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1917

Souvenir of
Silver Jubilee of

St. Michael's Hospital
Toronto

1892-1917

?

St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto





ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL



1892-1917

"Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit"

September 29th, 1917



A Retrospect

"Fond Memory lured in Fancy's train
Lives o'er in thought the Past again."

TWENTY-FIVE years of noble work in a noble institution is indeed something worthy of a Jubilee! And as we stand to-day at this first mile-stone on the pathway of Life, we involuntarily turn and look back afar down the long vista of years, redolent with the heart's most sacred memories. Nor are we left to the mercy of varying fancy in our survey of the past. The thoughtful hands of those who stood at the cradle of our institution and watched over its tender years, have written for us the record of the growth and development of St. Michael's Hospital—a simple story of a small beginning made great by charity, labour and prayer. It is our pleasure, then, to-day, as the silvery bells are pealing out in exultant jubilee, to blend with their sweet music the soft, harmonious notes that speak of the gradual growth of this charitable institution during the past twenty-five years.

The magnificent structure on Bond street, To-

ronto, known to-day as St. Michael's Hospital, presented a very different appearance to the passer-by a quarter of a century ago. In 1876 the central portion of the present building was a Baptist Church. It was bought by Archbishop Lynch for Catholic Sunday School purposes. Here the Catholic children of the city met on Sunday for instruction in Christian Doctrine; but with the growth of individual parishes, this scheme of common instruction was deemed no longer advisable, so the building was utilized as a reading room by the members of the Young Men's Catholic Literary Society, which flourished for some years under the direction of the Very Rev. Dean Harris, at that time Rector of St. Michael's Cathedral. Meanwhile the Sisters of St. Joseph, who were conducting a Boarding House in the vicinity of the market, for the accommodation of young women, finding their quarters unsuitable, purchased the above-mentioned building on Bond street and here

they continued their charitable work in the institution known as the Notre Dame Boarding House. At that time there was no hospital in Toronto under Catholic management, and the urgent requests of many Catholics, chief of whom was Archbishop Walsh, and of the citizen body at large, of whom Doctor N. Allen, then Medical Officer of Health, was most solicitous, induced the late much-esteemed M. M. de Pazzi, Reverend Mother of the Community, to abandon the lesser for the greater good and to undertake the much-needed work. In July, 1892, then, the name of the institution changed with its work, and Notre Dame des Anges was henceforth to be known as St. Michael's Hospital, of which the late revered M. M. de Chantal was first Superior.

Almost immediately after opening the Hospital, it was filled with patients and its wise directors saw that unless this flower of charity were to be blighted in the bud, further provision must be made for the ever-increasing number of applicants. In 1894 an addition of two wards was built, making room in all for fifty patients; but, to the consternation of all concerned, the very first night the wards were opened, their capacity was taxed to the utmost, while many had to be refused admittance. Evidently

the kindly administration of the Sisters was being universally appreciated, since Protestants as well as Catholics sought alleviation here from bodily ills.

Before the close of the year 1894, the demands made upon the Hospital for further accommodation of the poor and suffering made the question of an additional building imperative. Divine Providence, ever ready to lend assistance to those in need, presented a ready solution on this difficult problem in the unbounded generosity and charity of the late Mr. Hugh Ryan, whose kindly benevolence and large-heartedness have surely been recorded in letters of gold in the Book of Life. St. Michael's Hospital gratefully remembers a goodly number of men, both of the clergy and laity, as its most kind benefactors; but surely none will take it amiss if stress be laid upon the almost prodigal benefactions of the above-mentioned gentleman. We are told that money is power, but it is a power for good, only when in the hands of the good and wise, and none can doubt that it was truly as a power of good that the late Mr. Hugh Ryan dispensed the wealth amassed by honest toil. To-day the Hugh Ryan surgical wing of St. Michael's Hospital stands as a lasting memorial to his name and not a patient has found relief within its

walls whose grateful benedictions do not rest upon his departed soul.

This new addition was made in November, 1895, thus affording accommodation for one hundred and fifty patients in all, while in the same year, owing to the kindness of Mrs. Hugh Ryan, a home for nurses was opened on Victoria street. During the ensuing seventeen years, even these extended buildings became too small for the patients who daily made application for admittance, so that in 1911 a large medical wing was commenced to the north of the central building. This wing was completed in March, 1912, and with its completion we have the imposing structure as it stands to-day. A grant of \$50,000 from the City of Toronto greatly assisted the Sisters to defray the expenses of this costly addition.

