OSHAWA GENERAL HOSPITAL

A Short History
TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY
1910 - 1935
As an outcome of thankfulness for a step accomplished in church work, grew the conception of unity in service for others. To serve the sick and helpless seemed the truest expression of this sincere desire. This was the beginning of the Oshawa Hospital. Earnest endeavour, unselfish devotion, tact, wise leadership, careful thought as to management, have secured for many, many sufferers the boon of continued well-being. To those who are associated with this work we pay our grateful thanks. To those who have gone on to the Great Beyond we dedicate this book as a tribute of work well begun and nobly done.

MRS. R. S. McLAUGHLIN.
INTRODUCTION

Since the earliest stages of civilization, people have gathered together in communities and settlements and, by their collective efforts, have organized institutions to supply needs which could not be met individually. One of the greatest developments along this line, and one which has had its inception only since the early Christian era, has been that of providing means for the care of the sick and suffering. Down through the centuries this thought has been developed until today it finds complete expression in the standardized hospital. Communities in these modern days, whether they be villages, towns, small cities or metropolitan centres, are measured by the services which they maintain for the welfare and well-being of their citizens.

The first of these institutions resembling the modern hospital were the monasteries and convents of the early Christian fathers. Their doors were always open to the sick and suffering. With but crude means and the incomplete medical knowledge of the day at their disposal, all who needed their ministrations were cared for. From them sprang the idea of the modern hospital.

The first actual hospital was built in England in the year 1080. It was the beginning of a movement which progressed but slowly for almost eight centuries, and it was not until the middle eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries that its weight was fully felt. Then, with the astounding discoveries in the sciences of Medicine and Surgery, and the gradual decline of fake doctors, quacks and faith healers, a wave of interest in these institutions swept the civilized world. This interest has continued up to the present time. Now, every community of any size and importance has its hospital and public health clinic, providing expert care for all who come within the scope
of its service, thus forming a substantial asset to the welfare and well-being of the people who live within its reach.

As an important and progressive city in the Province of Ontario, Oshawa has today, in the Oshawa General Hospital, a modern institution which, by reason of its up-to-date equipment, capable and efficient staff, and its high standards of administration, is meeting the needs of the community in a remarkable way. Its birth and growth are of comparatively recent development, since it has been in existence as an institution of service for only twenty-five years. Yet in that time it has become so much of a community asset and an institution of such recognized worth, that an effort is being made here to review and record the varied and sometimes painful steps by which it reached its present standard of useful service and efficiency.
THE BEGINNING

The Oshawa General Hospital is perhaps unique in the fact that its inception was the result of the efforts of a band of devoted women workers who first saw and realized its need.

In 1906 the people of St. Andrew's Presbyterian (United) Church cleared the debt from the church building, largely through the efforts of its women's societies. A meeting of celebration was held, at which were representatives of nearly all the women's organizations of the city. So sincere and deep were the expressions of thankfulness for the lifting of the debt that the occupant of the chair for the evening, Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, felt impelled to voice the thought that all the women's organizations of the city might join in some non-denominational project for the benefit of the community.

There were three main needs which appealed to the women at that time — a Business Girls' Club, a Y.W.C.A., and a Hospital. They were all pressing needs, and there was some division of opinion as to which should have precedence. A committee of two was appointed to canvass the situation, to visit all the women's organizations, and thus enlist their sympathy and co-operation. As a result, a meeting of about sixty ladies, appointed from all the denominations in the city, was held in the Simcoe Street Methodist Church, at which the various needs were discussed. It was agreed to ballot on the three projects, and to abide absolutely by, and to work for, whichever was the will of the majority. A vote was taken, and the result was a decision to build a hospital.

Thus the Oshawa Hospital Women's Auxiliary came into being before the hospital was built, or before it even became a concrete community undertaking. In January, 1907, a mass meeting of the citizens of Oshawa was held at which the hospital scheme was further endorsed. At this meeting the Auxiliary was formally established and about ninety ladies enrolled as
members. Those foremost in the undertaking were Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, the first president; Mrs. Robert Williams, Mrs. John Bailes, Mrs. J. O. Henry, Mrs. J. D. Storie, Mrs. H. E. Morphy, Miss Maud Mothersill and Mrs. T. H. Everson.

The first attempt of the Auxiliary was the raising of funds with which to purchase a suitable property on which the hospital could be built. For this purpose an objective of $1,000 was set and a house-to-house canvass inaugurated, the money received to be augmented by the membership fees of the organization. The campaign continued throughout the summer of 1907, until, on August the 31st, the required amount was on deposit to the credit of the Auxiliary in a local bank. The success of this effort was due particularly to the painstaking and thorough work of the collectors, who were Mrs. J. E. Hawkins, Mrs. J. D. Storie, Mrs. Webster, Miss O’Malley, Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, Mrs. A. J. Stalter, Mrs. John Hastings, Mrs. E. W. Drew, Mrs. Guinneth, Mrs. John Bailes, Mrs. Podger, Mrs. T. H. Everson, Mrs. McLean, Mrs. Crystale, Mrs. Bloomer, Mrs. R. Williams, Mrs. George Pedlar, Mrs. W. Culling and Mrs. Coull.

After careful discussion, several available properties having been looked over, a site was chosen, and on October the 5th, 1907, a cheque for One Thousand Dollars was paid out of the funds of the Auxiliary for two and one-third acres of land between what are now Alma and Alexander Streets. The letter, dated the 30th of July, 1907, and signed by John Cowan, R. McLaughlin and J. D. Storie, authorizing the purchase of this land, has been framed and is at present hanging in the office of the hospital.

The still greater task, however, was yet to come — that of raising funds for the building of the hospital itself. The Women’s Auxiliary continued its work of soliciting financial aid for two more years, until in 1909, it was decided to launch a campaign to raise the sum of $10,000 to build the hospital at once. A successful attempt was made to interest the public-spirited men of the community in the project and Mr. J. D. Storie, a man of outstanding ability, was unanimously chosen chairman of the campaign, the results certainly justifying the choice of leadership. The campaign was begun on the 18th of November, and for a whole week the executive and collectors worked unceasingly to realize their objective. On the 23rd of November, $18,750 had been raised, and the building of the hospital was assured. Outstanding among the larger contributions was that of Mr. John Cowan, who had previously agreed to donate the sum of $5,000 if the sponsors of the hospital could collect a similar amount. The McLaughlin Carriage Company gave $1,500; Mr. J. D. Storie, $1,000; Mrs. F. L. Fowke, $500; Mr. Robert Williams, $500; and the Williams Piano Company, $500.

