

WINGHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL.

A new General Hospital was opened in Wingham the first of February last. For some time the need of such an institution has been apparent in the town and adjoining country. Wingham's rapid growth as a manufacturing centre, its distance from any similar institution, its excellent railroad facilities, and its prosperous surrounding country, made it desirable that some suitable provision should be made for the care of the sick and afflicted. With this object in view a number of prominent citizens took up the matter, and there was found to be a very general public sympathy with the movement to establish a public hospital. A list was circulated, and very soon some \$8,000 was subscribed. The undertaking was liberally assisted by many Wingham "old boys," and a large number of wholesale houses doing business with retail merchants in the town, and also by the County of Huron and the Wingham Town Council. A commodious private residence, a three-storey brick building, containing some twenty-two rooms was secured. It is an ideal spot for a small hospital, being situated on the highest point in the town and in one of the most quiet and secluded spots, surrounded by a spacious lawn and beautiful shade trees. Dr. R. W. Bruce Smith kindly looked over the building and made many valuable suggestions in regard to changes required and the remodelling of the interior to make it suitable for hospital purposes. An energetic Hospital Board was appointed, who took the matter in hand, making such alterations and improvements as were necessary to afford accommodation for public, private and semi-private patients. The interior of the building was completely overhauled. A splendid system of hot water heating was installed by Philip Gies, of Berlin, which has proven eminently satisfactory; the plumbing by the Jas. S. Robertson Co., of Toronto.

The hospital has been beautifully furnished, nearly all the furnishings being given by private individuals. Messrs. Walker & Clegg furnished the reception room handsomely with beautiful leather-covered mission furniture of their own manufacture. Mr. Thos. Bell, President of the Board, Mr. John Leslie, of Winnipeg, Mr. Wm. Britton, of Orangeville, Mr. Jos. Walker, of town, each furnished private rooms. The Canada Furniture Manufacturers furnished the dining room complete. The proceeds of Rev. Father Tobin's lecture furnished the Loretta Ward, a surgical ward for women.