Thus has St. Michael's Hospital sprung from lowly beginnings. But it would be wrong to suppose that so great a work sailed calmly on an untroubled sea. Like all great enterprises, it has had its days of struggle and its hours of bitter opposition, but it has risen superior to all these antagonistic forces, and like the Divine Master, whose glory is its only aim, it has shown the world that underneath the

human form there is a force of work, wholly divine. "They are not wise or brave who are not able to draw greater profit from insult than from praise." And as courage is contagious, each succeeding staff has learned from those who went before, to dare to do great things "for God and the Right."

Our sketch, however, would be far from complete were we to omit mention of those praiseworthy gentlemen of both the Medical Staff and the Advisory Board, whose invaluable assistance and prudent counsels have done so much to make St. Michael's Hospital the worthy institute it is to-day. Acknowledgment and praise of services rendered is due to each and every Doctor attending the Hospital and did space permit, we would gladly make personal mention of each one's self-sacrifice and devotion to duty. But since this is impossible, we feel it but just that we should at least speak of the skilled efficiency and invaluable services of Dr. R. J. Dwyer, who, for the first few years at least, enjoyed the undisputed right of being entitled "Medical House Staff." Through his instrumentality the Hospital was connected with the Medical Department of Toronto University, since which time doctors have been appointed by the University to conduct clinics for

students in training. The high esteem in which Dr. Dwyer is held by all and particularly by the men of his profession, is an indisputable proof that "his is a noble mind, which harbors not desire of praise, but of abiding power for good." Of the Hospital Advisors during the past twenty-five years our word of gratitude and commendation are most sincere. Memory recalls quite vividly the first Advisory Board formed shortly after opening the surgical wing. The members were His Grace, Archbishop Walsh, President; Hugh Ryan, 1st Vice President; Sir Frank Smith, 2nd Vice President; Committee—His Worship Mayor R. J. Fleming, Thomas Long, Matthew O'Connor, W. T. Murray and Hugh T. Kelly, Secretary, now the Hon. Justice Kelly, whose valuable services have continued during the past twenty-five years. The time-honoured connection of the late Matthew O'Connor with the Hospital ended only with his death.

St. Michael's Training School for Nurses has long enjoyed a Dominion-wide reputation for high excellence and merit. The conscientious work done by the Nurses, no less than the sympathetic and courteous manner in which they attend their patients, has evoked unbounded praise and commendation.

The nurses in training number at present one hundred and twenty and the graduating class is increasing in number each year. St. Michael's Hospital has done its part, too, in sending a quota of graduates overseas. One of these nurses has been awarded public honourable distinction for valiant services rendered, while we doubt not that the courageous deeds of her sister-nurses, if not publicly noted, have at least been registered in Heaven. Of our Medical House Staff on active service, Doctors Horkins and MeVicar have given their lives while ministering to the wounded and dying. St. Michael's Hospital is proud of these brave young men and gladly pays this public tribute to their memory. The God-fearing valiancy and noble character of these two young doctors make us feel that could we but divine the language of their spirits, they would testify with the poet, "Dulee est pro patria mori."

This, then, is a brief sketch of the growth and development of St. Michael's Hospital during the past quarter of a century, into what to-day is recognized as one of the best-equipped and well-managed hospitals of the Dominion. The present building affords accommodation for more than three hundred patients. The public and semi-private wards are

bright and airy, while the private rooms, many of which have been furnished by the munificence of the kind benefactors, provide comfort and even luxury for the most fastidious patients. To give statistics is the aim of the annual report; but it will not be out of keeping to mention here for the information of those interested, that during the past year, 1916-17, the Hospital admitted 4,323 in-patients and 18,809 out-

patients, while the total expenses for the year amounted to \$162,213.51. The present Governors are His Grace the Archbishop, Rev. M. Cline, Rev. P. J. Bench, Mr. M. J. Haney, Controller O'Neill, Mr. J. J. Seitz, Mr. Barry Hayes, Mr. A. W. Anglin, Mr. F. J. Hughes; and the present Medical Advisors: Dr. R. J. Dwyer, Dr. E. E. King, Dr. Guinane, Dr. Frawley and Dr. Loudon. The Hospital Staff are:

UNIVERSITY TEACHING STAFF

Department of Medicine:—

Physician in Charge DR. R. J. DWYER

Assistant Physicians	}	DR. W. J. McCALLUM
		DR. A. J. McKENZIE
		DR. J. H. ELLIOTT
		DR. R. W. MANN
		DR. J. H. McPHEDRAN
		DR. B. O'REILLY
		DR. J. D. LOUDON

Registrar DR. C. SHEARD, JR.

