

# **Annual report of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, Children's Hospital and Leicester and Leicestershire Maternity Hospital : 1945.**

## **Contributors**

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Leicester Royal Infirmary Children's Hospital.

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THE ONE HUNDRED & SEVENTY THIRD

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**  
*of the*  
**LEICESTER  
ROYAL  
INFIRMARY**  
(INCORPORATED BY CHARTER)



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CONTRIBUTIONS

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SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

THE ONE HUNDRED  
AND SEVENTY-THIRD

# Annual Report

OF

## The Leicester Royal Infirmary

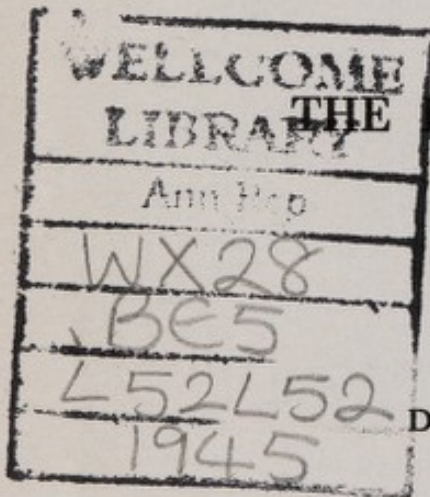
(INCORPORATED BY CHARTER)

Children's Hospital

AND

Leicester and Leicestershire Maternity Hospital

### For the Year 1945



President :

**THE RIGHT HON. LORD HAZLERIGG**

LORD LIEUTENANT OF THE COUNTY.

Chairman of the Board of Governors :

**J. G. PICKARD, J.P.**

Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors :

**W. B. JARVIS, O.B.E., J.P.**

Treasurer :

**COL. A. HALKYARD, M.C., T.D., D.L., LL.B.**

House Governor and Secretary :

**H. T. PLOWMAN, F.C.I.S., F.H.A.**



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# 173rd Annual Report of the Governors, 1945

Victory in Europe and Victory in Japan came to the United Nations in 1945. After a long period of darkness and anxiety we now look to more settled times.

This Report relates in the main to a war period, and it shows how the Infirmary withstood the test of six years of war. Called up under the Government Emergency Hospital Service in 1939, the Infirmary's accommodation immediately expanded from 662 beds to 942 by increasing the number of beds in each ward. Demobilisation has not yet completely released the Infirmary but from the 1st April, 1946, beds reserved for E.M.S. patients are reduced to 120 as compared with 360 at the peak period one month before "D" Day.

All sections of the Staff, Medical, Nursing and Administrative, brought team spirit to bear upon necessary changes and each war time Annual Report has placed on record a statement of work and service in keeping with the high tradition of the voluntary hospitals.

## The Work of the Year

Statistics can prove most points, but it is believed that the year's work set out below does show that all departments of the Infirmary and the Homes have, during 1945, worked at very high pressure. In fact it has been realised that it is impossible to maintain present conditions and steps have been taken to bring the work more into line with the staff conditions now being experienced which are even more difficult than during the war period.

The Governors are gratified that it has been possible to give a larger service to the civilian population during the past year. The public has been very forbearing in accepting the reduced service during war years brought about by the treatment of military sick and injured.

These figures speak for themselves.

### In-Patients

	1945	1944	1943
Remaining in on 1st January ...	670	631	578
Admitted Infirmary and Children's Hospital ... ..	13028	13178	12141
Maternity Hospital (Mothers) ...	1017	1035	1060
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14715	14844	13779
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The average number of beds daily occupied during the three years was respectively:—

Infirmary and Children's Hospital	642·46	631·91	608·9
Maternity Hospital ... ..	38·8	40·3	40·5
The number of operations at the Infirmary were ... ..	7900	8200	7652
Transfers to Swithland and Zachary Merton Homes ...	2919	2532	2451
The average stay in the Infirmary was ... ..	17·93	17·59	18·39

Although the number of patients treated is down by 139, civilian admissions have increased from 8614 in 1944 to 9872 in 1945. The 1938 figure was 9,676.

The average cost per occupied bed at the Infirmary (including Homes) was:—1945, £221 17s. 6d.; 1944, £211 4s. 10d.; 1943, £190 3s. 3d.

	1945	1944	1943
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### Out-Patients

Infirmary:—

New patients ... ..	21782	22345	29093
Renewed attendances ...	57026	60445	57600
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	78808	82790	86693
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Casualties

New patients	...	...	31093	30782	33009
Renewed attendances	...	...	82964	76401	82158
Renewed attendances, Fracture Clinic	...	...	10506	12246	14999
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			124563	119429	130166
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operations	...	...	5566	6082	7228
X-Ray Examinations (attendances)			29964	29643	31089
Fluorescent Screen Examinations			14574	13828	14442
X-Ray photographs taken	...	...	55212	53930	52514
X-Ray:—					
Deep Therapy and Superficial treatments	...	...	14136	10211	9322
Attendances	...	...	6346	8676	7460
Ultra Violet Ray Treatments	...	...	12743	14154	16645
„ „ „ attendances	...	...	12163	12633	13953
Radium treatments	...	...	843	1579	525
Pathological and Bio-Chemical Departments:—					
Examinations made	...	...	54606	51524	51990
Orthopædic Department (Massage and Electrical):—					
Number of attendances	...	...	56768	52406	63159
Rehabilitation Department attendances			30213	19429	3520

The X-Ray Department, in spite of the fact that it has needed extension for ten years, has managed to record further increase in its work. It was in 1932 that the Governors began to plan a new X-Ray Department. Since then X-Ray work has more than doubled on the diagnostic side and every year the therapy work has increased. The plan for a new Department is now under consideration by the Ministry of Health.

The Rehabilitation Department has made vast development and in spite of confined space, has done excellent work.

## Accident Service

The Fracture Service has developed year by year, and the time has now arrived for an Accident Service to be organised.

Much thought has been given to this development by the Governors, but here again accommodation is creating much difficulty. Consideration is at the moment being given to the possibilities of the extension of the Orthopædic Department in the form of temporary buildings.

## Royal Visit

The Infirmary was honoured by a visit of the Duchess of Kent on the 1st June, and H.R.H. was very interested in the visit she made to the wards and the conversations she had with both Service and civilian patients and staff.

## Mr. Robert S. Lawson

The Honorary Medical and Surgical Staff, and the Infirmary, suffered a tragic loss in the death of Mr. Robert S. Lawson in May last. Mr. Lawson, in addition to being an outstanding Surgeon, was highly respected by his patients, and he will be remembered for many years by those throughout the City and County who benefited by his skill during the 26 years he was a member of the Surgical Staff.

## Wing Commander George Clayfield Sawyer

The Board had a difficult task in selecting an Honorary Assistant Surgeon to take the place of Mr. Lawson, but has been fortunate in the appointment of Wing Commander Sawyer who, at the time of his appointment, was a member of the R.A.F. serving at No. 10 R.A.F. General Hospital, S.E.A.A.F.

