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ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR NEURO-DISABILITY: Administration: Governance records: Annual reports

Annual report, 1951

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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, 1951

PATRONS.
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI.
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY.

PRESIDENT.
THE RIGHT HON. THE VISCOUNT CLIFDEN, M.V.O.

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Messrs. FARRER & Co., 66, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.

AUDITORS.

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

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THE LADY WEB-JOHNSON.

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FRANCIS M. G. GLYN, Ese, J.P. (Colomel A. T. MAXWELL. J.P. (Coloman).

EGERTON H. E. HENSLEY, EsQ.

SIR GERALD LENANTON.

COLONEL A. T. MAXWELL. NORMAN MORRIS, EsQ.

ALDERMAN DENIS H. TRUSCOTT.

CHARLES HYDE VILLIERS, Esq., M.C.

TERMS OF ADMISSION

Applicants for admission or a pension are elected by the Board of Management in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Charter of Incorporation, and admitted to the benefits of the Charity in order of application. Patients are asked to contribute an agreed sum towards their maintenance according to their means, but no patient is refused admission through inability to contribute.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

Subscriptions and Donations are received by the Secretary, to whom all Orders should be made payable, by the Treasurer and by Messrs. GLYN, MILLS & Co., 67, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

NAMING OF BEDS AND PENSIONS

A bed will be named in perpetuity for the sum of £1,000. A pension of £42 a year for an incurable person will be named in perpetuity for the sum of £1,200, or a pension of £20 a year for the sum of £600.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY

"This Hospital, of which I have been a patron for many years, has always had a place very near to my heart ever since my childhood days when I used to drive over with my mother from Richmond to Putney to visit it. I wish you all success in your efforts on its behalf."

A gracious message from Her Majesty Queen Mary to the Lord Mayor of London.

26th June, 1951.

REPORT

Financial Year ended on the 30th day of September, 1951,

for

Presentation at the Annual General Meeting, 12th December, 1951

THE past year has been financially an anxious one, but at the same time most encouraging. The problem has been to raise our annual income from what might normally be anticipated, some £55,000, to over £100,000 to meet our ever-rising expenditure—a very formidable task, and great efforts have been made to accomplish it. Owing to the generosity of old friends and of very many new ones, we have nearly closed the gap for this year at any rate, income from all sources being £105,128 and expenditure £106,858. But we have estill the future to face and rising costs in every direction mean that we shall have still further to intensify our efforts and appeal to an ever wider circle in the years to come.

We have first to express our loyal thanks to His Majesty the King for his special donation, to Her Majesty Queen Mary for her gracious message to the Lord Mayor on the occasion of the Dinner at the Mansion House and for her gift, and to H.R.H. the Princess Elizabeth for using her right of nomination of certain takings at the Antique Dealers' Fair in favour of the Home. The interest taken by the Royal Family is the greatest encouragement to us all.

Two munificent gifts—a £10,000 capital grant from The Dulverton Trust and £7,500.

Two munificent gifts—a £10,000 capital grant from The Dulverton Trust and £7,500 from the Lord Mayor's Air Raid Distress Fund—went far indeed to dispelling our immediate anxieties, and a special appeal launched in June, culminating in a Dinner at the Mansion House, resulted in a splendid response in gifts both large and small amounting to over £10,000. We have to thank the Lord Mayor, Alderman Sir Denis Lowson, Bt., for placing the Mansion House at our disposal and for presiding at the Dinner.

On this occasion, The Right Hon. The Lord Webb-Johnson, past President of the Royal College of Surgeons, appealed for the Home. Here are some extracts from his speech:—

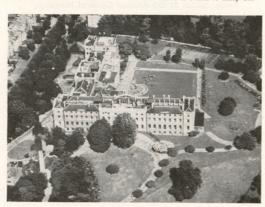
"I know from personal experience how great is the need for such a Home. It has often been almost heartbreaking to have to discharge a patient from a hospital for acute illness, knowing full well that it was impossible for proper care and attention to be given in the patient's own home.

