

Nottingham No.2 Hospital Management Committee Annual Report *(1949 – 1950)*

City Hospital

Considerable progress has been made at this Hospital in the implementation of plans and schemes of alteration and adaptation. In the first annual report mention was made of the proposals to set up a Geriatric Unit and a new Physiotherapy Department. An indication was also given to the effect that additional heating facilities were required for the Children's Wards, and that a New Theatre Unit, plans for which have been drawn up prior to the 5th July 1948, was urgently required. The Committee is pleased to be able to report that the Geriatric Unit is now working and is proving eminently satisfactory. The new Physiotherapy Department has been completed and the new heating facilities for the Children's Wards put into operation.

The heating facilities for the Children's Wards were completed in conjunction with a re-organisation of the main Boiler House. The Hospital has now an efficient steam service, which will be able to cope with any demands likely to be made upon it.

The Ministry of Health have approved the construction of the new Twin Theatre Unit and it is to be hoped that work will commence upon this project in the very near future

A matter which has caused concern to the Committee is the accommodation provided for the Maternity Department. This unit of 120 beds is in urgent need of extension and re-organisation and has become unsuitable for the tremendous volume it has to handle. It is with gratification that the Committee are able to state that the Regional Hospital Board have approved in principle the extension and modernisation of this department, and it is confidently hoped that the work on this unit will commence within the next two or three months.

The Radiological section of the Hospital requires enlarging to meet adequately the requirements of the various departments and especially the demands of the Out-patients' Department. Financial considerations at the present time will not permit the construction of a new department. However, a new Diagnostic X-ray unit has been allocated to the Hospital and will be installed as soon as the necessary minor building alterations have been completed. This new machine will do much to increase the capacity of this Department.

Food, and the way, in which it is cooked and served to the patients, is an item of major importance in a Hospital of whatever size. In a large general hospital and training school such as the City Hospital it is necessary that the arrangements for the cooking, transporting and serving of Food, should be under careful observation all the time. The Committee have engaged the services of a Consultant in Kitchen planning and organisation with the object of modernising the layout and equipment of the main Hospital Kitchen. This process with the object of spreading the cost will be based on a plan covering approximately three years.

In the interests of patients and staff a Hospital shop has been opened at which tobacco, sweets, stationery and personal requisites can be obtained. In addition, through the good offices of the Women's Voluntary Services, a mobile shop is taken to the wards so those patients confined to their beds may also enjoy the facilities offered.

Statistical tables for the period 1st April 1949 to 31st March 1950

In-Patients (excluding babies born in hospital)

Total number of beds available at 31 st March 1950	748
Average number of beds available during period 1 st April 1949 to 31 st March 1950	802
Average number of patients resident daily through out the period	627
Number of patients in hospital at 1 st April 1949	683
Number of patients admitted during period	8,825
Number of patients discharged during period	8,161
Total number of deaths during period	694
Average number of days each patient was in resident	25.86
Total number of In-patient days during period	228,991
Total number of operations performed during period	3,759

Maternity Department

Number of births	1,684
Number of Infant deaths	36
Number of still-births	51

Consultative Out Patient Clinics

Month	Number of new Out-Patient	Total Out-Patient Attendance
April	466	1,971
May	392	1,670
June	362	1,623
July	490	2,143
August	367	1,667
September	534	2,067
October	445	1,892
November	479	2,126
December	347	1,799
January	534	2,073
February	459	2,088
March	515	2,304
Total	5,390	23,423

The City Hospital Nottingham

Out-Patients

X-ray Department	
Number of investigations	9,813
Physiotherapy Department	
Number of treatments	46,349
Dental Department	
Number of treatments	355
Pathological Laboratory	
Number of specimens entered in Register	29,798
Blood transfusion Department	
Number of Donor Sessions held at the City Hospital	39
Number of Donors attended	1,617
Chiropody	
Number of patients treated	635
Number of treatments	735

CITY HOSPITAL SOUTH

This Hospital provides accommodation for long-term illness, and Welfare Service cases. The long-term illness cases being the responsibility of the Management Committee, the Welfare Service cases the responsibility of the Local Authority. In addition to the above, certain portions of the premises are set aside for the accommodation of 'wayfarers' or persons without a settled way of living.

The Committee have been, and continue to be, faced with two difficulties in connection with this hospital. The first is in respect of the Welfare service cases or those people requiring care and attention, but not Hospital care and attention. By agreement under the National Health Act the Local Authority have the right to continue to use the portion of the premises devoted to these cases until such time as they are able to secure suitable accommodation for them. The Welfare Service cases are not hospital cases, and the accommodation they are using could be used for long-term illness, the accommodation for which is lamentably short. The result of this is that the beds at the City Hospital available for the acute sick which tend to become blocked by long-term illness cases, which should be transferred to other accommodation. The Local Authority is doing all in its power to acquire suitable hostel accommodation for the Welfare Service cases and the Committee appreciate their efforts in this direction and understand how difficult the present restrictions on building make the task of providing for these people.

There is a further sub-group of cases in the Hospital which may be termed the 'elderly frail'. These are borderline cases that require medical care and attention but not to the extent of occupying a hospital bed, and again they would not be suitable for accommodation in the ordinary hostel which would be used for Welfare Service cases. The problem of these particular people is one, which is giving the Management Committee. Much thought, and conversations have taken place with the National Corporation for the Care of Old People, with the object of investigating the possibility of providing a special accommodation for these people in which they could receive the required care and attention from both the social and medical aspects.

The second problem with which the Committee is confronted, is that the presence, with in the cartilage of the Hospital buildings, of the wayfarers or persons without a settled way of living. This is undoubtedly having a detrimental effect upon the general atmosphere of the Hospital and is thought, also to have an adverse effect upon the recruitment of the nursing staff. However, the Committee are pleased to report that, with the co-operation of the Local Authority and the National Assistance Board, arrangements are being made to segregate the wayfarers from the Hospital Grounds by providing a separate entrances and exits to the portion of the buildings which they occupy.

The 'City Hospital South' was never designed for the purpose of nursing the sick and was, in fact, originally a Poor Law Institution. The fact that it is now dealing with a considerable number of cases of long term illness has necessitated much thought being given to ways and means of adapting the wards.

A most interesting and satisfactory experiment has been conducted on one of the wards, which has been completely replastered and redecorated, new lighting being provided together with general fittings, with a result that it has a very pleasing appearance and is now being used by up-patients. This work of geriatric treatment is proving most satisfactory in its rehabilitation of the chronic sick, and many patients who have been bedridden and unable to look after themselves for a number of years have recovered many of their faculties and are able to enjoy normal life once again.

The experiment of replastering and redecorating this particular ward has been so successful that the process will be carried out in the other wards, the cost being spread over a number of years in accordance with the funds made available by the Ministry.

City Hospital South
Statistical tables for the period 1st April 1949 to 31st March 1950

In Patients

Total number of beds available at 31 st March 1950.	372
Average number of beds available during period 1 st April 1949 to 31 st March 1950	364
Average number of patients resident daily throughout the period	354
Number of patients in hospital at 1 st April 1949	368
Number of patients admitted during period	449
Number of patients discharged during period	458
Total number of deaths during period	239
Average number of days each patient was resident	282
Total number of In-Patient days during period	129,155