Plans, modelled on the hospital at Welland at that time, were immediately drawn up, the contract for the hospital was let, and the work of construction was begun.

On a Saturday morning in the Fall of 1909, Mr. J. D. Storie, accompanied by the late Mr. R. H. James, walked into the Town Engineer’s office carrying a bundle of plans under his arm. Mr. Storie introduced Mr. James as the successful tenderer on the contract for building the new hospital, and asked the engineer to go with them to the site and lay out the four corners of the building. Equipped with steel tape-measure, transit and poles, these three gentlemen were presently passing through an old barbed wire fence which crossed a street allowance on the west side of Simcoe Street, known by the plan only as “Helena Street,” immediately north of “Parkwood”. A path led to a hole in the ground where formerly stood a white roughcast cottage, then in the process of removal in a westerly direction.

The legal line on the north side of the street allowance being located, a discussion followed as to the distance the hospital should be from the street. It was agreed that it must be distant from street noises, and it must be central, for some day, it would, in all probability, be necessary to add to it, and how better than by building wings to the east or to the west.

At last a two-inch peg was driven at a point located as the south-east corner, and from that point the foundation was
laid out foursquare for frontage and depth. The contractor signalled to his men, and the first team, without further ceremony, started on the work of excavating the light soil.

As building construction progressed, the wire fence across the street allowance was taken down, a road ditched and graded, and a three-foot board sidewalk laid on the north side. When the building was finished, the name of the street was changed to that which it now carries, “Alma”, a happy combination of the initial letters in the names of Mrs. McLaughlin (A. L.) and Mrs. Williams (M. A.), a simple tribute to the steadfastness, inspiration and zeal of two women toward a great objective.

Changes in the building have taken place during the quarter century that has passed, but “foursquare” it was laid out, and this has been symbolic of its traditions and maintenance throughout the years.

Early in 1910 the first provisional Board of Trustees was appointed, in the form of a committee of management and control, being made up of Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, Mrs. Robert Williams, at that time president of the Hospital Auxiliary, Mrs. J. D. Storie, Mrs. J. O. Henry, Mrs. John Bailes; Messrs. J. D. Storie, J. P. Owens, John Bailes, John Cowan and Robert McLaughlin. The first meeting of this provisional Board of Directors was held on March the 31st, 1910, at which Mr. J. D. Storie was elected chairman; Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, vice-chairman; Mrs. J. O. Henry, secretary; and Mr. J. P. Owens, treasurer. At the meeting, Miss E. MacWilliams, who had been appointed Superintendent of the hospital, and who has filled that office with distinction and remarkable efficiency ever since, was added as a member of the Board.

The Warden of Ontario County and the Mayor of the town of Oshawa became members ex officio, taking office automatically each year.

One of the first steps, also, in establishing the executive of the hospital was the organization of the Medical Staff. This was done at a meeting held on the 8th of August, 1910, attended by Doctors D. S. Hoig, T. E. Kaiser, T. W. G. McKay, F. J. Rundle, R. Belt and W. Carmichael. At this meeting the following rules for the guidance of the Medical Staff were drawn up:

“The Medical Staff shall perform routine duties in the hospital in the order of their seniority in the profession within the town of Oshawa, and the officer of the day shall be an ex-officio member of the board of management of the hospital and shall act as arbitrator in all disputes regarding the medical control of the institution, and his decision shall hold effective subject always to an appeal to the medical staff.

“The term of service for each member of the staff shall be one month. Rotational changes to occur henceforth on the 1st of each month.

“All municipal order patients entering the institution shall come under the care of the physician of the day, whose services shall be gratuitous.

“All public ward patients whose maintenance is derived from private sources shall be permitted to choose their own medical attendant if they can make satisfactory arrangements with such physician, failing which they shall come under the care of the officer of the day, who shall be entitled to collect for his services.

“No persons whose financial position is such as to enable them to pay for ordinary medical attentions shall be entitled to receive free attendance in the institution.

“Any patient occupying a private or semi-private ward may retain the physician of their choice.

“No operation of a serious nature shall take place without the consent of the medical staff.

“All patients receiving any municipal assistance whatsoever shall be under the care of the officer of the day.

“The words physician, doctor, medical practitioner, as used above shall be understood to mean a licentiate of the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons.”
On Saturday, the 13th of August, 1910, as the earthly remains of the great Florence Nightingale, the "Lady with the Lamp", the only woman to receive from King Edward VII the Order of Merit, were being laid to their eternal rest, 3,000 miles away, His Worship, Mayor W. E. N. Sinclair of the town of Oshawa, and other prominent citizens were taking part in the opening ceremonies of the Oshawa General Hospital.

The Oshawa Vindicator of August the 19th, in its account of this momentous occasion says:

"As early as two o'clock people were there in waiting till the doors were open for the inspection of the hospital before the formal proceedings. Admiringly taking in the well-proportioned cottage building of two stories with attic and basement, which stands on 3½ by 64 feet fronting on Alma street, they passed inside and within an hour and ten minutes some 2,000 persons had viewed the interior, and expressed their great satisfaction at the results achieved... At the entrance, Director Mrs. Bailes sat and received gifts of money and kind from the people as they entered, and the large baskets had more than once to be taken away to be emptied of the gifts from generous donors. In all, $150 of money was received, and groceries to the amount of $130 during Saturday and Sunday from the people who visited the hospital for the first time.

"Precisely at 4.10 p.m. Saturday, the formal opening proceedings began."

The Vindicator, in describing in detail the layout and furnishings of the hospital, gives the reader a complete picture of the institution on its opening day. The following are a few extracts:

"... the small offerings of the people... spell the triumph of little things in the splendid equipment of kitchen, dietaries and laundry. Of the largest and most conspicuous items of these are the range, the refrigerator, kitchen cabinet table, meat chopper, and all the necessary cooking pots, pans, utensils and dishes for the wards. In the laundry are mangle, washer, wringer, minute washer, clothes..."
baskets, ironing boards, set of irons. On each floor too are diet kitchens.