Mr. Sawyer qualified at Guy's Hospital in 1932, and had a progressive medical and surgical experience until he entered the R.A.F. in the early part of the war.

## Miss M. F. Hughes

Miss M. F. Hughes resigned her appointment as Matron under the Superannuation Scheme arrangements at the end of the year. During the 16 years Miss Hughes was in charge of the nursing side

of the Infirmary she proved herself to be a lady of outstanding accomplishments. The high position which the Leicester Royal Infirmary occupied in the nursing world was enhanced during this period, and she has extended her nursing experience to nursing work generally. At the end of one year's Presidency of the Royal College of Nursing, she was invited to hold the office for a second year.

On her retirement from the Infirmary, the Governors made a presentation to Miss Hughes as a token of the high regard in which she had been held by all associated with her at the Infirmary, and organisations in the City and County with which she had been associated paid tribute to her outstanding qualities.

### **Miss C. F. S. Bell**

Miss Clara Flora Statia Bell was appointed by the Board to succeed Miss Hughes and took up her duties in January.

Miss Bell, like Miss Hughes, was trained at Guy's Hospital and spent upwards of 20 years in the service of this famous London Hospital, during which time she occupied practically all the senior nursing positions, with the exception of Matron.

At the time of her appointment she was Matron of Guy's "U.S.A." Sector Hospital at Seal, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Miss Bell takes over at a time when there are many problems associated with nursing work. The Governors, however, feel that under her guidance the Infirmary will lose none of its outstanding features, and it is hoped that further new fields will be explored in the development of the nursing profession.

### **Dr. Jeans**

Dr. Jeans, who entered the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1940 and has served as a Colonel abroad for the greater part of the war, returned and took up his duties as Honorary Physician in July. His return has been of much assistance and has given the Governors the opportunity of still further improving the consultation service in the Out-Patient Department.

### **Mr. McCurry**

Mr. McCurry, Ophthalmic Surgeon, took up his work again in December, replacing Mrs. Souper, who has acted as his deputy for three years during the period he has been on service with the R.A.F.



## Dr. James

Dr. James, Anæsthetist to the Dental Department, has returned from duty abroad and takes up his duties in April.

## Obituary

The Board regret to record the deaths during the year of:—

Lt.-Col. Douglas, a member of the Honorary Staff from 1886 to 1911, and since a Member of the Consulting Staff, who died at the home of his son in Oxford, aged 93.

Alderman J. A. Goodman, J.P., C.C., who was a member of the Board representing the County Council.

Mr. George Spencer, J.P., of Lutterworth, for ten years a member of the Board and a generous contributor to the Infirmary's funds.

## Mr. William H. Abell

The Saturday Hospital Society suffered a serious loss on the 10th September, 1945, when its Secretary, Mr. William Henry Abell, passed away in the Infirmary.

Mr. Abell was on the staff of the Society for upwards of 32 years, 15 years of which he was Secretary.

Under his direction, the Society's work made great strides and he gave a good deal of his time to improving the environments of the Society's Homes.

The Society has lost a very able servant at a time when his experience would have been an invaluable asset.

Mr. T. E. Horobin who has been with the Society for 19 years has been appointed to the position of Secretary.

## Swithland Convalescent Home Matroncy

Miss Harris, Matron of the Swithland Convalescent Home, who entered the service of the Infirmary in 1912, retired in July last year. The Governors have paid their tribute to the enthusiasm which Miss

Harris brought to bear on her work, both as a Sister at the Infirmary for many years and Matron of the Home. During the 33 years that Miss Harris was a member of the Nursing Staff tremendous changes took place, in all of which she showed very keen interest and she gave considerable help to each of the three Matrons under whom she worked.

Mrs. F. Parker, who has been on the Staff of the Infirmary for some years, has been appointed to take over the duties of Matron of the Home.

### **Leicester and Leicestershire Maternity Hospital**

The Maternity Hospital has completed an excellent year's work, 1,017 mothers being admitted. Towards the close of the year difficulty was experienced in meeting the demands for bookings and it is regretted that many applications had to be refused.

Many tributes have been received from patients regarding the care and attention that has been given to both mothers and babies.

In spite of the difficulties of labour and equipment, quite a few improvements have been installed during the year, and at the moment there are several developments in hand.

The serious disadvantage from which the Hospital is suffering is lack of domestic staff, in common with all other departments of the Infirmary and other institutions.

Unfortunately, this Hospital still suffers from lack of public interest in its work, and the Governors again record their disappointment that in spite of the tremendous benefit the public of Leicester and Leicestershire derives from the Hospital, donations, subscriptions and grants only amounted to £388 5s. 0d. Patients' fees have increased to £9,876, this figure being a record. The deficit on the year, £3,334 18s. 2d., was transferred to and met out of Infirmary funds.

### **INCOME**

Examination of the Income and Expenditure account on page 20 shows the generous support that the Infirmary received during the year. For the first time annual subscriptions passed the four

figure mark, reaching £10,076 4s. 9d. Donations increased during the year by £2,384 and again indicate the magnificent effort made by Infirmary Committees whose efforts year by year have shown results unparalleled in any hospital area.

It would not have been surprising if this amount had been a decreasing one over the last few years, for many Committees have adopted bed and cot endowment schemes, and the sums from this source are capital funds and therefore do not show in the income account.

The Hospital Sunday Fund increased and almost reached the £5,000 aimed at for many years.

Some years ago the Leicester and County Saturday Hospital Society's Annual Report used the slogan "The Power of the Pence" and this is testified in the record amount received by the Society in 1945, £97,353. This is a remarkable amount, because since V.E. Day there have been big changes in the occupations of war workers, and it would not have been surprising if the change over had brought about a reduction in the total. The Society is to be congratulated on having been so successful in prevailing upon 60 per cent. of its subscribers to increase their weekly contribution from 3d. to 4d. per week.

The Society allocated to the Infirmary for maintenance funds, £50,000, and in addition provided £18,000 for the Building Fund of the Casualty and X-Ray Departments, which has now reached a total of £132,306.

Receipts from the Linen League appear for the first time in our accounts. The League has been a source of helpfulness to the Infirmary for many years. The reason the item £235 17s. 2d. appears for the first time this year is because it is felt that in view of the possible growth of the effort the right course is to bring into income, subscriptions and value of gifts.

The Governors wish to convey to the ladies who have been so industrious and generous, very grateful thanks for loyal support and help given over a long period.

The increase of £318 in the amount brought in from the Children's Hospital accounts is almost entirely due to the popularity of the Children's Effort, which again shows an increase; total £1,811 as compared with the last record in 1944 of £1,788.

While the children's enthusiasm for the Appeal must not be discounted, there is no doubt that the Governors are greatly indebted to the Headmasters and Staffs of the schools, who lose no opportunity of encouraging the children to raise increasing amounts for their effort for their Hospital.

