

NEW HOSPITAL A TRIUMPH IN COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

Million Dollar Institution Has The Latest Improvements In Hospital Design, Equipment

The new Prince County Hospital is a magnificent building, erected on a beautiful location overlooking the town, on land that was given for the purpose by Mr. M. F. Schurman. This 118 bed hospital costing upwards of a million dollars is a credit to the people of the town and county and should serve the needs of these people for a good many years.

Constructed of brick and steel, its dimensions are 207 feet by 44 feet with a wing 52 by 45 feet, and it has four stories.

Some statistics might be of interest to give an idea at a glance of what it contains. There are 73 wash basins, 32 toilets, 12 bathtubs, 9 laundry tubs, 5 medical scrub up sinks, 12 all service sinks, 1 plaster sink and 8 bedpans.

Four hundred and sixty-six thousand bricks went into its construction and it has almost 300 doors and 197 windows.

Each floor of the building is a solid concrete slab so that it would be impossible for fire to spread from one floor to another. The stairways are also fire-proof and fire fighting equipment is installed on every floor. The accommodation consists of private, semi-private and four and five bed wards. In the wards a measure of privacy can be given the patients as they can be screened off by screens running on overhead chromium-plated track.

All landscaping around the building has been completed and with most of the work done on the new recreation area immediately south of the building the setting is almost perfect.

Every Convenience

On entering the main door one goes through a vestibule directly into the main waiting room. On the right hand wall of the waiting

Official Ceremonies At Hospital Opening Today

This is a day that has been looked forward to in Summerside for many years to come. At two o'clock this afternoon the official ceremonies will commence for the laying of the corner stone and the official opening of the new Prince County Hospital.

The ceremony of the laying of the corner stone will be performed by His Honor Lieutenant-Governor T. W. L. Prowse and the hospital will be officially opened by the Provincial Minister of Health, the Hon. A. W. Matheson, who will cut a ribbon thereby permitting entry into the main doors.

Built at a cost of nearly a million dollars, this 108 bed hospital has the most modern facilities available at the present time and the people of the County, not to mention the medical and nursing staff, are eagerly looking forward to its opening.

It is expected that the transfer from the present hospital of patients will commence tomorrow and that any new patients after today will be admitted to the new hospital.

Only two members of the Board of Trustees set up in 1910, to launch the first Prince County Hospital, are alive. Mr. M. F. Schurman and Judge A. E. Arsenault. Mr. Schurman will be present today to play an important part in the functions. As president of M. F. Schurman Co. Ltd., general contractors for the building, he will officially turn over the completed structure to the President of the Board of Trustees, Mr. J. F. Arnett.

Two members of the first medical staff will also be present today. They are Dr. John F. McNeill and Dr. E. T. Tanton. Mr. J. Henry Gaudet was chairman of the Building Committee during

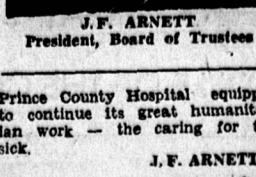
Vision, Courage, Faith

The official opening of the new Prince County Hospital, at a cost of upwards of a million dollars, marks the outcome of the vision, planning, courage and faith of the Board of Trustees and the Medical Staff in their determination to keep pace with the enormous advances of medical science during the last decade.

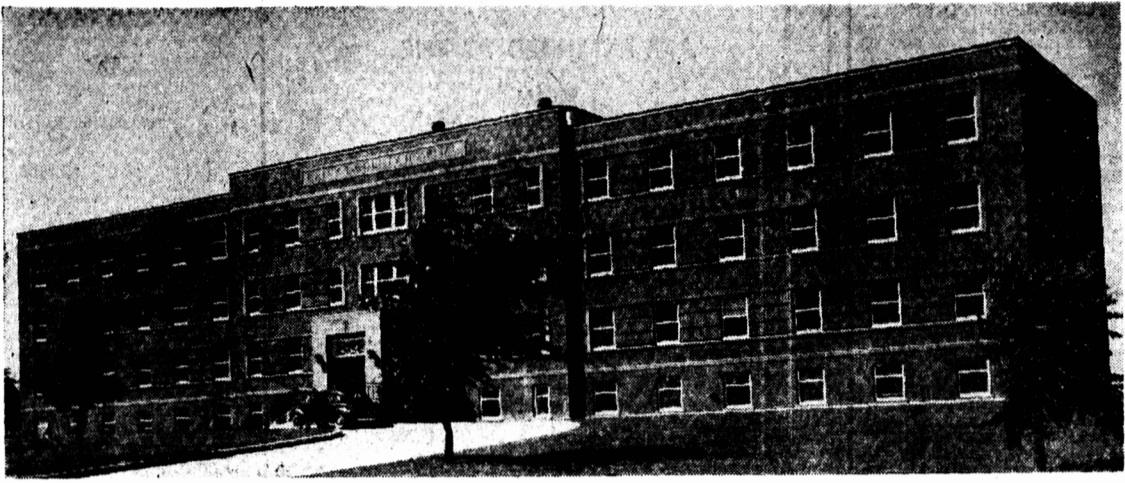
The Board has realized for some time the inadequate accommodations provided by the old hospital for the care and treatment of those seeking admission. Each department of the new Prince County Hospital meets the rigid requirements of present day hospital construction with the aim of giving the patients the latest and best care and treatment possible, because it is realized that the health of the people is of the greatest importance to any community.

