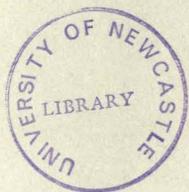


The new cups with the hospital monogram baked into the glaze were in use. They had been inspected by the House Committee who spoke in eulogistic terms of their appearance. The Matron was asked to instruct the nurses not to break or chip any cups and to be particularly careful how they were stacked. The very next morning Nurse Morris fell, breaking seven. Matron reported this casualty to the Committee stating that "Nurse Morris could not help it, the matting was ragged." The erection of the new laundry, causing the loss of bedrooms for domestic staff, two rooms in front of the laundry were utilised, one for laundry maids and the other for housemaids. With regard to the new laundry building, the House Committee drew attention to the fact that no provision had been made in the present contract for furnishing the building with any fittings or appliances for laundry work and without which it would be useless for its purpose. They therefore recommend that the omission be at once pointed out to the Government and that they be urged to make adequate provision for modern laundry appliances being fitted up in the new laundry without delay. The House Committee in their report regretted that the matron had overstayed her leave by two days without any explanation being forthcoming and it was recommended that she be not allowed to commence duty until she did forward a satisfactory explanation for her prolonged absence. On a recent occasion one of the sisters overstayed her leave by one day and the matron reported her. Now the matron was the offender. The President and Mr. Lyne said they felt sure a very satisfactory answer would be given by matron.



The President said the institution was so short of money that he had changed his mind and would arrange yet another race meeting. This next race

meeting in November would be the last one held at the present course as by next year the new Broadmeadow course would be fit to be used. So many breakages were occurring in the hospital that matron was asked to keep in her report book a list, giving cost of each item and who was responsible. Breakages, Nurse Studdert, 1 cup value 4d., Nurse Slack meat dish 2/6d. Kitchenmaid meat dish 3/9. In order to lighten work the committee asked matron her opinion on the bread slicer. "Re the necessity for getting a bread slicer. I do not think there is any occasion to get one. In the first place nurses could not leave their wards to go to the place where it would be kept to get the bread cut and I do not think that it would be any better cut than it is at present done by hand." "In the report in the paper it was stated that the bread was given to the patients cut in all sizes and shapes, I think if the committee found such was the case it would have been fairer to me to have told me of the fact and I could have had it remedied and not see it first in the paper, and I must say that all the time that I have been here I have never seen the bread cut any way but most carefully and properly and as I inspect the meals I should be in a position to judge". Mrs. E. Porter who had the contract for supplying coal, evidently was not supplying the correct type so the Secretary wrote, reminding her of her tenderto supply "Best large coal from the Borehole Seam"and stating that only coal from the following collieries would be acceptable in future. Sea Pit, NewcastleCoal Mining Co., Hetton and Burwood, and that in future the load must be accompanied by a certificate of weight from the Government weighbridge.,

The Secretary in reply to a communication from Wallsend Mining District Hospital wrote "I reply to your application for a sitting under the X-rays at

this hospital for a patient. I am instructed by the committee to inform you that they will be glad to comply with the request, but at present I regret to say that the apparatus is not in working order owing to a battery cell requiring renewing and which is now under order and expected from Sydney in a few days. As soon as the apparatus is adjusted, I will inform you when to send the patient here".

The third year nurses examination lectures were rostered so that the following members of the Hon. Medical Board could make arrangements accordingly, Dr. J. Beeston, Surgical, Dr. J. Harris, Medical, Dr. A. H. Horsfall, surgical, Dr. W. Nickson, Medical, Dr. J. C. Douglas, Surgical, Dr. A. Crawley, Medical, Dr. W. L. Eames, Surgical, Dr. R. Dick, Hygiene, Dr. N. J. Dunlop, Surgical.

The X-ray machine proving unsatisfactory due to battery trouble, the Committee sent the following letter to the Mayor of the City. "I have the honour by direction of the General Committee of this hospital to respectfully request that the Council be good enough to have a connection made to this institution from their electric light installation in order that the X-ray apparatus at the hospital may be worked by this means and that your council will be pleased to make the necessary connections and supply the power required free to the institution in the interest of the Sick Poor."

Winns were successful in tendering for part of the quarterly requisition for soft goods in October 1906 and here are prices and quantities ordered. 116 yards gauze $1\frac{3}{4}$ d per yard, 100 yards Calico for shrouds $2\frac{3}{4}$ d yard, 50 yards print as selected at 6d per yard, 50 yards flanellete 1/1 per yard, 5 yards of Red serge $1\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{2}$ d per yard, 24 fringed face towels $\frac{1}{3}$ ea, 12 bath towels 1/- each, 1 gross tapes, 2 dozen No. 40 machine

cotton, 2 dozen No. 12 Brooks cotton. Scotts were successful for another part of the order, 25 red bordered towels 4/11d per dozen, 25 blue bordered towels at 4/11 per dozen, 12 mosquito nets single bed size 9/9 each and 1 mosquito net for 3/4 bed at 9/9 each. J. D. Jones supplied 100 yards unbleached sheeting at $8\frac{3}{4}$ per yard, 25 yards glass towelling at 5d per yard and 12 pairs of woollen stockings at 1/3 per pair. George Galton supplied 50 yards white calico at $4\frac{1}{4}$ per yard.

11/10/1906. The Medical Board per Joseph L. Beeston wrote to the General Committee in the following terms "Gentlemen I am directed by the Medical Board to bring under your notice the very unsatisfactory state of this hospital internally. The walls and flooring all through the building require a thorough and complete cleansing. Each ward should be thoroughly washed with corrosive sublimate solution and then painted. After the place has been thoroughly cleansed it should be treated in this manner once a year. The Medical Board are compelled to draw the urgent attention of the committee to this matter owing to the constant failures in the treatment of the cases under their care and hope that some action will be taken without delay. Before the medical ward is started it would be well to convert the three small wards and the large room into one by throwing down walls, thus giving more space and better facilities for nursing."

One month later the board further drew the attention of the Committee to the state of the hospital and asked them to treat the matter as urgent. One paragraph read "The surgical work of the hospital is being carried on under very great disadvantages and so much so that it is unfair to the patients to treat them in the present condition of the wards as well as unjust to the medical staff."

The cleaning, painting and alterations were estimated to cost £1000. Mr. Dick M.P. was approached to press this claim as an extra. He was also reminded that the government had not fulfilled its promise of paying for the plague patients. There was a balance of £200 over after payment for the laundry building and the President asked why the hospital could not receive this money. Mr. Wood stated that he had interviewed the Chief Secretary and placed before him the extra needs of Newcastle Hospital.

Mr. Robert Dick, Honorary Pathologist, complained that there was much room for improvement in the treatment of the milk once it was delivered to the hospital. There is no particular milk safe - no ice supplied to keep milk cool. He recommended a safe being purchased and placed in a suitable position. Matron too asked that a small ice chest be purchased for the nurses home, on several occasions the milk was not fit for human consumption very soon after delivery. She volunteered to pay £2 towards the ice chest from money which was generally given to her at Christmas time for an extra comfort for the nurses. The Resident Medical Officer reported that patients in wards showing symptoms of food poisoning. He reported to the Medical Board who immediately asked him to substitute Nestles food for all milk dietary. He also recommended that W. Winning, assistant wardman, for an increase of wages from 10/- to 15/- per week.

The Secretary reported that Brown & Scully had repaired the ambulance waggon and the ambulance waggon on loan from the Health Department had been returned in good order. The President reported that the net receipts for the Hospital race meeting were £352/12/-. Several members of the Committee spoke in eulogistic terms of this marvellous effort. Mr. Hannell

in reply said that had the day been a fine one the receipts would have been even better. He also mentioned that as the Government had not attempted to help them with the internal cleaning of the institution he had better get busy and arrange a dramatic show to raise money for that purpose. He said that many members of the committee were conspicuous by their absence from the race meeting. Even the race course employees had given their time at $\frac{1}{2}$ rates for the sick and poor.

1/12/1906. Captain Hacking forwarded a cheque £10/7/- which represented $\frac{1}{2}$ proceeds of a collection taken on the S.S. "Moravian". W. Winn sent the proceeds of a collection box in the employees rest room. Mrs. A. H. Case, superintendent of Boolaroo C. of E. Sunday School sent a hamper and an assortment of grain foods, five dozen eggs and fruit. The Manager, Sulphide Works, forwarded £5. The Department of Lands wrote respecting the excision of a small part of the hospital site for road purposes in connection with the beach improvement scheme and stated that the revocation of the dedication and grant of the hospital site and rededication of the land with amended boundaries were gazetted on the 29th August, 1906. He also desired to know whether the former trustees Messrs. J. R. Fox, C. H. Hannell, R. B. Wallace, Fredc. Alcock, and T. Brooks were eligible for appointment as trustees of the rededicated area. He was informed that Messrs. Hannell and Alcock were the only surviving members. The Town Clerk of Newcastle wrote that the Council would be willing to enter into arrangements for the supply of electric light to the whole of the building on liberal terms if the Committee felt disposed to consider the matter. He desired to be supplied with the annual cost of the gas at the present time to the

institution. It was decided to obtain an estimate for the cost of installing the lighting. This search for power and better lighting caused the Secretary of the Newcastle Gas Company to write stating that the gas company could supply 1500 candle power gas lamp in the lobby and 1250 candle power lamp under the verandah fixed into position for a cost of £7 or they could supply these lamps on the hire system. The Secretary received a reply from the Railway Commissioner regretting that he could not supply free Railway Passes for the Sydney Police Band to come to Newcastle for a recital in aid of the Hospital Funds. It was decided to cancel the proposed recital as expenses would use all the money which would be collected.

At the beginning of December 1906 there were 45 patients in the wards. The chief topic in the minutes for December was the disgraceful way the Government had treated the hospital. The Committee were grateful for the new laundry but without machinery it could not be used and a building not used soon deteriorated. The question of the unclean interior was brought forward yet again by the medical board. This was the third occasion on which the members of that board stated that it was unsafe to operate on patients until the wards were thoroughly cleaned.

The Christmas Tree and parties arranged for all within the hospital walls was well organised. Never before had so many donations been received. The Mayoral subscription from Mr. A. H. James was the usual £3/3/-. The donations of money and kind take up half a column of the Newcastle Morning Herald of 27/12/1906. Matron was forced to call the police as two men tried to break into the nurses home and although the home was kept under constant supervision no arrests were made.

At the Committee meeting of December 28th 1906 the President and Messrs. Lyne, Wood and Cotterill referring to the decorations at the hospital on Christmas Day expressed their appreciation of the work performed by the matron and nursing staff. Mr. Lyne moved "That the committee desire to convey to the matron and nursing staff and all concerned their appreciation of the manner in which they carried out the decoration of the hospital at Christmas and the very satisfactory appearance of everything in the institution. Mr. O. Anderson wrote that he had been a patient in the hospital for 71 days paying for a private room at the rate of 10/- per day. He was under the impression that the money paid included all treatment. He was staggered to receive an account for £20 from Dr. J. Douglas for professional treatment. He asked the members of the committee was it correct. Full and heated discussion took place. At times the expressions used could not be printed but such words as monstrous, extortion were freely printed. The Secretary was asked for his report on the matter. "With reference to the treatment of patients in the private wards the rules allow the medical staff to make terms with the patients so treated, but is distinctly provided that the Medical Superintendent shall be excepted. In referring to Mr. Anderson's letter to Dr. Douglas for an explanation he informed me that his charge included £1/1/- for the house doctor giving the anaesthetic. I think it is a charge that should not be made and it appears to me that considering there was no outlay on the part of the doctor that drugs, instruments, nursing and other assistance were provided by the hospital, the charge is excessive and that Dr. Douglas be advised to reduce the amount to £5/5/-". Members of the committee were incensed that an Honorary Doctor should give portion of his fee to the Resident

Medical Officer. Dr. Douglas attached a report for the committee following his interview with the Secretary in which he stated that the patient was placed in a private room on account of the great seriousness of his condition and the need of absolute quietness. Dr. Eames and himself performed a major operation upon him and for some time his life was in grave danger. After the operation he attended and personally dressed his wounds even 60 and 70 times. Mr. Lyne thought that the matter rested solely between the doctor and his patient. He alone held that opinion and considered they should invite the doctor to have a quiet discussion with them. They could tell the doctor they considered the charge to be a heavy one. Much discussion took place mostly heated discussion which appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald of 28/12/1906. Eventually, it was proposed to write to the Resident Medical Officer asking him if it was his custom to accept fees from the Honorary Medical Officers for work done within the hospital and to forward the Secretary's motion to Dr. Douglas. Matron asked that iron bars be placed across the windows of the bed rooms and shutters across the windows of the unoccupied portion of the home.

January 1st 1907. The Committee meeting was chiefly concerned with the matter of Dr. Douglas charging a private patient a fee for services in addition to the usual hospital dues. As the hospital secretary had handed to the press the committee's comments, the letter received from the Secretary, Honorary Medical Board, was also published. "I am directed by the Honorary Medical Board to inform you, that they have under review the report of your meeting as published with Newcastle Morning Herald. The Medical Board are of the opinion that it would have been far better had the committee asked for a conference with the Medical Board before they carried the following

motion as reported. "That no agreement having been submitted to the committee as per rule 9 for approval, they cannot recognise the claim and think it should not have been made and further before they committed themselves to such offensive expressions in reference to a member of the medical staff as extortion, monstrous, exorbitant etc. the committee thereby placing themselves in a false if not ridiculous position, in consequence of their not making themselves conversant with the facts of the case. In the case under review Dr. Douglas, one of the honorary medical staff, attended a man in one of the private wards. He performed a major operation on the man and gave considerable time and attention to the subsequent treatment. The patient offered some objection to paying Dr. Douglas' fee and in the discussion which ensued some of the Committee assessed the amount of the fee and also made use of the offensive expressions complained of in the beginning of the letter. In making an assessment of the fees in this case the Medical Board are of the opinion that the committee greatly exceeded their function, for if they will refer to their own minute of 28th September, 1899, they will find that a conference was held between the Medical Staff and the committee on this very rule 9 which the committee in this discussion quote. The result of that conference was "That the medical staff will not make any charge for patients in the public wards. That patients in private wards be given to understand that the hospital charges do not cover any arrangement made between the patients and the doctor."

The untenable position which the committee have taken up will be apparent and serves to demonstrate how much better it would have been had the committee made themselves conversant with the facts of the case

before passing ex parte judgment on it. The Medical Board are of the opinion that private wards are out of place in a public institution supported partly by the Government and in a measure by public subscription. They therefore strongly recommend the abolition of private wards and suggest that the hospital be kept for the treatment of the poor for whom it originally was intended." When the Medical Board's letter was read to the committee certain committeemen were very indignant especially Mr. Richardson who could not understand why a patient could be admitted by Dr. Eames but operated on by Dr. J. C. Douglas. Eventually after a meeting between the Committee and the Medical Board both sides retracted the hard words used and Mr. Lyne who had been trying to pour oil on troubled waters formulated the following resolution "That the matters of the charges for private wards and their abolition from the hospital be left in abeyance until after the election by the subscribers of the new committee.

As the annual report was going to print the House Committee in whose hands the preparation was placed objected to the Medical Board formulating their report as they did. The Secretary was asked to pen the following letter. "With reference to the Medical Board's annual report for the year 1906 submitted for inclusion in the annual report of the hospital for the past year to be issued to the subscribers, I am directed by the general committee of management to inform you that they have decided to refer it back to the Board for further consideration as it is too indefinite in its allusions to the condition of the buildings in the first four paragraphs. Also the Board is aware that the Committee for considerably more than twelve months past have been making strenuous and persistent efforts to move the Government to provide funds for renovating

the whole of the hospital buildings. Yet the Committee considers the report is couched in terms that infer a want of attention in this direction on their part which cannot be supported by facts."

The Honorary Medical Board's report was as follows -

The Medical Board regret that they are unable to report satisfactorily regarding the institution. During the past year the internal condition of the hospital has been going from bad to worse and they have again to draw the attention of the Committee to the absolute necessity of cleaning the wards. This is becoming a subject of extra emergency and the Medical Board desire to draw the immediate attention of the incoming committee to the matter. The use of the spray which has been requisitioned for will help matters somewhat but the whole place requires painting and cleaning inside. The board wish to emphasise the fact that it is not of much use having a good operating theatre if the patients are afterwards placed in unsanitary wards. It is recommended that the electric installation to the whole building be proceeded with as soon as the finances will permit of same.

For record purposes a list of staff is here inserted -

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|------|
| John Solomon Harris | Medical Superintendent | £200 |
| S. L. Laing | Secretary | 175 |
| Florence McAllister | Matron | 100 |
| W. E. Cook | Dispenser | 104 |
| Margarita Veenman | Head Nurse | 52 |
| Mary Martin | Sister | 52 |
| Emily B. Taylor | do. | 52 |
| Annie Greaves | do. | 52 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------|-----|
| Matilda Smedley | Nurse | 25 |
| Estelle Lawson | do. | 25 |
| R. B. Bertram | do | 20 |
| A. Patterson | do | 20 |
| A. Naylor | do | 20 |
| B. Asher | Assistant nurse | 10 |
| F. Cumming | do | 10 |
| Amy Matthews | do | 10 |
| E. James | do | 10 |
| O. Steele | do | 10 |
| A. McGregor | Probationary nurse | 5 |
| P. Morris | do | 5 |
| E. Cuthbertson | do | 5 |
| J. E. Slack | do | 5 |
| F. Studdert | do | 5 |
| J. H. Gibb | do | 5 |
| L. Murray | Wardsman | 52 |
| W. Winning | Assistant wardsman | 39 |
| D. Godfrey | Hall Porter | 52 |
| Charles Stephens | Yardsman | 52 |
| 2 Cooks at £3 each per month | | 72 |
| 3 Laundresses 1 at £52, 1 at £36 and 1 at £26 p.a. | | 114 |
| 3 housemaids 2 at £32 and 1 at £21 p.a. | | 85 |

In addition to the salary mentioned Nurses below the rank of sister are allowed an additional £5 per annum for uniform.

On January 23rd 1906 a deputation consisting of Messrs. Dick, Charlton, Fegan, Estell and Edden, Messrs. Earp, Hannell, Wood, Levey, Messrs. Varley, Young, Saunders and Dr. Beeston, waited on Mr. Hogue, the Chief Secretary, and asked that a substantial sum of money be allocated to the Hospital. Each speaker made it plain that the hospital was in dire need of help. Mr. Hannell covered the ground efficiently so only his speech is here reported. "The interior of the

hospital required cleansing throughout and the exterior required painting. The building had not had a coat of paint on it in $5\frac{1}{2}$ years and really those controlling the institution were ashamed of its appearance. They had repeatedly received letters of complaint from members of the medical board and these communications had been sent on the chief Secretary's Department." Replies were received from the department that the matters complained of would be attended to, but nothing has been done. The laundry had been built now for 5 months but they could not use it owing to the absence of the necessary equipment. The laundry had cost £1300 whereas Parliament had voted £1500 for the purpose. There ought not to be any difficulty therefore in getting the balance of the amount voted. Many hundreds of patients passed through the institution annually. It was certainly true that an officer was sent up from the Department to see the institution but he only examined the laundry and confined his report to that.

The officer's recommendation was that the furniture should be provided for the laundry and that the hot water should be supplied from the large boiler in the laundry. During the last year 1100 patients were treated in the hospital and £60 was expended in the treatment of outpatients. It will thus be seen that a vast amount of work has been done and the Committee had a just claim for Government assistance. It was quite impossible for the committee to raise any more money. Then the kitchen was an absolute disgrace and he dreaded every time visitors went to the hospital that they would go into the kitchen. A number of visitors had done so and had expressed disgust on coming out. With regard to the treatment of indigent patients they asked that the Newcastle Hospital be placed on the same footing as the Sydney Hospitals. The total amount needed to carry out all necessary

improvements would be between £4000 and £5000. Mr. Wood said the request of the deputation was a very modest one. He felt sure that if the tax payers of the country who after all paid the money were consulted in this matter they would favour the money being voted. Dr. Beeston said the condition of the hospital amounted to a scandal. Such a state of affairs was unfair to the patients and it was not the correct thing to expect the members of the medical staff to attend patients under those conditions. The hot water system was very defective. When operations became necessary at night some time was lost in getting hot water ready and then it had to be carried into the operating room instead of being conveyed through pipes as it should be. Under the circumstances operations could not be carried out as they should be. As far as the Medical Board was concerned unless the improvements were carried out they would have to close some of the wards. At present parts of the building were full of germs. Mr. Fegan said these matters were not new to the department and in fact plans had been prepared and tenders called for certain parts of the work, but for some unaccountable reason it had never been gone on with. The Chief Secretary in reply said he very much regretted to hear that the Newcastle Hospital was in such a condition. It was a great pity that such a large city like Newcastle should be so inadequately provided with hospital accommodation. It was not an unfair request to make that Newcastle Hospital should in certain respects be placed on the same footing as the metropolitan hospitals because Newcastle was a sort of metropolis of the northern parts of the state. Apart from any personal regard for the locality (he had at one time been a resident there) he must admit that they had made a strong case. It seemed to him that the hospital lacked the first essentials of a hospital and

it was a pity that the institution should have got into such a condition. That there should be anything wrong with the culinary department and that the proper supply of goods should be interfered with was a very serious matter. He had been considering how he could help them and he thought he would be able to give them relief in a substantial way. To what extent he could not at the present say but it would be substantial.

He thought he would be able to secure for them an amount very near to what they required. On January 26th 1907 there appeared an advertisement calling for 8 Honorary Medical Officers, one Honorary Pathologist, two Honorary Dental surgeons. The annual general meeting of the subscribers to the Newcastle Hospital was held last evening in the School of Arts, the President, C. H. Hannell, Esq., being in the chair. In the yearly report it was regretted that the lack of funds prevented a necessary renovation of the older portions of the hospital. Appeals had been made to the Government for assistance but so far unavailingly beyond a promise for consideration from the Chief Secretary (Mr. Hogue). Further action was being taken and arrangements being made for a deputation to wait on the minister early in the new year.

