

Annual report of the Darlington District Hospital Management Committee : 1948/49.

Contributors

Darlington District Hospital Management Committee.

Publication/Creation

Darlington : [publisher not identified], 1949

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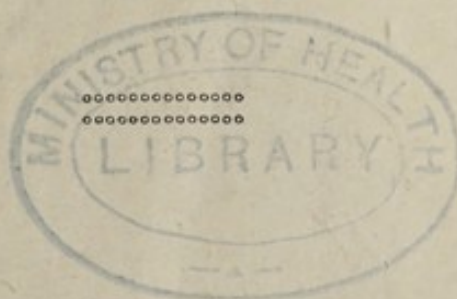
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ANNUAL REPORT

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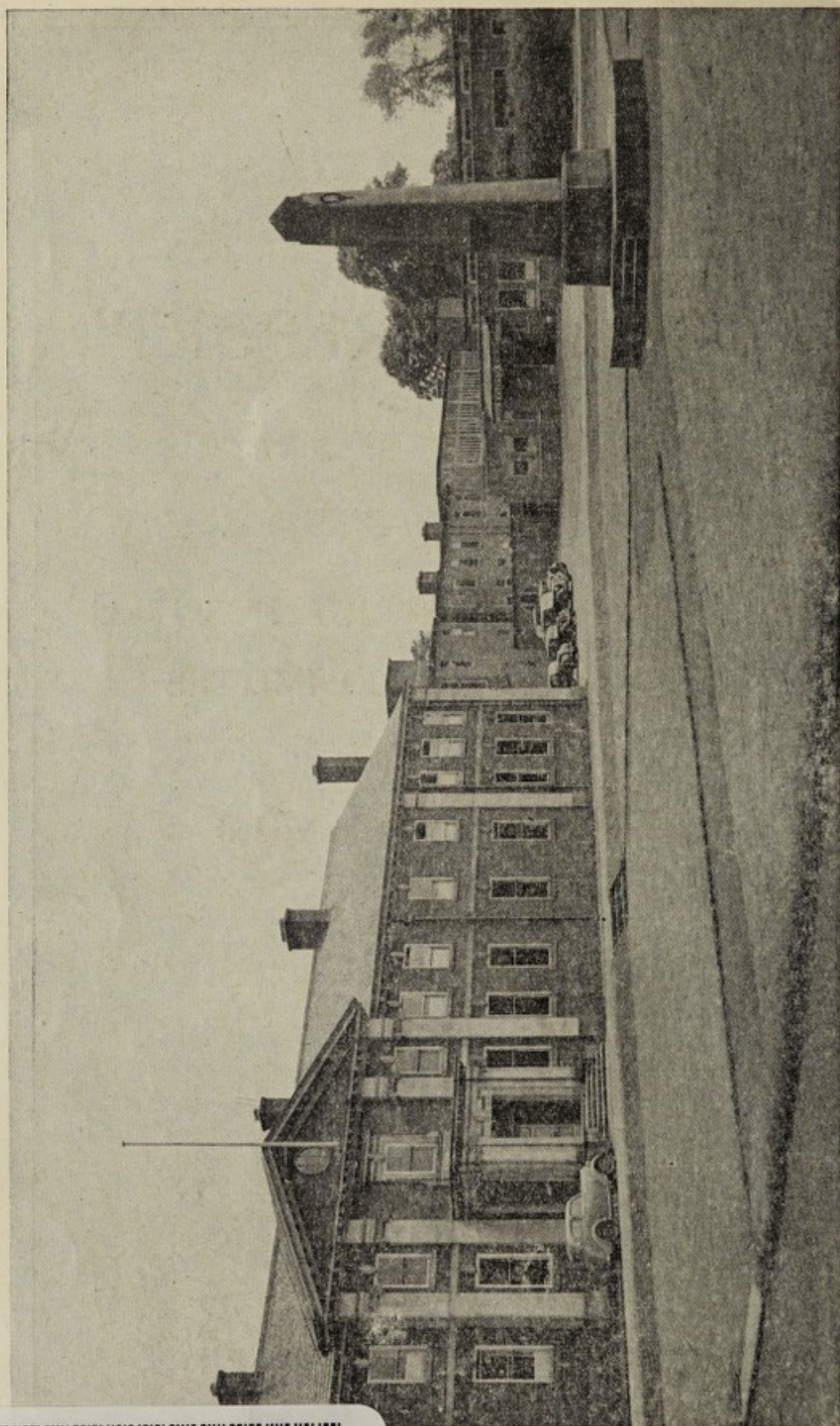
DARLINGTON DISTRICT HOSPITAL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

For the nine months ended
31st March, 1949



DARLINGTON:
R. BULMER, PRINTER, 19 HOUNDGATE

—
1950



DARLINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, seen from the lower front entrance.