“The nurses dining room is also in the basement, and was furnished by private subscription.

“The public wards are at the east and west of the second floor, the women’s at the east and the men’s at the west.

“On this floor also are a diet kitchen and pantry, thoroughly equipped, and with speaking tubes to the main kitchen and laundry. A bath room is also in evidence, and there are chutes to the basement for the expedient disposal of soiled clothes.

“To the left of the entrance of this floor is the Superintendent’s office, beautifully furnished by Mr. James Cowan.

“. . . the private wards are on the third storey.

“On this floor also is the Superintendent’s room.

“In addition to the fully furnished diet kitchen, pantry and bath rooms, with chutes to the basement, the Operating Room is also on the third floor.

“. . . the linen cupboard, conveniently situated to both floors on the second floor landing.

“The nurses’ rooms are situated on the third floor.

The donors of complete furnishings and equipment for individual rooms in the first building were as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Babbitt, Dr. T. W. G. McKay, Mr. W. F. Eaton, Mrs. Robert Williams, Mr. Albert Crowle, Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Woodruff, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Storie, and Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Fowke. Through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Conant, trees, flowers, shrubs, etc., were provided for the grounds, and the lovely approach to the hospital at the present time is a result of this effort.

That original hospital which was opened on that August day in 1910 had a capacity of sixteen beds, but it was well equipped. It had an efficient and capable staff, aided by the splendid leadership given by Mr. J. D. Storie, and the economical and wise management of Miss MacWilliams.

Others who took part in the opening ceremonies in addition to the Mayor were, Mr. J. D. Storie, chairman of the Board of Directors; Dr. D. S. Hoig, Mr. Chas. Calder, M.P.P.; Mr. Fred. I. Fowke, M.P.; Dr. T. E. Kaiser, Dr. T. W. G. McKay and Dr. J. F. W. Ross, of Toronto, who declared the hospital open with the following words:

“I declare this hospital formally opened for the entrance of patients for care and attention and hope with you to relieve distress and save many useful lives.”

Throughout the speeches and greetings of all, the triumphant note was voiced that the hospital had been opened absolutely free of debt, an attribute to which, after twenty-five years of operation, it still lays claim. The hospital was constructed and has been maintained without Municipal, County or Government aid, excepting only small grants from year to year. These grants are the smallest per unit of population made to their public hospitals by any town or city in Ontario with a population under 30,000.

The reports of the hospital’s first year of operation were presented at a meeting of the Board on the 13th of October, 1911. The financial report, given as follows, shows the condition of the finances of the hospital after a year’s operation.

### Maintenance

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<tr>
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Board of Directors 1931-32

Charles Schofield, H. P. Schell, A. H. Allin, T. K. Creighton,
F. J. Reddin, Col. Frank Chappell, G. D. Conant, R. S. Morphy, J. J. Burns,
Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, Miss J. Dillon, J. D. Storie, R. S. McLaughlin, W. R. Geikie.
Alex. G. Storie (inset).
THE BOARD

As has previously been mentioned, the first provisional Board of Directors was appointed in 1910 in the form of a committee of management and control, and at their first meeting held on the 31st of March of that year, the first officers were elected.

It is interesting to record a few of the rules and regulations drawn up at this first meeting to form the Constitution of the Board.

"The Board of Directors shall consist of fourteen members from which shall be chosen a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. . . ."

"The Board of Directors shall meet for the transaction of business on the second Tuesday of every month. Five members shall form a quorum. . . ."

"The Board of Directors may invest in good and sufficient securities all monies which may at any time come into their hands for the use and support of the hospital which may not be required for immediate expenditures.

"At the annual meeting of the Board in each year the Board of Directors shall present a report of receipts and expenditures, assets and liabilities and every other matter which may be considered of importance or interest to the general subscribers."

These, with others referring more particularly to the duties of the various officers, form the Constitution of that body of men and women which has, with the help of the Medical Staff, the Auxiliary and the Superintendent, guided the affairs of the Oshawa General Hospital since its beginning.

In 1928 there were apparently rumors abroad to the effect that the City Council was desirous of taking over the hospital as a municipal institution. This impression was corrected by an article appearing in the Oshawa Daily Times of the 15th
of March of that year, in which the Council expressed the opinion that “the officials were deserving of great credit” and that “their work could not be paralleled anywhere.” A resolution opposing the taking over of the hospital as a civic concern and expressing appreciation of the Board, Ladies’ Auxiliary and Staff was adopted unanimously.

The end of the year 1926 saw the retirement from the active direction of the affairs of the hospital of Mr. J. D. Storie, who, since its inception in 1910, had been president of the Board.

Mr. Storie had been a tower of strength to the hospital from the very beginning, and his retirement was received with great regret by his colleagues, all of whom had learned to appreciate his wise leadership, sound judgment and unfailing generosity whenever a need presented itself. He was succeeded in office by Mr. Gordon D. Conant, a former Mayor of Oshawa, and a member for some years of the Board of Trustees. Under his leadership the traditions established by Mr. Storie were ably upheld until October, 1932, when he also retired to be succeeded by Mr. Alex. G. Storie, son of the former president and a faithful worker for many years on the Board.

Thus, during the twenty-five years of its history, the Oshawa Hospital Trust has had but three presidents. Yet during that time many prominent and public-spirited citizens have served on the Board, and have given of their time, energy and money to make the Oshawa General Hospital the successful institution it is today. The present Board of Trustees, elected at the annual meeting on the 13th of November, 1934, are as follows: Honorary President, Mr. J. D. Storie; Honorary Vice-Presidents, Mr. R. S. McLaughlin, Mr. W. R. Geikie and Mr. Chas. Robson; Honorary Members, the Warden of Ontario County and the Mayor of the City of Oshawa; President, Mr. A. G. Storie; Vice-President, Mr. T. K. Creighton; Treasurer, Mr. Hugh Hall; Secretary, Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin; Board of Trustees, Col. Frank Chappell, Dr. D. S. Hoig, Miss J. Dillon, Mr. G. D. Conant, Mr. Chas. Schofield, Mr. J. J. Burns, Mr. J. A. Morphy, Mr. J. J. Callaghan, Mr. Ewart A. Everson.