Receipts on account of services rendered show a substantial increase under the heading Hospital Contributory Associations, and here again the Governors are indebted to the Saturday Hospital Society for allocating this amount to the Infirmary's funds, being contributions received for services rendered by the Infirmary to Contributory Fund patients from outside areas.

The Emergency Hospital Service of the Ministry of Health contribution of £40,325 is a small decrease on the previous year's total, and in itself is a record of the part the Hospital has played in the Country's service by treating military and other cases that are a charge upon Government funds.

Ministry of Health payment Nursing Salaries Grant, £2,500, has to be considered in connection with the expenditure on nursing salaries, £32,585 14s. 1d. Under the new Rushcliffe Scale of Salaries Scheme, the Government has undertaken to be responsible for 50 per cent. of the increased salaries brought about by the Scheme. Both income and expenditure will be largely affected from now and onwards in connection with this matter.

Increased income from invested property is largely due to the enthusiasm of Infirmary Committees, for their efforts over the last ten years have added very considerably to the invested capital, and the Governors are very gratified that income from this source has now reached the very substantial amount of £25,938.

Amounts received from legacies, being free for maintenance purposes, £8,036 12s. 3d., is an increased amount and rather over the average received of late years.

The recording of this total gives the Governors the opportunity of expressing to Solicitors in both City and County, appreciation for the helpfulness they bring to the Infirmary's cause in reminding clients of the Infirmary's needs. This goodwill on behalf of the County Hospital is valued.

## Expenditure

The opportunity of obtaining additional supplies at the latter part of the year, especially with regard to fruit and vegetables, increased the expenditure on provisions by £1,700, and it is interesting to record that expenditure on vegetables and fruit has now reached a sum of £3,233.

The purchase of a new X-Ray Treatment Set for £2,300 mainly represents the increased expenditure under the item Surgery and Dispensary.

All domestic items have been in short supply during the war years and expenditure under this heading is likely to show rather a large increase in the future.

Renewal and repair of furniture, bedding, and crockery has increased from £2,258 to £4,772.

The cleaning of the wards was commenced in August when Government demands for the treatment of military patients began to ease. At the time of writing (March, 1946) all the large wards have been thoroughly cleaned, and this work represents the £1,000 increase for cleaning and chandlery.

Expenditure on coal continues to rise. This is not because of increased tonnage but is associated with periodical cost per ton increases on all fuel.

Expenditure of £1,209 on electricity is £55 less than the previous year, but this does not mean that less electricity has been used. For war purposes, plant was installed to meet any emergency that might arise through the breakdown of Corporation supplies after bombing. Fortunately this emergency did not arise and the plant has been added to, and approximately 25 per cent. of the electricity used in the Infirmary is now generated on the premises. This percentage will be considerably increased during the current year when the new plant comes into full production.

Increases in other items of expenditure are in the main represented by increased staff and salary increases after negotiation with the various trade unions, etc.

Renewals and repairs to buildings and fittings will be another item which will increase rapidly with the easing of restrictions.

It is common knowledge that earnings have been generally higher during the war and it is very gratifying to the Governors to be able to state that the Infirmary has materially benefited from this position. During the six years 1940 to 1945 inclusive, total expenditure has been met, and a surplus has accumulated on the Infirmary Income and Expenditure Accounts of £50,894.

To some extent, this is brought about by two factors, £220,992 has been received from Government funds to meet services available and rendered under the Ministry of Health Emergency Hospital Scheme, which has largely been accomplished by extraordinary service rendered by the Staff under overcrowded conditions; renewals and replacements of plant have not been possible during the war, and this nest egg of £50,894 will be a valuable asset to meet extraordinary expenditure during the next two years, which should bring the hospital services by that time to the high standard they had reached before the war.

Total expenditure in connection with the Infirmary, Homes, Hostels, etc., for the year amounted to £178,386. To this is added Maternity Hospital £14,553, giving a grand total of £192,940.

To meet this it is very gratifying to be able to record income of £201,309, showing a surplus of Income over Expenditure Account of £8,369. These figures in themselves convey the tremendous interest there is in this area for the Infirmary and its auxiliary services.

The variety of support is so great that it is impossible to mention any particular effort without conveying appreciation of one in particular to the disadvantage of the others. Many small efforts are brought about by extraordinary energy by a few enthusiasts in a small community, and in the main probably mean larger interest than a four figure sum from a much larger community. Because of this difficulty, this year's Report does not make special reference to any particular donations. It is hoped that all those who have given time and energy to bring about such magnificent results will accept

the Governors' sincere acknowledgement of the industry that has been undertaken to ensure the Infirmary receiving the maximum support. Every supporter who has given a small sum or hundreds of pounds to ensure a successful year's work has reason to be gratified with the part he or she has played in this outstanding year's achievement.

## Hospital Library

It is some years since mention has been made of the services rendered by Toc H members in the organisation of the patients' library. Daily visits are made to the wards with book trolleys, and these voluntary workers in a quiet, unassuming manner, give a service which is very much valued by the patients. On behalf of the patients, the Governors record their appreciation.

## "Brookfield"

"Forest Edge", the Nurses' Preliminary Training School, was on lease for three years, which ended on Lady-day, and it is with satisfaction that the Governors are able to announce that a permanent home for this work has been found in the purchase of the Bishop's House. It is appropriate that the Infirmary should be associated with this property, which years ago was the home of one of its chairmen, Mr. T. Fielding Johnson, Senr., from 1898 to 1902.

The premises are very adaptable for the purpose, and will accommodate 35 nurses for the first three months of their training.

The house is surrounded by four and a half acres of land, and the Governors believe that this addition to the Amenities of the Infirmary will prove a great asset.

The accommodation available will release accommodation in the Nurses' Home for additional staff, giving Matron the opportunity of further developments in nursing facilities.

## Development

The restriction in building and the difficulties in obtaining appliances and equipment retard general development. The Governors, however, are taking advantage of every opportunity to make up the leeway of the war years.

Authority has come through for St. Luke's Ward to be internally fitted so that it can become an Ophthalmic Unit dealing with males, females and children. An operating theatre is being added and the patients will benefit by this re-organisation.

The Ministry of Health has sanctioned internal alterations in the Children's Hospital, comprising a larger number of single cubicles completely fitted for isolation treatment.

The Board has been advised by the Pædiatric Association and when the work is completed, the nursing of the children will be further advanced.

Although suffering from lack of accommodation, considerable progress has been made in the development of the Radio Therapy Unit, working in close collaboration with the Sheffield Radium Centre. Staff has been increased, records have been co-ordinated, and the number of treatments given has rapidly increased. The peak was reached in November last when 1,500 treatments were given, as compared with 425 in November, 1944.

## Dietary

Last year's report gave information regarding development in the food service of the Infirmary. During the year further development has been inaugurated in the form of a Mess Meeting held monthly, when representatives of the Staffs meet together and discuss details of the month's food service. A report from this meeting goes to the Dietary Committee and so the Board is kept fully advised on this important subject.

