



Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability

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ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR NEURO-DISABILITY:
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Annual report, 1955

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**THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR
INCURABLES, PUTNEY**

Incorporated by Royal Charter

(Supported by Voluntary Contributions)

Instituted in the year 1854



REPORT

For Year ended 30th September, 1955

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HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER.

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MESSRS. HELMORE, HELMORE & Co.,
Chartered Accountants, 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

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ANNUAL REPORT

The Board of Management has much pleasure in presenting to the Governors the Annual Report and audited accounts for the year ended the 30th September, 1955.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

After the considerable activities of our Centenary Year, this has been a comparatively quiet period, but a year which includes a change of Matrons can never be uneventful, for the Matron occupies a unique place. Her methods and personality set the standard for staff and patients alike and on her, more than on any other single individual, the patients' happiness and welfare depend. It was therefore with great regret that the Board received the resignation of Miss Corbett, following the death of her mother. Miss Corbett had been Matron here for over 12 years, and during that time she had endeared herself to all. When she bade farewell to her "family" in June, she received presentations from the patients, the Board and the staff. In Miss Corbett's place the Board has appointed Miss Clare A. Howard to be Matron. Coming from Principal Matron of the Seamen's Hospital Group, Miss Howard has a wealth of experience to add to her undoubted ability, and the Board hopes she will have a long and happy tenure.



Mrs. Niblett presenting the patients' leaving present to Miss Corbett.
Nursing Mirror Photograph



Garden Party and Fête.

Fox Photos

Following last year's successful Garden Party and Fête, a similar function was held this year. Once again we were lucky with the weather; in fact, it was so hot that the limited amount of shade available was at a premium for stallholders and the Band of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, which again entertained the guests, by kind permission of the Commandant. The Board's thanks are due not only to the stallholders and to Pipe Major Robertson's Pipe Band and dancers, but to the many others who assisted in making the afternoon so enjoyable.

Founder's Day was celebrated on the 30th November to commemorate Dr. Reed's birthday. The President presented prizes to the nursing assistants and male attendants in the interval of an excellent concert enjoyed by the patients and over 100 guests who in one way or another give their services for the benefit of the patients.

THE PATIENTS.

Applications and enquiries are so numerous that the waiting list has had to be closed for the major part of the year. It was open for applications in April and again for a few days in August, but the flood which follows such an announcement presents a major problem, and it has been a distressing task to disappoint some of the many deserving cases.

During the year we have admitted 28 women and 16 men. These patients admitted were under the following headings:

14 paying patients.
26 sponsored patients.
4 unassisted patients.

The numbers at present in the Hospital and Home are as follows (the previous year's figures are shown in brackets):—

	Men	Women	Total
Paying Patients ...	3 (3)	20 (16)	23 (19)
Sponsored patients ...	12 (1)	25 (8)	37 (9)
Unassisted patients ...	39 (50)	157 (176)	196 (226)
	54 (54)	202 (200)	256 (254)

This table shows clearly the progress made to implement the Board's policy of offering some vacancies to Professional and Trade Benevolent Societies and to Local Authorities, who sponsor patients who are unable to afford the fees of paying patients. Sponsoring Societies include the Civil Service Benevolent Fund, the Commercial Travellers' Association, the National Union of Teachers Benevolent Fund, the Friends of the Poor and the Musicians' Benevolent Fund. Most of the Local Authority cases come from London and the Home Counties, but we also have patients



The President and the Duchess of Devonshire at the Flower Stall.

Fox Photos



The Prize-winners on Founder's Day with the President, Matron and the Deputy Chairman of the House Committee.

Photo-Reportage, London

from Swansea, Oxford and Ipswich. It is worth noting also that 21 patients sponsored by Local Authorities made application in the usual way and were originally accepted by the Committee as "unassisted" patients but were subsequently found to be eligible by Local Authorities for acceptance. As stated on the inside of the back cover of this Report, the assistance given by Local Authorities is barely half the full cost of these patients' maintenance. The balance has to be found from our General Funds.