It is seen that of the original Board of Directors, appointed
MRS. R. S. McLAUGHLIN
President, Hospital Auxiliary
As has already been noted, the Women’s Auxiliary of the Oshawa General Hospital was formally inaugurated at a mass meeting of the citizens of Oshawa held in January, 1907, at which ninety ladies were enrolled as members, its first president being Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin. It was in operation before the hospital was built, and even before the first Board of Trustees was organized. It took the initial steps which resulted in the building of the hospital. It was, in fact, the pioneer Hospital Auxiliary of the Province of Ontario, and has given the lead to all other communities in this respect.

In addition to the already mentioned purchase of the building property, the funds for which were contributed solely through the efforts of this small band of women, the Auxiliary has a long record of achievement to the service of the hospital. In the twenty-five years of its history it has raised a sum close to $100,000, all of which has been spent for the benefit of the institution. It has, year in and year out, supplied and looked after the linens and other more or less household necessities, added to the equipment of the hospital, and financed redecoration and remodelling plans. The monetary help which it has given has been accumulated by sheer hard work on the part of its members. The “Mile of Coppers” scheme provided the money for the purchase of all the kitchen equipment in the hospital. Concerts and plays, bridge parties, carnivals, rummage sales, and many other types of amusements and events have added to the funds. The “Talent Dollar” plan has been responsible for raising large sums, and the individual contributions of the members themselves have had no inconsiderable part in the swelling of the total to nearly $100,000.

With the hospital opened and in operation, the Trustees and Auxiliary were not content to rest on their laurels. It soon became apparent that the accommodation provided would very quickly be outgrown, and that there were still facilities lacking to complete the equipment of the hospital.
In 1911, the Women’s Auxiliary undertook the construction of an electrically-equipped laundry wing. The project was a complete success and was finished in 1912 at a cost of $4,000, without any expense whatsoever to the Hospital Board.

A nurses’ residence was commenced in 1914, built on the northeast corner of the hospital property, and was completed in 1915. The Auxiliary completely furnished and equipped this original home (with the exception of individual donations) at a cost of approximately $3,000.

In the year 1918, the McLaughlin and Chevrolet Motor Car Companies donated to the hospital what is now known as the Llewellyn Home, on King Street East — this to be used as a maternity home and operated by the Hospital Board. Here, again, the Women’s Auxiliary came forward with assistance and provided the equipment and supplies necessary.

Their help was again cheerfully given when, in order to make the hospital a compact unit, it was found necessary to connect the new Pedlar Wing with the original building. The women’s organization provided the electric fixtures for the Pedlar Wing, and, at the same time, purchased a high-pressure sterilizer for use in the hospital.

In 1920, at a cost of $1,732, a complete electric range for cooking purposes was presented to the hospital by the Auxiliary, and in the next year it donated a microscope for use in the laboratory and a gas oxygen equipment for the administration of anaesthetics.

In 1921, also, the pressing necessity for an addition of a substantial character to the nurses’ residence became apparent. The Auxiliary undertook to build this addition, and, after strenuous effort in raising funds for this purpose, the work was commenced in this year and completed in 1922. The addition cost $15,000, of which sum $11,000 was raised through the efforts of the Auxiliary. Mr. J. D. Storie, in one of his many generous gestures towards the hospital, donated to the Auxiliary the deficit of $4,000, and the home was paid for in full. In this undertaking, the Women’s Auxiliary acknowledged, not only the fine gift of Mr. Storie, but also the assistance of Mr. W. J. Holland, the contractor, and Mr. Fred. Hatch of Whitby, who also contributed generously.

In 1924, when the X-ray was installed, the Auxiliary provided the operating tables and the aerial for the X-ray equipment at a cost of $500.

In 1925, another important step was taken by the Women’s Auxiliary in order to make their hospital meet the requirements of a standardized institution. This was the establishment of a Social Service Department which has, since then, been operated entirely by this organization. This department has absorbed a considerable portion of the Auxiliary’s funds, and, as will be seen, has become one of the most valuable adjuncts to the hospital work.

The women played a large part in the campaign of 1926, pledging themselves to provide a sum of $6,000, which pledge was faithfully carried out, and also lending valuable assistance to the actual operation of the campaign.

In the years 1928 and 1929 the good work was carried on by the donation of two valuable additions to the equipment of the hospital. A Diathermy outfit and a quartz lamp for the X-ray department were supplied by the Auxiliary at an expenditure of over $700. In the latter year the complete redecoration of the nurses’ residence was undertaken.

But the work of the Women’s Hospital Auxiliary has not been a merely financial asset to the institution. A wonderful aid to hospital maintenance has been the Sewing Committee headed at various times by Mrs. V. B. Woodruff, Mrs. F. Robson and Mrs. M. Lavis, and assisted by those others who were free to give of their time and energy. It has been of incalculable benefit to the Board during the years of its existence, saving it many thousands of dollars on the upkeep and purchase of its linens and staff supplies. The Social Service Committee, already referred to, under the leadership of Mrs. Rans as the Social Service worker, has obtained a splendid record in its follow-up work. And lately, a new committee has been added to the Auxiliary, known as the Nurses’ Training Committee.
School Committee, working in the interests of the nurses-in-training.

The Auxiliary has numbered on its membership roll many faithful and devoted workers. Except for a brief period at its inception when Mrs. Robert Williams occupied the chair, Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin has been president of the organization throughout, and her inspiring leadership has enthused and encouraged its members to carry on their several, and many times difficult, tasks. Space cannot be given to the names of all those who have taken part in its activities, but through the years, the following stand out as pioneers in addition to Mrs. Williams and Mrs. McLaughlin: Mrs. K. Carmichael, Miss Maude Mothersill, Mrs. J. C. Henry, Mrs. John Bailes, Mrs. J. D. Storie, Mrs. V. B. Woodruff, Mrs. H. E. Morphy, Mrs. Frank W. Bull, Mrs. Frank Robson, Mrs. T. H. Everson, Mrs. M. Lavis, Mrs. G. D. Conant and Mrs. George Pedlar. The death of Mrs. Pedlar a few years ago, removed one of the pioneer members of the Auxiliary, and the death, a few months later, of Mrs. J. D. Storie, also deprived the organization of one of its greatest friends and most devoted members.