"We must always be ready for new ideas and prepared to make a new approach. Physiotherapy and occupational therapy are used freely at the Home and in close co-operation. Although, unhappily, our patients cannot be cured, many have had a considerable degree of movement restored to them, while for others the progress of their illness has been much retarded. The occupational therapy staff has been increased, but lack of space prevents greater expansion of the departments' activities.

"What is wanted is not only larger individual gifts but, more important still, a large increase of regular subscribers, preferably under seven-year covenants. Until the Board can be sure of sufficient yearly income for general maintenance, further development cannot be considered; but there is urgent need for extension when the time is ripe and there is an immediate need for a building for occupational therapy. This is of paramount importance, for the whole outlook for these patients can be improved by skilfully planned occupational therapy.

"As Lord Clifden has said, 'Let us encourage the spirit of human charity and compassion, for they are vital to those whose sickness calls for special care and whose helplessness needs day-to-day succour.' And as Mr. Linstead wrote, 'We shall be better as individuals and as a nation if we take care not to lose the spirit of giving.'

"The silent and invisible hosts here to-night are pitiful sufferers from completely crippling afflictions. Give them the assurance of permanent security, comfort and care and restore to them the will to live and to carry on."



The Home and Grounds from the Air

Admission of Patients

Admission of Patients

The system of admitting patients by the votes of subscribers, in force since the founding of the Home, was abandoned by an overwhelming vote at a well attended general meeting of subscribers in March. Successful applicants will in future be admitted in order of application and asked to pay what they can reasonably afford; the patient will be spared the expense and trouble of circularising voters and no one will be handicapped in obtaining admission through lack of friends or money, which was the main objection to the former system. It was, of course, realised that this move might lead to a falling off in donations, but it was felt that it was a risk that had to be taken. In fact, the falling off has not been serious and many people have increased their subscriptions to show their appreciation of the change.

The Patients

During the year under review, twenty-one patients were admitted: Miss W. A. Stradling, Miss K. Smith, Miss E. Bassett, Miss K. E. Edwards, Mrs. B. Bourchier, Mrs. J. E. Dearlove. Miss G. N. Woodcock, Mrs. L. Newson, Miss E. Judd, Mrs. E. Bailey, Miss A. Walsh, Miss J. M. Irving, Miss M. E. Booth, Mrs. M. Pinhay, Miss R. M. Kelly, Miss E. Maclear and Mr. A. H. Cobb, Mr. J. T. H. Edwards, Mr. G. Rechead, Mr. G. Dean and Mr. H. J. Nunn. They all suffer from afflictions which render them partially or wholly paralysed. They have come either from their own homes, where they could no longer be cared for, or from hospitals where they were occupying "acute" beds. Most came from the London area, but others from Kent, Sussex, Buckinghamshire and Worcestershire.

This summer a natient. Miss Bushby. celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of her

This summer a patient, Miss Bushby, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of her admission, the second of our patients to do so.

Our oldest patient is ninety-three, our youngest thirty-two.



Part of the Grounds showing the Nurses' Home

as required.

The following charitable and missionary societies received donations from offertories: The Zenana Missionary Society, Dr. Barnardo's Sunshine Home for Blind Babies, the Putney "Over Sixty" Club, St. Dunstan's, the Deptford Mission, the British Empire Relief Association, Missions to Seamen, the Salvation Army, the British and Foreign Bible Society, the British Legion, Miss Smallwood's Society for the Relief of Gentlefolk, the Church Missionary Society and the London Missionary Society.

An added feature during the year has been a Saturday morning Bible Study Hour, which is very well attended.

In conclusion, one might add that the Patients' Choir, formed during the past year, finds great joy in singing part songs, both secular and religious. Three concerts were given, including a Carol Service at Christmas, consisting of part songs, solos and carols. Regular services are held by visiting Nonconformist ministers. A Roman Catholic priest also visits at frequent intervals.