I am confident that with the continued support of the people of Prince County this fine, new, health-restoring centre will be assured of success in the carrying on of the important service of relieving pain and suffering.

Wish to express the keen appreciation of the Board of Management, to all who have played a part in making possible this new



Prince County Hospital



wing is the surgical department, issuing window, bulk storage room and general storage room. In the wing is the linen room and a laundry which is not equipped at present except for set tubs and drying room.

Scientific Heat Control

In the extreme end of the wing is the boiler room with two 125 h.p. oil burning steam boilers. The fuel used is bunker oil which is a



Board of Trustees: Seated, left to right: Mrs. W. P. Callaghan, Mrs. Heath Strong, Pres. Ladies Aid, Miss Helen Schurman, R. N., Superintendent, Judge L. G. Lewis, 3rd vice president, J. F. Arnett, president, J. E. Dalton, 1st. vice president, Donald Baker, 2nd. vice president, D. H. Gallant, George MacQuarrie, secretary.

Standing, left to right: J. P. McInnis, R. S. Hinton, Dr. E. T. Tanton, M. M. Bell, P. L. Morris, E. S. Burleigh, Austin Scales, J. H. Gaudet, George Hogg, George Wilkinson, Lloyd Gorrill, Lloyd Lockerby.

Cut off on left: James MacGregor.

(this applies to the delivery rooms in the maternity department as well) have a covering known as static proof plastic flooring. This floor has the effect of making sure that every person in the room is electrically grounded which eliminates the possibility of a spark causing an explosion of the combustible gases which are used there. There is a small instrument on the wall in each operating room which when touched will indicate how well a person is grounded or in other words that they have electrical contact with the floor. For instance rubber soled shoes would not be permitted on any person who would be present during an operation. In the corridor are three sinks for doctors to scrub hands. Also in this section is an instrument storage room, a doctors' clean-up room and a doctors' lounge with lockers, showers and lavatory.

Maternity Department

The third floor is the maternity department. The two delivery rooms in the wing are right over the operating rooms and they have a sterilizing room between the two. There is also a doctors' room, a nurses' clean-up room, a labor room and a small isolation nursery where the incubator will be kept. The nursery, which has 24 cubicles, is off the main corridor and can be seen through large windows. One window has been set aside for showing new babies to proud fathers. These windows are of double plate glass, one pane of which is wired glass so it would not crack in the event of a flash fire. Each cubicle is complete and contains a crib with airfoam mattress, drawers for medical supplies, diapers etc.

The housekeeping and maintenance departments of the hospital are on the ground floor. The kitchen is at the west end of the building and has a marvellous array of mechanical and electrical equipment. There are two electric ranges, an electric broiler, a two deck electric bake oven, a steam table, a Hobart mixer, electric toaster and five walk-in refrigerators. There is a meat preparation room where the meats are prepared for the day's meals and the meat storage refrigerator opens off this room. There are also three steam pots for cooking potatoes, vegetables or soup. A large canopy covers the cooking system with an electric fan to draw off vapors and warm air.

Adjacent to the kitchen is a diet kitchen and dishwashing room. On this floor there is also the nurses' dining room, a doctor's dining room, a dining room for the housekeeping staff, also a locker room for nurses. The ambulance entrance opens from the rear on this floor and there is an emergency room for ambulance patients.

Other rooms on this floor are: the morgue, male help's locker room, sewing room, anesthetic room with fire proof vault and



Medical Staff — taken on the steps of the new hospital.

Front row, left to right: Dr. W. P. McBride, Dr. Henry Moyle, Dr. John F. McNeill, Dr. J. A. McPhee.

2nd row, left to right: Dr. Austin Delaney, Dr. A. R. Grant, Dr. E. T. Tanton, Dr. S. Bandler, Dr. J. C. Simpson, Dr. Gilbert Gallant.

Back row, left to right: Dr. L. K. Zielinski, Dr. Raymond Reid, Dr. B. Howatt, Dr. Auld, Dr. John Downing, Dr. K. Bear.

Missing when the picture was taken: Dr. W. B. Howatt and Dr. Wilfred Callaghan.

Achievement Reflects The Expanding Requirements Of Prince County Capital

The story of the expansion of the Prince County Hospital from its founding in 1910 to the official opening of an entirely new hospital in 1951 is really the story of the growth and expansion of Summerside. Because, as the community grew and greater services were needed for the care of the sick, the Prince County Hospital grew also.