PATIENTS' ACTIVITIES.

Two new types of occupation have been started this year. Thanks to the generosity and interest of Madame Mero-Irion, of New York, musical therapy has been started under the able direction of Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Gibbs, both professional musicians, who come once a week to train our choir.

The other new activity is a typing class for those who cannot write with a pen but who still have sufficient use of at least one or two fingers to manipulate a typewriter. Mrs. Duncan, who has much previous experience of training the physically handicapped, kindly takes 20 patients once a week in this valuable scheme.

Occupational therapy continues to provide useful occupation for an increasing number of patients. Over 130 patients now attend, compared with 80 last year. The physio-therapy department is also working to full capacity, with an average of 125 patients attending for treatment each month.

Mr. and Mrs. Hylton Cleaver have kindly consented to organise the inter-Ward Quiz competitions this autumn for the 11 teams which have entered.

The Tuesday cinema shows and Saturday afternoon concerts still draw packed audiences, and the Board is grateful to the many kind artistes who give their services in this way.

SALE OF WORK.

Another successful Sale of Patients' Work was held on the 12th and 13th October; Mrs. Fisher, wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, opened the Sale on the first day, and the Sale of Work Committee are to be congratulated on the organisation which produced such a large number of visitors to spend their money buying a variety of goods made by the patients or their relatives and friends.

PENSIONERS.

During the year 18 Pensioners have died, reducing the number still on our books to 226, who have received a total of just under £6,000. The income from the endowed pension funds has been raised from £1,800 to £3,300 by changes in investment, thus reducing the cost to the General Fund to £2,700.



Musical Therapy.

Photo-Reportage, London

STAFF.

Apart from the change of Matron referred to earlier, there have been no major changes among senior staff this year. The number of trained nursing staff has been maintained, sometimes by resource to temporary appointments. The erection of several large blocks of L.C.C. dwellings all round the Hospital has the advantage of providing a source of part-time non-resident staff for assistant nurses and domestic work, but, as the accounts show, this is an expensive method of staffing a hospital. Even so, the difficulty of finding trained and experienced cooks has thrown a severe strain on the whole kitchen staff, and is one of the main staffing problems at present.

FINANCE.

The Board of Management wishes to thank all those individuals and firms who contributed so generously during the year. The Board is also indebted to the Central Funds, which are detailed in the accounts, for their continued support. The total of voluntary income is being maintained at a level above that in the periods immediately before and after the war.

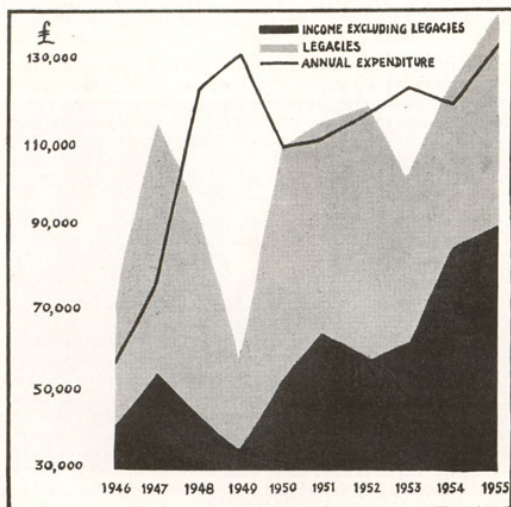
Satisfactory increases have also been made under other headings. Investments have made a welcome recovery since 1952, when they were at their lowest level following the sale of capital to make good deficiency of income in 1948 and subsequent years when there was doubt as to whether we would be taken over by the National Health Service. The Board is greatly indebted to Messrs. Helbert, Wagg & Company, Limited, who act as investment advisors to the Hospital.

Another welcome increase in income comes from patients' contributions, including paying patients. No less than £19,000 have been received this year from patients and their societies.