A new laundry had been erected by the government at a cost of £1315 but had not yet been fitted up with the necessary fittings although repeated application had been made to the Government. It was pointed out that the efficiency of the institution is still retarded by the lack of proper culinary appointments. The limited ward accommodation for accident cases continues a serious hindrance to the expansion of the hospital's work and the largely increased number of accidents requiring proper treatment must very soon

receive earnest consideration. The services of the Honorary Medical staff, dental surgeons, solicitor and electricians were acknowledged with appreciation. During the year Drs. R. H. Treloar and E. J.S. Spark had retired, their places being filled by Drs. A. C. Crawley and J. C. Douglass. The office of Resident Medical Officer had superseded the title of Resident Medical Superintendent and the position at present was held by Dr. J. S. Harris. The Matron (Mrs. F. McAlister) and the nursing staff had displayed zeal and assiduity in the performance of their duties. The nurses had been regular and attentive at all the lectures evincing commendable diligence, zeal and application in their studies and practical work.

An early revision of the general rules and regulations was recommended in as far as they affect the management of the hospital and duties of the various staffs to bring them more up to date and adjust some existing anomalies. The hospital was represented at the first conference of country hospitals in Sydney in December. Thanks were recorded to Mrs. A. H. James (Mayoress of Newcastle); Miss E. Kirkwood (Honorary Secretary) and the members of the ladies committee of management and lady collectors for their efforts in making Hospital Saturday so successful £265/16/7 being collected also to the ladies committee of the refreshment booth at the show and Miss Williams, Honorary Secretary. The President's annual race meeting was referred to and the committee in extending to the President their cordial and sincere thanks for this addition to the many obligations the hospital was under to him for so often keeping it out of monetary difficulties expressed regret that his health during the past year had not been all that could be desired and trusted that he would soon be restored to health. The thanks of the committee were tendered to the various miners

and masonic lodges, friendly society unions etc. for their generous support on the past and they appealed for the renewal of that support in the future. The services were also acknowledged of the Newcastle Mandolin, Guitar and Banjo Society, the Ministering Children's League, the Captains of the Steamships "Miltiades" and "Moravian" and Captain A. Hacking and to the many bands in the district that had rendered service in aid of the institution. In conclusion the Committee earnestly appealed for further support from the public to enable the institution being maintained at a higher degree of efficiency than it has hitherto attained and which could only be achieved by liberal contributions from all classes of the community. The receipts from ordinary revenue through the year (1906) were £2899/8/5 and from Government subsidy £1119/10/4 which together with the credit balance of £23/6/10 made the total amount of funds available £4042/5/7.

The Medical Board reported that the arrangements for the teaching of the nurses were in a satisfactory state: that the first examination under the new scheme of the A.T.N.A. had been held. Sister A. E. Greaves was the only candidate and she passed a very satisfactory examination. They regretted they were not able to make a satisfactory report regarding the state of the building generally. In spite of the evident efforts of the committee to remedy the matter, the internal condition of the building had been going from bad to worse and the Medical Board have again to call the attention of the Committee to the absolute necessity of cleansing of wards. This was becoming a matter of extreme urgency. During the year a pathological laboratory had been inaugurated and was replete with the necessary appliances for this particular branch. They recommended that the electric installation to the

operating theatre and X-ray room be proceeded with as soon as finances would permit.

In moving the adoption of the report the chairman said he regretted the small attendance and that the public did not appear to take more interest in the meetings of the institution. He reviewed the financial position of the hospital and was glad to say the report bore favourable comparison with 1905. The hospital Saturday was a great boon but the sum received was a very small amount comparatively from the poorer people who benefited from the institution and who were thereby given the opportunity of contributing. A little thought on the part of the subscribers should double their subscription total. He spoke very highly of the matron and staff and referred to the necessity of revising the rules and regulations which would require a great deal of time and attention on the part of the new Committee. Yearly they got a sum of money from the hospital tent at the showground and he intended asking the authorities to treat them a little more liberally. Last year they had paid £9 for admission tickets and £10 for the right to have the tent there. He also referred to the successful result of the recent deputation to Mr. Hogue, the Chief Secretary, who had promised to favourably consider their request for assistance. They had asked for the sum of £5000 and had every reason to believe they would get it. Many necessary matters in connection with the buildings the Chief Secretary had promised to attend to at once including the erection of a new kitchen.

Mr. J. Wood seconded the motion and agreed with the remarks of the President especially with regard to the subscriptions. It was a reasonable suggestion that the subscribers should increase their subscriptions 50 per cent as the majority of them would never miss

it. It was owing to the personal efforts of the President that they kept going and considering his age and health it was not just to him. The following officers were elected unopposed. President C. H. Hannell, Vice President Joseph Wood, trustees C. H. Hannell, J. R. Hall, G. W. Mitchell, Jas. Wood, Dr. J. L. Beeston, Auditors A. J. Smith and M. O'Brien. The meeting was adjourned until February 12th when the election will take place. The notice of the meeting appeared in the Newcastle paper on 4th February 1907. There was a moderate attendance at the Lecture Hall of the School of Arts. The Secretary S. L. Laing announced the result of the voting, J. M. Hyde, 191, W. J. Miller 191, G.W. Mitchell 191, W. Beavis 189, G. R. Short 189, J.A. Cadell 186, W. Bethune 183, A. B. Gilbert 175, J. L. Fegan 166, M. A. MacDermott 166, F. Richardson 166, H. M. Cohen 165, R. Blackall 157, M. J. Moroney 155, H. A. Grahame 150, C. W. Teece 149, W. Lyne 148, W. Goodman 140, F. G. Crofts 142, S. V. Penrose 140. These gentlemen were elected.

The unsuccessful candidates were Ralph Hope, J. Cotterill, Wm. Levey, J. F. Grahame, J. Alcock, Morris Thomas and John Thorn.

The Scrutineers were A. E. Sneesby and Dr. J. C. Douglas. At the first meeting of the new committee held on 14/2/1907 the following honorary positions were filled, Treasurer T. M. O'Neill, Medical Staff Drs. Beeston, Crawley, Eames, Nickson, Douglas, Horsfall, Dunlop and Harris. Dental Surgeons, R. Blackall and F. G. Holloway. Solicitor H. J. Brown. Electricians W. D. & E. S. Filmer,

The matron reported that it was imperative that a special nurse be engaged as three nurses were off duty sick. Nurse Cummings with enteric, Nurse

James with measles, both in isolation requiring extra nursing. The Committee decided to allow both nurses full pay whilst sick. There were 59 patients in the hospital on February 10th and 211 outpatients had been treated for the month. The Secretary was instructed to write to Mrs. A. H. James, Mayoress, seeking her aid in forming a ladies committee to conduct the refreshment tent at the show. Tents were ordered from S. Walder of Sydney, one to measure 75' x 50' and the other 30' x 20'. A subcommittee consisting of F. G. Crofts, A. B. Gilbert, W. H. Goodman, J. M. Hyde and M. A. Macdermott was appointed to make all arrangements as to the safe and efficient conduct of the refreshment booth.

The Under Secretary of the Chief Secretary's Department intimated on 6/3/1907 that approval has been granted to spend £4400 on the following hospital appointments (1) Supplying and fitting up laundry plant (2) erection of new kitchen (3) hot water supply for kitchen, laundry and hospital buildings generally (4) Removal of certain partitions and the conversion of 3 small wards into one large ward (5) erection of new infectious wards. The expenditure of any of the funds voted for the above 5 items on painting, cleaning and renovating present hospital buildings internally and externally can only be defrayed from a special grant or from local funds and at present no special grant vote is available. The Committee were pleased that at last the principal was available for the new work but appointed the President, Vice President and Mr. J. L. Fegan, M.L.A. a deputation to wait on the Chief Secretary and to again ask for funds to clean up the hospital both internally and externally. The Treasury also advised that £310 was available as a result of the subsidy claim. The Town Clerk 15/3/1907 furnished the cost of fitting up the hospital to take

electric light and power but on the motion of Mr. Millner seconded by Mr. Gilbert it was decided to wait until later on before it was to be considered. Owing to very bad weather at the show the refreshment tent project had to be disbanded. So that the hospital would not lose by the deal the President announced that he intended to give a dramatic entertainment in aid of hospital funds during the month of May.

Matron complained that the dispenser, Mr. Cook, was undermining her authority with the nursing staff. An enquiry was held at which Mr. Cook stated "that he had not received any specific instructions from the committee to give the lectures in dispensing to the nurses and asked that rules be laid down for his guidance in the matter. He considered that the act of sitting down by a nurse when receiving her lesson was the best way of teaching them. Both sides of the case having been freely discussed, the Committee formulated the following letter to Mr. Cook "That the matron has absolute control of the nursing staff subject to her responsibility to the Resident Medical Officer and the Committee of Management and no one will be allowed to interfere in any way whatsoever with that rule". The Secretary reported that he was forced by way of emergency to have (1) electric bells adjusted (2) waste pipe cleared in a blocked basin in the operating theatre. A 400 gallon galvanised tank was purchased to collect rain water to be painted and fixed in position in the laundry.

The Honorary Secretary, the Medical Board, asked that a pair of bone cutting forceps be purchased, at a cost of 25/- and Kellys forceps at 5/- per pair. He suggests that as some of the theatre instruments are becoming rusty they be nickel plated at a cost of 1/6 per pair. The Resident Medical Officer reported

that there were 7 patients in over 60 days and that 6 cases of infectious nature either typhoid or diphtheria in the hospital. On 25/2/1907 there were 64 patients in the hospital and that outpatients numbered 76 for the last 12 days. Matron required 5 dozen chairs, 7 hair mattresses and repairs to 10 wire mattresses.

The Committee decided to call tenders for that quantity of furnishings. The tenders for the year 1907-1908 were opened and the following prices were noted. Bread and flour 2½d per loaf and 6/6 per 100 pound bag. Milk 2½ per quart, potatoes £5 per ton. Fish 3½d per pound. Ice 2/- per cwt less 10% discount. Coal 11/9 per ton. Coal cartage 1/6 per ton, burials £2/2/-. The examination of the 2nd year nurses deferred from 1906 were conducted by Drs. Beeston and Eames who reported that the following nurses were successful B. Asher, A. Matthews, Olive Steele and A. McGregor.

Nurses Smedley and Lawson having passed all the requisite examinations and having fulfilled all requirements of the hospital were presented with their certificates of training. The spraying machine costing £5/3/- was in operation being used around the wards and in the operating theatre.

The Resident Medical Officer was reminded that it was necessary for him to be in the building each committee meeting night in case he was required by the Committee. This was the rule to which Dr. E. S. Harrison the last Medical Officer objected. A vitriolic par in the Truth newspaper caused some comment in the district. The hospital was likened to a dark town fire brigade: organisation did not exist that it was a one man hospital and a seamen's hash factory. The hospital which is very largely intended for the succour of the indigent who fall into sickness by the way has now got

to be looked upon (rightly or wrongly) as an institution where paying patients are preferred. Facts are stubborn things and there is no use beating about the bush". "Events have shown that paying patients with comparatively trifling illnesses are for the convenience of doctors practising in the city admitted and treated as inpatients while homeless sufferers have to knock pretty hard at the door for them".

The above remarks are called forth by the latest case to throw a disagreeable light on the institution. It is the case of the young man, Arthur Hopkins, who was admitted to the institution last week suffering from typhoid fever. According to statements made by Hopkins and his late landlady, Mrs. Williams of Scott Street, the unfortunate young man had to give up his employment on the deviation works about two months ago on account of illness. He came to board at a restaurant in the city where he had been ill for six weeks prior to his admission to the hospital on Tuesday week. During the time, being practically penniless and therefore unable to pay for medical attention, he went to the hospital on several occasions. He was given a few bottles of medicine and boxes of pills but was not considered ill enough to be admitted to the hospital as a patient. The sufferer not being admitted, his landlady went to the institution in the afternoon when she was informed by the authorities that Hopkins had been examined and not found to be ill enough to occupy a bed in the hospital. However they said he would be submitted to another examination. She immediately called in a doctor in private practice, Dr. J. L. Beeston. The result was that Dr. Beeston ordered the patient's immediate admission to the hospital and he was admitted on the very night of the day on

which the authorities had informed Hopkins landlady that the young man was not sick enough to be admitted. However it is only fair to the hospital authorities to say that since the patient's admission he has received every care and attention and although still in a critical condition has a fair prospect of recovering. Another feature of the case is the fact that while suffering from typhoid and being unable to secure admission to the hospital, the patient was an inmate of a large and much frequented restaurant (which by the way) has since been thoroughly disinfected under the supervision of Sanitary Inspector, Lloyd".

Matron's requisition 1 dozen tumblers 5/-
1 doz. cups and saucers for doctor and nurses 6/-,
1 doz. bread and butter plates 6/-, 3 enamel cans for ward use, porridge etc. 7/6, 14 hot water tins required repairing, Mr. Fawcett quoted 1/6 each. Two gallons of brandy £3, two dozen tea spoons 10/-. At midnight on 11/3/1907 there were 65 patients within the hospital and 94 outpatients had been treated for the past fortnight. The Committee asked for a report on a rumour that a patient had received the wrong medicine doing her much harm. The Resident Medical Officer, Dr. J.S. Harris, states "I did not report the matter as it was not considered of sufficient importance. A bottle of mixture for internal administration was inadvertently filled with lysol by the dispenser and a dose given to the patient etc. Describes it as ridiculous to say that any serious injury was done to her. Steps have been taken by attaching wooden tops to the necks of the lysol bottles to preclude the possibility of a recurrence." Reviewing all the circumstances of the case he recommends the committee to dismiss the matter as being certainly regrettable but not deserving of any serious censure or condemnation." The Committee hardly

agreed with the view the Medical Superintendent took of the occurrence considering that it should have been regarded more seriously and directed that the Medical Superintendent should admonish the Dispenser to exercise greater care in the future. Dr. J. S. Harris referred to the Committee a list of his proposed dispensing lectures to the 3rd year nurses. The 24 lectures to be divided into 3 lectures on weights and measures, prescription writing, 6 lectures and dispensing 15 lectures. He also stated that there were 8 cases of enteric fever in the wards. The Honorary Medical Board was asked if they considered the time ripe for a second resident medical officer who would also take over the position of dispenser. The Board replied that with only 80 beds the second medico was not required and the services of the dispenser should be retained. The registrar submitted his report for the quarter ending March 31st 1907 the beds available for ordinary patients numbered 76 and infectious diseases 4. There were 33 patients in hospital at the end of December and 265 had been admitted during the 3 months since. Of these 170 had been discharged cured, 26 relieved, 13 unrelieved and 25 died leaving 64 patients still in hospital. The average death rate was 8.3 per cent but 6 per cent had died within 48 hours of admission. There were 122 operations. The house committee's report showed that with the increase in the number of patients more blankets had to be purchased. The wards were short of 6 beds but only 3 could be accounted for. The president said that everything possible to keep the hospital in working order had been done.

Mr. McRae of the Government Architect's department had visited and referred to the obsolete infectious wards. He recommended that they be razed

to the ground. The President said he reminded him of the long wait for the kitchen and laundry and not to do anything like razing the infectious wards until others had been built to take their place. McRae was quite satisfied that a new kitchen would have to be built. As the ground was built up of debris the kitchen would be built on piles for stability. Hot water would be serviced through the hospital. The Committee would not mind these improvements or how soon they were started as the agitation had been proceeding for years and the Government had only awakened to the fact. Mr. Richardson referred to the missing beds and asked where was the furniture stock book. The Secretary stated there never was one. Other members of the committee spoke complaining of the lax business methods and demanding an inventory of all hospital equipment especially of the instruments in the operating theatre. Mr. Richardson also wanted to know about what was meant by the word Petties which occurred in the balance sheet of the refreshment tent at the show. He was informed that this word Petties signified Petty Cash. Mr. Richardson seemed satisfied with the answer by Mr. Scott Laing the Secretary.

April 30th. Matron asked could she not have the use of the new laundry which had been erected for months. The Secretary was asked to enquire from the Government Architect about same.

The Head laundress, Mrs. Cridlands, who has been here for 2 years and five months has asked me to ask the Committee if they would raise her wages. Could they see their way clear for doing this. I would strongly recommend her as deserving of the same: for the past three months she has been here every morning by 5 a.m. and left late at night owing to the pressure of the work, the usual hours being 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and

she has worked the extra time unasked so as to get the work done as far as lay in her power. The Committee agreed to an increase of 5/- per week. The Medical Officer was asked to report on the article appearing in "Truth" about patient named Hopkins, also why admission sheets were not made out correctly by the Registrar.

Dr. Harris gave an explanation which was considered satisfactory in connection with the Hopkins' case "but would not entertain the doctor's protest against a hospital committee taking notice of articles appearing in newspapers etc. as they are of the opinion that anything affecting the interests of the institution should be investigated irrespective of the source whence the information is obtained." They also stated that it is the medical officer's province to see that the Registrar does his work properly "and to see that it is done immediately". The Resident Medical Officer again recommended that he should attend Committee meetings so that he would know all that goes on within the hospital. The Committee ruled against this request. The formalin spray purchased last month at a cost of £5 met with a mysterious accident the top indented in. The matter was referred to Dr. Dick.

The paymaster of the Treasury 20/4/1907 submitted documents to be signed so that the £1000 donated by the Government for cleaning and painting the hospital could be used. Vouchers submitting name of contractor, work done, where and when done, must be submitted to the Treasury before payment to the contractor would be made. Evidently the Government was not to allow the hospital to handle any of the £1000 ear marked for this special work. The time allotted was 36 weeks. The Resident Medical Officer reported 23/4/1907 that there were 13 cases of enteric fever in the wards.

The Resident Medical Officer stated that he had requisitioned for Ethyl Chloride for general anaesthesia from Fauldings of Adelaide and he had taken the liberty of availing himself of Dr. Angus Johnson's offer to interview firm in anticipation. The committee however refused to give permission and wanted to know why he had not requisitioned for this new drug in the normal way and why Fauldings agencies both in Newcastle and Sydney were ignored. The staff and employees were notified that their friends or relations must not be invited to reside in the hospital as their guests without first obtaining the permission of the House Committee. The doctors requisition for drugs as per book with the exception of Ethyl Chloride was approved. The return of patients on 24/4/1907 showed that there were 70 patients in the hospital.

Mr. David Watkins M.H.R. was approached asking for some finality as to payment of fees for members of the Defence Force. Hitherto the Commonwealth Defence Department had refused to pay for treatment. Until some finality was reached the Military Officer admitting the patient would be held responsible for the fees which would be 3/- per day in the general ward 6/- per day in isolation and 10/- per day in the private ward. Dr. Eames to be informed as regards Toohy's fees at present in isolation ward. The Resident Medical Officer reported that 3 enteric cases and 1 scarlet fever case in the hospital. He also gave an explanation relative to his request for Ethyl Chloride. The Matron was asked why the head laundress Mrs. Cridland, did not approach the Committee by letter when seeking a rise in her wages. Matron's reply "The reason Mrs. Cridland did not send in a personal request for the rise in her wages is because she cannot write". We have 218 blankets in stock many of which are very thin, so if another dozen

pairs could be bought we ought to be able to manage with that.

"Nurse Lawson resigned through ill health and had to leave immediately. Before she resigned she had entered her name for the A.T.N.A. examinations to be held next month. I would ask the Committee to kindly allow her to stay at the home for the two days of the examination". Matron's difficulties are contained in the following report. "28/5/1907. Cecelia Cullen, the wardsmaid, is leaving owing to the work being too heavy for her. I would ask the Committee to raise the wardsmaid's wages from 8/- per week to 10/- per week as that would enable me to get a better girl. The work is heavy and there is a good deal of hard scrubbing and quite worth 10/- per week. I would like to ask the committee for instructions re the nurses'holidays. I had intended sending Nurse McGregor away on May 29th and Sister Martin when isolation wards were closed, but on the 25th a case of measles was admitted to the strong room in isolation for which the Medical Superintendent required two more special nurses, making four in all in isolation ward and another special nurse is continually being required for night nursing when ever there is a serious male operation (one being on duty there at the present time). With our whole staff of twenty nurses all on duty even now the nurses are overworked as all the wards are very heavy. So they cannot be run short handed and I am not able to give the nurses the day off they are entitled to every month and we are generally in a muddle should a case of diphtheria come in (and one may come in any minute) the Medical Superintendent will require two more nurses. Am I to let the nurses go for their holidays or keep them back and are they to go on the understanding that if extra nurses are wanted they are to

be recalled or will the Committee obtain extra outside help if necessary. I also wish to mention that all the furnished rooms at the home are occupied and if (as is the case at present) we have to accommodate extra nurses one of the attics will require furnishing. I would like to have definite instructions as every time an extra nurse is required this same difficulty arises and the Medical Superintendent tells me it is my place to find accommodation for the nurses. The nurses lately have not been getting their proper training as with all these extra nurses being required we have to continually move them about from one ward to another and if all this extra work continues without them getting their days off and also being overdue for their holidays very probably some of them will knock up, as they always have twelve hours of trying work a day and require their time off duty allotted to them. I have placed a ward bed and mattress up in one of the attics and put one of the nurses up there until the Committee decide what to do. There was nothing else that I could do. When I applied for twelve pairs of blankets I was allowing for our usual average of patients, but lately we have seven extra male patients and the Medical Superintendent says he thinks this extra number will continue for some time. So I must apply for six pairs more especially as I have had to take one pair from the last lot for the extra bed at the home. I also want 2 new jugs for nurses home 2/9 each, one kettle for women's ward 9/3, 4 hair mattresses and one dozen cups and saucers 6/-. The jugs mentioned have been cracked for some time and now leak. The new mattresses are required for the 4 new beds just delivered."

14/5/1907 The Secretary of the Honorary Medical Board complained of the male servants of the institution occupying the bedroom attached to the

isolation block. Do not consider it a wise move as there is always a risk of infection due to close proximity to the other patients and they certainly will not be responsible now they have warned the Committee. The Board also asked for instruments to the value of £5 being ordered from Downs of London. They also consider that the needs of Newcastle would be met for some years to come if the hospital held 110 beds. So that when the new building scheme is being considered provision should be made for that number. Dr. Harris, Resident Medical Officer, asked if the motion dealing with guests of hospital officials could be waived in his case. He stated that he had a friend he wanted to entertain for a few days. The Committee decided not to grant Dr. Harris' request as they considered it undesirable that guests of officials should reside at the institution it being a charity mainly dependent on the support of the public and no accommodation or other provision for such had been made. There were 8 cases in over 60 days but 3 are to be discharged in the near future. There were 5 infectious cases, 3 enteric, 1 scarlet fever and 1 diphtheria. The lectures to the 2nd year nurses had started.