Periodically the Dietitian makes tests and reports to the Committee on the dietetic value of all food supplied to both patients and staff.

## National Health Scheme

At the time of going to press, the National Health Scheme has been presented to Parliament, and is being discussed by all who are affected by this great change. It is difficult at the moment to express very definite views on the results which will follow.



Hospitals as a whole have realised for years that the time had arrived when it was essential for the good of the community that hospital services should be co-ordinated. It would appear, however, that the new Scheme may, owing to its magnitude, destroy what is considered to be outstanding features of the Voluntary Hospital movement.

With all its faults, even opponents have admitted that the hospital system of this Country has always borne in mind that the patients are the all important principals in the service to be provided for. Will it be possible for this main object to be continued under a State Service? Will the patient have to fit into the Scheme or the Scheme fit the requirements of the patient? To some extent this will depend entirely upon the local autonomy that is allowed to the Local Hospital Management Committee.

The details yet available of how hospital endowments are to be dealt with are not fully explained, but it does not seem fair to Leicestershire residents that accumulated endowments of £750,000, subscribed by a generous public in this area, should be set aside to meet the deficiencies of other hospitals.

The British Hospitals Association, comprising 1,100 Voluntary Hospitals of all sizes, has endeavoured to encourage a plan that would without doubt retain all the best interests of the voluntary hospital movement, at the same time giving in the main the co-ordination of a regional hospital plan.

The Governors wish to pay tribute to the Chairman, Sir Bernard Docker, and the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. J. P. Wetenhall, for the great service they have rendered to the hospital movement in their approaches to the various Government Departments in their endeavour to encourage the adoption of the Association's plan which is as follows:—

1. *The Minister of Health* would assume general responsibility for the direction and financing of the hospital service required within the National Health Service.
2. *A Central Hospitals Board* would be appointed by the Minister to which, subject to his veto, he would delegate the major duties and responsibilities including the framing of national policy.

This Board would be wholly or largely representative in its composition of the major agencies through which alone the Minister can direct and operate the service, *i.e.*, the medical profession, voluntary hospitals, the local authorities, the dentists, nurses and pharmacists. The Minister would therefore appoint the Board after consultation with the appropriate bodies.

3. *Regional Hospital Boards* would be appointed by the Minister and charged with the duty of planning and extending the hospital services so that the whole field of hospital treatment would be covered in each Region, while leaving the patient freedom of choice of hospital. One of the great medical teaching centres would be associated with each of these Regions.

The Board would decide the nature of the services required from each hospital in its Region and be vested with such executive powers as may be necessary to ensure that its plan would be put into operation.

These Boards would be appointed after consultation with the appropriate bodies including the universities and would (as in the case of the Central Hospitals Board) be wholly or mainly representative in composition.

4. *The individual hospital* therefore, through its Committee of management, would remain entirely responsible for the internal management and general conduct of its affairs; but its first duty would be to provide the service required of it under the Regional plan.
5. *The Voluntary Hospital* would retain in trust its buildings and assets, thus preserving its entity and ensuring a reasonable degree of freedom in the interests of medical research and progress, in the service of the patient and of the community.
6. *Finance.* So far as the voluntary hospital is concerned it would receive payment from the State for services required and rendered but would still be free to attract personal interest in its work and support for special purposes, for any activities outside the scope of the National Service, and for the general improvement of its services including the comfort of both patients and staff.

It is believed that this plan will commend itself to the public, and particularly to the millions of those in all walks of life, without distinction of creed or political party, who know and believe in the voluntary hospitals. It interprets what the Prime Minister, in his Broadcast Appeal to the Nation, said on 3rd March, 1946:

“ WE WANT THE TEAM SPIRIT ”

“TRADITION WITH PROGRESS.”

### Honorary, Nursing and Administrative Staffs

In conclusion, the Governors record their very sincere appreciation to the Honorary Medical and Surgical Staff for another year's magnificent work. The Board also acknowledge its appreciation of the Medical Staff's help in the administration of the hospital during the past six very difficult years. Although depleted by war service, the statistics of the hospital show that service to the civil population has been given on a par with the pre-war work of the Infirmary, and in addition, thousands of patients have been treated under the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

The Medical Staff have been loyally supported by Matron and the Nursing Staff. The overcrowding of the wards has presented the Nurses with almost unsurmountable difficulties. Their work has had to be done under conditions most unfavourable at times, but the difficulties have been accepted in the true spirit of service for which the profession is noted.

The Administrative Staff, has taken its part in a community service which has given satisfaction to all who have found need of the Institution's services.

**Jno. G. PICKARD,**

*Chairman of the Board.*

**W. B. JARVIS,**

*Deputy-Chairman.*

**Alfred HALKYARD,**

*Treasurer.*

28th March, 1946.

## Chairman's Resignation

Early in the current year, Mr. Pickard found that his eyesight was handicapping him in his Infirmary activities, and in February he felt it necessary to resign the Chairmanship.

Mr. Pickard was appointed a member of the Board in 1913, and became a member of the House Committee, which at that period was the Management Committee.

He was appointed a member of the Finance Committee in 1917 and its Chairman the next year.

In 1923 he became Deputy Chairman, and Chairman in 1924. He has therefore occupied the Chair for 22 years.

During the period that Mr. Pickard has been associated with the Board, tremendous progress has taken place. During his Chairmanship the accommodation increased from 320 to 800 beds; admissions increased from 4,507 to 13,028 last year. Expenditure advanced from £72,483 to £192,940.

Mr. Pickard's hospital activities have extended beyond Leicester for he has been an active member of the British Hospitals Association and a member of the Executive.

Everyone interested in the Infirmary will be glad to know that Mr. Pickard is retaining his membership of the Board, so that the Infirmary will, it is hoped, have the benefit of his experience and advice for many years.

W. B. JARVIS.

ALFRED HALKYARD.

## THE LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.

Statistics for year to 31st Dec., 1945, compared with those of the previous year.

## 1.—IN-PATIENTS.

## A.—Number of Beds and In-Patients.

	Numbers in 1945	Previous Year.
1* Total number of available beds on 31st December ..	843	843
2* Average number of available beds during year ..	843	843
3 Average number of patients resident daily throughout the year .. .. .	642·46	631·9
4 Number of In-patients in the hospital at beginning of year .. .. .	632	599
5 Number of In-patients admitted during year ..	13028	13178
6 Number of In-patients in the hospital at the end of the year .. .. .	585	632
7 Average number of days each patient was resident.. Ascertained by dividing the yearly total of daily counts by the number of patients treated to a conclusion i.e. (4) + (5) - (6).	17·93	17·59
8 Number of patients admitted and discharged during the year who were resident for:—		
(1) only 1 day ..	515	513
(2) 2 and 3 days ..	931	1151

\* Includes 200 Emergency Beds.