The Staff

Chaplain's Report

The Sultan of Johore watches an Occupational Therapy Class

The Assistant Matron, Miss E. A. Warner, who joined the staff in 1945, resigned on medical grounds. She takes with her our affection and best wishes and our deep regrets for the cause of her retirement. Miss M. Thomas has been appointed to succeed her and we look forward to her long and happy service with the Home.

It is with gratitude that one can report a sustained and added interest in the religious activities of the Hospital during the past twelve months.

In addition to the normal services held in the Assembly Room and Chapel, special services were held on "Remembrance Sunday," Christmas Day, Ash

Mr. James Brown, the Chief Engineer, has also retired on pension after almost unbroken service with the Home since 1906. His familiar figure will be greatly missed, as he has had the friendship of patients and staff for forty-five years. We wish him happiness in the retirement he has so well earned and welcome his successor, Mr. I. K. A. Geddes, who, we are sure, will carry on the traditions of his predecessor.

The serious financial position led the Board to set up a new appeal department in November under the direction of Mrs. Joan East. Her efforts and those of her staff have proved most rewarding, in spite of the short time at her disposal, and we have every confidence that through her our circle of supporters and the knowledge of our work will continue to expand.

These two departments continue their beneficial activity, the importance of which has been stressed by Lord Webb-Johnson in his speech quoted from at the beginning of this report. In spite of financial stringency the Board thought fit to increase the occupational therapy staff, but only really satisfactory progress can be made when money can be obtained to construct and maintain a new building especially designed and equipped for these forms of treatment.

Part of the Physiotherapy Department

Physio and Occupational Therapy

The Library

Although many new books have been presented this year, our need for them is constant, and far more pressing than in an ordinary hospital where the patients stay for a few weeks only. Will readers of this report remember this and send us what they can?

Miss Bourne and her voluntary helpers have carried on the work of the library and the distribution of books to patients with unfailing regularity. They have also compiled a supplementary catalogue which has involved an immense amount of work. The Board acknowledge their great indebtedness to Miss Bourne and her friends.

The average monthly distribution of books was over 600.



The Sultan and Sultanah of Johore chat with a Patient

Sale of Work

The Annual Sale of Work, a large proportion of which is made by the patients themselves, was held on two days in May, and opened by Lady Newnes. The proceeds of the Sale are given to the patients and the receipts this year were no less than £1,500. This is a great tribute to the quality of the goods and to the long preparation and trouble which the ladies of the Sale Committee and the stallholders devoted to its organisation. We owe them our heartfelt thanks.

Events, Functions and Entertainments

The Founder's Day celebrations in memory of Dr. Andrew Reed were held on 5th December. The President addressed the patients and Mrs. Hugh Linstead, wife of the Member of Parliament for Putney, presented the nurses and attendants with prizes for ward work and medals for long service. These proceedings were followed by a concert kindly arranged by Alderman Cyril Black, J.P., M.P., C.C.

On 4th November the Magic Circle gave their annual conjuring display in memory of David Devant, once a patient in the Home.

Cinema shows were again given weekly throughout the winter.

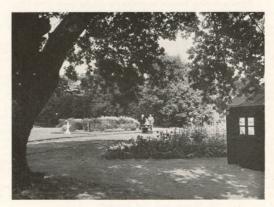
Regular meetings of Toc H, both men's and women's branches, have been held through the year and have been addressed by many visiting Toc H members, among the most interesting of whom was Yeoman Warder G. Gavey, who came in full

The Debating Society, led by Mr. Kearsley, met as usual each week

The annual country drive and tea-party took place in August and was again ranged by Mr. Bennett and his fellow Rotarians from Putney.

Two special tea parties were arranged by the Lady Visitors' Committee.