On 13/5/1907 there were 66 patients in the hospital.

The dramatic performance entitled "The Idler" organised and managed by the President netted the sum of £172. Once again Mr. C. Hannell had shown that where hospital benefits were concerned the public supported their hospital.

21/5/1907. The Resident Medical Officer asked the President for permission to be allowed to read his own report to the Committee as it effects the matron and secretary. The President reported same to

the Committee and asked their opinion. The members wished that the Secretary read the report at the meeting in the usual way.

Quotations received for 12 pairs of blankets showed that Scotts Ltd. at 10/11 per pair were the most satisfactory. The other quotes Jones 11/6, Winn & Co. 12/6 and W. Neve 17/- per pair. Davies & Cannington received the order for printing the new code of Rules and by-laws 500 copies for £8/10/-. The Resident Medical Officer preferred charges against matron and the Secretary. He reported (1) bringing under notice a state of affairs that is responsible for the faults and imperfections of this hospital viz - (2) divided authority of Superintendent and Secretary leads to unpleasantness and impaired efficiency and gives alleged instances and thinks that he should be subject to the directions of the Committee and medical staff alone. (3) Gives copies of correspondence and application for special nurse for scarlet fever cases sent in by Dr. Douglas. (4) Finds fault with Matron's action in recalling Nurse Steele from holidays and subsequently in the matter of providing a special nurse for operation cases on 20/5/1907. (5) Reports the matron for allowing the nurse in the isolation ward to do duty in the medical ward. The Secretary and Matron were asked to furnish reports on the above comments by Dr. Harris. (6) Enteric fever cases numbering 6 and scarlet fever cases numbering 2 were within the hospital. A special House Committee meeting was held on 30/5/1907. Those present were C. H. Hannell Esq. in the chair, Messrs. W. Bethune, F. Richardson, W. J. Millner, W. H. Goodman, H. M. Cohen, C. W. Teece and S. Y. Penrose. It was decided that matron and the Medical Superintendent should be present during the inquiry and they were called into the room. Mr. Hannell asked Dr. J. S. Harris if he substantiated the reports he made on 21st

and 28th May in which he charged in the main incompetence on the matron and Secretary's part. Dr. Harris emphatically replied that he did and said "that the state of the hospital was scandalous and said also that when he joined the hospital he was told by two medical men that if he saw leaking taps there was no use drawing attention to them". The enquiry proceeded until 9.45 p.m. when it was postponed until June 4th. On that day evidence was taken from Sisters Veenman, Martin and Greaves and Nurse Smedley, the matron and Secretary being absent from the room at the time of the interviews. The members of the enquiry decided to report on Friday 7th instant. On that date they met and discussed the evidence. On the motion of Mr. Bethune seconded by Mr. Goodman, the following resolution was carried unanimously. "That the House Committee having enquired into charges of neglect of duty and incompetency on the part of the matron and obstruction of business on the part of the Secretary find that although in certain minor matters the matron has been to blame, they believe a caution will be sufficient to prevent a recurrence of what has been complained of and that so far as the Secretary is concerned no dereliction of duty has been proved against him. They further consider that it would be in the best interests of the hospital if the Resident Medical Officer were requested to resign his position within one month or earlier if possible as the friction now existing between himself and certain of the staff is detrimental to the best interests of the institution. These resolutions were put before the General Committee on June 10th and adopted. The General Committee decided that the reports of the Medical Superintendent of the 21st and 28th May and 7th June containing the charges referred to (folios 82 to 107) should be excised from

the Report Book and attached to the Committee's report and filed in the Secretary's office.

11/6/1907. Dr. J. S. Harris resigned his position to be effective in one month's time. The Committee caused many odd jobs to be done about the hospital to be repaired or made good. The W. C. waste pipes were being continually choked, the cisterns leaking and some out of repair and the sale of discarded furniture and beds netted £3/4/9. The return of patients on 10/6/1907 showed 73 patients in the wards. The Resident Medical Officer reported 4 males and 2 females in hospital with typhoid fever. Matron asked that Nurse Smedley's salary be increased to that of the 4th year nurses. She had signed on for the three year course. This was granted as she had had so much service with the hospital for insane. Nurse Bertram who had commenced training at the same time was now receiving more money as she was doing the 4th year course.

Matron states "Nurse Smedley is certainly a competent nurse, she has twice taken charge of wards during sister's holidays and will do so again." Matron's request was granted and Nurse Smedley made happy. "I would also like another servant at the home; at present one maid does the following work, Bedrooms 17, bathrooms 6, sitting rooms 4, dining room 1, attic 1, pantries 4, kitchen 1, lavatories 6, halls, stairs and passages. If I had another servant I could arrange meals for the nurses at their home instead of dining at the hospital. We cannot get the clothes dry this wet weather. Could I have a stove in the drying room of the new laundry to help and I might get more dry." The Secretary wrote to the Matron asking for a special report on the presence of vermin in beds and how she attacked the problem. Matron states - Re the presence of vermin in the wards, unfortunately that is a

circumstance that will happen in every hospital. Our methods are - when ever a patient goes out from the hospital, the mattress is put out to air and if necessary fumigated as in the case of enteric etc. The wire mattress and bed is thoroughly scalded with boiling water in all the crevices that can be reached. They are painted with vermin exterminator manufactured in our dispensary. Unfortunately the vermin get into the hair mattresses and in the back wards they are in the skirting boards. Should the committee decide to appoint two new probationers I would suggest Miss Pearce and Miss Quayle. Miss Pearce turned out to be married so the Committee appointed Miss Lily Nicholson and Miss Quayle as probationary nurses on one month's trial. Nurse Matilda Smedley having passed all examinations and served the requisite period of training was awarded the hospital certificate. The husband of the female patient Mrs. W. J. Hill, who had been given a dose of lysol by mistake instead of medicine caused Mr. J. A. Gorrick, a solicitor of Newcastle, to write to the Committee asking for compensation for the death of his wife. The matter was referred to the Honorary Solicitor of the hospital, Mr. Brown. He stated that it was a good attempt to secure money but that Mrs. Hill had died from a complaint which could not in the remotest degree have been caused by the mistake in the medicine. The Chief Secretary disallowed the expenses of £7/4/6 for the show refreshment booth, when computing the subsidy allowed the hospital. The subsidy amounted to £288/12/2. The refreshment booth takings had not helped the hospital much this year as the show was practically washed out, due to the rain. The request by the matron that a stove be placed in the new laundry was granted. The stove was moved out of the old ironing room into the new laundry and the old ironing room converted into

male servants' bed room. Thus the medical board succeeded in stopping the close contact between the servants and the infectious block by turning the servants out of the room set apart for the nurse attending infectious block. The doctors report showed that on 18/6/1907 there were 4 typhoid and 1 scarlet fever case within the hospital. The outside nurse engaged to tide the staff over the recent difficult period in the hospital was engaged for a further week on the advice of the matron and the resident medical officer. The Medical Board was informed of the work about to be started in painting and cleaning internal portion of the hospital and asking them to keep their admissions to a minimum and to reduce the number of patients already within the hospital.

21/6/1907. Mr. A. B. Gilbert who had always given of his best as a committeeman and who from time to time painted as a gift various items of furniture and ward equipment resigned from the committee as he was a tenderer for the hospital painting and did not wish to embarrass the committee men. Rain penetrated the store room of the new laundry on the southern side. The Government architect was informed and necessary attention given to that area on the southern side affected by the weather.

2/7/1907. The Resident Medical Officer reported 5 infectious cases in the hospital namely typhoid 2, scarlet fever 1, diphtheria, 1 and measles 1. Dr. H. M. Moran of Leichhardt was selected to replace Dr. J. S. Harris as resident medical officer. He was approached by the president asking that he report for duty at once. He asked for a week in which to have a vacation before starting. Mr. Hannell had appointed Dr. J. Leslie as interim medical officer and he carried on until Dr. Moran reported for duty on 15/7/1907.

Dr. H. M. Moran proved himself to be an efficient officer. He quickly organised the Union Rules football having some success as a Captain. At a later date he was to take overseas the football team styled the "Wallabies". He also wrote two novels of a controversial nature "Viewless Winds" and "Over the Wall lies China". James Hay, furniture seller, of Wolfe Street, Newcastle, submitted a sample of an Austrian chair which retailed at 7/- each. The sample was returned marked unsuitable. These chairs were for ward use.

23/7/1907. Drs. J. L. Beeston and W. L. Eames, examiners for the Medical Board, notified the Committee that nurses Cumming and James had satisfactorily passed their second year examinations and were fit to proceed to the third year of tuition. The Committee raised their salaries to the rate of £25 per annum.

Drs. J. L. Beeston and H. M. Moran supplied medical certificates for probationer nurses Ella Richter, Agnes Quayle and Lily Nicholson stating they were fit to train as nurses. The Secretary wrote to matron, "It is learned that recently when the horse ambulance was out it had to be taken to a wheelwright for repairs. The matter has not yet been reported. Will the matron please say why the female servants at the home do not sign the appearance book as exceptions amongst the servants in their respect are invidious". Matron's reply - "The reason the two servants at the home do not sign the book (1) the book is kept at the hospital where the rest of the staff sleep and it would waste time coming all the way over from the home to sign it. (2) Also the key to the pantry is kept in my room and the servant fetches it every morning at 5.20 a.m. so that I see that she is up and all the nurses can prove that they are both down by 6 a.m. if not before". I also wish to report that Professor Anderson Stuart

(President of the Board of Directors, Prince Alfred Hospital), visited this hospital 26/7/1907 and offered the following suggestions when the renovations were commenced (1) to have the walls light yellow and not green (2) not to have the floors of hard wood (3) to have the bedsteads fired and painted white (4) lockers not to be made of wood (5) Condemned the chairs which have already been condemned by the committee. Winning, the wardsman, let the new enamel tea pot fall off the tray and dented the side and knocked off all the enamel and it will only last a very short time, also Nurse Gibb broke the glass gas shade in the women's ward. It fell from her hand when washing it. The Secretary, on the advice of the committee, asked that both employees pay for the breakages. I cannot find a record that they did pay. The cystoscope in use at the hospital became unservicable so it was sent to England for repairs. The President interviewed the chief secretary relative to bed subsidy similar to various Sydney hospitals. The Secretary admitted that it appeared to be a better scheme than the usual £1 for £1 subsidy but that the matter could not be discussed at that moment as a change in financing all hospitals was before the Government. Preparatory to the alterations in the men's medical ward all patients from the ward were evacuated.

Mr. A. B. Gilbert, a contractor for painting work and a committeeman, was asked to withdraw his resignation as he was not successful in his tender for the work. This he did and continued to work most assiduously for the hospital.

30/7/1907. Government Architect forwarded new sketch plans for the kitchen block and servants quarters, the cost to be £2650. The matter was referred to a special committee who reported quite favourably.

The education committee of the Australian Trained Nurses Association reported favourably on the education qualifications of nurses Richter, Quayle and Nicholson, and that they may enter training. The Under Secretary drew attention to the 2½ per cent commission paid to the Secretary. He said this was contrary to usual custom, open to abuse, difficult to police and asked that the scheme be restudied with a view to eliminating it. Eventually the Commission on collected fees was waived and the Secretary's salary raised to £210 per annum. Mr. H. H. Lang of Newcastle presented a cheque to the value of £5 on behalf of Mrs. A. F. Shettle of England. The evacuation of patients from the male medical wards reduced the number of patients within the hospital on 12/8/1907 to 57. Influenza was rampant during August and Nurses Gibb and Nicholson were very ill with the complaint.

The tender of Mr. D. McDonald of Summer Hill has been accepted for repairs and renovations of the hospital for £1274 to be completed in 14 weeks from 6th August.

Dr. Moran asks for electric light to be installed throughout the hospital or failing that recommendation that the light be installed in the operating theatre which is very poorly lit. The X-ray too should be serviced by the Borough's mains as the hospital battery service was quite inadequate for the constant operating of an X-ray machine. Amounts to the total of £370/-/4 were paid out as they had been audited and checked by responsible officials. The following figures are interesting. On April 14th 1896 the Committee by resolution agreed to pay 2½ per cent on certain fees collected. Since then and up to the present £327.6.4 had been so paid being an average of £29/2/1 per annum for 11 years 3 months. To show that

the sick poor had been safeguarded he pointed out in 1902, 910 patients had been treated and 279 paid, being 30 per cent of the total. In 1903 the figures 1024 and 291 equal to 28.4 per cent. In 1904, 1080 and 298 equal to 27.6 per cent. In 1905, 1129 treated 384 paid equal to 34 per cent, 1906, 1033 and 311 equal to 31 per cent. Those figures showed that the sick poor were attended to.

Mr. T. M. O'Neill, honorary treasurer, submitted a report on the finances of the hospital. 21/8/1907 he pointed out that the credit balance was only £183. The subsidy due in June amounted to £200, the estimated fees of patients for August were £100 and for subscriptions say £10 would be received. That made a total of £584. To that might be added £120 for September fees and assuming the subsidy was received the total would be £704. As the expenditure was about £350 per month it would be seen that the most sanguine estimate would barely give sufficient to meet the expenditure to the end of September. In October the Hospital Saturday Collection would be available but they must exceed last year's collection." The President called for all the helpers to aid the ladies on that collection day.

Mrs. Evelyn James, Mayoress, accepted the position of President of the Ladies Committee re Hospital Saturday Collection and named Wednesday 11th September, as a most suitable day on which to have the preliminary meeting of the ladies. Dr. Dick, Honorary Pathologist, complained that the post mortem instruments were obsolete and asked for a new set.

25/8/1907. Professor Anderson Stuart in a letter to the Medical Board asked that the Resident Medical Officer be granted the status of a senior and

increased his salary by £50. This matter was referred to the General Committee who stated that when the position fell vacant they would reconsider status and salary.

2/9/1907. Dr. Moran reported 2 diphtheria and 1 typhoid in the hospital. It was decided to draw the attention of the dispenser (Mr. Cook) to by-law requiring that the holder of the position of dispenser should be a registered chemist and druggist and to request him to state in writing by next meeting what are his intentions with respect to becoming qualified as required. Mr. W. E. Cook replied "that he is not a registered pharmacist and that the opportunity for becoming so had passed. If by-law 46 is to be adhered to ask that his resignation (attached) be accepted." This resignation was accepted and advertisements for a qualified dispenser inserted in the daily paper. The Paymaster, Treasury of N.S.W., advised the payment of £218/14/11 subsidy for quarter ending 30/6/1907 was available with exchange and stamps the sum received amounted to £218/12/6. Mr. F. Benjamin of Aberdare applied for admission for an operation. The Secretary was advised to inform him that Maitland was his nearest hospital and to apply for admission there. The House Committee recommended that with the exception of the operation block new floors were necessary throughout the whole hospital. The Secretary was instructed to interview the representative of the Government Architect to have this work done always providing it did not increase the vote already allotted to the hospital. The results of the 1st year examination for the nurses are as follows - Nurses Morris 80%, Cuthbertson 78%, Slack 60%, Studdert 70% and Gibb 72%. These nurses were recommended to be promoted to grade two with salaries increased to that grade.

On 14/9/1907 there were 71 patients in hospital. Dr. Moran asked for permission to entertain a guest for one evening, permission granted, and he reported 1 case of typhoid and 1 case of chicken pox in the hospital.

The following bands intimated that they would play on hospital Saturday. - Fire Brigade Band of Stockton, Central Methodist Mission Brass Band and the 4th Infantry Band. The latter band asked that it be placed on the balcony of Milgate's Central Hotel. The number of patients in the hospital on 21/9/1907 numbered 68. Only one infectious case in the hospital, scarlet fever.

Dr. Moran asked for instructions about a patient who required X-ray treatment twice weekly. The Committee informed him 10/6 per visit unless he is a poor patient when the treatment must be free. He also submitted that Parke Davis' chloroform at 3/6 is just as effective as Duncan and Flockhards which was 7/-. The cheaper drug was recommended.

1/10/1907. The honorary solicitor, Mr. Brown, said he was aware of the regulations dealing with customs and that Potter and Birks should be held to their contract as they have not any right to charge any fees for goods above the contract price once the contract had been signed.

The Medical Board was asked to report on the case of C. Collins who had been in hospital 284 days.

16/9/07. Matron's requirements 2 gallons of brandy £3 one box sanitary paper £2, 6 scrubbing brushes 4/-, 1 baking dish 3/6, 1 dozen tumblers 4/-, 1 jug 8d and 4 glass dishes 3/7, just one month later on 7/10/07 the requirements were 2 gallons of brandy £3, 8 combs for ward use 3/6½, 2 dozen buttons 4/6½.

7/10/1907. The cost of installing electric light to the Operating Theatre and X-ray machine was estimated by the Town Clerk to be £30/12/-. "This expense the Council does not feel justified in undertaking".

J. H. Dixon, secretary of the Newcastle Juvenile Model Band stated they were prepared to play during the evening of Hospital Saturday. Their offer was accepted the location being Langer's Balcony.

Dr. Moran reported having had a consultation with the Medical Board who recommend that the patient in hospital over 284 days and a similar case be both admitted to a Government Asylum as being the most suitable solution .

He also reported the poor condition of the new floor in the male medical ward. There were large gaps between the boards. He was informed that the matter was as yet in the hands of the Government Architect and not to be concerned as the Committee would not take the floor over in that condition. He suggests that the new dispenser to take the place of Mr. W. E. Cook be given ample time to learn the work and routine from Mr. Cook. The Committee however thought the better scheme if they were never to meet and that is how it was arranged eventually. The following applicants for the position of dispenser were interviewed. Clarence Malcolm, 55 Kensington St., Sydney, William O'Farrell, 82 Waverley Road, Sydney, P. H. Walters (not qualified) and A. E. Whitaker (married) 65 Liberty St., Enmore.

12/10/1907 The Newcastle Morning Herald featured a large advertisement dealing with the collection on that day for the hospital. It amounted to the space of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the usual column and gives the amusements listed for the public. Central Hotel 4th Regimental Band recital at 3 p.m., Langer's Hotel

Central methodist Band, Crown and Anchor Hotel, the City Band 8 p.m., Langer's Hotel Newcastle Juvenile Model Band at 8 p.m. Winn & Co. Central Mission Band at 8 p.m.

Give, Give, Give, £1000 wanted.

In 1906, 1033 patients treated, 2827 out-patients treated. S. L. Laing, Secretary, Eva Kickwood, Hon. Secretary Ladies Committee. "The Ladies engaged on the annual hospital collections throughout the Newcastle District got to work early on Saturday and when the totals were made up at 11 p.m. it was ascertained that last year's record had been beaten. Everything favoured a good collection the day was fine and the organisation was good. All the offices and business houses were visited at an early hour and the places of amusement did not escape. In the afternoon three ladies visited the Athletic Pavilion, Hunter St., West, where a glove contest was in progress and the assembled sportsmen readily paid toll. It was impossible to walk along the main thoroughfare without being called upon to contribute and the ladies in charge of the boxes agreed that there was a ready response to their call for financial help. Despite ill-health the President, Mr. Hannell, personally supervised the refreshment booths for the lady collectors.

The Vice President, Mr. J. Wood, on account of ill health, spent some time in his motor in Hunter Street advising and urging the collectors to greater effort. The Treasurer, Mr. T. M. O'Neill, who was in charge of the money side of the collection complained how few committeemen helped, even in opening the collection boxes, which had to be done by a bunch of bank employees. The ladies under the command of Mrs. A. H. James (Mayoress) and Miss Eva Kirkwood did yeoman service. The nurses collecting at the post office were

recalled to the hospital due to the death of Nurse Smedley. The sum collected was a little short of £300, a very wonderful effort.

Miss Matilda Georgina Smedley, a member of the nursing staff of the Newcastle Hospital, died very suddenly last Saturday. At 5.20 a.m. Miss Smedley was called from slumbers to prepare to commence duty at 6. At 5.50 a.m. she was again called and on both occasions she answered the caller. Sister Martin went to call her again as she did not appear in the ward and on entering the room found her unconscious. Dr. Moran was immediately called and he and Dr. Beeston soon saw that the chance of her recovery was very small. She did not recover consciousness and died at mid day. Miss Smedley was a native of Tasmania and for 10 or 12 years was on the nursing staff of the hospital for the insane, Newcastle. She acquired the Newcastle Hospital certificate by examination. Her sister, Nurse Lavinia Smedley, is doing private nursing in this district. Many wreaths followed the late nurse to Sandgate Cemetery. At the funeral all sections of the community were represented. A goodly body from the hospital and local medical circles attended. Matron's report stated "That is with regret that I have to report the death of Nurse Smedley who died last Saturday after an illness of 6½ hours. Nurse Bertram returned from holidays, Nurse Naylor will leave for hers when she can be spared. Miss Elsie Smith is the next applicant on the list for the position of probationer to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Nurse Smedley."

Sister Martin wishes to resign her position as Sister in this hospital and though I am sorry to lose her services I would ask the committee to allow

her to leave without the usual month's notice as for some weeks past she has been in very indifferent health and is quite unfit for duty. Nurse Bertram being next in seniority would be available for the position vacated. Sister Veenman will leave on November 2nd for her holidays. Sister Taylor meanwhile acting as head sister. Miss L. Lean being next on the list I would advise her being appointed and would like her as soon as convenient as we have still a great pressure of work having two separate isolation cases each requiring special nurses."

29/10/07 Required - Turkish bath soap 13/6, 24 plates (nurses) 10/-, 2 gallons of brandy £3, 3 tins of soft soap 19/- and 2 gallons of wine 15/-. The Town Clerk of Newcastle repeated his quotation of £30/12/- to install electric light to the theatre and X-ray. If the hospital were provided with the electric light and could be considered a customer in the building generally possibly the extension of the light to the parts of the building in need thereof might be considered, but at present the hospital did not take the light although the advantages therefrom might be just as important for the comfort of the patients as the lighting of the operating theatre. After the Committee had discussed the matter, it was decided to ask what would be the cost of the lights providing the fittings were supplied.