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MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairman: ALDERMAN A. J. BEST, J.P.,
132 Leyburn Road, Darlington

Vice-Chairman: D. S. FALCONER, F.R.C.S.,
26 Stanhope Road, Darlington

MR. P. T. BIOTT	-	-	28 Hamsterley Street, Darlington
MR. H. J. BROWN	-	-	76 Swaledale Avenue, Darlington
MISS J. GATENBY	-	-	Darlington Memorial Hospital
ALD. J. D. HINKS, J.P.	-	-	287 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington
COUN. R. H. LORAINE	-	-	9 Pease Street, Darlington
MRS. M. LYONETTE, J.P.	-	-	44 Hutton Avenue, Darlington
DR. A. MORRISON	-	-	35 Cleveland Avenue, Darlington
MR. R. J. MOUNSEY	-	-	High Linhams, Blackwell, Darlington
MISS R. ROPER, J.P.	-	-	Pottergate, Richmond, Yorks.
DR. J. D. SINCLAIR	-	-	Elm Court, Tower Road, Darlington
COUN. C. J. TREMEWAN	-	-	65 Milton Street, Darlington
DR. J. V. WALKER	-	-	Medical Officer of Health, Health Department, Darlington.
ALD. J. WATERS	-	-	Eastnor, Oakdene Avenue, Darlington

OFFICERS

Darlington District Hospital Management Committee

<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	G. W. BECKWITH, F.C.I.S., F.H.A.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	H. C. COOPER, A.H.A.
<i>Engineer</i>	-	-	-	F. A. WHITE
<i>Bankers</i>	-	-	-	BARCLAYS BANK LTD., High Row, Darlington

DARLINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

<i>Secretary-Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	G. W. BECKWITH, F.C.I.S., F.H.A.
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	H. C. COOPER, A.H.A.
<i>Matron</i>	-	-	-	MISS J. GATENBY, S.R.N., S.C.M.
<i>Assistant Matron</i>	-	-	-	MISS E. D. OWLES, S.R.N., S.C.M. (1).
<i>Senior Pathological Laboratory Technician</i>	-	-	-	S. L. SHAW, M.I.L.M.T., F.R.M.S.
<i>Senior Physiotherapist</i>	-	-	-	MISS J. BAMFORTH, C.S.P.
<i>Senior Radiographer</i>	-	-	-	MRS. E. Z. MOWITT, M.S.R.
<i>Pharmacist</i>	-	-	-	MISS M. V. DODDS, M.P.S.
<i>Orthoptist</i>	-	-	-	MISS G. WEATHERALL, D.B.O.

Medical Staff of Registrar Status.

<i>Surgical Registrar</i>	-	-	-	DR. W. C. GOOD, F.R.C.S.
<i>Medical Registrar</i>	-	-	-	DR. A. W. B. EDMUNDS, M.R.C.P.
<i>Orthopaedic Registrar</i>	-	-	-	DR. P. A. I. MACLEOD, B.Sc., F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.)
<i>Registrar Anaesthetist</i>	-	-	-	DR. S. H. S. LOVE, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O.

RICHMOND VICTORIA HOSPITAL AND ANNEXE

(Administrated from Darlington Memorial Hospital)

Sister-in-Charge - - - SISTER A. M. COXON, S.R.N.

GREENBANK MATERNITY HOSPITAL

Matron - - - MISS K. I. KEMP, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Matron - - MISS P. SUGGETT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Obstetrical Registrar - - DR. S. N. ROSENFELD, M.D.

Special Treatment Centre

Medical Staff - - - DR. D. J. CAMPBELL, M.B.,
CH.B., D.P.H.

Chest Clinic

Medical Staff - - - DR. D. J. CAMPBELL, M.B.,
CH.B., D.P.H.

HUNDENS HOSPITAL

Matron - - - MRS. A. M. STEVEN, S.R.N.,
S.C.M., R.F.N.

Assistant Matron - - MISS M. MALCOMSON, S.R.N.,
S.C.M., R.F.N.

ROSE COTTAGE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, MARWOOD

STARTFORTH ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Both these Hospitals are permanently closed

**Hospitals where the Management Committee holds beds
under a User Agreement**

EAST HAVEN HOSPITAL

Superintendent Nurse - - MISS V. GOODERHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.

CAMBRIDGE HOUSE, BARNARD CASTLE

Superintendent Nurse - - MISS E. MATTIMOE

Medical Staff - - DR. A. LEISHMAN

VISITING CONSULTANT STAFF



Chairman: D. S. FALCONER, F.R.C.S.