Two special tea parties were arranged by the Lady Visitors' Committee. Apart from the above, there have been concerts, lectures, plays and entertainments of various kinds, numbering over forty. Our thanks for these are due to Brigadier Stokes-Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., Mr. Hugh Linstead, O.B.E., M.P., Miss Chalmers, Miss Rhoade, Mr. Milburn, Miss Alva Wood, the Voix Celestes Concert Party, the Happy Hours Concert Party, the National and Provincial Bank, Miss Webb-Johnson, the Ravenscourt Orchestra, Mr. Bellinger, the Putney Girl Guides, the Stock Exchange Male Voice Choir, the Gwyn Players, Mr. Sewell, the St. Andrew's Rover Crew, Mrs. Felstead, Queen's County Secondary School Choir, Mr. Lilly, the Thames Valley Revue Club, the London Orpheus Choir, the Cosmic Concert Party, the Berkeley Singers, Mr. Hector Bolitho.



Part of the Grounds

Christmas

Carols were sung on Christmas Eve and a service held on Christmas morning, After Christmas dinner, the staff gave an excellent entertainment produced by the Wardmaster, Mr. Lovering. We thank him and his colleagues for giving up so much spare time for rehearsals and for contributing so much to the happiness of

The Board thank the staff most whole-heartedly for their kind, cheerful and efficient service which they give so ungrudgingly, creating the cheerful atmosphere for which the Home is renowned.

Extracts from Letters

- "I should like to add my deepfelt thanks to my wife's for the kindness, thoughtful and touching attention you and your staff gave to my sister-in-law. I have been more than impressed by the carefree happiness of the patients, although the deformities and impediments are heartbreaking, which shows how much your good work is on the right lines."
- "I came up to see Miss and may I say first and foremost how delighted I was to see her in such happy and comfortable surroundings—her general condition seemed vastly improved and she is very happy. There is a wonderful atmosphere there which reflects great credit on all who are responsible for the running of your vast establishment."
- "It gives me so much joy to hear my son talking of you all and your great kindness. I heard him one evening telling some friends that everyone was even kinder to all the patients when there were no visitors about. I think this is the greatest tribute that could be paid to you and your staff."
- "It is eleven years since I started to receive the pension and it is the biggest gift we have ever received. The fact that it is so sure is a great comfort and support, and we always appreciate the fact that one of the objects is to enable an invalid to remain at home among loved ones and familiar surroundings and yet, through the pension, not to be a burden on others, and your pension does that for me."
- "She had been one of your pensioners for a great number of years and I cannot tell you with what appreciation she spoke of your charity and what it had meant to her. It has been the sole means of saving her from the infirmary, which she so much dreaded."

much dreaded."

"I would like to say how much my wife and I appreciated your kindness to us during our visit and how much we were impressed by the atmosphere of your Hospital generally. You are certainly doing a marvellous job of work and we should feel most happy if our son could find a home with you at Putney."

These extracts illustrate the need that the Home is trying to meet. The plight of one of the many applicants waiting admission further exemplifies the distress that the lack of suitable provision for the chronic sick is causing throughout the land Mr. X, aged fifty, suffers from disseminated sclerosis, is paralysed from the waist downward and is rapidly losing the use of his arms. The daughter is at work but gives her mother all the help she can, but they are both small and even between them they are unable to care for Mr. X properly as they cannot lift him. Mr. X realises the intolerable strain he is putting on his womenfolk and suffers great mental distress. He will soon be quite helpless and Mrs. X's health is breaking under the physical and mental strain.

Please tell people about us, our work and our need for help, and please also remember that everyone is invited to visit us and see over the Home and the grounds.

By Order of the Board of Management,

J. G. PILCHER,

Secretary.