Mr. G. P. Clarke of Mayfield was made a life member. He forwarded a cheque £10. The application for a bed subsidy instead of £1 for £1 subsidy was again put to the Minister who replied that finance matters were to remain as they are until the New Hospital Act was put through Parliament. Mr. M. A. Macdermott, a committee member, died suddenly. Mr. Hannell, the President, spoke in committee how the late

member was loved by all and of the services rendered to the hospital by him. A letter of condolence was forwarded to Mrs. Macdermott.

The applicants for the position of dispenser proving not suitable, fresh advertisements were inserted in the daily press, the salary to be £104 per annum, applicants to be single men and qualified chemists. In the meantime Dr. Moran reports that the dispensing work was being carried on by himself, Secretary and Head Nurse.

29/10/1907. The Honorary Secretary, Dental Association of N.S.W., wrote suggesting the establishment of a dental ward for the necessitous poor in connection with country hospitals. This was referred to the General Committee. This Committee promised to consider the matter.

Nurses Carr-Boyd and Deane, proprietors of a private nursing home in Hunter Street West, applied to the Committee for permission for their probationers to attend hospital lectures. This matter was referred to the Medical Board who approved of the matter. When however it was referred back to the General Committee it was forbidden on the grounds that a dangerous precedent would be created.

Mr. G. D. Longson of 196 Liverpool Street, Hyde Park, was appointed dispenser at the hospital.

20/11/1907. Dr. Hughes, visiting eye surgeon, had promised to attend to any serious eye conditions in Newcastle Hospital on his monthly visits to this district. The contractor for coal informed the hospital authorities that he had less than one month's supply and could not purchase more the mines being on strike. It was resolved to ask various companies to each donate a waggon stipulating that it was for the attention of the poor and needy sick only.

The General Committee approved the promotion of Nurse R. B. Bertram to the position of "Sister", with an increase of salary to £52 per annum. There were 7 cases of enteric fever in the hospital on 5/11/1907.

12/11/1907. Doctor H. Moran requested matron to supply his meals separately. He did not wish to dine with the new dispenser. Matron put the matter to the committee who refused to allow separate utensils to be bought to supply the doctor. Matron was asked to arrange meals at different hours to obviate the necessity of spending any money. The new dispenser commenced duties on 9/11/1907.

Accounts to the amount of £250/18/11 for maintenance and £134/5/11 for salaries and wages were submitted as correct and passed for payment. The Central Methodist Mission Choir asked could they be allowed to sing to the patients on Christmas afternoon. The Committee agreed to their request. The Hospital finances were in a bad state in November 1907. The deficit being £450, much discussion centered around the advisableness of approaching the bank for an overdraft. As the President gave a clear account of why the hospital was in a financial straits I consider it worth mentioned here although attentive readers must have realised why funds were so low.

The President remarked that he would be very sorry to lose Mr. O'Neill as honorary treasurer as he had worked hard in the interests of the hospital and his services on hospital Saturday day were invaluable. He thought the amount of the deficit could be greatly reduced. They had the subscriptions from the eastern end of the city to come in likewise up to £50 from a patient in the hospital, that amount having been guaranteed by a shipping company. It was some time

since the Government had given them any thing in cash and he thought they were justly entitled to £1000. They did not get a penny from seaborne patients which was to say the least of it very unfair. The See Government promised a sum of money for these patients but the Carruthers Government withdrew the amount. They should make a demand for a bed subsidy. Sydney Hospital got it and the same liberality should be shown the Newcastle Hospital. They had a strong case if put properly before the Government. It was a matter of great urgency and if he had the strength there would not be a deficiency of £450. He could tell them that next year if he felt right he would not be behind in doing what he could to raise at least £300, but for all that they had a claim and a strong one against the government. The subsidies they received were not sufficient. Up to 1889 they received £ for £ on all moneys raised, but Sir Henry Parkes then stepped in and decided to only allow that amount up to £100. That in itself meant a big loss to the Hospital, fully £10000, and the subsidy should never have been taken from them. He was glad to notice that the delegates to the recent conference had decided to approach the Government for increased subsidies. A deputation consisting of the President and various members of Parliament waited on the Chief Secretary explaining why the Hospital was in debt and asking for aid. No promises were given beyond that the matter would be checked for them. A leader appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald of Thursday November 28th, 1907. This leader asked why the Sydney Hospitals received a bed subsidy whilst Newcastle Hospital received a restricted subsidy. It also showed that in an industrial city there were always more calls on the public's purse than in an ordinary general city like Sydney. From the tone of the leader it would appear

that the hospital finance system was hopeless and that unless public subscribed on a better basis in the future than they had done in the past, the worthwhile hospital would gradually revert to the Cottage status.

25/11/1907. The Secretary, Australian Trained Nurses Association reported on the educational status of probationers Elsie Smith and Gladys Hughes and granted them the right to train without submitting to another examination. The progress of the renovations of the hospital were very slow already the time allowed for the contract had been exceeded and the contractor was a long way from finishing. The nursing and medical staff were very much inconvenienced by the debris and lack of completion of the work. Staff salaries and wages for the month of November amounted to £132/10/11 other accounts paid amounted to £243. Matron reported on 2/12/1907 that nurses Smith and Hughes had passed their month's trial satisfactorily and asked that they be placed on the probationary staff of nurses. She also required 2 gallons of brandy and 2 tins of soft soap. The annual Xmas tree and concert will be given on Christmas Eve. We would be very pleased to receive any decorations and should any members of the committee be present, they would be welcome.

The wash stand set in the private ward was broken by the door blowing suddenly open in a sudden gust of wind - a new toilet set will be required - cost 14/6d. The Secretary instructed matron "The Committee direct that the matron will please exercise the strictest economy in her management consistent with general efficiency and the welfare of the patients. This has become necessary owing to the low state of the funds". The Hospital return of 30/11/1907 showed 63 patients in hospital. Of these 6 have enteric fever and 3 have

scarlet fever. Dr. H. Moran having expressed a desire to renew his engagement as resident medical officer of the hospital for a further 12 months, the committee recommended this extra term as during the 5½ months Dr. Moran had been attached to the hospital he had given entire satisfaction.

Two policemen brought to the hospital a drunken seaman with a broken arm. The arm was (with difficulty due to his conduct) set and splinted by Dr. Moran. He was then discharged as totally unsuitable to be within a hospital. His attitude was most belligerent and his language most foul. As soon as he was discharged Senior Sergeant Brown and Constable Symington returned him to the hospital. The Committee instructed Dr. Moran that the patient was not to be treated again at the hospital until he apologised to Dr. Moran and the nurses. Dr. Crawley recommended that a patient from Lochinvar be admitted to the hospital. This was done by Dr. Moran who considered her very ill. The Committee drew his attention to the rules which forbade the admission of a patient from a distance unless there was not a bed vacant at their local hospital.

Dr. Moran asked that a friend be allowed to stay with him as a guest for a few days. The Committee did not mind supplying a meal now and then but objected most strenuously to the guest residing in the hospital quarters. The Mayor of Newcastle, Alderman H. James, forwarded the usual mayoral cheque £3/3/- towards Christmas cheer. Many gifts of money and goods were received by the hospital to be used to entertain staff and patients within the hospital.. There is a long list easily three quarters of a column in the Newcastle Morning Herald. It is divided into two portions.

Those subscribing to the general fund for patients and those subscribing to the Special Christmas Tree given by the Matron and Nurses. The Railway Band gave a special recital at which nurses collected £5/8/4 especially for the tree. At the end of the notice the Secretary placed this following paragraph "The Committee also wish to thank the members of the Central Methodist Mission Choir and Band for affording entertainment to the patients and the members of the Northern Railway Band for their assistance in connection with the Christmas tree.

Matron reports 30/12/1907. It is with deep regret that I have to report the sad death of Nurse Quayle from drowning 27/12/07 also the illness of Nurse Taylor who is at present in the ward suffering from a gastric ulcer. Sister Bertram who was nearly drowned on 27/12/1907 is now in a private ward but is we hope out of danger and should soon be about again. Nurse Broughton was sent from the Phillip Street Home on account of the illness of these nurses and two being away on holidays. Required two gallons of brandy £3, one meat dish 2/9.

The following is an account of the tragedy. It is interesting to note that as a result of this tragic occurrence the Newcastle Surf Life Saving Association came into being.

Over the Christmas holidays of 1907 three people were drowned - one in the Soldiers' Baths - and two in the surf of Newcastle Beach. These three fatalities speeded up the formation of the Newcastle Surf Club.

One of the victims was Miss Agnes Ellie Quayle, aged 22, a trainee nurse of Newcastle Hospital on 27th December, 1907.

Nurse Quayle with Nurses Bertram, Steele and Asher after coming off night duty went into the surf about 9.15 a.m. For about eight or nine days a strong current had been running. At that time all of the morning bathers had left the beach and there were very few people about. The Nurses were careful not to get into deep water but after a while when Nurses Quayle and Bertram were standing waist deep an unusually large wave broke which threw them off their feet and carried them out of their depth. Struggling to regain the shallow water they were caught by the undertow and carried seaward locked in each others arms.

Mr. Sydney Martin, steward of the Newcastle Club, described at the inquest as the manager of the Club, was dressing in the shed some little distance away and saw the girls in difficulties. He secured a lifeline and swam out to where the two were struggling. Nurse Bertram was then unconscious and was being supported by Nurse Quayle. When Mr. Martin drew near Miss Quayle pushed Miss Bertram towards him. Mr. Martin grasped both by the hair and was drawn into the shore, himself almost exhausted.

In the meantime, Mr. John Henderson, a city council employee, who had been working on the sand waded in and helped pull on the line and took Miss Bertram and lifted her ashore. It appears that the nurses and their rescuer had been drawn so rapidly through the water by other rescuers who had assembled that Nurse Quayle must have been rendered insensible and Mr. Martin did not fare much better. Believing both to be safe he waded ashore. The most regrettable feature was that although many people were there no one thought to assist Nurse Quayle to the sand. The result was that Miss Quayle was again swept out some distance and was floating face downwards. Mr. Martin again dashed

out with the lifeline, secured Miss Quayle and brought her ashore.

In the meantime, Dr. Moran of Newcastle Hospital had been informed and he hastened down in time to treat Miss Bertram immediately she was taken ashore. He was assisted by Wardsman W. Winning and Mr. P. Driscoe of the Tramway Ambulance Corps. The police were called and they also assisted in resuscitation. Miss Bertram showing signs of life, Dr. Moran turned his attention to Miss Quayle and was assisted by Drs. Nickson and Beeston. Efforts were continued for an hour without success. Mr. Martin said that none of the people manipulating the line actually went to the help of Nurse Quayle.

Nurse Quayle was a daughter of Senior Constable Quayle of the Newcastle police. He, a day or two before, had given evidence at the inquest into the drowning of David Davies, 20, in the Soldiers' Baths on Christmas morning. Drs. Moran and John Harris were called to attend to the boy without success.

On Sunday, December 29th, Mr. Walter Neve, a regular early morning surfer, dived into the surf and almost instantaneously got into difficulties. A friend immediately got the life line, began to swim to his assistance but was prevailed on not to go when the body disappeared. It was recovered a little later near the rocks on the south side of the beach. Dr. Moran was also called in on this case.

In the meantime Ald. M. J. Moroney had gone to Manly to consult with the officials of the Manly Surf Club with the object of enlisting their aid in forming a surf life saving club in Newcastle and these officials promised full aid and Ald. Moroney returned to Newcastle to call a public meeting with the object of forming the club.

At each inquest the Coroner (Mr. Hibble) found that the life saving gear appeared to be adequate but thought that the council should appoint a permanent life saver.

Owen Gilbert, M.L.A., sent a telegram which intimated that £500 had been allotted the hospital. The voucher had already been sent and when received was signed and returned immediately. T. M. O'Neill Esq., notified the Committee that he had received the sum of £245/5/-, being proceeds of a dramatic entertainment sponsored by the President of the hospital on 20/12/1907. Dr. Moran reported a great shortage of nursing staff due to death, sickness, and holidays. A special nurse had been employed and the hospital was full of sick people including 8 cases of enteric fever and 1 of diphtheria. It had been decided to appoint a collector to help maintain the hospital finances. Applications had been called from suitable persons and as a result of selection Mr. G. Meagher was appointed collector. The terms of employment being 5 per cent on all subscriptions collected by him. This to include subscriptions canvassed for by the collector. Lodge contributions not to be canvassed for by the collector. It was decided to notify the public of his appointment. A Fidelity Bond for £100 was entered into between Meagher and a reputable company.

It was decided that letters of sympathy be sent to the families of Nurse Quayle and W. Neve. The Hospital received from Mrs. Ada Williamson of Belmont the sum of £7 proceeds of a concert arranged by her. The year closed with mixed feelings in the hospital. All grieved at the loss of Sister Smedley and Nurse Quayle, those responsible for the finances of the hospital were pleased that at the last moment over £700 had been received which converted a debit to a

credit and allowed a little more latitude in spending.

The Annual General meeting of the contributors of the Newcastle Hospital was held in the new masonic hall in Wolfe Street in 31st January 1908. The President, C. Hannell Esq., was in the chair. There was only a moderate attendance. The Committee in presenting their annual report acknowledged the assistance rendered to the hospital by the Government on their appeals for help in the past but at the same time it was thought that a bed subsidy should be granted on the same conditions as the metropolitan hospitals. Satisfaction was expressed at the manner in which the nursing staff had performed their duties throughout the year and their conduct generally had been most exemplary. Mrs. McAllister still retained the position as matron and the committee had pleasure in recording that she continued to give satisfaction in the performance of her duties. Regret was expressed at the untimely demise of two members of the nursing staff - Nurses Smedley and Quayle.

The examinations of the nurses in training were as usual conducted by the honorary medical staff. Five pupil nurses presented themselves for the first year examination and all passed, while six nurses qualified in the third year examination. During the year one sister left owing to ill health, one certificated nurse left, another died, and one probationer was drowned. Three probationers were engaged to fill the vacancies. During the whole of the year the hospital had been financially in a very parlous state and the president repeating his many endeavours in aiding the institution has rendered assistance on two occasions by organising entertainments, the results of which increased the funds by the handsome amount of £420/7/- which with the Government subsidy materially helped to tide the institution through the year.

The Committee had again to express on behalf of the subscribers, patients and public their sincere and grateful thanks to Mr. Hannell for his good work in affording relief to the sick and suffering. In this connection the services of the lady and gentlemen performers under the direction of Mr. Hannell were gratefully acknowledged. Regret was expressed that owing to the continued ill health of the vice president Mr. Joseph Wood had not been able to give that close attention to the work of the hospital that he had shown for many years past and it was trusted that his health would shortly be restored.

In conclusion the Committee appealed for increased support from the public to enable the institution being maintained at a higher degree of efficiency than it had attained in the past and which could only be achieved by liberal contributions from all classes of the community.

The annual medical report for the year ending December 31st 1907 showed - number of beds available for the general public 76, for infectious diseases 4. Number of patients in hospital January 1st 1907, 33, admitted during the year 1125, discharged cured 845, relieved 131, unrelieved 33, died 90, leaving remaining in hospital on 31st December 1907, 59. The number of outpatient attendances during the year was 3118. Number of individual outpatients treated 641. Mean residence for patients in days 16.1, average number daily resident 63.5. Average death rate per cent of in-patients 8.2. Average death rate of in-patients who died after 48 hours from admission 4.6. Average cost per patient per annum £62/15/5. Total cost of outpatients maintenance £64/2/-. The Medical Board in their report urged on the committee the desirableness of having the electric light installed in the operating theatre and also for the X-ray apparatus.

Regarding the X-ray department the board recommended the appointment of a competent man to take charge of this work one who would give the time necessary to take skiagrams and where necessary to develop them. The Board recorded their deep regret at the unfortunate and fatal accident which befell Nurse Quayle and also of the sudden and fatal illness of Nurse Smedley. In moving the adoption of the report the President said that they had had an eventful year and at one time it was thought they would not be able to show a credit balance at the end of the year. During the year they had lost by death an estimable member of the committee in Mr. M. A. Macdermott. The subscriptions hung fire during the year and were £160 deficient as compared with 1906. The hospital was full and with the alterations going on the staff had a busy time but they managed to pull through. As months rolled by they were at their wits end to know how to raise £160. Some members of the committee undertook to collect money for the hospital and the subscription for the year totalled £500 which was a very paltry sum compared with the importance of the place. The amount should be at least £1000. Seventeen years ago the Government stopped the £ for £ subsidy and ever since then the receipts have fallen off. The poor by means of Hospital Saturday paid their mite, but if families contributed 5/- the hospital would get endowment on that if it were handed over to the secretary. It was not fair that the subsidy should have been withdrawn. The Newcastle Public however responded nobly where the hospital was in need. For money received from Hospital Saturday they should receive £ for £.

He (Hannell) wanted to live to see a bed subsidy and would never rest until he saw that consummated. It was a cruel shame that the metropolitan

hospital should receive that bed subsidy when the Newcastle Hospital conducted on similar lines was shut out altogether. It cost over £80 per week to run Newcastle Hospital without anything extra in the way of clothing, repairs etc. He was pleased to say Dr. Moran intended remaining with them and he (Mr. Hannell) would be sorry when the day came that he would have to take his departure. People frequently came to him and spoke highly of the treatment they received in hospital by the nursing staff. That staff he might say was one of the best in the state. That day a start had been made with the erection of a new kitchen which was to cost £5 less than £3000. The motion for the adoption of the report was carried unanimously being seconded by Mr. W. Lyne.

The election of officers was then proceeded with and resulted as follows, President C. H. Hannell, Vice President J. R. Hall, Trustees J. L. Beeston, J. R. Hall, C. H. Hannell, G. W. Mitchell and Joseph Wood. Auditors to be Messrs. Brooks and Paton. Committee J. Alcock, W. Beavis, W. Bethune, R. J. Bond, H. M. Cohen, F. G. Crofts, A. B. Gilbert, W. H. Goodman, J. F. Grahame, F. G. Holloway, J. M. Hyde, W. Lyne, W. J. Millner, G. W. Mitchell, T. Moase, M. J. Moroney, F. Richardson, C.W. Teece, A. Timbury and R. W. Upfold. Mr. W. Lyne thought they should place on record the valuable services Mr. Joseph Wood had rendered the institution as Vice President and moved a motion to that effect. They all regretted that Mr. J. Wood had been compelled to resign owing to ill health. Dr. Beeston agreed that the hospital had lost a good friend in Mr. J. Wood. Mr. Richardson referred to the manner in which Mr. C. H. Hannell had come to the aid of the hospital by means of profitable amusements and Mr. Timbury stated that Mr. Hannell's name would go down

to posterity as the best supporter the Newcastle Hospital ever had. Viewed from 1954 there is no doubt that Mr. Hannell was indeed the greatest supporter until Mr. A. A. Rankin took charge. Mr. Hannell said that he was sorry to think the day not far distant when he like Mr. Wood would have to go slowly. Prophetic words, just one year later he died.

In the Newcastle Morning Herald of 3/1/1908 there appeared a public notice to the effect that "The General Committee of Management beg to announce that Mr. Gerald Meagher of Hunter St., Extended, Newcastle, had been appointed a collector to the Newcastle Hospital. Subscribers are respectfully solicited to pay their contributions before the annual meeting 25/1/1908. Applications were invited for the following honorary positions, Honorary Medical Officers 8, Honorary Pathologist 1, Honorary Dental Surgeons 2.

On 18/2/1908 Dr. J. L. Beeston as Secretary to the Honorary Medical Board said that at a meeting of the Board it was unanimously decided to advise the Committee to appoint Dr. John Harris consulting surgeon to the hospital and they wished to place on record their deep appreciation of Dr. Harris' long and valuable service to the hospital. They also wished to state that they would at all times be most happy to avail themselves of Dr. Harris' services and as a recognition of the length of time Dr. Harris had been connected with the institution they recommended that he be allowed the privilege of admitting and treating such patients as he desired. The president remarked that out of compliment to Dr. Harris for his long and faithful service to the hospital they should fall in with the wishes of the medical board. The Committee approved. This appointment with the privilege of beds

was to supply successive Resident Medical Officers with the means for treating patients. This move created a precedent which was not broken down until 1952 when certain senior resident staff surgeons were allotted beds in their own right.

18/2/1908 It was decided as a matter of urgency that the X-ray plant be renovated and connected with the Council's mains. The matter of the bed subsidy was kept before the eyes of the Government. Steps were again taken to obtain the support of the senior medical officer of the state, Dr. A. Thompson. The Committee reported that the contractor repairing, renovating and painting the hospital had finished his work. The Hospital both inside and out was like a new pin with the exception of the Isolation block and mortuary which buildings were under review for demolishing and rebuilding. The yearly nursing examinations were held, the following nurses being promoted after passing - J. Slack, P. Morris, F. Studdart, J. Gill and Nurse R. Cuthbertson. The third year examination was successfully passed by Nurses A. Matthews, O. Steele, F. Cumming, E. James, B. Asher and Nurse A. McGregor. During the month of February, subscriptions amounted to £73, it being pleasing to see the miners' lodges taking such a prominent place. Killingworth £2/2/-, Wallarah £14/7/-.

Matron applied for an increase in salary. The Committee decided to apply to other hospitals firstly before increasing the salary to see if the amount already paid was comparable. In March the lists had arrived and here are those salaries for record purposes. Sydney £250, Royal Prince Alfred 300, Royal Alexandra £170, Bathurst £100, Goulburn £85, Tamworth £100, Maitland £100, Broken Hill £104 and North Shore £100. The patients attended were - Sydney 3 4/5 per

nurse, Royal Alexandra 3, Newcastle 2.88, Bathurst 3, Goulburn 2.86, Maitland 4, Broken Hill 3.6, North Shore 3. Matron did not obtain a rise in salary, the Committee considering £100 per annum adequate especially as there was not any special reason why her request should be granted. Sister Veenman who often acted as deputy matron and had been trained in the hospital had her salary increased from £52 to £62 per annum. The Premier and Chief Secretary visited the hospital on 28/2/08 and were shown over by the President and Vice President. The former gentlemen soon became aware of the disgraceful state of the Isolation and Mortuary building and promised immediate relief. When questioned about the bed subsidy the Premier said he was not satisfied with that scheme, was considering altering it for a more equitable one and he could see that Newcastle with its moving seafaring population must be treated more generously than in the past. The tenders called for supplying the hospital with necessities were opened and the following were selected. Bread and flour, W. Cann: Milk, J. Muncaster: Groceries, F. Witherspoon: Meat, H. T. Lucerne: Drugs, Elliott Bros: Dressings, Potter and Birks: Fish and Ice, F. Chard: Coal and Carting, F. Toll: Ambulance, W. C. Markwell: burials, Butler and Wilkins.