B.—Annual Expenditure on In-Patients apart from that on Out-Patients.  
Average cost of each In-Patient per week, and average cost of each In-Patient.

	1945			Previous Year		
	Expen- diture on In-Pa- tients	* Average Cost of each In-Patient per week	 Average Total Cost of each In-Patient	* Average cost of each In-Patient per week	 Average Total cost of each In-Patient	
		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1 Provisions .. .. . (Including Board of Officials.)	25300	15 2	1 18 8	12 2	1 10 6	
2 Surgery & Dispens'y	16422	9 10	1 5 1	8 11	1 2 3	
3 Domestic .. .. .	28721	17 2	2 3 11	13 10	1 14 6	
4 Salaries and Wages (Maintenance.)	57278	1 14 3	4 7 7	1 11 3	3 18 2	
5 Miscellaneous ..	3620	2 2	5 8	1 11	4 9	
6 Administration ..	4473	2 8	6 10	2 10	7 0	
7 Statistical Cost..	135814	4 1 3	10 7 9	3 10 11	8 17 2	
8 Establishment Renewals & Repairs	5056	3 0	7 9	2 2	5 5	
9 Finance .. .. .	1534	11	2 4	11	2 4	
9 Extraordinary Ex- penditure. (1944 includes cost of Beds at Recovery Homes now included in General Expenditure)	143	1	2	7 3	18 2	
Total Cost ..	142547	4 5 3	10 18 0	4 1 3	10 3 1	

\* Average cost per week found by dividing the amounts of Expenditure shown against each heading and total by the average number of In-Patients resident daily (No. 3 in A above) and dividing by the number of weeks in the year.

|| Average cost for In-Patients found by dividing the amounts of Expenditure shown against each heading and total by the number of In-Patients treated to a conclusion during the year (Nos. 4 + 5 - 6 in A above).

## THE LEICESTER ROYAL INFIRMARY.

Statistics for year to 31st Dec., 1945, compared with those of the previous year.

## 2.—OUT-PATIENTS.

## A.—Numbers.

	Numbers in 1945	Previous Year
1 Total number of new Out-Patients .. .. .	52875	53127
2 Total number of Out-Patient attendances .. .. .	408861	322447
Number of Casualty Patients included in No. 1 above .. .. .	31093	30782
Number of Maternity Patients in No. 1 above, attended at home .. .. .	nil.	nil.
Number of attendances on Maternity Patients included in No. 2 above .. .. .	nil.	nil.

## B.—Annual Expenditure on Out-Patients and average cost of each Out-Patient attendance and of each Out-Patient.

	1945			Previous Year	
	Expen- diture on Out Pa- tients	* Average Cost of each Out-Patient Attendance	 Average Total Cost of each Out-Patient	* Average cost of each Out-Patient Attendance	 Average Total Cost of each Out-Patient
		£	Pence	Pence	Pence
1 Provisions .. .. .	964	·56	4·38	·55	3·36
2 Surgery and Dispensary .. .. .	8411	4·95	38·18	5·1	30·96
3 Domestic .. .. .	4024	2·36	18·26	1·95	11·83
4 Salaries and Wages (Maintenance)	17805	10·45	80·82	12·54	76·12
5 Miscellaneous .. .. .	1754	1·03	7·96	·81	4·91
6 Administration .. .. .	1120	·65	5·08	·62	3·78
Statistical Cost .. .. .	34078	20·00	154·68	21·57	130·96
7 Establishment .. .. .	1263	·74	5·73	·65	3·95
8 Renewals & Repairs					
Finance .. .. .	498	·29	2·26	·1	·56
Total Cost .. .. .	35839	21·03	162·67	22·32	135·47

\* Average cost per Out-Patient attendance found by dividing the amounts of Expenditure shown against each heading and total by the total number of Out-Patient attendances (No. 2 in A above).

|| Average cost per Out-Patient found by dividing the amounts shown against each heading and total by the total number of new Out-Patients (No. 1 in A above).

## Income and Expenditure Account for

Ordinary.	Income.	1945.
1944.		1945.
£ s. d.		£ s. d.
	<b>I. VOLUNTARY GIFTS:</b>	
	1 Subscriptions, Donations, Etc.:	
9014 15 0	Annual Subscriptions ..	10076 4 9
22292 14 10	Donations .. ..	24676 12 3
159 19 11	Box Collections .. ..	121 14 7
—	Entertainments (organized by Hospital) .. ..	—
—	Gifts in kind .. ..	482 0 0
4628 19 3	2 Hospital Sunday Fund ..	4854 15 3
48500 0 0	*Hospital Saturday Fund ..	50000 0 0
84596 9 0	*Also on account Casualty & X-Ray Building Fund: 1938 £2000; 1939 £15,000; 1940 £17,350; 1941 £17,650; 1942 £18,000; 1943 £18,000; 1944, £18,000; 1945 £18,000.	90211 6 10
—	3 Sundry Receipts, Linen League	235 17 2
18 12 4	Fever House Account ..	18 12 4
7413 8 3	Children's Hospital Account	7731 15 1
7432 0 7		7986 4 7
	<b>II. RECEIPTS ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES RENDERED:</b>	
	1 Contributions on account of Services to Patients:	
	(a) From Patients and their Societies:	
4973 19 9	Grateful Patients .. ..	4170 12 6
2547 4 10	Hospital Contributory Associations .. ..	2992 9 9
310 12 0	X-Ray Department .. ..	92 15 0
39 12 3	Approved Societies .. ..	13 17 0
345 9 6	Convalescent Fund .. ..	262 7 5
861 11 3	Road Traffic Act .. ..	790 3 0
	(b) From Public Authorities:	
8162 5 11	Venereal Diseases Dept... ..	6729 9 9
386 11 0	Ministry of Pensions, War Office, etc. .. ..	970 13 3
41068 18 0	Ministry of Health, Emer- gency Hospital Service .. ..	40324 19 6
532 3 11	Ministry of Health, Nursing Salaries Grant.. ..	2500 0 0
59228 8 5		58847 7 2
972 14 8	<i>Less</i> Allocation to Honorary Medical Staff Fund .. ..	929 7 0
58255 13 9		57918 0 2
	2 Fees:	
—	Nurses' & Probationers' Fees	—
—	Other Fees .. ..	—
150284 3 4	Carried forward .. ..	156115 11 7