All these increases have brought the total of ordinary income—that is, excluding legacies—to a figure never reached before. At the same time, our expenses have risen at an alarming rate, and it is only due to the receipt of some large legacies and many smaller ones that the Board is able to report another year when income has exceeded expenditure. The Board is always anxious to invest sums received from legacies, but it has only been possible to carry out this policy recently in a modest way. The diagram (overleaf) illustrates clearly the relation between income and expenditure over the last ten years and why it has been necessary to rely on legacies to bridge the gap. Legacies have never been so badly needed as they are today, and it is encouraging to find that so many still remember this Hospital and Home when drawing up their Wills.

Efforts to keep our expenditure within the bounds of income have resulted in a postponement of interior and exterior redecoration, but the time has now come when this can no longer be deferred. The bill will not be negligible. New carpets and new furniture, more linen, more medicines, new medical equipment, up to date laundry equipment: the list is frightening, but all are necessary. A major project now under consideration is changing our boilers from coal burning to oil firing. An annual saving in fuel and labour is promised, but the initial cost may be in the region of £4,000, and a further £5,000 may have to be spent in the near future on a new boiler.

The outlook, therefore, is not one giving cause for complacency, and further increases in expenditure must be faced. The Board will pursue its policy of increasing the income from Services Rendered and will endeavour to increase still further the income from investments, but it must continue to rely on the generosity of subscribers for a large part of its income.



The cost of keeping a patient was £9 8s. 0d. per week, an increase of 16s. 5d. per week over the previous year.

This cost was made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Provisions	1	13	10
Surgery and Dispensary		3	9
Domestic (Furniture, Linen, Laundry, Fuel and Uniforms) ...	1	4	6
Salaries and Wages (all except administration, appeals and gardens)	4	19	7
Miscellaneous (Stationery, Insurance, Garden)		5	8
Administration		7	6
Establishment (Renewals and repairs to Buildings and Plant)		5	8
Finance (Rates, appeals and publicity)		7	6
	£9	8	0

TERMS OF ADMISSION.

The Board of Management always has in mind that the Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables, Putney, is a charitable institution and no applicant will be refused admission because of lack of means. The Board will, however, require a contribution from patients if it appears to the Board that the means of the applicant or of any person responsible for his maintenance are such as to render a contribution just and proper.

A limited number of beds are available for paying patients. The inclusive fees are determined by the Board of Management and at present are fixed at nine guineas or seven guineas per week, according to the accommodation available.

The Board will consider applications at the reduced fee of five guineas per week from applicants sponsored by Professional or Trade Societies. Sympathetic consideration will also be given to applications from those recommended by Local Authorities, for whom the Local Authorities will pay a maintenance fee amounting to approximately half the full cost of their support.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

1954 £	INCOME			£	£	£
	ORDINARY—					
	I. VOLUNTARY GIFTS—					
	(1) SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS, ETC.—					
11,564	Annual Subscriptions	11,496				
17,221	Donations	12,807				
484	Entertainments (net proceeds)	645				
(29,269)			24,948			
	(2) CENTRAL FUNDS—					
5,470	King Edward's Hospital Fund	5,000				
1,000	City Parochial Foundation	1,000				
1,000	Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund	1,000				
—	Gardner's Trust for the Blind	250				
226	Alexandra Rose Day	233				
	Sunday Cinemas—					
1,500	London County Council	1,750				
189	Surrey County Council	145				
139	Middlesex County Council	132				
132	Other Local Authorities... ..	106				
(9,656)			9,616			34,564
	II. RECEIPTS ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES RENDERED—					
	(1) Contributions by and on behalf of Paying					
7,024	Patients	8,980				
6,388	Other Patients	10,141				
			19,121			
	(2) From London Executive Council (for Prescriptions Dispensed)					
2,309					2,471	
4,711	(3) Staff Board and Lodging, etc.				4,983	
(20,432)						26,575
	III. INVESTED PROPERTY—					
	Interest and Dividends—					
20,319	General Fund			22,752		
1,894	Pension Funds			3,305		
149	Lopes Chaplain's Stipend Endowment Fund			148		
146	Other Amenity and Special Funds			—		
(22,508)						26,205
2,049	IV. GARDEN PRODUCE					1,876
388	V. HOSPITAL SHOP					419
84,302	Ordinary Income					89,639
	EXTRAORDINARY—					
37,425	I. Legacies					47,553
<u>£121,727</u>	Total Income					<u>£137,192</u>

for the Year ended 30th September, 1955.