Secretary: W. J. PAYNE, F.R.C.S.

Honorary Consulting Surgeons:

H. C. PEARSON, F.R.C.S. (Edin.)

GEO. G. FARQUHAR, F.R.C.S., (Eng.)

Honorary Consulting Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon:

J. I. MUNRO BLACK, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S.

Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon:

A. MACRAE, M.A., M.D., D.T.M. & H. (Edin.), D.O.M.S. (Lond.)

Physician:

W. A. JAQUES, M.D.

Surgeons:

D. S. FALCONER, B.SC., F.R.C.S. (Edin.)

D. R. E. ROBERTS, M.S.

Assistant Surgeons:

B. B. FRESHWATER, F.R.C.S.

W. J. PAYNE, F.R.C.S. (Edin.)

Gynaecologist:

K. GIRGIS, F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

J. L. WILKIE, F.R.C.S.

Orthopaedic Surgeons :

W. GRANT WAUGH, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.

E. P. WATERS, F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon :

J. S. C. MONRO, B.Sc., D.L.O.

Dental Surgeon :

O. H. WICKSTEED, L.R.C.P., L.D.S., R.C.S. (Edin.)

Dermatologist :

W. GILLIES ANNAN, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Edin.) F.R.S.E.

Pathologist :

VACANT.

Radiologist :

W. CRICHTON FOTHERGILL, M.D., (Edin.), D.M.R.E. (Camb.)

Anaesthetists :

E. DINGLE, M.B., CH.B.

R. K. ROBERTSON, M.A., D.A.

Infectious Diseases :

J. V. WALKER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The Commencement of the Service.

On July 5th, 1948, it became the duty of this Management Committee to administrate the Hospitals falling within Group No. 17 of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Regional Hospital Board. The Management Committee, under the grouping arrangements agreed by the Minister, therefore became responsible for the following Hospitals and Clinics:—

Cambridge House, Barnard Castle (Hospital Section).
Darlington Memorial Hospital.
Darlington Public Assistance Institution (Hospital Section).
Greenbank Maternity Hospital.
Darlington Infectious Diseases Hospital.
Richmond Victoria Hospital.
Richmond I.D. Hospital.
Rose Cottage I.D. Hospital, Marwood.
Startforth Isolation Hospital.
Chest Clinic, Greenbank, Darlington.
Special Treatment Clinic, Greenbank, Darlington.

By courtesy of the then voluntary Hospital Committee the Hospital Management Committee convened a Meeting in June, 1948, in order to consider the necessary arrangements for providing continuity in the Hospital Service. At this Meeting consideration was given to the appointment of Officers, and it was the decision of the Committee that the first Secretary should be the Secretary-Superintendent of the ex-Voluntary Hospital—Mr. G. W. Beckwith. Arrangements had been made with the County Borough of Darlington for Hospitals previously controlled by that Authority to continue on an agency arrangement up to March 31st, 1949 if necessary. Most of the other Hospitals were, however, taken over almost at once and administrated directly by the Management Committee soon after the "appointed day." The detailed operation of transferring these services into the hands of one controlling Committee passed almost unnoticed and it has been said that no perceptible change was ever apparent in the Services by reason of their centralisation. The Committee is glad to record its satisfaction at the facile manner in which the transition took place.

It was decided to attempt central administration through one Officer—there being no Finance and Supplies Officers appointed. Results under such administration have been very

satisfactory—so much so that the Hospital Management Committee was able to terminate its agency arrangements with Darlington Corporation by 31st December, 1948, and thus to take the whole burden of administration in the last three months of the financial period ending March 31st, 1949, which is the period covered by this Report.

One feature of the Service was that the Ambulance Service passed for administration to the Local Authority. All Ambulances therefore, in the possession of the Hospitals were transferred, with their personnel, to the various Local Authorities. As a result of this the Ambulance which had been sited at Darlington Memorial Hospital for over 10 years, ceased to operate as a separate entity, and is now doing service for Darlington Corporation, together with its personnel. In the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Darlington, the Ambulance was operated from that Hospital for some little time until arrangements were made for the Local Authority to take over the service directly. In this case the driver of the vehicle was retained in the service of the Committee.

Future Planning of Use of Hospitals.

One of the early duties of the Committee was to consider how to use some of the outlying Hospitals in the Group. The Richmond Infectious Diseases Hospital had already been closed before the "appointed day." The Startforth Infectious Diseases Hospital was working almost without patients in a very remote area, and the Marwood Infectious Diseases Hospital had been on care and maintenance for four years without receiving a patient.