## the Year to the 31st December, 1945

<u>Ordinary.</u>		<u>Expenditure.</u>			
1944.				1945.	
£	s. d.			£	s. d.
24555	16 2	I. PROVISIONS .. .. .		26263	19 3
		II. SURGERY AND DISPENSARY:			
5431	10 4	1 Drugs, Chemicals, &c. ..	5591 5 10		
5321	12 10	2 Dressings, Bandages, &c. ..	4738 1 0		
3293	5 0	3 Instruments & Appliances ..	4131 2 11		
63	18 0	4 Wines and Spirits .. ..	65 8 9		
939	14 5	5 Sundries .. .. .	735 11 10		
1862	9 0	6 Salaries & Wages, Dispensary	2061 19 8		
		7 X-Ray Department:			
635	3 6	(a) Apparatus & Appliances..	2858 17 11		
4071	14 0	(b) Films .. .. .	4650 17 1		
<hr/>				<hr/>	
21619	7 1			24833	5 0
		III. DOMESTIC:			
		1 Renewal & Repair of Furniture			
2258	4 0	Bedding, Crockery, &c. ..	4772 13 6		
		2 Laundry:			
629	6 4	(a) Materials and Equipment	816 0 7		
3527	10 6	(b) Wages .. .. .	3809 9 4		
3482	11 9	3 Cleaning and Chandlery ..	4474 7 9		
1603	19 1	4 Water .. .. .	1531 17 4		
		5 Fuel and Lighting:			
10949	14 3	(a) Coal & Coke .. .. .	12755 10 2		
953	15 10	(b) Gas .. .. .	1006 5 0		
1264	17 7	(c) Electricity .. .. .	1209 15 9		
546	12 1	(d) Lamps, &c. .. .. .	526 5 5		
1929	17 2	6 Uniforms .. .. .	1069 10 4		
543	15 10	7 Sundries .. .. .	773 11 1		
<hr/>				<hr/>	
27690	4 5			32745	6 3
		IV. SALARIES AND WAGES (Maintenance):			
		1 Medical:			
		(a) Hon. Medical & Surgical			
3656	13 0	Staff (28) .. .. .	3641 13 8		
		(Honoraria for Travelling expenses)			
2972	11 9	(b) Resident Staff (13) ..	3018 2 4		
		(c) Path. Lab., V.D. Dept.,			
5016	3 7	X-Ray Dept. .. .. .	5258 17 1		
33062	9 9	2 Nursing .. .. .	32585 14 1		
		3 Other Officers & Employees:			
220	0 0	(a) Chaplains .. .. .	220 0 0		
		(Also £90 from Chaplains' Fund)			
8938	4 3	(b) Other Officers .. .. .	9930 12 2		
2026	17 4	(c) Mechanics .. .. .	2032 15 10		
3168	19 8	(d) Porters .. .. .	3656 14 1		
8556	2 10	(e) Domestic Servants ..	10145 2 0		
4948	5 1	(f) Cleaners .. .. .	4345 9 8		
251	0 0	4 Pensions .. .. .	248 0 0		
<hr/>				<hr/>	
72817	7 3			75083	0 11
<hr/>				<hr/>	
146682	14 11	Carried forward .. ..		158925	11 5



## Income and Expenditure Account for

1944.		1945.
£ s. d.		£ s. d.    £ s. d.
150284 3 4	Brought forward .. ..	156115 11 7
III. INVESTED PROPERTY:		
15178 11 6	Interest, Dividends, etc. ..	15772 10 4
6231 13 9	Return of Income Tax ..	9036 15 11
	£ s. d.	
2919 13 1	Rents .. .. 2621 8 10	
1384 14 3	Less Rates, Repairs and Expenses 1492 8 10	
<u>1534 18 10</u>		<u>1129 0 0</u>
22945 4 1		25938 6 3

<u>173229 7 5</u>	Ordinary Income .. ..	<u>182053 17 10</u>
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### Extraordinary.

5648 6 7	1 Legacies .. ..	8036 12 3
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178877 14 0

£190,090 10 1

## the Year to the 31st December, 1945—continued.

1944.			1945.	
£	s. d.		£	s. d.
146682	14 11	Brought forward .. ..	158925	11 5
V. MISCELLANEOUS :				
2384	14 9	1 Printing, Stationery, Postages, Telephones, &c.	2903	2 6
147	14 2	2 Advertisements .. ..	249	14 3
953	11 1	3 Insurance (includes War Damage Insurance) .. ..	988	1 5
757	10 7	4 Garden .. ..	1031	7 0
364	2 5	5 Sundries .. ..	201	17 8
4607	13 0		5374	2 10
VI. ADMINISTRATION :				
4295	16 0	1 Salaries .. ..	4528	16 1
—		2 Pensions .. ..	—	
699	2 9	3 Printing, Stationery, Postages, Telephones &c.,	632	3 7
99	2 9	4 Advertisements .. ..	143	0 3
—		5 Law Charges .. ..	—	
—		6 Auditors .. ..	—	
382	14 8	7 Sundries .. ..	288	11 9
5476	16 2		5592	11 8
VII. ESTABLISHMENT :				
4718	16 0	Renewals and Repairs to Buildings and Plant ..	6318	9 9
VIII. FINANCE :				
—		1 Interest .. ..	—	
558	18 6	2 Appeals .. ..	717	19 9
200	0 0	3 Rent .. ..	200	0 0
1047	14 0	4 Rates (and Taxes) .. ..	1113	16 7
1806	12 6		2031	16 4
163292	12 7	Ordinary Expenditure ..	178242	12 0
<b><u>Extraordinary.</u></b>				
180	18 9	1 Contributions to other Institutions: Convalescent Homes .. ..	143	11 0
2727	6 7	2 Maternity Hospital Account, being excess of Expenditure over Income (Page 26) ..	3334	18 2
2908	5 4	Extraordinary Expenditure ..	3478	9 2
166200	17 11	Total Expenditure .. ..	181721	1 2
12676	16 1	Balance being surplus of Income over Expenditure .. ..	8369	8 11
178877	14 0		<b>£190,090 10 1</b>	

## The Leicester Royal Infirmary

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. SUNDRY CREDITORS.									
General Account .. .. .							10537	9	6
2. LOANS TO HOSPITAL.									
Westminster Bank Ltd. (Overdrawn Account) .. .. .							See contra.		
3. SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.									
Building Fund, General Account ..							2037	1	4
New Casualty & X-Ray Depts. Being Contributions by Saturday Hospital Society and Interest on Investments .. .. .							132305	19	9
4. CAPITAL ACCOUNT.									
Endowment Legacies & Donations:									
Beds Endowed .. .. .	296295	4	1						
<i>Add</i> difference on repayment of Investments .. .. .	344	2	3						
	296639	6	4						
Beds in course of Endowment ..				21593	16	11			
Cots Endowed .. .. .	107802	18	11						
<i>Add</i> difference on repayment of Investments .. .. .	10	3	6						
	107813	2	5						
Cots in course of Endowment ..				6175	8	5			
Bequests .. .. .	360446	19	7						
<i>Add</i> difference on repayment of Investments .. .. .	1152	10	0						
	361599	9	7						
Chaplain's Account .. .. .				2513	13	10			
General Account:									
Balance as at 31st December, 1944	98714	15	6						
<i>Add</i>									
Emergency Hospital Service, balance of 1943 Account..	5000	0	0						
Surplus of Income over Expenditure for year ended 31st December, 1945 ..	8369	8	11						
	112084	4	5						
<i>Less</i> Transfer to Beds in course of Endowment .. .. .	100	0	0						
	111984	4	5				908319	1	11
5. UNEXPENDED INCOME BALANCE OF SPECIAL FUND .. .. .									