The Matron reported that probationary Nurse H. Blacklock who commenced duties on 1st January was satisfactory and asked that she be appointed to the staff of probationers. Nurse Blacklock was to finish her training, to obtain certificate No. 52 and to hold the position of matron at Newcastle Hospital for one year 1914/15. Matron reported that as the nurses had some money over from the Christmas Tree they bought some Christmas fare for the patients as so little had been sent in, also a new table cloth for the nurses home

and one for the dining room at the hospital also a comfortable chair for each ward for the patients to use when first getting out of bed after a long illness. "Some time ago I reported new chairs were wanted for the wards. These were promised but were never delivered to us. Every visiting day you see two visitors sitting on most of the beds in serious cases. This is detrimental to the patients' health. The patient, Annie Assan, will be going down to the Benevolent Asylum one day this week as we are too busy to spare a nurse, I will take her down myself and would like to have a day in Sydney for private business so would ask permission for same". Matron's request for a day's leave was granted and when the Committee realised the damage being done to beds by visitors sitting on them chairs were delivered that week.

Secretary, Scott Laing, addressed a memo to Matron - "Are there any grounds for the statement made that flour (for paste) and soft soap were supplied to the painters recently engaged on work here from hospital stores. If so please say who supplied it and on whose authority." Matron replied "Re the statements that flour and soft soap were supplied from the hospital store to the painters lately working in the hospital. The flour. I know they had plenty of as I saw several 25 pound bags amongst their goods. One day being short (the baker being late in bringing the order) we borrowed some flour from them and when we offered to return it they said they had plenty and did not require it. I have made enquiries and no one in the building ever gave them any soft soap. I require three kneeling pads 1/- each, 6 dozen turkish bath soap at 2/3 doz. and 6 doz. olive castile soap at 2/6 per doz."

The Honorary Medical Staff for 1908 consisted of Drs. J. Beeston, W. L. Eames, A. Crawley, N. J. Dunlop,

A. H. Horsfall, J. Campbell Douglas, W. Nickson, J. R. Leslie. Honorary Pathologist Dr. Robert Dick, Honorary Oculist, Dr. S. H. Hughes. Honorary Dental Surgeons F. G. Hollway, A. E. Vesper. Honorary Solicitor H. J. Brown. Honorary Treasurer, Major T. M. O'Neill. Dr. S. H. Hughes of 173 Macquarie St., Sydney, thanked the committee for the honour in selecting him for the Honorary Staff but wished the title of the appointment to be Ophthalmic Surgeon instead of 'Oculist'. His request was granted. When the Committee was informed of the cost of instruments and the running of the Department they referred the matter back to the Medical Board who stated that if only in-patients were attended and those only when referred by a member of the Honorary Staff, the cost should not be excessive and the instruments ordered by Dr. Hughes were most necessary in the hospital and should be purchased. On the above understanding Dr. Hughes was asked to attend in-patients only.

13/2/1908. Infectious patients within the hospital are 1 diphtheria, 1 scarlet fever and 8 enteric fever.

The Secretary's statement of cash received during 1st to the 11th March 1908 showed subscriptions £10/13/-, Fees £55/5/6. The doctors report of 10/3/1908 showed 4 patients in the hospital over 60 days, 7 enteric and 1 diphtheria patient. The matron asked that linoleum be purchased to cover the floors of the small male ward and day room. The Committee however decided to have those 2 floors cleaned with potash instead. It was decided to accept Fawcett's tenders of £2/5/3 for fixing a gas heating stove in the male medical ward. The N.S.W. Railways and Tramways Employees Hospitals Fund forwarded a cheque £5/11/5 in payment of two small accounts for Railway employees.

18/3/1908. C. Stephens, the yardman, applied for leave due to him for two years' service. The leave was granted providing he secured someone to take his place. Dr. Moran had written to the Committee stating that in his opinion it was not fair to ask him if he considered Matron worth a rise in salary. The Committee however replied that their request was now an order and asked for his recommendation. Dr. Moran refused to grant Matron an increase in salary. During the period 12 to 18th March only £47 was received from fees and subscriptions. On 17/4/1908 there were now 6 patients in over 60 days, 10 Enterics and 8 diphtherias. Staff wages and salaries for the month/amounted to £143. Dr. J. L. Beeston requisitioned for two needle holders and 1 tracheotomy tube, total cost not to exceed £1/16/6.. It was decided to draw attention of the Honorary Medical Board to the number of patients in hospital and requesting them not to exceed the number of 82 beds in future.

24/3/1908. The infectious cases dropping to one diphtheria and five enterics had lessened the work for the nurses. Matron stated that the constant high number of really sick patients was taking a toll of the health of the nurses and that the staff must be enlarged or the number of seriously ill patients reduced. The daily average of patients for the past week 83.

29/3/1908. Sister Beatrice Taylor resigned her position on the staff her place being taken by Nurse Patterson who being qualified was granted the title of sister.

The Committee recommended that Dr. J. Beeston be again requested not to order any instruments for the theatre without first obtaining a requisition. This query was brought about by the purchase of a polypus

snare by Dr. Beeston. S. Lingard wrote thanking the doctors and nurses for attention during his illness. Matron McAllister had a few days holiday at the end of March and the reports in the Matron's requisition book are made out by the Deputy Matron, Margarita Veenman. She requisitioned for 2 gallons for Brandy £3 and reported that much old linen had been supplied by Miss Willis and books from Mr. Consir. Dr. Moran reported Six minor operations on inpatients; patients in hospital over 60 days numbered 7 whilst infectious cases numbered 9, 8 enterics and 1 diphtheria. He asked for a week end leave. Dr. Horsfall would sleep at the hospital for emergency cases. The dispenser was dismissed for drunkenness, the appointment of a successor being left in the hands of the President.

15/4/1908. The Secretary, Pharmaceutical Society, recommended Alfred J. Newton for the position. He joined the staff that day as the work was heavy there being 82 patients in the hospital.

The Manager, Hetton Coal Company, forwarded a cheque 10/- being fines paid by two horse drivers at the mine. The infectious cases for the past fortnight numbered 6 being 3 enteric, 2 diphtheria and 1 scarlet fever.

It was decided to draw Matron's attention now she had returned from leave to the dirty state of the floors of the medical wards and the lamps in all wards. Matron's reply - "The floors certainly were dirty when I returned but as the bags of soot had been thrown down by the contractors in the yard in the back, it was hardly to be avoided as there is a great deal of traffic there and everyone tramped the soot in and it was also blown in by the wind. With the wish expressed by the committee I did my best to keep the

under wards man who does the scrubbing up to the mark and on Saturday 18/4/1908 he informed me he had had me and would report me to the committee and to the gentleman who engaged him. I would recommend Miss Aimee Mitchie as a probationer to be appointed to the vacancy caused by Sister Taylor resigning. She appears suitable and being twenty eight years of age she will soon reach the age limit". The Committee however asked that Miss Braggett be appointed. This was done and Matron appointed her on trial on 6/5/1908. On 15/5/1908 Matron reported that Miss Braggett had left, the work being too hard. Miss Aimee Mitchie was appointed. She stayed to complete her training receiving Certificate Number 53 in December 1911. Matron also reported that Sister Bertram (Certificate No. 35 of April 12th 1908) having received another appointment wishes to resign her position on the staff and asks to be allowed to leave 19/5/1908 though this habit of leaving without the usual month's notice is inconvenient. Still if it is imperative for her to leave then I would recommend that she be allowed to do so. Nurse Naylor is next senior nurse for her position."

Nurse Annie Naylor certificate No. 37 of July 22nd 1908 was younger sister to Nurse Louisa Naylor certificate No. 11 of November 1st, 1900. (Died May 1954 shortly after revisiting the hospital.) Miss Elizabeth Bell was the next trainee she also completed her training in May 1912 holding certificate No. 54.

28/4/1908 Cheque from S. Wansey, donation from Mark Reid's fishing party. C. V. Newton, the dispenser; wrote that he could not accept the position longer than one month as he had engaged to go elsewhere. The new appointment was again left in the hands of the

President and Secretary. Dr. H. Fletcher, Medical School, University of Sydney, asked if there was likely to be an appointment vacant this year. If so, he would apply for the position. Secretary to reply very satisfied with Dr. H. Moran. There were 8 infectious cases within the hospital, 6 enteric, 1 diphtheria, 1 scarlet fever and a report showed that 2/5/1908 there were 77 patients in the hospital.

15/5/1908. S. A. Moss, dispenser of Bondi, offered his services as dispenser. The Secretary stated that references from Armidale Hospital being satisfactory, Mr. Moss had been appointed to the position at £104 per annum including board and residence in the hospital. Owen Gilbert M.L.A. wrote that £1500 had been granted and was available for plant for laundry, hot water service and new morgue. Accounts to the value of £359 having been checked and found to be correct were passed for payment. It was decided to complain to the Government Architect about dampness in certain rooms at the nurses home. The paper on the walls recently renovated being more or less destroyed and asks his advice and help in this matter. On May 9th there were 73 patients in the hospital. Sorbys Ltd. returned a hospital account for the boy Dann disclaiming any responsibility as they had paid the boys parents 15/- per week since the accident. Raymond Terrace held a Children's bazaar on 19/5/08 the proceeds, £22/13/6, being forwarded to the hospital by the secretary, Miss Cora M. Hill. It was found necessary to have a store room fitted with a strong lock so the strong room of the Isolation Block was made into a store. It was decided to equip the diphtheria ward with a special adjustable balancing light fitted with a block burner at a cost of £2/10/-. Mr. G. Meagher the collector resigned his position and

forwarded all books in connection therewith to the Secretary. The Doctor's report of 29/5/1908 showed that there were 5 patients in the hospital over 60 days, seven infectious cases were in isolation, 4 minor operations had been performed in the last fortnight. Complains of the bad quality of the thermometers supplied by Ross and Company and suggests that he call on them in reference to the matter when in Sydney. He suggests a good man as Chief wardsman be procured from Sydney and he asks for one week's leave from June 4th. He has arranged with Dr. Lightholler of Sydney to relieve him. William Walters was appointed wardsman in the place of W. Winning, resigned. Wage to be 20/- per week. Dr. Moran also reported 75 patients in hospital on 30/5/1908.

At the Committee meeting on 5th June, 1908, W. Lyne was appointed to the chair as the President. C. H. Hannell was too ill to attend. The Secretary, Department of Public Health, forwarded a copy of letter received from the State Bureau of Statistics asking approval of the adoption of forms, copies submitted, for the collection of hospital statistics in place of forms previously in use. The Secretary was directed to submit a report on the matter. The Committee decided to order 18 pairs of blankets from Mackies at 9/- per pair. The return of patients showed that on 30/5/1908 there were 75 patients in the wards. Dr. G. S. Lightholler furnished a statement of the disagreement between Father Kennan and him occurring in the hospital on the 6th and 10th June. Reverend M. Kennan submitting his statement of the alleged interference with him while engaged in carrying out his duties as a Catholic Clergyman at the hospital on 6th and 10th June by Dr. Lightholler. The Committee decided to hold an enquiry, the parties concerned to

attend. Matron reported that Nurse Morris had been laid up for one week with a sprained ankle. It was decided to instal a gas fire in the special ward as coal fire makes the chimney smoke badly during westerly winds. At the special Committee meeting of 12th June to enquire into the Lightholler-Keenan disagreement the chair was taken by the President C. H. Hannell, Dr. Lightholler and Rev. Keenan were asked if they wished to add to other statements. Neither did. The upshot of the enquiry was each said the other was impatient. They shook hands and the enquiry finished with an apology from each to the other.

The house committee in their progress report pointed out that the new kitchen and servants quarters building was rapidly approaching completion and it was expected that it would be ready for occupation about the 1st July. Accounts to the amount of £403 of which £142/18/- was for wages and salaries were recommended for payment and the credit at the bank was £311. Mr. J. L. Feegan was elected to a vacancy on the Committee.

The subsidy claim for the quarter ending 31st March 1908 was paid into the hospital account it amounted to £355 a most welcome addition to the credit balance of only £311. The Adelaide Steamship Company refused liability for the claim of £3/12/- for a sailor. They stated the accident was his own fault. The hospital however showed that the Captain of the Ship had called Dr. Nickson on board to attend and he had straight away placed the man in hospital. They were informed that the owners were responsible and could claim from the man's wages. The account was still unpaid three months later when it was then called a bad debt. Mrs. M. Neve forwarded a cheque for £30 from the estate of the late Walter Neve. The receipt of

this money called forth a fine letter of thanks from the Secretary. The return of patients showed 68 in hospital on 20/6/1908. Matron supplied a list of furniture necessary for the kitchen block which had been completed but not handed over to the hospital trustees. Sister Patterson having completed her 4 years course of training was handed her certificate of a qualified nurse.

1/7/1908 Mr. S. A. Moss, the dispenser, tendered his resignation as the hospital dispenser. This resignation was not accepted. An increase in salary to £130 per annum was granted which satisfied the hospital authorities and Mr. Moss. Mr. A. Cook, Mayor of Newcastle, wrote on behalf of the Mayoress, announcing steps taken by the Mayoress and Ladies of the District to raise funds to furnish the new kitchen and servants quarters. The Committee to recommend that this offer be accepted. Matron reported that Nurse Nicholson returns from leave on 4th July. Nurse Asher goes on leave when Nurse Nicholson returns. Grace Martin started as a kitchenmaid. Requires 10 dozen cups and 10 dozen saucers stamped with the hospital crest.

Dr. Moran reported 7 patients in over 60 days and there were three cases of diphtheria in isolation. He asks for one day's leave, Dr. H. Harris being willing to be responsible for the hospital on that day. Matron was asked to submit a detailed report on the following items. Unfortunately this report does not appear in any books examined though the Committee agreed that the report was satisfactory. (1) Time of coming on duty daily (2) Time of going off duty daily (3) Time off duty resting daily (4) In her daily duties does she include a visit to each patient in the several wards confined to bed (5) Is the carving and serving

of food for the patients personally supervised by her at meal times (6) Is she on duty in the hospital during the hours allotted to visitors to patients in the day time (7) Does she preside at table during the principal meals of the nursing staff at the Home. (8) Are the servants (male and female) bedrooms daily inspected by her. The weekly return of patients showed that on 27/6/1908 there were 69 in the wards.

10/7/1908 Owen Gilbert M.L.A. reported that Mr. Raw of the Public Works Department would wait on the Committee relative to the hot water plant - the appointment he failed to keep. The Secretary, Scott Laing, stated that "like the new laundry, the new kitchen could not be utilised for its purpose owing to the plant for steam and hot water not being fixed. The District Works officer following a complaint that dampness was seeping through the walls of the nurses home supplied reasons why it happened and how it could be remedied.

The Committee's main worry was what it would cost to repair.

The quotation from Sorbys for cups and saucers with hospital badge amounted to 6/- per dozen. The Committee were not satisfied with this price and left the matter in the Secretary's hands to write to the manufacturer in England. The Mayoress, Mrs. Janet Cook, invited the Committee to afternoon tea given by the ladies at the opening of the new kitchen wing. The Committee sent a letter of sympathy to the President C. H. Hannell on account of the death of his eldest son Esmond.

15/7/1908. Doctor H. M. Moran reported that there were 6 patients in the hospital over 60 days. There were 3 diphtheria cases in isolation, 2 minor operations had been satisfactorily performed and he

recommended Godfrey, the Hall Porter, for an increase in wages after 4 years service. The Committee decided that the remuneration was adequate for the position and that Godfrey's suitability for the position was not all that could be desired as Hall porter, neither could they see how the wardsman could control the hall porter.

July 16/1908. At the invitation of the Mayoress of Newcastle, Mrs. A. Cook, a number of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the Newcastle Hospital yesterday afternoon to witness the opening of the new kitchen and servants quarters. The function was in every way an enjoyable one and the ladies Committee headed by the Mayoress made complete arrangements for the comfort of the visitors. The Matron, Mrs. McAllister, and the nursing staff also rendered valuable assistance in carrying the function to a successful issue. The members of the General Committee in attendance were the President, Mr. C. H. Hannell, and Messrs. W. Lyne, W. H. Goodman, M. J. Moroney, J. F. Grahame, R. J. Bond and W. Beavis, Dr. J. Beeston M.L.C. and Mr. A. Edden M.P., also attended, apologies for non attendance being received from Messrs. Owen Gilbert and W. C. Grahame Ms P.

Mr. Hannell said it gave him much pleasure to be present to officiate at the opening of the new kitchen and servants quarters. Many years had passed since the General Committee of the institution first made application for the money to erect the buildings. They were invariably told by the heads of the different Government Departments that no money was available until Sir John See was approached and that gentleman told them he would give them £4000, £2000 for general purposes and £2000 for the new kitchen. Unfortunately however Sir John See's Government got into difficulties

and the hospital only received half the amount promised. When Mr. Carruthers became Premier he introduced the pruning knife and the money promised was withheld until the Wade Government came into power. The Present Government had been very good to the Hospital and it was due to their liberality that the much needed additions had been made to the buildings. The Mayoress and a number of ladies had kindly undertaken to raise the money required to furnish the new buildings and in that connection he might suggest that if other ladies of the city would only come forward they could do the institution an incalculable amount of good. He was pleased to be able to say that there would be ample furniture to furnish the new home and possibly the ladies would be in a position to hand a fair amount of money over to the hospital. There were a great many ladies who kept themselves aloof when anything was required for the hospital. He did not know the reason but the fact remains that only a few did anything for the institution.

In Mrs. Cook the city had an estimable Mayoress and on behalf of the Committee he thanked her for the good work she had already done for the hospital. The Mayor, Alderman Cook, said that when Mrs. Cook spoke of doing something for the hospital he was only too pleased to assist. Mrs. Cook had met with every success and a substantial sum was sure to be forthcoming. Messrs. Dix and Baker and Kings Picturescope Company had generously offered to give matinee performances and in the different suburbs something was being done to assist the Newcastle Ladies in the good work they had on hand so that a big financial success was assured. He hoped the new buildings would prove of great benefit to the institution. The old kitchen was a disgrace and the new additions had not been erected before they were

required. At the request of Mr. Hannell, the Mayoress then opened the new building at the same time thanking the Committee for the honour they had conferred upon her.

Afternoon tea was then partaken of in the new building upward of £8 being realised. At intervals vocal and instrumental items were contributed by Miss Hestelow, Miss Flinders, Miss Kingswell and Mr. Wallace and the Cooks Hill School Band also played a number of selections. Miss Kingswell afterwards visited the medical wards and gave a couple of recitations which were much appreciated by the patients. The contract for the kitchen block and servants quarters was let on January 14 to Messrs. C. Davis & Sons of Adamstown at £2995, the laundry having been completed nearly 2 years ago. The kitchen embraces Scullery, Serving Room, male servants dining room and two storerooms and is fitted with a large stove in the centre and press for utensils, sinks and tables for serving. The kitchen is lined with opal tiles to a height of 12 feet and the floors are cemented and covered with ironite. The servants quarters comprise two sections, one for males, downstairs and females upstairs. In the male section there are four bedrooms, linen press, bathroom etc., and in the female section there are five bedrooms, linen press, bathroom etc. and also a spacious balcony commanding an excellent view of the ocean. The whole building is covered with tiles. In the foundations there are six piers of concrete 4 feet square and 20 feet deep and the whole being covered with 18 inch thickness of cement spread over the whole area. The yard has been newly asphalted. The new block presents a most imposing appearance. The work was superintended by Mr. Tosh of the Government Architects Department.

Dr. H. M. Moran wrote tendering his resignation as Resident Medical Officer to the institution.

He expressed to the President and the committee his deep appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they had at all times shown him. It would be idle for him to pretend that the position he was about to vacate was a bed of roses yet he found it infinitely more easy than he anticipated at the time of his appointment when only the thorns seemed visible. They could realise then the pleasure it gave him to think that for the past twelve months they had worked amicably together in the interests of the institution and they would understand that what errors and mistakes were his resulted from an excess of enthusiasm in the performance of his duties. Though he was looking forward to a trip which would enable him to pursue his studies in England on the continent he felt genuinely sorry to part from so many hospitable people and so many warm friends. The resignation was accepted with regret several members of the committee testifying to the conscientious and capable manner in which Dr. Moran had discharged his duties. It was decided to take steps to appoint a successor to Dr. Moran.

The House Committee in their progress report pointed out that it was proposed to occupy the servants quarters immediately. The new kitchen would also be brought into use at the same time but owing to the plant for hot water and steam not yet being installed in connection with the laundry the whole of the culinary improvements in connection with the new kitchen could not be brought into operation until steam was available. As there seemed to be some unaccountable delay in fitting up the hot water apparatus and laundry machinery a grant for which was allotted by the Chief Secretary some time ago it would be necessary to call the Minister's attention to the dilatoriness of the Public Works Department in the matter and the great inconvenience

the hospital was experiencing by the want of the proper equipment of the new laundry.

The Committee recommended that this action be taken at once. In moving the adoption of the report the president pointed out that over 12 months ago money had been voted for the hot water service and for the furniture for the laundry, but so far nothing had been done by the department. The result was they could not have taken over the building for the reason they had no steam power. He could not understand why the Government did not force the hands of the Public Works Department. It was an important matter and nearly two years had elapsed since the laundry was completed and yet there was not a stick of furniture in the place. The new buildings were no good to the hospital at present. It was necessary that prompt action be taken. That day the kitchen had been opened. The Ladies had done nobly and a lot of money would be raised as a result of their efforts. They were still carrying on the work and he thought the thanks of the Committee were due to the Mayoress and those ladies who were assisting her. The report was adopted. Accounts amounting to £392/16/2 were passed for payment. The current account at the bank stood at a credit of £430/15/-. Mr. M. J. Moroney suggested that more probationary nurses should be appointed. The President pointed out that the salary list was already very heavy. It was decided to ask matron to supply a report on the matter.