1954 £	EXPENDITURE			£	£
	ORDINARY—				
19,882	I. PROVISIONS				22,847
2,160	II. SURGERY AND DISPENSARY				2,256
14,441	III. DOMESTIC				16,037
59,562	VI. SALARIES AND WAGES (Maintenance)				65,891
3,682	V. MISCELLANEOUS				3,425
4,842	VI. ADMINISTRATION				5,208
2,078	VII. ESTABLISHMENT				4,135
	VIII. PENSIONS (Patients)—				
	Brodie Sewell Pensions			225	
	Louisa Lucas Pensions			95	
	Other Pensions and Grants			5,672	
6,534					5,992
5,695	IX. FINANCE				4,725
118,876	Ordinary Expenditure				130,516
—	Extraordinary Expenditure				—
2,851	Balance, being excess of total income over total expenditure				6,676
<u>£121,727</u>					<u>£137,192</u>

BALANCE SHEET as

at 30th SEPTEMBER, 1955

		LIABILITIES	
1954 £		£	£
	I. SUNDRY CREDITORS—		
	(1) General Fund	12,223	
	(2) Paying Patients' fees in advance	1,199	
10,877			13,422
	II. GENERAL FUND—		
	Balance at 30th September, 1954	373,547	
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	6,676	
	Net profit on Sale and Exchange of Investments	39,192	
	Gift of Capital by Lady Sims	5,000	
373,547	Balance at 30th September, 1955		424,415
	III. SPECIAL FUNDS (see contra)—		
42,012	Pension Funds	44,970	
3,971	Lopes Chaplain's Stipend Endowment Fund	3,971	
500	Suspense Fund	500	
2,140	Amenities Fund	2,375	
1,383	Patients' Funerals Fund	1,147	
			52,963

NOTES: (1) No credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' Home, Furniture and Effects (except for item V opposite).

(2) The Market Value of the Investments (including those of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance Sheet was £489,220.

(3) During the year the Amenity Funds have been grouped and the General Fund and Amenities Fund adjusted accordingly.

£434,430£490,800

We have examined the above Balance Sheet dated 30th September, 1955, and the and vouchers relating thereto, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We

28th October, 1955.

3, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.1.

at 30th SEPTEMBER, 1955

		ASSETS	
1954 £		£	£
22,160	I. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND		22,736
3,703	II. STOCKS OF UNISSUED CONSUMABLE STORES ON HAND		4,334
979	III. SUNDRY DEBTORS		4,544
354,634	IV. INVESTMENTS (GENERAL FUND) AT COST		403,275
2,948	V. IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS (since 1st October, 1950)		2,948
	VI. SPECIAL FUNDS (see contra)—		
	Pension Funds (including Brodie Sewell and Louisa Lucas Pension Funds)—		
	Investments at Cost	44,970	
	Lopes Chaplain's Stipend Endowment Fund—		
	Investments at Cost	3,971	
	Suspense Fund—		
	Cash on Deposit at Bank	500	
	Amenities Fund—		
	Investments at Cost	2,110	
	Cash in Hand and at Bank	265	
			2,375
	Patients' Funerals Fund—		
	Investment at Cost	1,000	
	Cash in P.O. Savings Bank	147	
			1,147
			52,963
50,006			
<u>£434,430</u>			<u>£490,800</u>

attached Income and Expenditure Account for the year to that date with the books have verified the whole of the investments and bank balances.

(Signed) HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

LEGACIES AND RESIDUARY BEQUESTS RECEIVED DURING
THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1955.