The officers who are guiding the destinies of the Women’s Auxiliary of the Oshawa General Hospital at present are as follows: Mrs. M. Lavis, Honorary President; Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, President; Mrs. Ed. Bradley, First Vice-President; Mrs. M. Canning, Second Vice-President; Mrs. H. D. Wilson, Third Vice-President; Mrs. C. A. Kinnear, Secretary; Miss M. Whitney, Treasurer; Mrs. G. D. Conant, Convener of Executive; Mrs. H. B. James, Convener of Social Service Committee; Mrs. B. A. Brown, Convener of Training School Committee; Mrs. S. J. Phillips, Convener of Library Committee; Mrs. Leo Gray, Convener of Motor Service Committee.

It is interesting to note here that in the year 1926 the Hospital Aids Associations of Ontario held their annual convention in the city of Oshawa. Nearly forty delegates, representing nearly half the associations in the Province, convened in Simcoe Street United Church on the 6th of October of that year. At the various meetings, addresses were presented by Mayor R. D. Preston of Oshawa, Mr. J. D. Storie, President of the Oshawa Hospital Board, Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, President of the Oshawa Women’s Auxiliary, Dr. Helen McMurchy, chief of the Division of Child Welfare, Ottawa, Miss Mary Colter, President of the Brantford Aid, Mrs. M. Groves, ex-member of the Toronto Board of Education, Dr. Goldwin Howland, and Mrs. H. M. Aikins, as representative of the Women’s Institutes of Ontario. At the election of officers Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin was chosen President of the Ontario organization for the ensuing year, and Mrs. Frank Bull, Secretary of the Oshawa Auxiliary, was elected Secretary of the united body. The selection of these two officers was a fitting tribute paid by the Province-wide organization to their long and successful terms of service in their own branch.
EXTENSION

A MEETING of the Hospital Board in 1911, the President, Mr. Storie, in reviewing the hospital’s first year of operation, said:

“We started out with fear and trembling, but probably if we had known it would be so easy to raise the money we might have tried to build a $20,000 building. Some plans have already been laid for extension, but we do not want to add any further expense till we have to. We don’t want to make the institution a burden to the community.”

That the community did not consider the hospital a burden is well demonstrated by the fact that these plans for improvement and extension were put into effect almost immediately.

In the very next year the electrically-equipped laundry wing, subscribed for by the citizens through the efforts of the Women’s Auxiliary, was added to the original building. In the same year a substantial gift of $10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. George H. Pedlar, and one of $5,000 from Mr. John Cowan, who had been one of the original contributors, provided the nucleus of the fund which was later to erect the George Pedlar Surgical Wing.

In 1914, as has already been mentioned, the building of a home for the nurses-in-training was commenced which was completed in the next year and, exclusive of individual donations, was furnished entirely by the Women’s Auxiliary. Among the individual donations to the residence might be mentioned four book cases for the library given by Mr. F. L. Fowke; the halls furnished by Mr. and Mrs. F. Robson; the Superintendent’s suite furnished by Col. W. F. Eaton; the Assistant Superintendent’s suite by Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin; a piano donated by Mr. and Mrs. Fred. Bull; the sitting room and other library furniture by Mrs. Robert Williams and Mrs. Chas. Robson.
Throughout the years 1914-18 no further expansion was undertaken owing to the pressure of war work, Red Cross activities, etc. The hospital continued its outstanding service to the community, but the need for increased accommodation became more and more apparent. In 1918 a building programme was instituted which culminated in the opening of the Pedlar Surgical Wing, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Pedlar as a memorial to their son, George. The wing was not quite finished when, in October of that year, the disastrous influenza epidemic swept the country and it was rushed to completion in order to accommodate the influx of stricken citizens. Thus the new wing was pressed into maximum service as soon as it was erected and has since become a very important section of the hospital.

When it was later found necessary to join this new wing with the hospital proper, Mrs. Pedlar again generously came forward with a gift of $2,000 to meet the cost of the connecting link between the two buildings. Several liberal contributions were made toward the cost of the furnishings for the addition. The Misses McIntosh, in memory of James Corbett gave $250; the daughters of Jeremiah Lick, as a memorial to their father, donated $225; Dr. F. J. Rundle, $250; C. R. and F. J. Bailes, in memory of Mrs. John Bailes, $150; Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Lander, in memory of Mrs. Hoig, $350; Mrs. Robert Williams, $100; Mr. Chas. Schofield, in memory of J. Schofield, furnished the diet kitchen with a gift of $500. The sun-room and office were furnished through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Cowan, and the equipment for the Emergency Surgical Ward was supplied by the Hawkins Estate.

For a year or two these additions sufficed for the needs of the hospital. In the meantime, however, its equipment was being improved with the donations by the Women’s Auxiliary of the high-pressure sterilizer, electric range, microscope and gas-oxygen equipment. In 1920, Mr. George W. McLaughlin made a valuable donation in the form of a complete X-ray apparatus, although, through lack of a permanent X-ray room, this was set up in the office of the hospital.

In 1921 the extension of the nurses’ residence was undertaken by the Auxiliary and a ten-room addition was started that year and finished the next.

The year 1923 saw a most valuable contribution made to the hospital in the form of a Maternity Wing. This wing was the gift of Messrs. George McLaughlin and R. S. McLaughlin in memory of their father, the late Robert McLaughlin. It is of fireproof construction and built to the most modern specifications.

All the wards were furnished through the generosity of friends—the Lander Ward by Dr. Hoig, in memory of his daughter; the Conant Ward by Mr. and Mrs. Conant; Elmcroft by Mr. Ray McLaughlin; two semi-private wards, one by the County Council and one by Mr. Chadburn; four private wards by Mr. and Mrs. George Hezzelwood, Mrs. S. J. Harris and Miss Birdie Harris, Mr. E. W. Drew, and the Thomas family. The Case Room furnishings were donated by Mr. and Mrs. John Stacey. The Wing was formally opened on the 24th of March, 1923.