Mr. T. Moase said it had been suggested to him that a tax on shipping should be imposed for the benefit of the hospital. The President stated that fifteen years ago he had tabled a similar motion but the Government would not consider any local taxation.

The statement of the working of the hospital for the half year ending 30th June 1908 showed - total treated 780, discharged cured 571, relieved 75, unrelieved 3, died 57, remaining in hospital 30th June, 74.

Outpatients treated 356. Daily average beds in use 75. Average death rate 5.6. Operations performed 390.

The quarterly requisition list is here given. 300 yards gauze, 100 yards unbleached sheeting, 200 yards bandage calico, 50 yards yellow calico, 30 yards white calico for nurses, theatre gowns, 50 yards shirting, 50 yards flanellette, pyjamas, 25 yards Dowlas for doctors theatre gowns, 25 yards roller sheeting, 50 yards of huckaback for patients towels, 50 yards cretonne for the skeleton wardrobes, 50 dressing towels for new wing and to cover doctors couch 50 white turkish towels for medical officers, 6 white coats for doctors in theatre, 18 tray cloths, 12 toilet covers, nurses home, 50 yards flannel for operation shirts, 25 yards muslin, 25 yards of stiff muslin for plaster bandages. This list of items for an overall population per day of exactly 100 persons. An enquiry was held following the reports of the Resident Medical Officer and matron on the burning of two male patients F.

Moroney and R. Ingall by means of hot water cans following operations late in June. After obtaining further verbal statements from Dr. Moran and Matron McAllister respecting the nursing and supervision in the wards on operating days the Committee came to the following unanimous decision. "Having investigated the cases of burning of the two patients Ingall and Moroney in the hospital and after carefully considering the reports and verbal statements in reference to the matter from the Resident Medical Officer and Matron, the Committee are of the opinion that if proper care had been taken these injuries could not have happened.

With a view of providing against similar occurrences eventuating in future the Committee direct that the matron shall personally supervise the working of the wards of the hospital on the afternoons of the 4 operation days of the week, viz. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 o'clock until the patients tea is served, viz. 5 p.m. The Committee furthermore direct that the matron shall as far as practicable be in attendance in the hospital from 9 to 1 daily excepting Sundays and in the afternoons on not less than 5 days in the week from 2 till 5 p.m. i.e. operation days and Sundays. In her absence the Head Sister to act in the Matron's place. In other respects the rules are to be carried out consistently with the responsibilities of the Matron's very important position."

The General Committee through the Secretary, Honorary Medical Board, read a letter from Professor Anderson Stuart relative to the appointment of a successor to Dr. H. M. Moran. In the letter he stated "You should only appoint a Resident Medical Officer until 31st December and make the appointment strictly annual and then you get a choice of men after the annual examinations. At odd times you only get odd men. Dr. Harrie J. Harris of Watt St., Newcastle, who at times had helped out Dr. Moran when he went on leave, was appointed to the position of Resident Medical Officer. His salary was at the rate of £200 per annum and following Professor Stuart's remarks the appointment was until 31st December, 1908. The General Committee on 12/8/1908 met at the hospital under C. H. Hannell Esq., J.P. Those present were W. Lyne, A. Timbury, F. G. Crofts, R. J. Bond, C. W. Teece, W. Bethune, H. M. Cohen, A. B. Gilbert, J. F. Grahame, J. L. Fegan and W. Beavis. The House Committee in

their progress report pointed out that the new kitchen building and servants quarters were now in full occupation and only awaited the completion of the steam cooking appliances, for which tenders had been called to have matters in this department in proper order. The Committee had brought under the notice of the Chief Secretary the urgent necessity for the building of a retaining wall on the eastern and South-eastern boundaries of the hospital site fronting Telford Street for the purpose of securing the safety of the present buildings and in order that the whole of the area may be utilised and had applied for a grant of £2000 for the work.

Accounts to the amount of £472/11/11 were recommended for payment. The credit balance at the bank that day was £153 and when accounts that had been passed were paid it was expected that the account at the Bank would be overdrawn to the extent of about £200. The President in moving the adoption of the report said the retaining wall at the rear of the building was an absolute necessity and £2000 was not a penny too much to complete the work. The financial position of the hospital required the earnest attention of the committee and he recommended that something should be done to get the money in. He knew where there were many contributors which could be had for the asking. A proper canvass should be made and if they did not do something it either meant insolvency or another appeal to the Government. Last year they got £500 from the Government but that had gone. The Chief Secretary had told them he could not grant a bed subsidy but he had promised them favourable consideration. In answer to Mr. Teece the President said he intended to approach the Newcastle Jockey Club with a view to a race meeting

being held in aid of the institution. The club had been very good to the hospital by granting the free use of the course on nine occasions and the result had been something like £5000. Mr. S. Laing, the Secretary, explained that circulars were sent out regularly reminding subscribers that their subscriptions were due. So far this year between £400 and £500 had been collected and a couple of miners' lodges had not sent in their subscriptions. Mr. Fegan undertook to ascertain the amount the Chief Secretary had placed on the Estimates for the Institution. The President said they would have to take steps in connection with hospital Saturday and suggested that the Mayoress be written to asking her to convene a meeting of ladies.

C. Davis and Sons tendered for the cure of dampness in the Nurses Home £9/10/- to replace flashings and repair defective joints in walls. On August 3rd Newcastle was lashed by a severe gale which did some damage to the hospital. At the nurses Home verandah doors blown in, southern window glass broken and an inside door smashed. Fasteners of windows broken off in attic rooms and plaster above staircase in the ceiling broken. Outside spouting blown away and many slates displaced. On the main hospital many slates were blown off all exposed spoutings disjointed and loose and all chimney pots blown away. The Secretary was instructed to have repairs done immediately.

The following defects were reported to the Government Architect in the new kitchen. Damp in southern wall, rain beating under doors on eastern side, window broken and leaks in the sinks in the kitchen. Mr. Ralph Hope who was touring England forwarded reports on the Sunderland and County of Durham hospitals. Dr. Harris' report of 7/8/1908

showed that there were 6 patients in hospital over 60 days and that isolation housed 1 diphtheria and 1 scarlet fever patient.

F. Witherspoon who held the groceries contract, intimated that owing to the rise in the price of butter he was not making any profit at all. He asked the Committee to help him by curtailing the use of butter. Matron was asked to do so.. The subsidy claim for the quarter ending 30/6/1908 only amounted to £81.3.8 not much of a help when the storm damage had to be attended to. Dr. J. L. Beeston intimated that he would be away at Military Camp for 14 days at Liverpool and that Dr. Nickson had intimated his willingness to carry out his hospital duties. £28/18/6 only was received by the hospital in fees and subscriptions from 8th to 12th August. The Committee decided that badly cracked and chipped crockery was to be gradually withdrawn from use in the wards and replaced by good crockery. The enamelled bowls in use for porridge were to be replaced by crockery. The weekly return showed 76 patients within the hospital. The Honorary Medical Officers were asked to curtail the number of patients due to the financial embarrassment in which the hospital found itself. On 28th August 1908 the Chief Secretary's Department notified the hospital that the request for £2000 to building a retaining wall had been received.

The sum of money collected by the Mayoress and Ladies at various functions to furnish the new kitchen amounted to £55/1/8. The Committeemen were most appreciative of their efforts. The matron's report of the 4th and 11th September 1908 is quoted here in full as indicative of wages paid. Nurse Cuthbertson returned from her holidays 3/9/1908.

Sister Greaves will leave for hers on 9/9/1908. Sorbys have submitted prices for crockery basins with our badge on. Breakages 2 cups, 1 cup was broken by a male patient and the other by a nurse who paid 4d to have it replaced. Mrs. Cridlands, head laundress, wishes to leave on 12/9/1908. I would recommend Kathelleen Gill be promoted to her position and her wages raised from 14/- per week to £1 per week. Also Sarah Wilson be promoted to 2nd laundress her wages raised from 10/- to 12/- per week. Nellie Goodsir to continue at 10/- per week. Frances Armstrong (kitchenmaid) be promoted to 4th laundress at 10/- per week. Annie Latham to start duties as kitchenmaid at 7/- per week. Nurse Slack returned from her holidays 9/9/1908. Nurse Studdart will leave for hers 14/9/1908. We will require to furnish another bedroom for the new laundress as Mrs. Cridlands slept at home. Required 6 doz. Olive Castile soap 15/- 6 doz turkish bath soap 13/6, 2 gallons brandy £3, 2 gallons of whiskey £3, Total £7/8/6.

17/9/1908. Mr. T. M. O'Neill, honorary treasurer to the hospital wrote drawing attention to the present state of the finances and forwarding statement of estimated receipts and expenditure to the end of the year as follows --

Receipts, Subscriptions £135, Hospital Saturday same as last year £272, fees of patients £280, Government Subsidy for present quarter £181, estimated deficit at end of year £811, Total £1679. Expenditure, A.J.S. Bank overdraft 1/9/1908, £1584. Total £1679/4/-.

From the figures it would be seen how necessary it was for prompt measures to be taken to meet the deficit with which the hospital was threatened and he had every confidence that the President and Committee would

give the matter the consideration and attention it required. He had also written to Owen Gilbert, M.P., asking him to bring the matter under the notice of the Government. In a letter to Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Gilbert said he had strongly urged the matter of a special grant on the Chief Secretary and he had promised to place the matter before the cabinet shortly. Referring to the state of the finances, the President said that the excessive price of food was responsible in a great measure for the present condition of affairs. However, he did not think they would be so badly off as Mr. O'Neill had predicted but for all that they must not lose sight of the fact that they would be behind at the end of the year. Several months ago the chief Secretary when visiting the hospital promised a special vote to keep the hospital going but so far he had not advised the Committee as to whether the money was available. Mr. Wood said he was alive to the fact that the institution was deserving of some consideration and although he could not give them a bed subsidy he would see that a special vote was forthcoming. He (Mr. Hannell) pointed out to Mr. Wood that they could not get sufficient money from the people of Newcastle to keep the hospital going and it was mainly on that account that they asked for special consideration. Too much praise could not be given to the ladies who had worked so energetically to obtain money for furnishing the new kitchen. In that connection Mrs. Herbert of Kings Picturescope Company had rendered splendid service and the Mayoresses of Newcastle and other municipalities had also done well. He had approached the Newcastle Jockey Club Committee with a view to securing a day for a race meeting but he was afraid the request could not be complied with owing to the heavy liabilities the club had to meet. On nine occasions they had given him

the free use of the course and the race meetings had realised a sum of £5000. He was only too sorry that he could not undertake the task of raising £800 for the hospital, owing to the state of his health. He could not get about and had nothing like the energy he had 12 months ago. On 12/9/1908 there were 69 patients in the wards and 3 infectious cases in isolation. The Secretary reported the glass top of the instrument table had been cracked "no one knows how" so the Committee ordered that whenever a glass slab became broken it was to be replaced by a sheet of iron painted white.

The Mayoress, Mrs. A. Cook, reported all ready for the hospital collection on October 10th. Her ladies had expressed a willingness to beat last years total of £272.

The ladies who on Saturday 10/10/1908 made the annual collection on behalf of Newcastle Hospital were favoured with beautiful weather and the result of their labours was that last years sum was exceeded by £89/10/-, the amount for the day being £369/10/7. The arrangements for the collection in the city had been made by a committee of ladies of which the Mayoress, Mrs. A. Cook, was president and Miss E. Kirkwood was Secretary. The Town Clerk issued a licence to each lady collector so that everyone was assured that their coins went to the proper cause. Dr. Beeston gave the use of his surgery for the making up of buttonholes. The Manager of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Mr. T. M. O'Neill, and the Secretary of the hospital, Mr. S. L. Laing, were kept busy until nearly midnight tabulating and checking the various sums. In the banking chamber Messrs. F. L. Wyndham, W. H. Todhunter, E. O. Hopkins, A. L. Chute, G. H. Chambers of the A.J.S. Bank and Mr. C. R. Geddes of

the Bank of New South Wales were hard at work counting the contents of the boxes. Mr. Lyne and Mr. Bond of the hospital committee were present during the greater part of the day as was Mr. Harold O'Neill and Mr. J. Mitchell. During the day musical programmes were rendered by the Band of the 4th Australian Infantry Regiment, City Band, Central Methodist Mission Band and Cook's Hill Superior Public School Band.

The quarterly meeting of the general Committee of the hospital was held on Wednesday 21/10/1908. Mr. Gilbert M.P. wrote that an amount of £300 had been provided on the estimates for maintenance purposes and this the Minister proposed to augment from the general vote for such purposes. Mr. Gilbert also said that the necessary money had been provided for carrying out the retaining wall at the hospital and he was now urging the completion of plans and calling for tenders.

Mesdames Cook and Dalby and Miss Rees forwarded a cheque for £12/13/- proceeds of a euchre party and dance organised by the Stockton ladies committee. Alexander Bros., Hunter Street, forwarded £5 being half their takings on Friday last. The quarterly statement of the working of the hospital from 1st July to September 30th showed number of beds available 80, inmates remaining in hospital June 30th 1908, 74. Admitted during the quarter ended September 30th, 312. Total treated 386. Discharged cured 356, relieved 38, unrelieved 3, died 29. Total number discharged or died 326, remaining in hospital on Sept. 30th, 60. Number of outdoor patients treated 185. Attendances 999. In and out patients treated 571. Mean residence per patient in days 20.4, average daily resident 73.25. Average death rate per cent of inpatients 7.5, average death rate per cent of inpatients who died after 48 hours from admission 4.9. Number of

operations performed under anaesthetic chloroform 62, ether 95, cocaine 3, ether and chloroform 6, total 166.

Mr. William Longworth of Karuah, Port Stephens, waited on Dr. J. L. Beeston M.L.C., Secretary of the Medical Board of the Newcastle Hospital yesterday afternoon and intimated that he had for some time been thinking of making a donation to the hospital. Mr. Longworth stated that his gift to the hospital would be £1000 and intimated the conditions which he wished observed. Dr. Beeston expressed his warm appreciation of Mr. Longworth's gift and communicated with Mr. S. L. Laing, Secretary of the hospital, to whom the papers in connection with the matter were forwarded. At the meeting of the General Committee last evening a letter was read from Mr. Longworth in connection with his gift. Mr. Longworth said he had pleasure in handing over the necessary papers to entitle the trustees to obtain New South Wales Government stock for £1000 bearing interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The conditions which he attached to the donation were (1) the principal sum to be and remain perpetually vested in the trustees for the time being of the institution and be represented by Government Stock or other approved security. (2) The interest on the stock or security be received half yearly and devoted to the maintenance of a bed or beds which he desired to perpetually endow in the names of his late father and mother, Thomas Longworth and Rose Longworth. Mr. Moroney moved "That the offer be received with thanks and that Mr. Longworth be made a life member of the institution". The motion was unanimously carried. It was pointed out that the gift would mean £35 per annum in addition to the Government Subsidy. The Committee asked that Dr. H. Harris immediately check the instruments in the operating theatre. They had been

informed that certain Honorary Medical Officers were borrowing surgical instruments and removing them outside the hospital. The instrument cases in future must be locked. Dr. H. Harris reported that the instruments had been borrowed with his permission that they had been returned in good order and condition. It was then decided by the Committee that "the borrowing of drugs and instruments from the institution is to be carefully checked and the doctor to be directed to keep a book in which must be entered a description of the article borrowed, the name of the borrower, date borrowed and date returned. This book must be placed before the committee monthly.

The return of patients in the hospital showed 58 on 26/9/1908. The Secretary Medical Board notified the Committee that Nurses Hughes, Smith and Blacklock had passed their 1st year examination but Nurses Richter and Nicholson had been deferred for 4 months. Duncan McGeachie of Toronto (9/10/1908) wrote regretting that an ambulance ordered by Dr. Horsfall to take his son from Wickham to Toronto was not sent. The Secretary reported that the ambulance was not sent because Matron could not spare a nurse it being a heavy operating afternoon and a case of diphtheria just admitted. The ambulance is never sent out without a nurse accompanying it. The Committee rules that a letter of explanation be sent to Mr. McGeachie. The Treasurer, N.S. Wales Railway and Tramway Benevolent Fund, forwarded cheque £11 in payment of three small accounts.

Matron reported that Eva Butterworth went on leave from laundry, that Lilly Butterworth was relieving her. Sister Greaves and Nurse Studdert returned from leave that Nurse Hughes about to go on

leave and that Nurse McGregor has been sick for three days. She recommends an increase of wages to the kitchenmaid 7/- to 9/- but the committee advanced the maid 1/- only.

In converting the Board room to a Nurses day room matron required 1 table, 1 cupboard, 1 sink, hot and cold water and a gas ring. The Committee decided against spending this money. Nurse Mitchie broke the glass top of a locker. Dr. Harris reported 6 cases of enteric within the hospital and the number of patients on 10/10/1908 was 62.

Early in November 1908 Dr. J. L. Beeston supplied to the hospital a list of subscribers who had specifically given small sums of money towards new ward lockers, the cost of which amounted to £26/12/2. The balance handed over amounted to £5 which he asked be placed towards the cost of installing electric current for the use of Roentgen ray machine. Dr. Beeston received a letter of thanks.

18/11/1908. The Secretary, Newcastle Band Association, notified the hospital that they would be giving a combined recital on Christmas night in aid of the hospital, Benevolent Asylum, Deaf and Dumb Asylum and Seamen's Mission. The Secretary of the Association asked that collectors be appointed by the hospital. The Railway Band as usual would play early in December to raise funds for the Nurses Christmas tree. The Secretary reported that he had received an additional amount of £17/2/6 from the Mayoress towards the cost of furnishing the new kitchen wing. The Undersecretary Department of Works forwarded sketch plans of proposed new morgue and retaining wall. These plans were approved by the Committee who forwarded them to the Honorary Medical Board who also passed them as suitable.

The Cash book on 6/11/1908 showed a debit balance of £75/16/2. The weekly return showed 61 patients within the hospital. Dr. Harris considers that the scheme for allowing Sister Veenman to have sole responsibility for the operating theatre and to be relieved of all other duties a good one. He considers that her salary would be saved by the shortened stay of surgical patients within the wards. After discussion the matter was deferred.

12/11/1908. Sister A. Patterson resigned her position on the staff to take effect on December 12th. Nurse Bertha Asher, senior qualified nurse, was promoted in her place on 18/12/08. The contractor for the supply of machinery and hot water appliances was making good progress with his contract in fitting up the laundry. In this connection application had been made to the Newcastle Council to supply the electrical power that would be required to drive the machinery. The President in moving the adoption of the House Committee's Report said the Government had been very good to them by providing the laundry which would soon be in operation. The plans for enclosing the grounds had been adopted and they expected to hear as to when a start would be made with the work.

The bad state of the isolation wards had been brought under the notice of the officer from the Public Works Department and he felt sure it was only a matter of time when new wards would be provided. Mr. W. Lyne said it was gratifying to know that the old laundry would shortly be removed. The new morgue would soon be built. He was pleased to say that the hospital would not be in such a bad position at the end of the year as was anticipated.

If the Government gave them the promised assistance there would be a credit of £100 instead of a deficit. Nurse James was appointed head nurse at Kurri Hospital. The final committee meeting of the year was held on December 1908. The President, C. H. Hannell was too ill to be present, the chair being taken by Mr. W. Lyne. Dr. H. J. Harris, Resident Medical Officer, wrote that according to the terms of his agreement his appointment terminated at the end of the present month. If the committee were agreeable he was willing to continue office under the same terms for the ensuing twelve months. It was agreed to reappoint Dr. Harris for another twelve months satisfaction being expressed at the successful manner in which he had discharged his duties. Miss O'Brien, Mistress, Public School, Adamstown, wrote forwarding a donation of £5/1/- from the girls of the school who would she said be glad if the amount together with the Government subsidy could be expended in the purchase of ice chests for the use of the wards. The offer was accepted with thanks, the suggestion in respect of ice chests be acted upon.

Mr. W. H. Upfold forwarded a cheque £10 in aid of funds. Mr. Upfold was made a life member. Acting Police Inspector Goulder forwarded £11/-/3 being half the takings less expenses at a glove contest announced to take place at the Victoria Theatre but which did not eventuate. The cash statement for the last month - subscriptions £20 fees £24. Accounts amounting to £372 were passed for payment. The current bank account being in credit £93 only. The house committee pointed out that the new machinery in the laundry together with the new hot water system now being fitted up under contract were almost ready for

handing over to the hospital management. The machinery was to be driven by electricity obtained from the City supply and the connection with that service had been made. The steam cookers in the kitchen had been tested and had proved satisfactory. The substitution of copper hot water pipes in place of the old iron ones had yet to be completed under the present contract and the operating theatre and nurses home connected with the new system.

The Railway Brass Band had been duly thanked for its kind services which resulted in £9/9/- being raised for the hospital Christmas tree. A letter conveying the respectful sympathy of the General Committee had been sent to Mrs. Joseph Wood and members of the family on the occasion of the death of Mr. J. Wood who had been a member of the General Committee and a Vice President of the hospital for many years.

The Committee decided that as so much machinery had been installed at the hospital they had better appoint a qualified mechanic who also held a licensed plumber's certificate so that the machinery would be attended. An advertisement calling for applications for that position appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald on 16/12/1908, but no particulars of salary are given. The Secretary reported that the centre pole of the ambulance waggon was broken on a trip to Swansea the road being so rough.

The Dean of Newcastle asked that the Cathedral Choir be allowed to sing carols to the patients on Christmas Day.

As decided at the last meeting and in response to an invitation the Medical Board met the Committee to confer with respect to the efficiency of the present

members of the nursing staff, the supervision of the training and the method of selecting applicants for training as nurses. The following members of the Board attended. Drs. Eames, Leslie, Dunlop, Nickson and Douglas. After Mr. Lyne had stated the object of the conference Dr. Beeston expressed the views of the Board on the subject which were (1) The field for selection of applicants for training was too restricted owing to the Committee's embargo on all but local ones, thus preventing those from other places and who had been partly trained in country hospitals where certificates cannot be given from being secured (2) No 3rd year nurse on the staff was capable of occupying the position of Sister likely to become vacant very shortly. (3) The Board was not prepared to say where the defects in the supervision lay, if any, in the nurses training. The nurses lacked ability in some cases to want of education and natural aptitude (4) Two trained nurses should be obtained from other hospitals to fill the position of sister. Dr. Beeston reported that in connection with the matter of a theatre sister previously discussed by him and the Committee he had ascertained that the dispenser would be unable to undertake the additional duties as suggested by the Committee and which it would be necessary for the holder of the position to perform. He therefore asked that the Board's recommendation that Sister Veenman be given the appointment be acceded to and that another ward sister in her place be appointed. The Committee decided to give the matter further consideration.