Name.	Year of Will.	Year of Death	£	s.	d.
AUBER, Miss S. A.	1949	1954	129	19	8
BARNES, Miss M. A.	1954	1955	496	6	10
BARNES, Mrs. Ethel	—	1954	100	0	0
BATT, Mrs. Doris	1954	1955	172	8	0
BEAN, Mrs. Grace	1950	1955	100	0	0
BENHAM, Miss Eliza	1954	1954	4,000	0	0
BIGGS, Miss Jane	1953	1954	137	10	0
BILLINGS, Miss E. M. M.	1949	1954	100	0	0
BOWDIDGE, Miss Elizabeth	—	1954	125	0	0
BRALEY-THOMPSON, H. F.	—	1954	100	0	0
BRANDON, Mrs. A. E.	—	1955	2,500	0	0
BURROWS, Mrs. Emily	1939	1940	775	0	0
CHAPLIN, A. E.	1935	1936	290	7	7
CHASSIRON, Baroness de	—	1938	50	0	0
COOPER, Mrs. Evelyn L.	1952	1954	329	3	9
CRIMP, C. R.	1949	1951	1,764	13	1
DAY-LEWIS, Mrs. Margaret K. M.	—	1955	500	0	0
DESMOND, Frank	1950	1953	2,500	0	0
DOWDING, C. N.	1925	1934	1,937	19	3
ELLIOT, Joseph	1922	1924	180	17	6
ELLIS, Miss Hilda	1952	1952	288	5	4
FARQUHARSON, Mrs. G. E.	1949	1949	20	0	0
GITTINGS, Miss Emily	1927	1927	1,867	0	0
GOODWIN, Mrs. Elizabeth A.	1939	1954	1,000	0	0
GRANT, Mrs. C. E.	1895	1899	64	18	9
HAMPTON, G. F.	—	1912	25	7	9
HENSHAW, Mrs. C. L.	1946	1951	912	3	8
HIGMAN, F. H. S.	1950	1952	75	0	0
JACKSON, C. A. C.	1942	1951	319	10	4
KING, J. A.	—	1955	35	0	0
LAYER, Miss E. F.	1917	1922	93	7	2
LAYBORN, Mrs. L. L.	—	1942	70	6	0
MASTERS, Cyrus A.	1945	1954	75	0	0
MAURICE-ADAMS, Miss I. E.	—	1955	100	0	0
MIDDLETON, Miss G. E.	—	1955	223	10	6
MILLWARD, James	—	1955	100	0	0
MONTAGUE, Miss A. S.	—	1954	100	0	0
MOOR, Miss S. M.	1938	1944	353	2	9
MURRELL, Mrs. Jessie	1953	1954	100	0	0
McMINN, F. A.	1947	1952	634	5	5
NEESHAM, Miss F. E. A.	1954	1954	100	0	0
NEWMAN, G. D.	1946	1947	285	3	4
NICHOLSON, Miss Lucy	1935	1937	2,532	3	7
OLDROYD, Miss E. E.	1945	1946	27	10	0
PANNELL, Miss E.	—	1950	4,500	0	0
PARSONS, Mrs. F. H.	1953	1954	100	0	0
PRATT, Mrs. Thirza	1938	1944	48	3	2
SCOLES, Mrs. M. A. B.	1905	1910	248	12	0
SHEPHERD, Sir H. Percy	1943	1946	300	0	0
SHEPHERD, William	—	1919	5,000	0	0
SIMONET, Miss B. M.	1951	1954	1,500	0	0
STONE, Miss M. W.	1951	1953	1,852	19	0
TAYLOR, William	1906	1910	239	10	3
THOMAS, Mrs. Mary	1929	1932	87	4	5
THOMPSON, Miss A. H.	—	1954	5,000	0	0
TRIMNELL, Miss E. C.	—	1955	100	0	0
WENBORN, Miss E. E.	1929	1932	1,600	0	0
WHITLOCK, Mrs. F. L.	—	1954	200	0	0
WILLIAMS, Mrs. E. A.	1933	1937	451	13	5
WILLOUGHBY, William H.	1950	1954	100	0	0
WILSON, Clement R.	1951	1954	100	0	0
WOODS, F. E.	1944	1952	480	5	11
Amounts under £20	—	—	36	10	7
Post-War Credits repaid by Inland Revenue	—	—	41	14	6
			£47,652	13	6