In this same year there occurred one of the most important events in the history of the hospital—it was formally approved as a standardized hospital by the American College of Physicians and Surgeons. This recognition, the highest on the North American continent, placed the Oshawa General Hospital on a level with all the leading hospitals of Canada and the United States insofar as its standards, equipment and services were concerned. It was a splendid tribute to the efficiency which had been built up by the Board, by the Superintendent, Miss MacWilliams, and by the Medical Staff of the hospital.

The following year again saw the need for more space. Oshawa was growing rapidly and making increased demands upon the hospital accommodation. The Directors, therefore, began another large-sized project—the addition of a third storey to the main hospital buildings. In this extension, provision was made for X-ray rooms, a new laboratory and new operating rooms. Thus a suite of four X-ray rooms, a fully...
equipped laboratory, one operating room and a fracture room actually comprised the completed structure. As already noted, the Auxiliary provided the operating tables and the aerial for the X-ray. In 1924 it was completed and ready for use and the addition gave the hospital a capacity of eighty-four beds, a striking contrast to the sixteen beds of the original structure as opened in 1910.

In 1928 the heating system was changed to a new central heating plan, in order to take care of the extra requirements of the enlarged building. Refrigeration was also installed at this time. The equipment of the institution was further added to in this year by the Auxiliary who donated to the hospital the Diathermy outfit and the quartz lamp for the X-ray department.

With the establishment, in 1925, of the Social Service Department and, in the years since 1929, of clinics connected with the hospital, its capacity for service to the community has been greatly advanced. These clinics are conducted with the cooperation of the Provincial and local departments of health. The most important are the mental clinic, the outdoor, and the travelling and tubercular clinic, facilities for which have been placed at the disposal of the health departments by the hospital.

The most recent improvement to the hospital building was the erection of a maids’ dormitory as a second storey to the laundry building. Up until this time the help in the hospital had been housed in the basement, but the Board, realizing that this space could be utilized to advantage for the establishment of further clinical work as required by the Public Health authorities, decided to provide accommodation for them by the addition to the laundry, which was commenced in October, 1932.

It is interesting to note here the actual increase in value of the hospital building and property. One thousand dollars was paid for the original purchase of land and $12,000 was expended on the first building and equipment. Today the buildings, equipment and property are valued at $306,000.

The needs of the hospital as a community institution are not yet fully realized. Further extension is still necessary for it to give adequate service to the City of Oshawa and the surrounding districts. However, owing to the financial difficulties encountered at present by individuals as well as institutions, it was decided by the Board to discontinue any building programme for the present and to conserve the funds for the hospital, adding to them at every possible opportunity in order to be ready, when a more propitious time arrives, to make the needed extensions.
SCHEMES AND CAMPAIGNS

IT MAY BE INTERESTING to those who have followed the progress of the institution up to its present stage to review here, briefly, the campaigns sponsored by the Board and the money-making schemes entered into by the Auxiliary, which have been mainly responsible for the up-to-date, standardized Oshawa General Hospital. With the exception of the large contributions of the wings and the individual contributions towards furnishing hospital rooms, etc., the money for the building, additions, equipment and furnishings has been raised through the efforts of the directors and the Auxiliary organization.

As we have seen, the first solicitation for funds was made in 1907 by the Auxiliary. The ladies, acting as collectors in a house-to-house canvass, raised the sum of $1,000 with which they purchased the land for the hospital. The still greater task, that of raising money for the erection of the building itself, was undertaken in 1909 by the men of the town, it having been suggested that they do so by the women of the Auxiliary. On Monday, the 15th of November of that year, the first call was made to the men of Oshawa to come to the help of the Oshawa Hospital Auxiliary. At a meeting on the following Thursday evening, a provisional executive was chosen with Mr. J. D. Storie as Chairman; W. E. N. Sinclair, Secretary; and J. P. Owens, Treasurer. The objective was set at Twenty Thousand Dollars, and plans for the campaign were drawn up. At the end of two days’ canvass a joint meeting of the Ladies’ Hospital Auxiliary and the canvassing committee was held. Mr. Storie occupied the chair and announced that to date $18,140 had been collected, with promises of more. The first campaign was thus completely successful and the hospital proper was erected from these funds. The people of Oshawa came forward with generous donations and, in addition to those previously mentioned, some of the larger subscriptions were: G. H. Pedlar, $700; H. T. Carswell, $500; the Robson Leather Company, $500.
The extensive building programme carried on by the hospital authorities up to 1918, even with the help of the Auxiliary, presented a new problem for the Board in that it created a debt of some $10,500. Late in that year it was decided to organize a campaign and make a public appeal for funds to wipe out the deficit. The response to this appeal by the community was widespread and the canvassers and their helpers received hundreds of contributions. Mr. Storie again gave his splendid leadership to the organization of the campaign and headed the list of individual contributions with a donation of $1,500, while Mrs. Storie gave $500 towards the amount required. Fittings Limited contributed $2,500; the McLaughlin and Chevrolet Companies, $2,000; the Robson Leather Company, $1,000; and Mr. Charles Schofield, $500. The total amount raised was approximately $11,000, which was more than sufficient to clear the outstanding debt.

The building of the third storey to the main hospital again created a deficit. To meet it, a five-day campaign was launched on the 11th of October, 1926, with Fifty Thousand Dollars as the objective. Printed bulletins were issued giving a brief outline of the operations of the hospital to date, and urging the citizens of Oshawa to come to its aid. More than two hundred public-spirited citizens were organized in a volunteer campaign corps.

The executive committee were as follows: Mr. George W. McLaughlin, Chairman; Mr. C. N. Henry, Honorary Treasurer; Mr. Milton D. Bergey, Campaign Director. The Divisions were commanded by Mrs. Frank W. Bull, Lt.-Col. F. Chappell, Mr. E. A. Lovell, Mr. Alex. G. Storie, Mr. John Stanton; and the other members of the executive were: Mrs. R. S. McLaughlin, Mayor R. D. Preston, Mr. J. D. Storie, Mr. Gordon Conant, Mr. Charles Schofield, Mr. J. J. Callaghan and Mr. Fred. Bailes.