**£1,053,199 12 6**

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and in our opinion it is properly of The Leicester Royal Infirmary, according to the books of the Institution. them in order.

13th April, 1946, Leicester.

## Balance Sheet, 31st December, 1945.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND.									
Cash in hand .. .. .							1	2	6
Westminster Bank Ltd.									
In hand:									
Chaplain's Account .. .. .				111	17	3			
Endowments & Legacies Account				11761	11	4			
New Casualty & X-Ray Dept. Account				305	19	9			
General Account, Building Fund				2037	1	4			
General Account .. .. .				16740	16	0			
				30957	5	8			
<i>Less Overdrawn:</i>									
Private Nursing Branch Account				1925	6	6			
							29031	19	2
2. STOCKS OF UNISSUED STORES ON HAND.									
(Not valued for purposes of									
Balance Sheet)									
3. SUNDRY DEBTORS.*									
General Account .. .. .				16000	0	0			
New Casualty & X-Ray Dept. ..				18000	0	0			
							34000	0	0
*(Subscriptions, Donations and other Receipts									
received since the close of the year 1945, in									
respect of that year.)									
4. INTERNAL LOANS.									
Private Nursing Branch .. .. .							1925	6	6
5. INVESTMENTS—at cost.									
Endowment Accounts:									
Beds Endowed .. .. .				288339	14	9			
Beds in course of Endowment ..				18658	4	5			
Cots Endowed .. .. .				107591	7	5			
Cots in course of Endowment ..				6133	11	9			
Bequests .. .. .				361336	14	0			
Chaplain's Account .. .. .				2401	16	7			
Maternity Hospital .. .. .				4049	3	3			
Building Fund—New Casualty and									
X-Ray Department .. .. .				114000	0	0			
General Account .. .. .				58051	16	9			
Ditto Freehold Property .. .. .				27678	15	5			
							988241	4	4
6. LAND, BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT OF									
THE HOSPITAL.									
(Not valued for purposes of									
Balance Sheet)									

**£1,053,199 12 6**

drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the affairs  
We have examined the Securities representing the Investments, and found

WYKES & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants. Honorary Auditors.

## LEICESTER AND LEICESTER

(Administered by the  
Income and Expenditure Account for

1944. £ s. d.	INCOME	£ s. d.	1945. £ s. d.
	Gifts :		
247 14 0	*Donations ... ..	243 12 0	
158 13 2	*Subscriptions ... ..	144 13 0	
<u>406 7 2</u>		<u>          </u>	388 5 0
	Grants :		
100 0 0	Leicestershire County Council ... ..	—	
325 10 0	Nursing Salaries Grant ... ..	799 0 0	
<u>425 10 0</u>		<u>          </u>	799 0 0
9518 16 2	Patients' Fees ... ..		9876 1 5
109 14 8	Interest on Investments ... ..		144 11 10
1150 0 0	Legacies ... ..		
1000 0 0	Less for Bed Endowment ... ..		
<u>150 0 0</u>			<u>          </u>
9 10 0	Sundry Receipts ... ..		11 0 0
	Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ended 31st December, 1945, trans- ferred to Infirmary Account, page 23		3334 18 2
2727 6 7			

\* This amount of £388 5s. 0d. is not in keeping with the generous voluntary support associated with Leicestershire.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT  
URGENTLY NEEDED.

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13,347 4 7

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£14,553 16 5

## SHIRE MATERNITY HOSPITAL

(Leicester Royal Infirmary)

the Year ended 31st December, 1945

1944.		EXPENDITURE				1945.		
£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	
1993	5	2	Provisions	...	...	2339	16	8
			Surgery and Dispensary					
437	17	1	Drugs, Chemicals, Dressings	...	...	471	18	5
359	2	9	Surgical Appliances	...	...	382	11	7
<hr/>								
796	19	10				854	10	0
Domestic :								
234	14	5	Renewal and Repair of Bed Linen, House Linen, etc.	...	...	89	19	10
260	5	6	Renewal and Repair of Furniture and Equipment	...	...	319	8	6
1272	6	11	Laundry and Cleaning	...	...	1425	6	11
109	7	3	Water	...	...	94	14	2
328	7	1	Fuel	...	...	353	3	3
35	0	0	Heating	...	...	35	0	0
636	3	10	Gas and Electricity	...	...	689	10	10
317	18	7	Uniforms	...	...	65	10	2
<hr/>								
3194	3	7				3072	13	8
Salaries and Wages :								
686	9	1	Medical Officers	...	...	680	11	3
5041	13	6	Nursing and Domestic	...	...	5426	17	8
389	0	2	Superannuation	...	...	403	5	8
157	13	11	Midwifery Lecture Committee	...	...	386	18	1
<hr/>								
6274	16	8				6897	12	8
Administration :								
125	0	0	Salaries	...	...	125	0	0
65	0	0	Pensions	...	...	35	0	0
62	12	2	Printing, Stationery and Advertising	...	...	109	18	2
35	18	1	Telephone	...	...	28	9	9
28	11	7	Insurance	...	...	29	3	8
46	18	2	Sundries	...	...	49	17	10
11	12	6	War Damage Contribution	...	...	—		
<hr/>								
375	12	6				377	9	5
Establishment :								
356	1	9	Renewals and Repairs to Buildings and Plant	...	...	628	5	6
Finance :								
12	0	1	Bank Charges	...	...	10	0	6
206	0	0	Rent of Rooms—Ante-Natal Clinic, etc.	...	...	228	8	0
138	5	0	Rates	...	...	145	0	0
<hr/>								
356	5	1				383	8	6
<hr/>								
13,347	4	7				£14,553	16	5
<hr/>								

## MATRON'S REPORT ON THE NURSING STAFF

During this year, 1945, 85 nurses entered the Preliminary Training School, 27 were unsuitable for training and left.

56 nurses completed their training. The majority of these nurses left to do their Midwifery training and others to complete their nursing education in specialized fields.

### *Examinations.*

		Entered	Passed
Preliminary Training School Examination ...	...	63	63
Nurses' Final State Examination ...	...	31	31
Nurses' Preliminary State Examination ...	...	49	48

### *Bond Street Midwifery School*

Central Midwives' Board Examination, Part I ...		40	33
Re-entries ... ..	...	7	5

It has been a very difficult year in the nursing field from the point of view of providing adequate nursing staff, both trained and recruits, owing to the Ministry of Labour's Wartime claims upon trained nurses, also, that in the first five months of 1945 many girls were still being urged to join the Forces.