September, 1951 30th ended Year the for EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND INCOME

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BALANCE SHEET as at 30th SEPTEMBER, 1951

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LIABILITIES	£ s. d.	100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	,563 17 3,	3,848 8	25	432,681 17 11 ant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0 0	, 1951 6,727 16 9 2,602 11 9 and Eurod 3,970 15 11	7,717 19 5	Credit has been taken in the Investments for cof the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' Puniture and Effects.	Market Value of the Investments (including the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance as £430,826 9s. 4d.	e is a contingent liability in respect of gifts os if the donor dies within 12 months of the gift.	£468,479	
LIABILITES	£ s. d.	100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	,563 17 3,	3,848 8	25	432,681 17 11 Grant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0 0	, 1951 6,727 16 9 2,602 11 9 and Eurod 3,970 15 11	7,717 19 5	No Credit has been taken in the Investments for value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' e. Furniture and Effects.	The Market Value of the Investments (including e of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance at was £430,826 9s. 4d.	There is a contingent liability in respect of gifts vivos if the donor dies within 12 months of ing the gift.	£468,479	
LIABILITES	£ s. d.	100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	,563 17 3,	3,848 8	25	432,681 17 11 pital Grant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0 0	, 1951 6,727 16 9 2,602 11 9 and Eurod 3,970 15 11	7,717 19 5	(1) No Credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' thome. Furniture and Effects.	(2) The Market Value of the Investments (including those of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance Sheet was £430,826 9s. 4d.	(3) There is a contingent liability in respect of gifts inter vivos if the donor dies within 12 months of making the gift.	£468,479	
LIABILITES	£ s. d.	100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	,563 17 3,	3,848 8	25	432,681 17 11 4 Capital Grant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0	, 1951 6,727 16 9 2,602 11 9 and Eurod 3,970 15 11	7,717 19 5	 No Credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' Home, Furniture and Effects. 	(2) The Market Value of the Investments (including those of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance Sheet was £40,826 93. 4d.	(3) There is a contingent liability in respect of gifts inter vivos if the donor dies within 12 months of making the gift.	£468,479	
FIABILITIES	£ s. d.	100 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	,563 17 3,			Add Capital Grant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0 0	, 1951 6,727 16 9 2,602 11 9 and Eurod 3,970 15 11	7,717 19 5	NOTES: (1) No Credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' Home. Furniture and Effects.	(2) The Market Value of the Investments (including those of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance Sheet was 45430,826 98. 44.	(3) There is a contingent liability in respect of gifts birer vivos if the donor dies within 12 months of making the gift.	£468,479	
FIABILITIES	£ s. d.	3,177 19 6	6	3,848 8	25	432,681 17 11 Add Capital Grant from The Dulverton Trust 10,000 0 0	6,727 16 9	7,717 19 5	Norrs: (1) No Credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital Premises, Land, Nurses' Home. Furniture and Effects.	(2) The Market Value of the Investments (including those of the Special Funds) at the date of this Balance Sheet was £450,826 9s. 4d.	(3) There is a contingent liability in respect of gifts inter vivos if the donor dies within 12 months of making the gift.	£468,479	

We have examined the above Balance Sheet dated 30th September, 1951, and the attuched Income and Expenditure Account for the year to that date with the books and vouchers relating thereto and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have verified the whole of the investments and hank balances.

(Signed) HELMORE, HELMORE & CO., 3, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.I.

Chartered Accountants.

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.

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.)

I, of DECLARE this to be a Codicil which I make this day of 19 to my Will which Will bears date the day of 19 .

(1) I GIVE to the ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY, £ 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.

(2) In all other respects I Confirm my said Will.

In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand the day and year first abovewritten.

SIGNED by the Testator in our presence and attested by us in the presence of him and of each other.

Average number of In-patients during year Average cost per bed occupied ...

Patients' Visitors are welcome any afternoon between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

The Home is not quite a mile from East Putney Railway Station (District Railway). Putney Station (Southern Region) is about a mile distant, where taxis are obtainable. Motor omnibuses (Services Nos. 93 and 85) run from Putney Bridge Station (District Railway) to the top of Putney Hill, which is within five minutes' walk of the Home. No. 74 runs from Hyde Park Corner to the top of Putney Hill and No. 168, from Westminster Bridge via Clapham Junction, passes the gates of the Home.