The recommendations from the Management Committee on these Hospitals were that Richmond Infectious Diseases Hospital should be closed for infectious diseases and used in conjunction with the Richmond Victoria Hospital. It was decided that Startforth Infectious Diseases Hospital should be closed and that the Hospital should be placed on care and maintenance with a view to using it as a Convalescent Home if possible. In the case of Marwood, it was considered that this should be continued on care and maintenance.

After there had been more time for consideration it was decided, with the consent of the Regional Hospital Board, that the plan to use the Richmond Hospitals jointly should be proceeded with, but owing to an unfortunate difficulty over the title of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, progress had not been made with this plan at the date that this Report closes.

Ultimately both Startforth and Marwood were completely closed, and Marwood was recommended for sale as being no longer of use in the Service.

Development of Hospitals in the Group.

One of the first actions of the Committee as early as August, 1948, was to invite the Regional Architect to visit the Committee to discuss possibilities for development in view of the urgent need, particularly at Darlington Memorial Hospital. There had previously been plans to develop the site, partially by using temporary buildings—this decision being made at a time when it was impossible to obtain a building licence for permanent work. In view of the slightly more favourable conditions, the Regional Architect advised the Committee that in view of the excellent standard of building, and the potentialities for future Hospital development on the Darlington Memorial Hospital site, it would be unwise to undertake any development on a large scale in temporary premises. In order to meet an urgent staffing need, it was decided that a Staff Dining Room could be provided on a concealed site in a standard hut already in the possession of the Committee, but that early consideration should be given to the development of the Out-patient and Ward accommodation by the Board.

An urgent need for development was apparent at Greenbank Maternity Hospital. The building work in progress to bring into use an empty Ward, was taken over, slightly amended and completed by the Committee, but owing to the occupancy of much of the premises by Clinics of the Local Health Authority it became impossible to deal with any further development until vacant possession was given. Discussions on the severance of the premises took place with Darlington Corporation, as a result of which it was agreed that vacant possession would be given, but up to the end of the period covered by this Report, the School Clinic, Maternity & Child Welfare Centre and the Occupational Therapy Department still use premises at the Hospital.

First Results of Centralisation.

Plans were made in view of the good laundry accommodation at Darlington Memorial Hospital, to take in all laundry from Greenbank Maternity Hospital to be laundered. Ultimately this plan was extended to take in laundry from the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

A Group Engineer has been appointed, and all Maintenance Staff placed on a central basis so that maintenance is provided for the whole Group from Darlington Memorial Hospital.

Arrangements were planned, to come into operation when the agency period was completed, to provide a Central Stores System. This was brought into operation in February 1949, and extended to the whole Group on April 1st, 1949.

Early Innovations in the Service.

One of the most far reaching alterations has been the commencement of a full Appointments System for Out-patient work. Whilst it is admitted that waiting has not been completely eradicated, nevertheless there is no doubt that the system has very considerably reduced the length of waiting required. The system has been well accepted by the General Practitioners of the district, and this Report acknowledges their excellent co-operation in working it.

Since some of the Hospital names applying to the Hospitals did not fairly reflect the type of work they did, decisions were made to change some of the names. The former Darlington Infectious Diseases Hospital thus became Hundens Hospital, whilst the Section under the control of the Management Committee at the former Public Assistance Institution, became known as East Haven Hospital, following the change in title made there by the Welfare Department of the Corporation. The Richmond Hospitals were grouped together in that the former Isolation Hospital was renamed Richmond Victoria Hospital Annexe.

In order to ensure that members of the Management Committee keep in direct contact with the personal side of administration in all Hospitals, the Committee arranged for Sub-Committees to be formed to visit all the Hospitals in turn each month. This arrangement has worked very well, and there is no doubt that through it a personal connection has been maintained.

Planning of Medical Services.

It has been the duty of the Management Committee to make suggestions from time to time on the planning of the Services. If there is one very satisfactory aspect of the National Health Service, it is that due to the changed conditions of service of Medical Staff, it has now been made possible for Consultant Staff to give their time fully to Hospital duties. The Medical Staff who formerly served the ex-Voluntary Hospital have thus been enabled to give more of their time to the Service, with a resultant improvement in the Service as a whole. It is for this reason, among others, that it was possible to commence an Appointments System, since such a system requires many more Clinics than were previously held. Patients have thus obtained more consultant time, a thing always desired in the past but never obtainable owing to the heavy pressure of work required. As the Service progresses, there is no doubt that there will show great improvement in this direction.

An Appreciation.