Mr. C. C. Fawcett was selected as mechanic & overseer, responsible for all machines operating within the hospital, all hot and ordinary water systems and drainage pipes. Salary to be £10 per month, hours

daily 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. with 2 hours for breakfast and dinner. Sundays and holidays to be on duty as required.

The Committee was generous in respect to the laundresses. They were each allowed a wooden grating on which to stand as their feet were constantly wet.

On 19/12/1908 there were 69 patients in the wards. The Resident Medical Officer reported 3 enteric and two diphtheria cases in isolation.

The Honorary Electricians, the Filmer Brothers, had fixed up the X-ray machine so that it was now working perfectly, all at no expense to the hospital. The Secretary noted in his minute book. Many presents in kind and money poured into the hospital to make a Christmas worth while for both staff and patients. The Committee members were invited to attend the Christmas tree arranged by the nurses, the function to be at 3.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

The first meeting of the House Committee for 1909 was attended by C. H. Hannell, Esq., J.P., President, Messrs. Alfred Timbury, W. H. Goodman, R.J. Bond, A. B. Gilbert, J. F. Grahame, F. G. Holloway, C. W. Teece, W. Bethune and M. J. Moroney. An apology was received from Mr. W. Lyne. The Paymaster, New South Wales Treasury, notified the hospital that £300, less exchange had been paid into the hospital account. That this sum was an extra allowance and vouchers would be required to show how it was spent on completion of the use of the amount. Sister Bessie Greaves resigned as sister at the hospital. The third of three especially fine nurses from one family had severed her connection with the hospital. Nurse L. Nicholson, 1st year nurse, having been examined by Drs. W. Nickson and A. H. Horsfall, was notified that she had passed her examination and was promoted to the

next grade. The following Lodges could not subscribe in 1909. Borehole Lodge of Miners, their members being on strike, Young Wallsend, Cooperation Lodge of Miners, Pitt Town Wallsend, Elsmore Vale at New Lambton and the Colliery Mechanics Union. Stanford Merthyr Miners Lodge stated that they subscribed to Maitland and Kurri hospitals. Many subscriptions were however received from Masonic Lodges, Dr. C. S. Rand, Hamilton, Dr. A. H. Harwood, Adamstown, Dr. J. Scott-Paton of Dudley, H. C. Langwill, Gas Company, Boilermakers Society and J. Hann as agent for H. Tighe of London. C. C. Fawcett now designated as plumber and mechanic commenced work on the 2nd January and was placed in charge of all outside staff.

Moves took place in the domestic staff. Sarah Wilson transferred to Housemaid at 12/- per week. Minnie Luxmore transferred to Laundress at 12/- per week. Nurses Matthews and Gibb were on holidays and a new probationer had started named Wright. Nurse Cumming was promoted to the position of Sister vice Sister Greaves who resigned. Nurse Olive Brown was taken on to staff as a probationer.

On 9/1/1909 the doctor reported 61 patients in the hospital. It was resolved that the Annual Meeting of subscribers be held 28th January 1909 in the lecture room of the Newcastle School of Arts. This annual meeting was under the Chairmanship of Mr. W. Lyne, the President, Mr. Hannell, not being well enough to attend. The report showed that the number of beds in the hospital available was 80. There had been 1352 patients admitted during the year of whom 1041 had been discharged cured, 188 had been relieved, 9 unrelieved and 118 died. The percentage of deaths was 8.3. The daily average number of patients was 71.5. The operations performed numbered 703. The average

cost per inpatient was £62/6/2. The outpatients numbered 745 with a total of 3818 attendances. The records showed that the year was a record one for the hospital. The Committee acknowledged the excellent service rendered by the Medical and Nursing staffs and the efforts of those who had assisted the institution in a variety of ways.

Regret was expressed at the death of Mr. Joseph Wood and the continued illness of Mr. C. H. Hannell, president of the hospital. The accounts showed an income of £4744/16/6 including £512 balance brought forward. The principal sources of income were subscriptions and donations £849, Hospital Saturday £372, fees of patients £1624, Government subsidy £1062. Government grant for maintenance £299. The principal items of expenditure were salaries and wages £1749, groceries £547, meat, fish, poultry £268, Milk and eggs £266, drugs and dressings £420. The year closed with a credit balance of £146. The annual report of the medical board stated that everything in connection with the institution was in a satisfactory condition and thanks were expressed to the committee for consideration shown to the various recommendations of the board. The hope was expressed that now the electric current was installed in the laundry it would be connected with the operating theatre and X-ray room.

In moving the adoption of the report the chairman said that last years work had been a record one in the institution, both as regarded the number of cases that had been attended and also with regard to the improvement to the hospital. There had been some changes through the year. They regretted that they had lost forever a gentleman who took for many years an active part in the institution and occupied the position

of Vice President with great ability. He referred to the late Mr. Joseph Wood. Several of the nurses had gone but he was pleased to say that there were some promising ones coming along.

During the year a friend of the institution, Mr. William Longworth, donated £1000 in Government stocks which would return interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to the institution. It was a great pity they had not more men in the same position as Mr. Longworth as charitable as he.

The Senior Medical Officer, Dr. John Harris, had been promoted to the position of consulting surgeon and Dr. J. R. Leslie had been appointed to the vacancy occasioned on the honorary medical staff. Dr. H. J. Harris as resident medical officer had given satisfaction not only to the committee but to the patients under his charge. The committee desired to thank the honorary medical staff for the manner in which they had carried out their duties. There had been harmonious relations between them and the committee throughout the whole year. The medical staff had made a suggestion to increase the usefulness of the institution. It was owing to the efforts of Mr. Owen Gilbert M.P. that they owed most of the money that had been received from the Government during the past year. The Committee owed a debt of gratitude to Mrs. A. Cook, Mayoress, and the lady collectors on hospital Saturday. The support from the outside public was not as large as it should be. The returns being proportionally lower than they were in smaller communities. Dr. Joseph Beeston M.L.C. in seconding the motion thanked the chairman for the kindly references to the medical staff. They had always tried to work amicably with the Committee but during the past year they had got on well. He would suggest that meetings of the Committee with the Medical staff

should take place at reasonable intervals. The hospital was rapidly becoming up to date. He hoped the recommendations for the installation of the electric light in the operating theatre and the X-ray room would be taken into serious consideration by the Committee. The nursing staff was going on well. Mr. A. Timbury in supporting the motion said it would be a good thing if the report were more generally read by the community. Erroneous and ridiculous ideas got about concerning the working of the hospital but not one of the charges had ever been proved. One complaint that he had heard was that the patients were starved and that good food sent into them by friends was not given to them. The people who made these complaints apparently could not understand that a patient's diet was directed by the medical staff. The following office bearers were elected for 1909. President C. H. Hannell, Vice President, a ballot to be taken between W. Lyne and H. M. Cohen, Honorary Treasurer T. M. O'Neill, Auditors F. H. Brooks and E. W. Paton, trustees Dr. J. L. Beeston, Messrs. J. Hall, C. H. Hannell, G. W. Mitchell and A. Timbury. Committee, Revd. W. F. James, Messrs. J. Alcock, W. Beavis, W. Bethune, R. J. Bond, F. G. Crofts, J. L. Fegan, A. B. Gilbert, W. H. Goodman, J. F. Grahame, F. G. Hollway, J. M. Hyde, W. Lyne, G. W. Mitchell, M. J. Moroney, F. Richardson, C. W. Teece, A. Timbury, F. W. J. Fletcher, L. P. Vial and J. P. Rees. At a later meeting, W. Lyne was appointed Vice President. There was much argument at this ballot but it was proved that W. Lyne was financial at the time of the ballot. . . The hospital was so full and the staff so busy that Honorary Medical Officers were instructed that they must ring the hospital before sending any further patients for admission. Still the laundry was not functioning due to lack of machinery, now the bother

was a steam pump. Approaches were made to the Government for a grant to pay for this essential piece of equipment. The Chief Secretary maintained that this steam pump should be a charge on Hospital maintenance.

No finality was reached up to February 1909. The Committee decided that Dr. Harris be instructed to see that patients discharged from indoor treatment who pay to a doctor or can afford to do so are not allowed to come to the Institution for after treatment as outdoor patients and nurses in charge shall not do any dressings in the wards for discharged inpatients without the authority of the Resident Medical Officer. No Honorary Medical Officer can give this authority. It was decided to have the windows of bathrooms and water closets at the nurses home refrosted. In February the Committee decided to call for tenders for a steam pump. A. Goninan & Co. £15 to £16/10/-. Paul and Gray £8/15/- to £29/10/- were two received. Committee decided to defer purchase this month.

26/2/1909. The educational certificate presented by probationer E. Wright was adjudged satisfactory by the A.T.N.A. so that another examination was not necessary. J. Campbell Wood managing Trustee Estate of the late Joseph Wood advised that he had paid to the Honorary Treasurer the sum of £250 bequeathed to the hospital by the late Joseph Wood. The disposal of this bequest was to be placed in the hands of the General Committee. Dr. Harris reported that there were 10 patients in hospital over 60 days. Walls of wards require cleaning and asks for an other man to help for a week or so. There were 7 infectious cases in the hospital. Matron McAllister reported explaining reason for allowing Sister Cumming to go

off on holidays when no other sister was on day duty etc. was on account of her knocking up. That she has proper control of staff although the refuse tin on the landing near the female ward was leaking and the steamer in the kitchen smelt. It only needed airing being closed up too long. C. Fawcett, the mechanic, reported that the boiler and machinery were in good order. The vent pipe between kitchen and laundry emits a bad smell. The overhead tank in boiler room will be ready for water next week. The Committee decided to advertise for a paid collector, the salary to be at the rate of 30/- per week with a commission of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on amounts collected. Applications to close at 5 p.m. on 5/3/1909. The Committee also decided to purchase the 3 x $1\frac{1}{2}$ x 3 Tangye Duplex Boiler Feed pump for £16 from Messrs. A. Goninan and Coy. quoted by them to be fitted up and connected to the underground tanks by the machinist. The weekly return showed 72 patients in the hospital on 20/2/1909. Drs. Beeston and Eames forwarded the results of the third year nursing examination. Nurses Studdart and Gibb were deferred for 3 months but Nurses Slack, Morris and Cuthbertson passed well. As at the beginning of each year the subscriptions were well up to standard £287 being received in the 14 days since last meeting. That amount together with fees received amounted to £357 for that period. Matron requisitioned for 2 gallons of whiskey and one dozen tumblers. It surprises me in 1954 the amount of spirits consumed in the hospital. Doctor Harris reported 10 cases in the hospital over 60 days, 15 minor operations done, 9 infectious cases and he recommended that new surgical instruments be purchased for the diphtheria ward.

S. A. Moss, the dispenser, submitted his resignation and supplied a temporary relief in the

person of James T. Doyle who was a qualified certificated dispenser. Captain A. Hacking, Superintendent of Navigation, Newcastle, forwarded a cheque for £20 being the part proceeds of a collection taken on board S.S. Pericles on Sunday, 24th January, 1909. He asked that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Capt. Simpson of the Pericles. The R.A.A. Band recitals on 30/1/1909 in Shortland Park amounted to £5/18/- and in the upper reserve £16/7/3. A warm letter of thanks was forwarded to Colonel Wallace, Officer in Charge, Victoria Barracks, for his wonderful assistance. The following gentlemen were elected to the Honorary Staff - Hon. Consulting Surgeon, Dr. John Harris, Hon. Medical Staff, Drs. J. A. Beeston, Dr. A. C. Crawley, Dr. J. Campbell Douglass, Dr. N. J. Dunlop, Dr. W. L. Eames, Dr. A. H. Horsfall, Dr. J. R. Leslie, Dr. W. Nickson. Honorary Pathologist, Dr. Robert Dick, Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr. S. H. Hughes, Hon. Dental Surgeons, F. G. Hollway, A. E. Vesper. Hon. Solicitor, H. J. Brown, Hon. Treasurer, T. M. O'Neill, Hon. Electricians, W. & E. Filmer. Fourteen applicants for the position of collector were examined and the selection went to Mr. Samuel Fisher of Broadmeadow. His terms of engagement were £75 per annum together with 2½ per cent, commission on all money collected. He was required to enter into a security of £100 with a recommended fidelity company. Drs. Beeston and Harris reported that probationer Olive Brown was medically fit to commence training. The Secretary reported that on the 17th the boilerman had neglected to attend to the boiler, thereby endangering this valuable piece of machinery. When asked the reason he abused the Secretary who discharged him forthwith. The Committee supported the Secretary's action. The infectious cases in the hospital on 17/3/1909 numbered 10 of which 7 were enteric and 3

diphtheria. The Vice President, W. Lyne, announced that on 4th March 1909, the President, C. H. Hannell Esq., J.P., had died. He moved "That this Committee deeply deplores the death of the late President of this hospital, Mr. Clarence Hewson Hannell, J.P. and desires to place on record its deep sense of appreciation of the good work done by him in advancing the interests of the institution at all times and for his indefatigable exertions in raising the sum of upwards of £17000 towards its maintenance during the tenure of his connection with the hospital as a member of committee, Vice President, and for the last 16½ years of his life, President. That a letter be forwarded to Miss Hannell conveying the Committee's profound sympathy with the family of our late President and enclosing a copy of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by W. Beavis and was carried unanimously. The writer considers that C. H. Hannell was a most outstanding man quite on a par with the late A. A. Rankin and herewith gives a resume of his life taken from several sources and from the Newcastle Morning Herald in particular.

The long life of C. H. Hannell terminated with suddenness on March 4th 1909. He had been attending the Newcastle Jockey Club meeting hoping to influence the Committee to give Newcastle Hospital the benefit of a race meeting. In walking down the passage to the meeting he collapsed and died immediately. Dr. John Harris who was close by pronounced life extinct. The hospital which he served so well supplied the ambulance which took his remains to his home in Church Street, Newcastle. The news of Mr. Hannell's death will be received everywhere with feelings of the keenest regret. It has severed another link connecting us with

the earlier history of Newcastle and by it the city loses an estimable citizen, a man of charitable disposition and of great simplicity of character who was deeply respected by all classes. In every respect he was a fine example of citizenship and his memory will be cherished not only by his immediate relatives but by all who knew him in his lifetime. In all matters affecting the welfare of Newcastle he was ever to the fore willingly giving his services on every available occasion without fee or reward. As a young man fortune favoured his maritime ventures and as the owner of several sailing vessels he amassed a considerable sum of money. He thus found himself in a position to take part in nearly every public movement and he became known throughout the northern district as a man of ability and of public spirit. He possessed many lovable traits - good nature frankness and geniality - and was always noted for his manliness and truthfulness. Apart altogether from his charitable work which would take a volume to describe adequately, he was born and reared within a short distance of the hospital for which he and his father laboured so well. The name Hannell is associated with the very earliest history of Newcastle, the statesmanlike Mr. James Hannell being the first Mayor of Wickham and of Newcastle. He filled these positions for several years in succession and subsequently represented Newcastle and the County of Northumberland in Parliament when there was no such thing as payment for members. The son C. H. Hannell was born on October 15th, 1836, and was thus in his 73rd year. After completing his education under the Revd. W. H. Savigney at the old Grammar School Mr. Hannell in 1855 took a trip to England returning to his native city after an absence of about twelve months. He began his public career in 1857 and ever since he

has been prominently before the public. He was a generous supporter of all movements for the alleviation of human want and suffering and today the community mourns the loss of a friend. His death removes a familiar figure and a strong personality and leaves a void and a gap that none can adequately fill.

Of all the institutions with which he was prominently identified his favourite was undoubtedly the Newcastle Hospital for which he unremittingly and unceasingly from the date of his father's death in 1876. It was the last wish of his father that he would do so and everybody knows how well that wish has been carried out. The welfare of that institution was always uppermost with the late Mr. Hannell and it was his proud boast that up to the time his health failed him last year he had been instrumental in raising upwards of £17000 for the hospital. His energy and determination was remarkably displayed on many occasions when money was required. He not only promoted entertainments and personally supervised the arrangements but he took a prominent part in the performances, the success of which was due in a great measure to his sholarly delineation of the many Shakesperian characters he portrayed. In recognition of his good work the "Hannell Wing" was erected and the duty of laying the foundation stone of the wing devolved upon the late Mrs. Hannell a compliment which Mr. Hannell fully appreciated. (This Hannell Wing was demolished to make way for portion of the new hospital 1949 - 1953. I was too late to save the marble plaque which adorned the Southern Wall, it was smashed as the Southern Wall was demolished. No visible record now remains of his work at the hospital.)

Mr. Hannell frequently announced that he would seek a rest after a successful effort on behalf

of the institution but as soon as he saw the hospital in need of funds the old ardour would not permit him to remain behind the scenes and the following year he would again be seen at the helm promoting with all that old time enthusiasm the entertainments in aid of the institution he so dearly loved and for which he had worked so energetically the better part of his life. As late as 1907 when the hospital was in straits he organised a horse race meeting and submitted a dramatic entertainment which practically took the hospital from the red and with the aid of £300 special aid from the Government did so. He was also chiefly instrumental in raising large sums of money for the benefit of the public school, Bulli disaster, Seamens Church, Sailors Home and Susanah Godefray and other wrecks. As treasurer of Ly-ee-moon and Bulli disaster funds, he perhaps excelled all his other efforts in the way of collecting subscriptions. For the Bulli disaster he collected £900 and the expenses only totalled 16/-. He laid the foundation stone of the superior public school in his capacity as Chairman of the local school board and subsequently opened the building for use. As president of the Sailors' Home he was instrumental in placing the institution upon a sound financial basis.

For nearly forty six years he occupied the position of shipping master and as can readily be imagined, he saw many changes during that period. In sporting circles he was well known. For upwards of fifty years he was connected with the Newcastle Jockey Club and in the early days of the club's existence he rendered it substantial financial assistance. He filled nearly every position in the club. He interested himself in cricket and encouraged young cricketers and supplied the Hannell Shield for competition. As a mere youth he won many races in his

outrigger and for sixteen years he held the amateur sculling championship. Even on the waters of Port Jackson he held his own with the best amateur scullers the metropolis could produce. He also annexed many sailing races, his boat "Oomoobah" being one of the fastest on the harbour. As the organiser of the Newcastle regatta for over 40 years he showed himself to be possessed of considerable business acumen. For several years he acted as Secretary and later became President. He conducted the carnivals, drafted the programmes, collected the money necessary for prizes and even handicapped the scullers, two of whom became internationally known, George Towns and R. Tresidder. Mr. Hannell was a fluent speaker and had considerable elocutionary culture. He was a stirring friend to the drama and on one occasion at the Victoria Theatre he appeared as Iago to Mr. W. Creswick's Othello. The following night he played Othello to Mr. Creswick's Iago. Mr. Hannell was very musical and had frequently appeared on the concert platform. At various times he was president of the Newcastle Musical Union, Philharmonic Society and Liedertafel. As a civil servant he was prevented from entering Parliamentary life. At the time of his death he was the oldest living novocastrian and knew many historical remembrances of the early days.

For many years he was the "Peoples" churchwarden at Christ Church Cathedral. Mr. Hannell leaves a family of three daughters and one son. Mrs. Hannell died some years ago. At the graveside the service, which was conducted by the Revd. J. Kirkland, vice Dean, reference to the death of Mr. Hannell and to his long and uninterrupted service as one of the parishioners churchwardens. The choir sang a setting of Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar". The writer considers that the

theme of the Herald obituary columns, the minutes of the hospital and contemporary accounts all show a genuine sorrow at the loss of this active citizen of Newcastle.

The acceptance of the following tenders was announced, Bread, G. A. Arnott 2d. per 2 pound loaf, Milk G. Muncaster $2\frac{3}{4}$ d per quart. Fish Mr. Chard 4d per lb. less 4%. Ice Mr. Chard 2/- per 100 pounds, less 5%. Burials, Mr. Moore £1/17/6 per interment.

22/4/1909. Dr. Beeston, honorary secretary Medical Board, wrote pointing out that ward trollies and screens were requisite to bring the wards up to date. The ladies who conducted the hospital catering tent at the show had agreed that a portion of the money raised should be set aside for the purchase of the necessities. He was desired to ask that the Committee accede to this request. The cost would be approximately £69.7.6. Mrs. Nickson, the honorary secretary, wrote forwarding cheque £150 nett proceeds of hospital tent takings at the show. The money was offered under the following conditions - £75 to be expended on the purchase of ward trollies and screens, £75 to be devoted to general purposes as desired by the Committee. The letter was received, the money to be expended in the direction indicated. Mr. Moroney commended the ladies for the successful results of their efforts and thought they were deserving of the Committee's best thanks. Mr. Timbury thought the ladies were deserving of the highest credit. Their success had been phenomenal and they had well earned more than ordinary thanks. It was decided to forward a letter of thanks to the ladies. Mr. G. A. Arnott wrote regretting that he would not be able to carry out the contract for the supply of bread to the Newcastle Hospital as per his tender owing to

the unprecedented rise in the price of best flour. The price in his tender he found would not cover the cost of making the bread, let alone afford a profit. It was decided to release Mr. Arnott from his contract and to accept the tender of Mr. Williams of the Junction.

