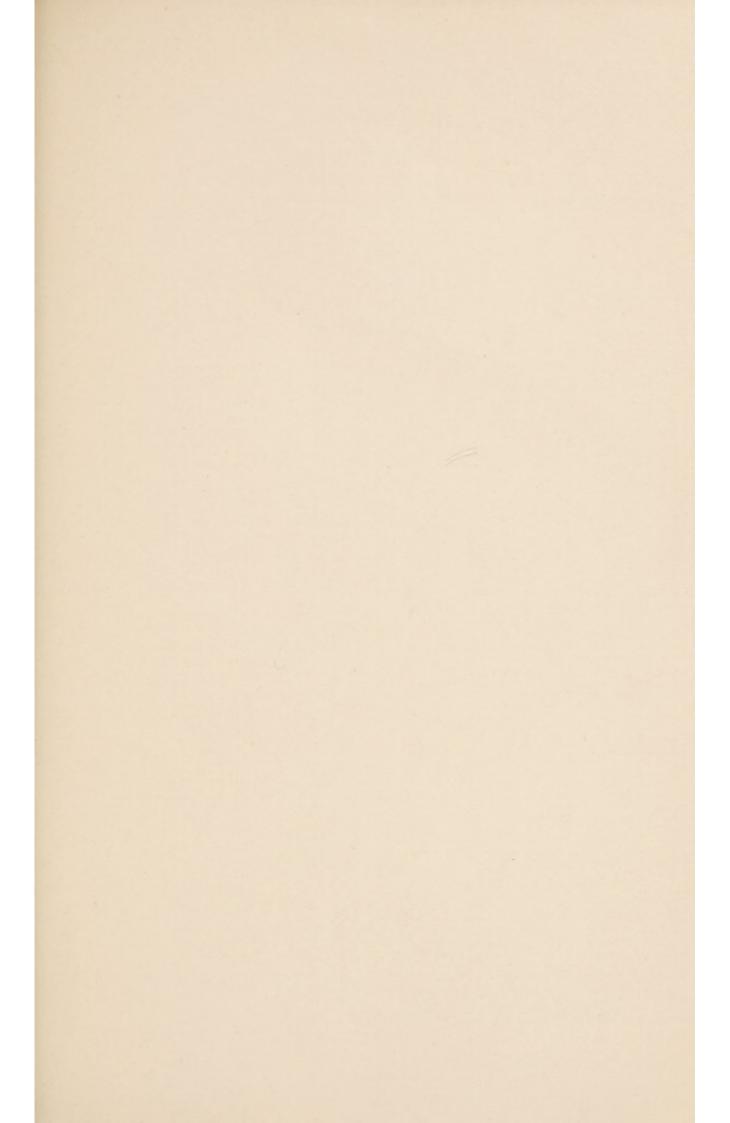
I have continued my interest in and support of the Welfare Work in the Hospital both for patients and staff. The Hospital Football Team gave a good account of itself, but it has been the combined team of patients and staff which roused my keenest interest. The matches (home and away) with the Denbigh Mental Hospital were matters of important debate especially to male patients. The weekly dances and cinema shows provide entertain-

ments for an even wider audience than football, not to mention the Saturday evening concerts. I have attended the concerts regularly, and publicly acknowledged the great debt we owe to parties from Birkenhead and Wallasey who come so willingly to provide entertainment and stimulus to large audiences of patients. On these occasions I often meet friends who knew me when a resident on Merseyside. This fact gives me a special link with all patients who come from that part of the County.

As a member of the Chester City Council I was able in the closing weeks of the year to enlist the help of the Medical Superintendent, and a panel of the Medical Nursing Staff in advising the Council in regard to the film "The Snake Pit" which was due to be shown in the city in the near future. The deputation from the Hospital attended a private showing of the film and gave valuable guidance in respect of the conditions under which the Council agreed that the film should be shown to the public.

In conclusion, I am sensible of the great opportunities for service which are open to a Chaplain in a Mental Hospital. After almost twenty years' experience in Lancaster and Chester I know something of the limitations and opportunities of the work. It is a service to which I am deeply attached, and now forms a large part of my vocational life. Its spiritual and pastoral obligations cannot be underestimated, nor can the satisfactions which it gives to those who share it.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient Servant,
(Signed) ERIC J. LAWSON,
Free Church Chaplain.



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UPTON MENTAL HOSPITAL, CHESTER. Table A2

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