The following new patients have been admitted during the year:—

Name.	Previous residence.
HODGSKIN, Miss Florence M.M.	Bromley, Kent.
GREENFIELD, Mr. Douglas M.	Reading, Berks.
HAMBLING, Miss Evelyn A.	Dorking, Surrey.
HILL, Mr. Leslie N.	London.
MANDER, Mr. Patrick B.	Toddington, Beds.
GREENFIELD, Miss Betsy	London.
GREENFIELD, Miss Rebecca	London.
LARGE, Mr. Arthur	Rochester, Kent.
CHAMBERS, Miss Evelyn M.	London.
NEWSTEAD, Miss Eveline F.	Romford, Essex.
FROST, Miss Mabel A.	Scole, Norfolk.
SELF, Miss Hilda A.	London.
ROBERTS, Harvey E.	Barnet, Herts.
HEALEY, Mrs. Mabel	Ewell, Surrey.
COLLINGS, Mr. Frederick A.	London.
ROBINSON, Mr. Keith E.	Woking, Surrey.
SEABRIDGE, Miss Annie	Torquay, Devon.
COX, Miss Grace E.	London.
HURL, Miss Mary	Banstead, Surrey.
JONES, Miss Florence K.	London.
GILES, Miss Mary E. L.	London.
BOOKER, Mrs. Helen	Headley, Surrey.
BROOKES, Mr. Wilfrid H.	Leatherhead, Surrey.
KENT, Miss Gladys M.	Seaford, Sussex.
BRUCE, Miss Gladys	Windermere, Westmorland.
HARRIS, Mr. Arthur R.	London.
ASTLE, Mr. Cyril C.	Upminster, Essex.
SKEVINGTON, Miss Florence M.	London.
JOYNER, Mrs. Winifred O. M.	Horley, Surrey.
FRUIN, Miss Olive S.	Isleworth, Middlesex.
GREENHAM, Mr. Henry G.	London.
FOSTER, Miss Annie A. E.	London.
DALLMAN, Miss Edith M.	Horley, Surrey.
WILLIAMS, Mr. Walter A.	London.
BELLETTI, Miss Lilian M.	Watford, Herts.
BUCKNELL, Mrs. Doria A.	Cheam, Surrey.
WILLSHER, Mr. Charles J.	London.
PATMAN, Mr. Joseph W.	Wallingford, Berks.
MILLER, Mrs. Jessie	London.
KEEP, Miss Dorothy E.	London.
LACEY, Mr. Reginald B.	Amersham, Bucks.
LONGES, Miss Gertrude M.	Worthing, Sussex.
NANCARROW, Mr. Austin	Kingsand, Devon.
TURNER, Miss Mary W.	London.