The number of trained nurses left to man the Civilian Hospitals has dropped to danger point. Representations have been made to the Ministry of Health by all nursing associations drawing their attention to the serious situation in which civilian hospitals find themselves, among which our hospital is badly affected. Recruitment drives have been organized with little success. The standard of training cannot, however, fail to be adversely affected if the shortage of recruits is allowed to continue. It is gratifying, however, to know that a pre-nursing course for girls leaving school, first conceived by the Leicester Royal Infirmary, is now recognised and approved by the General Nursing Council, and is being carried out by the City Health Authorities at the Technical College, Leicester. This may increase the number of nursing recruits and lessen the wastage during training.

The Leicester Royal Infirmary Training School for Nurses, in conjunction with the Indian Government, has agreed to accept for training a limited number of Indian Students each year.

The House Committee has approved the formation of a Nursing Educational Committee with members of the Honorary Staff, Sister Tutors and some educational interest. Meetings are to be held quarterly to discuss matters of nursing educational training.

Four Ward Sisters during the year have taken the special Ward Sisters' Course at the Royal College of Nursing.

It is with a note of sadness and regret that we have said Good-bye to Miss Harris, Sister-in-Charge for many years at Swithland Convalescent Home. She has the sincere good wishes of the nursing staff for a very happy retirement. We are fortunate in welcoming as her successor, Mrs. Parker.

The Leicester Royal Infirmary branch of the Student Nurses' Association is still very active. Miss Jacqueline Smith, one of our 3rd year students, is the representative of the Midland Student Nurses' Association Group, and has attended all the General Meetings.

Sport and social activities have been carried on with their usual zest and success.

The Nurses' Prize-Giving was held on 16th November. Lord Hazlerigg presided at the meeting and Miss Florence Horsburgh, C.B.E., our guest, presented the prizes. The Gold Medal was won by Nurse R. A. Smith; Silver Medal was won by Nurse M. K. Greasley; Bronze Medals were won by Nurses M. A. Johnson and K. M. Whittaker.

Miss Horsburgh then spoke to the nurses on their great responsibility, saying that the standard of the British Nurse was the highest in the world and that no short cuts should be taken to train. It was a most interesting talk and was very much appreciated. Votes of thanks were, as usual, given by the nurses.

Our appreciation and thanks are due to Mr. Allett, of the Vaughan College, for his unfailing services in keeping us up-to-date by his weekly talks on current affairs, books and films. The nursing staff find these talks most stimulating and very interesting.



The Ladies Linen League held its Annual Meeting in May, and was well attended. The Duchess of Rutland was present and spoke to the members, after which there was an exhibition of models and handiwork prepared by the Student Nurses, which the meeting much appreciated. This league continues to render invaluable assistance to the hospital and the nursing staff in the making of hundreds of articles of patients' clothing, bed linen, and dressings, etc., and in presenting gifts of money for the purchase of hospital linen. Our warmest thanks are given to the members of this league for their great help.

A great many people will deeply regret the retirement of Miss M. F. Hughes, who has been Matron here for the past 16 years. Her untiring devotion and work for the Leicester Royal Infirmary and the nursing profession as a whole, will live long into the future. We all wish her many very happy years of retirement.

C. F. S. BELL,  
*Matron.*

20th March, 1946.

## SOCIAL SERVICE WORKER'S REPORT

### TRANSITION

During 1945 the transition from War to Peace gradually affected the character of the work; the number of evacuees and transferred war workers seeking help decreased, and the number of ex-service men to be referred to the appropriate social agencies increased.

### H.M. FORCES

Contact with those still in H.M. Forces was made over the question of certificates recommending extension of leave, or compassionate posting because of the serious illness of relatives.

The Merchant Navy Comforts Fund sent cigarettes and magazines when notified of the admission to the Wards of Merchant Navy seamen.

The Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association continued to co-operate in helping the dependants of servicemen.

On two or three occasions news of patients was sent to the branch of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, in London, dealing with enquiries from men overseas.

### DISABLED PERSONS

Both disabled ex-service men, and civilians injured in industry, have been referred to the Disablement Rehabilitation Officer for suitable employment.

### FINANCE

(a) **Income**—The St. Martin's Appeal Fund, the Sutton Charity and the Wyggeston Sick Assistance Fund, again made it possible for patients to be helped by small grants for short periods. This was facilitated by two donations to the Social Service Fund free of all restrictions as to how the money was to be spent.

One man on returning to work, refunded more than had been lent to him from this source during his illness.

Fares advanced to a miner by arrangements with the Miners' Welfare Scheme, were also refunded later to the Social Service Department. Thus a small amount of ready money was most useful in tiding over temporary emergencies.

(b) **Expenditure**—With the approval of the Diocesan Moral Welfare Workers, two girls were helped with the expense of perambulators for their babies. Another girl was given a small amount of financial assistance for a short time prior to her admission to the Maternity Ward, and a grant from the Sutton Charity afterwards to help her until fit for work.

A man most anxious not to be a burden to his relatives was granted 12/6 per week by the National Society for Cancer Relief for 10 months until his death. He very much appreciated the money and the Society's interest in his welfare.

A Catholic girl from London was referred to Holy Cross Priory for advice about her baby's funeral. She was most grateful for the sympathy and help she received and managed to repay, by post, the loan from the Priory a few days after her return to London.

A letter of enquiry was sent to the War Office on behalf of a girl who wished to know if any exception could be made to the ban on marrying Italian Prisoners of War in this country. She was disappointed by the reply that there could be no exception to that rule.

## SPEECH THERAPY

The Speech Therapists from the City Education Department continued to hold a clinic voluntarily in the Out-patients' Department regularly once a week during the school year. They have made generous efforts to help the patients referred to them.

## HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE

The free car lifts for patients arranged by the Women's Voluntary Services during the War, ceased at the end of July. To cover the period of continued petrol restrictions, the Hospital Car Service was formed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Voluntary Services. The Voluntary drivers continued to give their services unstintingly to patients unable to use the ordinary means of transport, but as the cost of petrol could no longer be a charge on public funds, the patients were asked to contribute to the cost according to their means.

## CHILDREN'S CONVALESCENT HOME

Many children have been transferred direct from the Infirmary to Roecliffe Manor where they have made, as usual, excellent progress.

## STAFF

There were no students in training here during the year. Finally, the most satisfactory item of all to report; was the appointment in October of Miss Brennan, a qualified Almoner, as the first Assistant Social Service Worker.

Total number of patients:—

Referred to the Department in 1945	...	...	...	4,165
Interviewed regarding vouchers (In-patients)	...	...	...	1,348
"    "    maternity fees	...	...	...	287
"    "    doctors introductory letters	...	...	...	49
"    "    dentures	...	...	...	124
"    "    suggested transfer to Institutions	...	...	...	73
Accepted by Institutions and Nursing Homes	...	...	...	33
Sent to Convalescent Homes	...	...	...	259
Rehabilitation patients "Followed Up"	...	...	...	300
Visited at home	...	...	...	50

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