A surprising and most welcome response from merchants and firms in Whitby and Toronto marked the early stages of the campaign. The Pedwell Lumber Company, Limited, of Toronto, enclosing a cheque for $200, sent the following letter, which appears to have been typical of the enthusiastic support received from outsiders:

"We wish you every success indeed, and should you find that you are a little short in the end, do not hesitate to give us another call as there is nothing more worthy than to be associated in a campaign of this kind."

The first day’s canvassing brought in some $7,600 and at the end of the five days the required sum of approximately $50,000 had been subscribed. This not only cleared the deficit, but also provided a fund for future building purposes, and for various alterations which were urgently required. And since that time the Oshawa General Hospital has remained free from debt.

The efforts of the Oshawa Hospital Auxiliary have been limited to campaigns on a smaller scale, and have more or less taken the form of entertainments and schemes to attract the interest of the general public.

As has been seen, the kitchen equipment of the new hospital was supplied by the “Mile of Coppers”—pennies and coppers donated by the people for weeks and months in advance of the actual opening of the institution.

One of the most reliable and profitable of the money-making schemes is what is known as the “Talent Dollar.” Each year a One Dollar Bill, out of the Auxiliary’s funds, is sent to those interested in hospital improvement. They are to invest this dollar in whatever way they desire, and, at the end of the year, to return it together with whatever profits have been realized on it, to the Auxiliary. The total amount distributed each year varies, of course, according to the discretion of those in charge of the distribution, and the returns from a single dollar have ranged from Two to Ninety Dollars.

The Annual Hospital Sunday Collection, inaugurated in 1911 in all the Churches of the city and since then become a yearly affair, has been the means of adding a fair amount to the Auxiliary’s treasury.
Rummage sales, that is, the sale of old but still useful articles of clothing, etc., at very reasonable prices, held in the churches and schools, were, up until the last few years, one of the chief sources of funds. Lately, however, the large sums realized on these sales proved an inducement to other organizations to hold them also, and hence supplies as well as patronage for the hospital sales ran short.

For many years the Auxiliary has undertaken the responsibility of a Luncheon Tent at the Annual Fair in Oshawa. This has been the means of realizing a fair amount each year, the proceeds, on one occasion, running as high as $642.50. Money has been raised also on refreshments served at the Chautauquas, and, within the last few years, by a luncheon served to the Bowling Club of the city at its final annual meeting. The sale of hospital pins, seals, postcards, and the hospital fines have been another fairly steady source of small revenue.

Among the more novel methods of raising money, was the "Brick Fund," suggested by Mrs. Bailes in 1911 as a start for future extension. Cards were sent out to every possible subscriber with the slogan,

"Every dollar buys twenty bricks.  
How many bricks will you buy?"

The response to this appeal, over a period of two or three years, was steady and provided a goodly sum to add to the larger campaigns for improvement.

As early as Christmas, 1908, appeals were sent out in the form of a sock, with the following attractive verse attached:

We send you this sock and would like you to know  
That we want you to place in the heel or the toe,  
For the love of the cause and with infinite care,  
Just double the sum of the size that you wear.  

For instance, supposing your sock is a ten,  
Which we think is an average size for the men,  
Your duty to us, then will certainly cease,  
If you place in the stocking a twenty cent piece.

We come to you now in the hour of our need,  
And want you to help in this glorious deed,  
Tis a charity great, and a charity sweet,  
And the bigger the feet, why the bigger the feat.

In 1924, the following very clever rhyme, sent from a subscriber in Toronto, was received by a member of the hospital Board in answer to an appeal for the donation of a copper for every year of the subscriber's age.

Your request for contribution,  
To assist your institution,  
With a cent for every dear old summer time,  
Was received with greatest pleasure  
And as I have a moment's leisure,  
I am making my donation, too, in rhyme.  
I am sending you a dollar,  
So you'll have no chance to holler,  
That I'm cheating on my age as ladies do.  
I'll admit I'm not a hundred,  
Though as through this world I've blundered,  
I may have lived a century or two.  
With the cash, you have my blessing,  
As the public's wounds you're dressing,  
May you flourish as the bay tree in the book.  
When the old boys are returning,  
I have quite a decided yearning,  
If you'll let me, I would like to take a look.

Other various money-making schemes have been sponsored by the Auxiliary from year to year in the form of entertainments. "Balls" and dances, moving picture shows, chain teas, benefit nights, plays, recitals, musicales, garden parties, bridges, euchres, and raffles have all, at one time or another, been successfully undertaken by the organization in order to raise funds for equipment, and have helped swell the treasury for hospital extension and improvement.
THE FOLLOW-UP

"We are not a relief organization, we are not a social agency. Relief work, occupational therapy, motor transport, entertainment, etc., all have the one aim, to help restore the sick to normal health that they may again become self-supporting members of the community. This is Hospital Service Work!"

(Miss J. M. Kniseley's definition of Follow-Up Service in connection with Hospital work.)

In 1925 the establishment of the Social Service Department was undertaken by the Women's Auxiliary, to be operated solely by them. This department was reorganized in the next year and since then has done splendid work in following up cases after discharge from the hospital, supplying special needs in cases of indigency, and giving advice to patients after their period of hospitalization. Perhaps the best way to bring to the reader's mind the actual work carried on by this Department is to give a few details from its annual reports. The following is a copy of the 1928 report, which is a synopsis of the Social Service Work carried on by the Hospital Auxiliary since the 1st of January, 1927:

"The Service is classified under four headings.

"I. Social Welfare—this branch of the work enables us to visit the patients in their homes after they have been discharged from the Hospital in order that we may record their continued progress and home conditions, etc. These records are filed in the office at the Hospital where they are readily accessible to the Medical Staff. (Number of calls made—42.)

"II. Relief Committee—whose duty it is to investigate the homes of patients who are financially distressed and to assist them by supplying the immediate necessities. (Number of calls made—11.)

"III. The Motor Committee—the members of this Committee are available at all times to convey patients to and from the Hospital where circumstances demand free transportation.

"IV. The Library Committee—supply reading material periodically which is distributed to patients throughout the wards. (Number of magazines supplied—425.)

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"The Auxiliary has voted a sum of money to the Social workers to use for immediate relief work.