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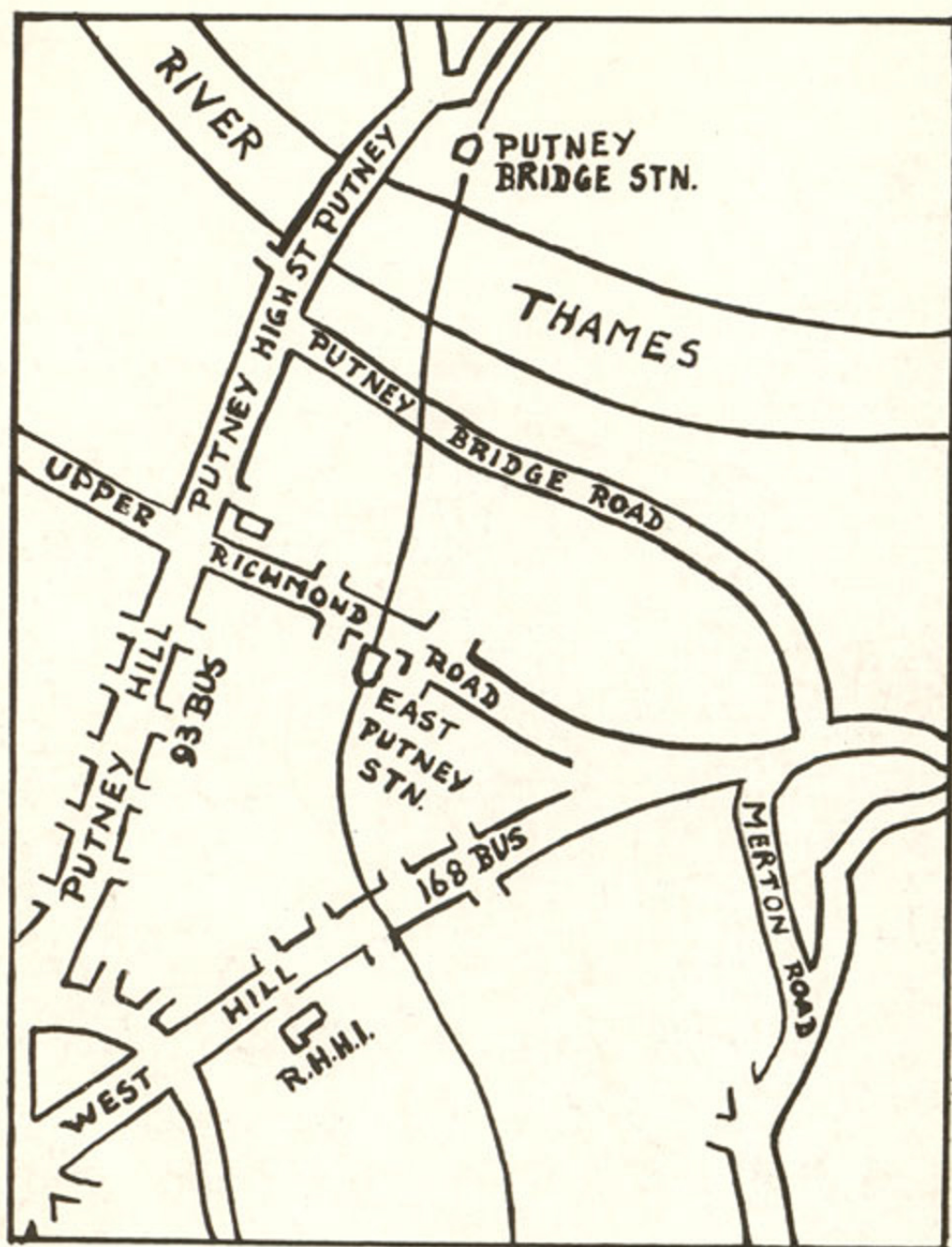
FORM OF BEQUEST

I give to THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR
INCURABLES, PUTNEY, the sum of £ _____, free of
duty, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or
other proper officer for the time being thereof shall be a
sufficient discharge for the same.

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*N.B.—By virtue of the "Mortmain and Charitable Uses
Act, 1891," land may be devised to a Charity, but it is
liable to be sold within one year from the death of the
Testator unless the Court or the Charity Commissioners
authorise its retention.*

(NOTE.—When a Will has been already made, and it is afterwards
desired to benefit the Home, it will be sufficient if the form
on the other side is filled up, detached, duly signed by two
witnesses in like manner as the Will itself, and kept with the
existing Will.)



EASIEST ROUTES TO THE HOSPITAL.

From Putney Bridge Station (District Line) 93 or 85 'bus to the Green Man, thence walk along Putney Heath Lane to West Hill.

By 168 bus from Wandsworth to the top of West Hill.