While organized in 1910 the official opening of the hospital did not take place until September 12, 1912, by the then Governor-General of Canada, the Duke of Connaught. Stimulus was given to the movement for a hospital to be located in Summerside when the late Thomas E. Ramsay donated the Russ Hotel property on Central Street to the newly organized Board of Trustees in the hope that it might be used, with some alterations, as a hospital. However, the building was found to be inadequate and a new one was built on this property.

Actually it is probable that the Russ Hotel property is now the lawn of the old hospital because another lot to the rear was donated by Miss Amy Ann Green and the town closed a portion of St. Stephen Street and allowed its property to be included in the hospital property. This building when opened held 20 patients.

However, almost immediately it must have been seen that the accommodations were insufficient because in 1915 a wing was added which was used as a Maternity Department, and the capacity of the building increased to 28 beds.

Later Improvements

In 1921 the building was enlarged and completely renovated when it took on the shape and size of its present constitution of 43 patients and 21 nurses. Another big advance was made in 1928 when the Frank Johnson property across from the hospital on Market Street was purchased as a nurses' home and this permitted the expansion of the hospital to the third floor which had been used for housing the student nurses.

This was the last big change until about five or six years ago, mainly as the result of agitation on the part of the medical staff, plans were made to erect a new hospital. The question of a site was settled when a most suitable property was donated by Mr. M. F. Schurman. After one false start the basement was excavated and remained that way for a year, a contract for the construction of the building was given to M. F. Schurman Co. Ltd. and the work progressed rapidly until today the goal has been reached where the magnificent new building will be officially opened and the corner stone laid.

One more problem will remain to be faced and that is the provision of a nurses' home in the vicinity of the hospital. It is understood and the purchase of several properties is under consideration by the hospital board.

Nurses' Training

The Prince County Hospital School of Nursing commenced with the opening of the hospital in 1912 and has been an integral part of that institution ever since. The Superintendent of Nurses is also in charge of the Nursing School. The school offers a well planned supervised course of instruction in nursing, and every opportunity is given in an environment where the highest professional ideals are recognized and valued. Requirements for entrance are the same as for all Schools of Nursing in the province.

Adequate teaching facilities will be provided in the new hospital (at such a time as a nurses' home is provided). This year a projector has been purchased for the use of student nurses and medical staff. This is a very valuable asset to the teaching department. A well qualified instructor in the person of Miss Margaret Doyle is in charge of the Training Department.

The raising of money for new

Government Grants

A matter of finance that cleared the way for the construction for

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First Matron Of P. C. Hospital Was Miss Grace Beattie

There are only two surviving members of the first trustee board of the Prince County Hospital, Hon. A. E. Arsenault, retired justice of the Supreme Court and Mr. M. F. Schurman. Of the first Medical Board of the Hospital, two are very much alive today, Doctor John P. MacNeill and Doctor E. T. Tanton, both of Summerside.

The first matron of the hospital was the late Miss Grace B. Beattie who passed away on April 19th last, closing at 91 years of age a long life of useful and devoted service to others. She was a sister of Mrs. M. F. Schurman, Summerside.

A short outline of the life of Miss Beattie may be of interest at this time.

Her parents were Thomas and Margaret Hewitt Beattie of Summerside, her mother being a native of Trion.

At 21 Miss Beattie decided to enter the profession of nursing and went to the United States for that purpose where she spent the greater part of her life. She began her training in MacLean Hospital, Waverley, Mass., and after completing her studies there she was taken on the staff of that important institution and continued the staff up to the end of her life. On leaving MacLean Hospital she took a post-graduate course in surgery at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. After that she went to Quincy, Mass., where in 1893 she became assistant matron of the hospital in that city. After some years there she proceeded to Brockton, Mass. where she accepted charge of the newly established hospital serving as its head for sixteen and a half years. During

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Sincere Thanks To All

"The opening of the new Prince County Hospital is a very important occasion in the life of the town of Summerside. For the past number of years it has been common knowledge that the facilities offered at the present hospital were inadequate and out-moded. Many of us have looked forward eagerly to the day when our people would be provided with hospital accommodation that would equal the other modern facilities available in this progressive town. There is no doubt but that the medical and nursing staffs of our hospital with the increased and improved facilities at their disposal, will be able to do even better work than they have done in the past in the care of the sick and injured. All who have been connected in any way with the construction of this new building deserve the sincere thanks of all our citizens.

The building, thanks to the generosity of Mr. M. F. Schurman, is situated in a magnificent location in the upper part of the town. With the new recreation area which has just been completed by the town immediately below and the small park immediately in front of the hospital this area of



our town is one to be proud of. I wish to offer my best wishes for the greatest success for this new hospital in the years ahead.

MAYOR HENRY WEDGE