"In cases where clothing was provided they were donated by Auxiliary members and their friends. In one instance a child’s cot, completely equipped, was presented to a needy family. In another case we supplied a tonic where the patient was unable to pay for it. To another young mother was given a baby carriage and layette. And several families were reported to the city’s Christmas Cheer Committee and taken care of.

"During the year we were fortunate in having Miss Kniseley of the Toronto General Hospital Social Service Department address a special meeting on this phase of the work, which we all thoroughly enjoyed and from which we derived a great deal of benefit.

"It might also be interesting to know that in making these calls we are usually accompanied by a pupil nurse from the Hospital whose nursing education is broadened by this field work, in addition to the patient being interested in seeing a nurse with whom they had been in contact during their stay in the Hospital. Thus we feel we are creating a better relationship between the ex-patients and the Institution.

(Signed) LAURA BROWN Convener.”

In the year 1931, the number of calls made to the homes of the patients was increased to 448, with 169 repeat calls. In order to become acquainted with the circumstances of the ward patients in the hospital before visiting their homes, 369 were interviewed during the year by the Convenor. Three hundred and fifty-two articles of infants’ clothing and 8 of adults’ were distributed; 231 yards of flannelette, wool and eiderdown for jackets were purchased and made into garments. Drugs for six patients, 82 dressings, milk, eggs, cocoa, vitone and green vegetables were also supplied by the Department. And on Christmas morning the Committee distributed a basket of fruit to each ward and semi-private patient, and a gift to each baby in the hospital.

The importance of the Social Service and Welfare Department has continued to grow in this manner in the last two years, until it has become one of the most valuable departments of the institution, and by its outside contact has made for increased efficiency on the Public Health angle of hospital work.

THE TRAINING SCHOOL

On the appointment of Miss MacWilliams as Superintendent of the Oshawa General Hospital, full control was given to her over the nurses-in-training at the institution. A regulation to this effect was drawn up, among others for the guidance of the Lady Superintendent, in 1911.

"The Lady Superintendent . . . shall have control, subject to the Board of Directors, of the Oshawa Hospital and shall instruct Nurses or cause them to be instructed in the art of nursing.”

Miss MacWilliams has fulfilled this duty faithfully and admirably and has received again and again the thanks and gratitude of the Medical Staff, the Board and the Auxiliary.

The Training School of the Oshawa General Hospital has enlarged and progressed as the hospital itself has enlarged and progressed. The first class was formed on the 13th of August, 1910, with four probationers. In 1913, three of this class received their diplomas. The closing exercises were held in the auditorium of the Oshawa High School and the late Dr. F. N. G. Starr addressed the graduating class.

Since that time, twenty-one classes have graduated, the smallest being that of 1914 when one nurse received her diploma and the largest that of 1932 when the graduates numbered fourteen. In all, one hundred and thirty-one nurses have received their diplomas from the Oshawa Hospital.

At each graduating exercise the Florence Nightingale Pledge, formulated in 1893 by a committee of which Mrs. Lystra E. Gretter, R.N., was chairman, has been taken by the nurses. The pledge is as follows:

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"I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly:

"To pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully.

"I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug.

"I will do all in my power to elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping, and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my profession.

"With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician in his work, and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care."

During the course of their training the nurses receive lectures from the Medical Staff of the hospital and special courses of lectures are given on the various phases of medicine and surgery, such as Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, Dentistry, Materia Medica, etc. In 1925, the school was affiliated with the Riverdale Isolation Hospital for a two months' course in communicable diseases, and in that year also, Miss Thelma Mason, a graduate of Winnipeg General Hospital, was added to the Staff as Instructress of Nurses. Since then, arrangements have been made with the Department of Public Health in Oshawa for a two months' course of instruction in this line of work.

Scholarships, prizes, and medals, donated by members of the hospital staff and Oshawa citizens for excellence in the various phases of nursing, have been awarded to the students each year. Below is recorded the 1932 list of Scholarships and Prizes as it appeared on the programme for the graduating exercises which took place in the Collegiate Auditorium on the 7th of June.

**The R. S. McLaughlin Industrial Scholarship** for General Proficiency.

**The James F. W. Ross Scholarship** for Highest Class Standing in Written Examinations.

**The J. D. Storie Scholarship** for Proficiency in Practical Work.

**The Mazo Williams Scholarship** for Proficiency in Obstetrical Nursing.

**The Mrs. Charles Robson Scholarship** for Theory of Nursing.

**A Gold Medal for Surgical Technique**, donated by Dr. F. J. Rundle.

**The Mrs. J. D. Storie Prize** for Surgical Nursing.

**The Alice Moore Prize** for Practical Dietetics.

**The Dr. G. L. Bird Prize** for Laboratory Technique.

**The Dr. B. A. Brown Prize** for Bedside Nursing and Theory in Contagious Diseases.

**The E. A. Lovell Prize** for Highest Marks in Materia Medica.

**The E. A. Lovell Prize** for Highest Marks in Chemistry.

**Intermediate**

**The Mrs. Frank Robson Prize** for Highest Class Standing in Intermediate Year.

**The Dr. C. O. Miller Prize** for Highest Marks in Gynaecology.

**The Dr. Grant Berry Prize** for Highest Marks in Paediatrics.

**The Assistant Superintendent's Prize** for Proficiency in Practical Work.

**The Operating Room Supervisor's Prize** for Surgical Technique.

**Junior Year**

**The Superintendent's Prize** for Highest Class Standing in Junior Year.

**The Instructor's Prize** for Proficiency in Practical Nursing.

**The Night Supervisor's Prize** for Executive Ability and Neatness.

In this same year a new committee was formed by the Auxiliary known as the Training School Committee, with Mrs. G. D. Conant as convener, to work in the interests of the nurses-in-training. It has created contact between the members of the Auxiliary and the student nurses and has aided the spirit of friendly co-operation for the benefit of the institution.

An Alumnae Association was formed by the graduates in 1914, and from it, delegates have been chosen at various times to represent the Oshawa Hospital at the International Convention of Nurses. This Association has added its help to that of the Board and Auxiliary to promote the efficiency of the hospital's services and to enable it to keep up with the progress of the medical world as a standardized hospital.