Department of Surgery:—

Surgeon in Charge..... DR. W. McKEOWN

Assistant Surgeons	}	DR. G. SILVERTHORN
		DR. J. F. UREN
		DR. W. SCOTT
		DR. G. E. WILSON
		DR. M. H. V. CAMERON
		DR. J. W. HAYES

Registrar DR. V. McDONOUGH

Department of Obstetrics.....	}	DR. M. M. CRAWFORD
		DR. D. A. FRAWLEY

Department Eye DR. G. H. BURNHAM

Clinical Laboratory DR. D. H. BODDINGTON

NON-TEACHING STAFF

Department of Medicine.....	DR. J. GUINANE DR. C. MCKENNA DR. T. F. McMAHON DR. A. J. JOHNSON DR. J. M. McCORMICK DR. W. P. O'BRIEN DR. J. E. ELLIOTT DR. F. GODFREY DR. P. BROWN DR. P. W. ST. CHARLES DR. G. W. GRAHAM DR. G. A. O'LEARY DR. F. C. HARRISON DR. T. J. GLOVER DR. L. KILLORAN DR. C. SHEARD DR. J. J. HURLEY DR. H. TOVELL
Registrar	DR. C. SHEARD, JR.
Department of Surgery	DR. E. E. KING DR. R. B. NEVITT DR. N. ALLEN DR. E. KELLY DR. S. BUCK DR. A. MAVETY DR. C. RILEY
Registrar	DR. V. McDONOUGH

Obstetrics:—

Physicians	DR. M. M. CRAWFORD DR. N. D. FRAWLEY
Assistant Physicians	DR. W. J. O'HARA DR. J. W. AIKENHEAD

Gynaecology:—

Physician	DR. N. D. FRAWLEY
Assistant Physicians	DR. J. J. HEALEY DR. H. HEFFERING
Registrar	DR. H. HEFFERING

Eye Department:—

Surgeon	DR. G. H. BURNHAM
Assistant Surgeons	DR. H. A. McCULLOUGH DR. N. JONES ... DR. L. SEBERT

NON-TEACHING STAFF.—(Continued.)

Ear, Nose and Throat Department:—

Surgeons	{	DR. J. McKENNA
		DR. J. X. ROBERT
		DR. M. J. HAFEEY
		DR. H. NICHOLSON
		DR. E. R. WELLS
Registrar		DR. M. J. HAFEEY

Department of Pathology:—

Physician		DR. J. AMYOT
Assistant Physicians	{	DR. R. W. MANN
		DR. T. J. GLOVER

Department of Tuberculosis:—

Physician		DR. J. H. ELLIOTT
Assistant Physicians	{	DR. D. H. BODDINGTON
		DR. T. J. GLOVER
		DR. C. SHEARD, JR.

Department of Anaesthetics:—

Physician		DR. L. KILLORAN
Assistant Physicians	{	DR. J. HURLEY
		DR. E. BOND
Electrical Department		DR. J. D. LOUDON
Department of Dermatology..		DR. F. C. HARRISON
Dental Department		DR. A. J. McDONOUGH

Consultants:—

Surgery		DR. H. W. AIKENS
Obstetrics.....		DR. A. WRIGHT
Neurology		DR. C. MEYERS

The enormous annual expenditure of the Hospital will not permit of several further improvements, which are very badly needed. For many years past the Chapel has proved far too small to afford even standing room for the number of inmates who desire to hear Mass there on Sunday or week-days. The operating rooms are no longer sufficiently large or numerous to meet the requirements of the ever-increasing number of surgical cases. Enlargement of the Out-Door Department is another pressing necessity, while the problem of properly housing our nurses is most alarming and demands immediate so-

lution. It is owing to the generosity of kind benefactors that so much has been accomplished in the past and we trust that in the near future other kind friends will find themselves in a position to aid us in furthering the good work, which since its beginning has clearly shown the stamp of the Finger of God upon it.

It is with most grateful appreciation of the numerous kindnesses received from our benefactors during the past twenty-five years, that we offer them this little souvenir of the Silver Jubilee of St. Michael's Hospital. May Almighty God still continue to direct its work and

“May Heaven's blessings never fail
But waft it to the mystic day
When gold shall tinge its silver sail
And diamonds flood with sparkling ray;
Till silver, gold and diamond blend
In Jubilees that never end.”