The Committee desires to record its appreciation of the standard of service rendered by its staff in all departments. It

is recognised that this first year has been one of many difficulties and realised that the service given to increasing numbers of patients is often given under difficult conditions. The loyalty of staff in maintaining a good standard is therefore especially noted.

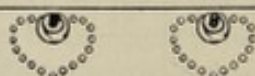
Acknowledgement is also given, with real appreciation, of the services voluntarily given by many organisations and individuals. There is a place for their services and their gifts of personal service and of subscriptions is with pleasure acknowledged.

General Scope of this Report.

Owing to the unavoidable delay in issuing this Report, the Report has not covered the field it would normally be desirable to survey, and it is expected that as the next period under survey is dealt with, it will be possible to provide a more comprehensive analysis of the work being done, but in giving this brief outline of some aspects of the work of the Management Committee during the first nine months of its existence, it is hoped that the public will find interest in its activities and some understanding of its future prospects.

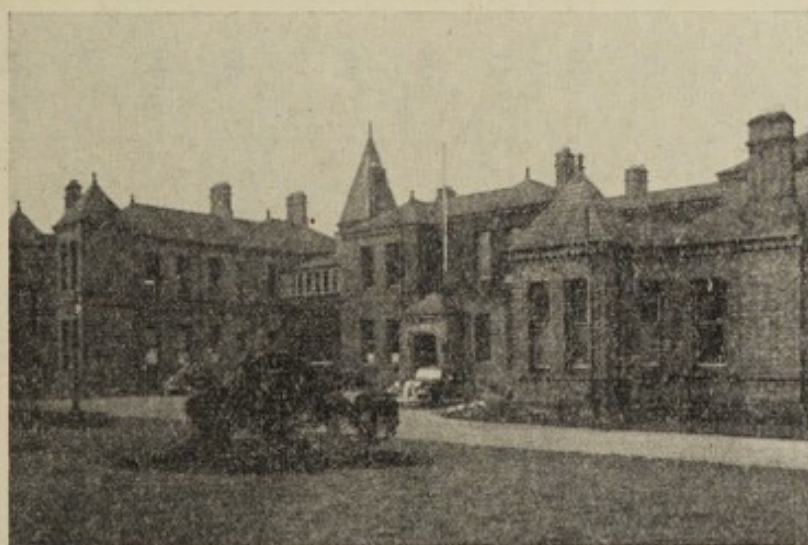
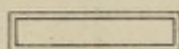
A. J. BEST, *Chairman.*

G. W. BECKWITH, *Secretary.*





DARLINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



DARLINGTON MATERNITY HOSPITAL

STATISTICAL RETURN FOR 1948.

IN-PATIENTS

HOSPITAL	Total Bed Comple- ment	Average Daily Occupation	Highest Daily Occupation	Lowest Daily Occupation	No. of Patients Discharged or Died	Average Length of Stay	No. of Live Births	No. of Still Births	No. in Hospital Dec. 31st, 1948
DARLINGTON MEMORIAL ...	210	192·3	216	121	5481	12·2	6	1	159
GREENBANK MATERNITY ...	41	31·23	44	14	957	10·76	820	30	32
EAST HAVEN ...	96	109·5	128	101	350	78·4	...	...	112
HUNDENS ...	86	34·8	54	19	401	30·5	...	...	35
CAMBRIDGE HOUSE, BARNARD CASTLE ...	50	47·6	50	43	86	137	...	...	45
STARTFORTH ISOLATION ...	16	·8	4	Nil	12	24·4	...	...	Nil
RICHMOND VICTORIA ...	8	2·7	6	1	116	7·76	1	...	2
RICHMOND ISOLATION ...	14	1·7	10	Nil	19	15·7	...	...	*Nil

* Closed June 1948

OUT-PATIENTS AND DEPARTMENTAL WORK

DEPARTMENT OR CLINIC	Darlington Memorial Hospital	Greenbank Maternity Hospital	Richmond Victoria Hospital
X-RAY DEPARTMENT:			
No. of Examinations. ...	14813	1669	...
PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT			
No. of Examinations. ...	5134	...	...
PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT:			
No. of patients treated. ...	2736	...	...
No. of treatments given. ...	34226	...	...
MATERNITY:			
New patients. ...	...	919	...
Total attendances. ...	...	8558	...
SPECIAL TREATMENT CLINIC:			
New Patients ...	...	353	...
Total attendances ...	...	4806	...
CHEST CLINIC:			
New Patients ...	...	396	...
Total attendances ...	...	2152	...
OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENT:			
New patients ...	8971	...	400 (including
Total attendances ...	46930	...	1036 Casualties)
CASUALTY DEPARTMENT:			
Attendances ...	18254	...	...