Mr. J. Grisdale, secretary, Newcastle Jockey Club, wrote that it had been decided by the club to hold a charity day's race meeting in October, the hospital to receive one half of the proceeds and other charities one quarter each. Mr. Richardson thought that the arrangement was contrary to the regulations as one day had been set apart for the hospital. The day had really been gazetted for the hospital. Mr. Moroney pointed out that the day was not set apart for the hospital. The letter was received, the club to be thanked for its offer. Mr. T. Cunningham wrote offering to promote a benefit entertainment in aid of the hospital. The offer was declined with thanks. Mr. J. Clarke wrote forwarding a cheque for £50 legacy left for the hospital by the late Mr. John Thorn. Received with thanks. The Government Architect wrote desiring to know if everything in connection with the laundry machinery was satisfactory. The Committee thought it would have been more workmanlike if the building had received a coat of paint before being handed over by the contractor. The house committee in their report said they had come to the conclusion that a thorough investigation into the general management of the institution was very necessary as they realised that the duties of some of the employees were not utilised to the best advantage that supervision was lax and consequently that efficiency and discipline were not satisfactory. They therefore recommended that a subcommittee be appointed forthwith to make enquiry into the general management of the institution the

duties of the several members of the staff and employees, their efficiency etc. and submit a report to the general committee as soon as possible. Accounts were submitted for expenditure with a recommendation for payment as follows - Accounts liquidated by Committee £16/6/9. Accounts submitted £400/16/-.

The current account at the Australian Joint Stock Bank was in credit £422/18/11. Mr. T. J. Doyle had been temporarily employed as dispenser since Feb. 8th and had shown himself to be an efficient dispenser. It was recommended that he be appointed permanently at a salary of £2 per week with board and residence. The report was adopted on the motion of the chairman who said there was insubordination and no management in some portions of the institution. Mr. Richardson said the house committee had shown deplorable weakness in not dealing with the insubordination. After discussion the report was adopted Messrs. Beavis, Bond, Fegan, Grahame and Goodman, being chosen as the subcommittee to conduct the investigation as recommended by the committee.

Mr. Rees took exception to the item £1/1/- for wreaths in the statement of expenditure. He did not think it was fair that the hospital should be saddled with the cost of wreaths sent in the name of the committee. After discussion the members present defrayed the cost of the wreaths.

The quarterly statement of the working of the hospital from December 31st to March 31st showed that the number of beds available for ordinary patients was 76, for cases of an infectious nature 4, number of operations performed under anaesthetics, chloroform 94, ether 87, cocaine 1, ether and chloroform 2, total cases 184.

In May 1909, there appeared in the subscrip-

tion list the name of A. A. Rankin.

22/4/1909. The Chief Secretary's Department notified the hospital that the tender of Grant and Craven of Summer Hill for £2296 had been accepted for the erection of the brick retaining wall about the hospital! This brick retaining wall must be completed in 20 weeks. Mr. Owen Gilbert, M.L.A. was instrumental in obtaining an extra £300 for general hospital purposes. The Resident Medical Officers report of 24/4/1909 showed that there were 79 patients within the hospital and the infectious cases were 2 scarlet fevers, 6 diphtherias and 6 enteric cases.

Matron reported that Nurses Morris, James and Michie were on holidays and Nurse McGregor off duty with a poisoned finger. The Hospital's certificates of training were presented to Sister Bertha Asher (No. 38) and Sister Florence Cumming (No. 39), they having completed the 4 years course and qualified by examination and conduct. The Secretary, Northern Branch Rugby Union, Newcastle, 1/5/1909 - that it is proposed to hold a day's sport on Monday 7th June - Prince of Wales Birthday - 75% of the nett proceeds to be handed to the hospital. This generous offer was accepted. Mr. H. H. Lang as agent for Mrs. H.M. Slater of England forwarded a cheque £25 on her behalf. Mrs. Slater was a member of the Croasdill family who so generously helped the hospital from time to time and were each made a Life Member.

The machinist (Mr. Fawcett) reported that the pump recently installed had pumped dry the rain water tank near the laundry and asked for permission to install the pump on a large underground tank in front of the hospital. Two dozen pairs of blankets were purchased from Goodman Wright Ltd. at 12/3 per pair.

On 5/5/1909 welcome news that £1650, a special grant for retaining wall and morgue, had been received.

L. Bruck forwarded screens and trolleys both for ward use to the hospital, the cost £69/7/6 being carried by portion of the money secured at the refreshment tent by the voluntary ladies.

The matron requisitioned for 270 yards of dimity at 6d per yard to cover the screens, two gallons of brandy and 1 box of sanitary paper not forgetting one pair of large blankets especially for the Resident Medical Officers bed. Nurse Wright left the hospital ill and Nurse Roberts, probationer, commenced on 11/5/1909.

Nurse McGregor submitted a medical certificate on her return from sick leave. Seventy four patients in the hospital and 70 outpatients treated in the past 14 days.

A special meeting of the committee was called to consider the resignation of Dr. Harrie J. Harris as medical officer. He had arranged with Dr. H. B. Oxenham to act as locum during the month's notice. The Secretary was asked to notify the Honorary Medical Board of this resignation and to ask him (the Secretary) to contact the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine for a suitable substitute.

Professor Anderson Stuart recommended Dr. H. B. Oxenham as Resident Medical Officer. The appointment was confirmed by the Committee who recommended that the term of office be from 18/6/1909 to 31/12/1909.

Sister Annie Naylor resigned her position at the hospital to nurse her sick mother. Richard McAuliffe was granted the ambulance contract in lieu

of Mrs. E. A. Clift who found she could not carry on. Nurse Amy Matthews was promoted to sister in lieu of Sister Naylor.

Messrs. Grant and Craven, contractors for the erection of new morgue and retaining wall, commenced operations on May 3rd. Miss Ellen Roberts had been appointed a probationary nurse.

On the recommendation of Matron McAllister the stock of blankets had been replenished preparatory to the approaching cold weather at a cost of £15/19/9.

Thanks were expressed to the Hetton and Newcastle Coal companies for gifts of coal. The Committee had sent a letter of thanks to Mr. L. De Groon for the enjoyable recital given by his orchestra at the hospital on Monday afternoon. The financial statement showed the receipts to be £238 which with the balance £266 brought forward from March made a total of £504. The expenditure was £399 and the balance at the bank £104. Accounts amounting to £347 were passed for payment.

June 17/1909. It was a very urgent matter that the proposed new infectious diseases block as part of the scheme for the new hospital should be built without further delay owing to the delapidated condition and general unsuitableness of the present isolation wards etc. It was recommended that the general committee consider the advisableness of applying to the government to furnish sufficient funds for this work to be carried out by the Public Works Department as soon as possible. Repairs to the steam boiler in the laundry had been necessary owing to the fire bricks in the smoke box breaking down. The work had been satisfactorily carried out at small cost and the inconvenience of having the steam and hot water cut

off was reduced to 48 hours. Nurse Amy Matthews, senior nurse on the staff, was recommended for promotion to ward sister. Misses F. Sykes and A. Mullins had been selected as suitable applicants by the matron and were recommended for appointment as probationers on trial to fill the vacancies caused by retirements from the nursing staff.

Accounts to the amount of £385 were passed for payment, since last month's report subsidy claims on the Government for the 6 months ended March 31st 1909 amounting to £1149 had been received from the Treasury. The credit balance at the A.J.S. bank was £1423. The quarterly report of the Resident Medical Officer showed the number of beds available at 76 with 4 beds in infectious wards.

During the quarter 394 patients had been treated, 239 discharged cured, 53 relieved and 9 unrelieved, 24 died and 69 remained in hospital at the end of the quarter. Of outdoor patients 175 had been treated. The average death rate for inpatients was 6.06 per cent and for those who died within 48 hours of admission 5.06 per cent.

There had been 910 operations. Medical cases treated 168 of which 98 were cured, 35 relieved and 5 unrelieved. There were 74 patients in the hospital at present. The House Committee recommended a cooking range be installed in the Nurses Home in place of the present gas stove and water heaters. To provide additional accommodation for the nursing staff the Committee proposed to convert the attic rooms into single bed rooms.

Nurse E. Roberts had resigned and Miss M. Edgar and Miss L. Graham had been appointed probationary nurses. The contractor for the retaining wall and morgue was making steady progress with the work.

Mr. Richardson drew the Committee's attention to a complaint made that an injured footballer had been brought to the hospital 4.30 p.m. on Saturday 10/7/1909 and was not attended to until 9.30 p.m. The medical officer was playing football in the same match. He did not blame the doctor but the case should be looked at by whoever the Doctor had arranged with to take his place. It was decided to ask Dr. Oxenham to give a report on the matter. The report of the subcommittee consisting of the President, Vice President and Messrs. Fegan, Grahame, Bond and Goodman, appointed on 21/4/1909 to investigate the general management of the hospital and to enquire into the discipline and efficiency of the employees was read by the secretary. The report stated that an exhaustive enquiry had been made and every section of work of the hospital had been investigated with a view to modernising the hospital, improving its administration and general efficiency and eliminating any disabilities which might have had a tendency to militate against the successful treatment and general welfare of the patients or to prejudice a good reputation of the hospital in public opinion.

The report had been signed by the whole of the subcommittee. After giving its findings as to the working of the institution as revealed by the evidence taken, the Committee made the following recommendations (1) that with the view of completing and maintaining the efficiency and discipline of the staff of employees in the service of the hospital the Secretary shall be the recognised head of the establishment for the purposes of general management and that to him every permanent officer of the institution shall be responsible for the proper discharge of his or her duties in accordance with the rules (2) that to enable the members of the nursing staff being conceded more leisure

time for recreative purposes which we urge as being very necessary for their well being, an additional probationer should be appointed (3) that in order to ensure a proper and adequate system of checking in the receiving and issuing of stores etc. and in the general economy. Suitable books for the purpose showing the receipt, check and issue of stores, should be kept by the matron who should be instructed that on no account shall she depute these duties to a subordinate unless in the event of illness or compulsory absence.

(4) that to make the registration of patients both in the indoor and outdoor departments more efficient and satisfactory it is advisable that the card system as now in use in the Sydney and Royal Prince Alfred Hospitals should be introduced. (5) That to ensure more effective supervision on behalf of the General Committee of the regular working of the institution a definite system of visiting for inspecting purposes by the members of the house committee be organised.

(6) that the bylaws be revised with a view of making such amendment as will bring them into conformity with the foregoing recommendations. The President said that the committee had gone fully into the whole question of the management of the hospital. They had found that on the whole it was well conducted but the Committee recommended the appointment of the Secretary as the recognised head and also made recommendations in regard to the matron's duties so as to prevent disorganisation in any regard. Mr. Fegan said the two chief points were that they had no proper head of the hospital and the matter of checking the stores. Recognising that the Secretary was the most permanent officer they had placed him in charge.

The second matter had caused the sub committee the greatest anxiety and had received most attention.

It was quite true that not the slightest check was kept because of the lax system which they had drifted into. The worst feature of the matter was that not only was no record kept of supplies received but it was not known how much was taken out. The sub committee had come to the conclusion that the matron must be responsible for the supervision of the store room. The President said that by putting on another probationer they would be able to increase the nurses time off to $1\frac{1}{2}$ days off per month. The nurses were entitled to it and the cost would not be great. It was decided that the date of Hospital Saturday would be the last pay Saturday in September in order that it would not clash with the Charities Benefit horse race meeting.

August 18th 1909. The Secretary read a report from the Resident Medical Officer, Dr. Oxenham, concerning statements made at the previous meeting regarding the treatment of an injured footballer. He said that on Saturday, July 10th, he had tea at the hospital and made his rounds of the hospital as usual at 7 p.m. He said the patient in question was suffering from a sprained ankle and he was properly attended to. He was discharged from the hospital as his case was not one for the institution as all he needed was rest which he could get at home and he was quite satisfied to go there. The statement that he (Dr. Oxenham) played in the same football match as the patient was not true. Mr. Richardson who made the original statement said he was not satisfied. He knew that Dr. Oxenham had dinner out and he could give the name of the man he dined with. Further he knew that the doctor did not return to the hospital until 10 p.m. at night. Dr. Oxenham at Mr. Richardson's request was then called in. He repeated his version as given in his report. He said he had tea at the

hospital, did his rounds and then went to the club where he remained until shortly before 10 p.m. when he returned to the hospital. He asked Mr. Richardson to name the gentleman whom he said he had dinner with but Mr. Richardson refused to give it and said he was now satisfied with the report. The Revd. W. F. James said in future complaints should be definitely made. Mr. Richardson had acted in the best interests of the hospital but Dr. Oxenham had been right. Mrs. J. A. Hannell wrote that she was giving a concert in aid of a cot for the hospital and asked that two members of the committee be appointed to audit the accounts.

Messrs. Filmer Bros. wrote offering to supply and install electric light fittings in the hospital and operating theatre and X-ray room. The statement of receipts and expenditure for July showed the revenue to be £159 and the expenditure £475. The credit balance stood at £858.

The House Committee reported that the tender of J. H. Patey had been accepted for converting the attics at the nurses home into bedrooms. It was recommended that in regard to the school of training for nurses an alteration be made by removing the rule that applicants be restricted to residents of the district. The chairman in moving the adoption of the report said the hospital was having difficulty in getting probationary nurses owing to the limited scope the matron had. The Medical staff considered that all applicants should be on an even footing no matter where they resided. There was no doubt that at least the operating theatre should be lit by electricity but that matter was in the hands of the House Committee. The alterations of the nurses home attics into 5 bedrooms would be a great advantage. The report was

adopted although Mr. Fegan and Mr. Richardson spoke against the portion of the report dealing with probationary nurses being selected from a wider field of applicants. They stated they intended to move a motion of recession.

The concert given by Mrs. Hannell was a wonderful success. The Newcastle West Juvenile Choir under the baton of Mrs. Hannell gave a wonderful rendition of many items pleasing to the audience. Those who assisted with items were Miss Ivy James, Miss Maggie Hestelow, Misses Elsie and Mary Kingwell.

Matron - "I would ask the committee to give the cook at the home 12/- per week instead of 10/- as I cannot get a girl that is any good under 12/- a week. The present cook will simply cook and do nothing else. She is certainly a good cook but that is all and although she credits herself with being very clean and thorough, she is far from clean. If I can get a girl for 10/- I will do so but I ask to be allowed to offer 12/- weekly if I cannot get a suitable one for 10/-. While the attic is being altered I would ask the Committee to have a skeleton wardrobe fitted into the passage - we have one at present but that is only large enough for two nurses and the other one will then provide for 4 nurses, cost of same with brass rod for curtain £1/12/6. In regard to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sister Cummins, Nurse Steele and Nurse James were appointed probationers the same day 20/11/05, Nurse James coming one hour and a half before Nurse Steele. I would recommend Nurse Steele for the vacancy as she is the better nurse of the two and a better disciplinarian in the wards. For the last three years I have always recognised Nurse Steele as the senior nurse. This matter was referred to the Medical Board for their opinion. The verdict was that Nurse

Steele be granted the position as Sister dating from October 1st at £52 per annum. Nurse James appealed against this decision and as the Committee were considering the matter Nurse James asked that her letter be withdrawn as she had been appointed Sister at Kurri Kurri Hospital."

Mrs. J. C. Reid, Mayoress, organised the Hospital Saturday collection with Miss Kirkwood as a most able honorary secretary. The weather was most unpleasant and sharp downpours of rain dampened all collectors. Bands had been organised but the quality of the music was in keeping with the weather. The bandsmen did their best. The collectors were drenched but still collected from all and sundry. Mr. Jones, Manager of McAuliffes livery stable, made available a horse and sulky so that Miss Kirkwood could visit the various stalls. The amount collected surpassed all anticipations £344.

To give readers an idea of the difficulties of years ago I quote in full a letter published in the Newcastle Herald of 25/9/1909. "Sir, I desire to let the public see the difference in the treatment by the two hospitals, Wallsend and Newcastle, during the illness of my son. The doctor at Catherine Hill Bay on being called in decided that he would have to be sent straight to the hospital. He then communicated with Wallsend Hospital for an ambulance. The reply was it will be £3/10/-. Can you guarantee the money? Evidently valuing a paltry £3/10/- more than a man's life. The doctor wired back. Money no object. Money guaranteed. The reply was this "put patient on boat, take him to Cockle Creek and an ambulance will be there to meet him. Let me state it would have been a matter of carting him a couple of miles over rough country before getting him to the boat. Then the rough and

tumble of the boat had to be considered. By the time we reached the creek he would in all probability have been dead. The doctor now thoroughly disgusted with the treatment telegraphed to Newcastle Hospital for the ambulance to come to Catherine Hill Bay. The reply was - ambulance coming as fast as possible. Price £2/10/-. The ambulance left Newcastle with two horses at 3.30 (whereas Wallsend Hospital said it would take 4 horses) and the patient was lying in a comfortable bed in Newcastle Hospital by 9 p.m. Money being no object and my son being a subscriber to Wallsend Hospital one would have thought that the hospital would have shown a little more consideration." But just estimate the difference in travel in a few years 1909 to 1954 - 6 hours by horse ambulance or today 1½ hours by comfortable motor ambulance.

October 20, 1909. A statement of receipts and expenditure in connection with Hospital Saturday annual collection showed the total receipts to have been £346/6/7 and the expenditure £23/4/6 leaving £322/2/1 as the net proceeds of the collection. Receipts and expenditure for the quarter ending September 30 showed receipts £2199 and the credit balance at the Bank £940/15/9.

Number of beds available for ordinary patients 45 males, 31 females, beds available for infectious cases 4. Total 80. Mean residence per patient in days 17.6. Average daily number resident 61.82. Average death rate 7.38, average death rate after 48 hours 3.35. Number of operations, chloroform 85, ether 66, cocaine 1, ether and chloroform 7, total 159. The House Committee reported that the new cooking range had been installed in the Nurses' Home with hot water attachments. complete and was giving every satisfaction. Representation had been made to the Chief Secretary that the

proposed new means of communication from the first to the ground floor of the morgue were altogether inadequate for the purpose and a request for additional facilities for getting across to the ground floor of the building in Telford Street from the main hospital without passing through the upper room of the morgue was now under the minister's consideration. The retaining wall in Telford Street was nearing completion and the Chief Secretary had been requested to grant sufficient funds to heighten the wall in Hospital Lane to meet in symmetry with the new wall in Telford Street. Also to grant funds to allow of sufficient filling being done inside the new wall in order that approaches to the new morgue may be made as the building would be unavailable until this was done. The Chief Secretary had promised to favourably consider these matters.

The sum of £10/5/- had been received from the Mayor of Hamilton as the proceeds of a euchre party promoted and conducted by the Mayoress of Hamilton in connection with the Hospital Saturday collection.

Miss A. Mullins finding the work of nursing un congenial had resigned and would leave the service at the end of this month.

The claim for subsidy on subscriptions and donations for the quarter ending September 30 amounted to £422 had been rendered to the Chief Secretary's Office. The credit balance was £1045 and it was recommended that £500 of this amount be withdrawn and placed on deposit at interest with the Savings Bank. The practice adopted of appointing members of the Committee as official visitors had proved very satisfactory and effective.

Miss Edith Summers joined the hospital as

a probationer on 1/10/1909. She stayed to finish her training receiving Certificate No. 58 on August 21st 1913.

The matron submitted a list of requirements which were subject to tender. Some of the prices are given here - 50 yards of Huckabuck $8\frac{1}{2}$ per yard, unbleached calico $5\frac{1}{4}$ per yard, Dowlas $6\frac{3}{4}$ per yard, print 4/11 per dozen yards, cretonne $9\frac{1}{2}$ per yard, shroud calico $2\frac{3}{4}$ per yard, Turkish towels 8d each, Bath towels 1/8 each, 6 insect puffers at 9d each, 1 large enamel jug for operating theatre 3/9. The Resident Medical Officer required a clock for the operating theatre. Referred to Medical Board who considered it unnecessary.

Nurse Ida M. Grahame having given satisfaction on trial was appointed to the probationary staff. She graduated in May 1912 holding certificate No. 55.

Matron states - "With regard to the new probationer in Nurse Mullins' place, I would ask the Committee to appoint Miss Marnie Smith as she has had some hospital experience and we have so many new probationers just now on the staff. If she is not appointed I would recommend Miss Grace Williamson be given a trial." The Secretary however wrote in red ink, Miss Maude Mayton appointed by the House Committee. Miss Maude Mayton became a most satisfactory nurse and graduated in October 1913 holding certificate No. 59.

Matron recommended Miss Ruby Ash for the vacancy caused by the resignation of probationer James. Matron states "She has always worked well for the hospital on Hospital Saturday and obtained good collections." Miss Ash was appointed on the 1st December 1909 but proved not strong enough and resigned fourteen days later. Matron then asked that Miss Myrtle Bell of Islington be appointed in place of Miss Ash. She

started work on Christmas Eve and went on to finish her training in November 1913 holding certificate No. 60.

Sister Veenman, responsible for all theatre work, became ill through over work and was forced to take one week's holiday. Matron states "Of course this will be deducted from her annual month's holiday when she takes the remaining three weeks in January."

Mr. J. Grisdale, Secretary of the Newcastle Jockey Club, wrote enclosing a cheque £50 being one half of the proceeds of the Charity Race Day. How different from the proceeds obtained when the late C. H. Hannell ran the day, being only 1/6 the usual total.

In November the House Committee received from the contractor the keys of the new morgue. The building however could not be used as the filling in behind the new wall had not been completed. The Committee stated they were hopeful that an approach to the morgue would be made.

The announcement in the press that Newcastle Hospital had run out of coal brought immediate results. Messrs. S. P. Clark (Sydney Soap and Candle Co.), J. Hestelow (Crane contractor) and W. J. Reay (Waratah) each sent a big load of coal free which will carry the institution over the present. Messrs. S. S. Cohen, S. Hewson and J. D. Beeston also offered to supply coal. Messages were received from a number of householders offering to share their stocks should any more be required. The statement that the Newcastle Hospital was short of coal caused some of the miners at Lambton to feel that something should be done to afford relief and with that view a miner named Joseph Halliday proffered the gift of a ton of small coal he had in his yard if he could get assistance to cart it

to Newcastle. Mr. Thomas Peace, delegate for the Cardiff Lodge, at once volunteered to assist and Mr. Jacob Probert granted the use of his horse and cart. The load of coal was landed at Newcastle Hospital free of cost.

A letter of thanks appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald dated November 29, thanking all those people who donated coal and firewood to the hospital, tiding the hospital over the difficult shortage of fuel.

Matron asked if the Committee needed any poultry for the Hospital over Christmas - if so I would suggest that it be ordered early so as to be better supplied than last year, the poultry then supplied being very old and bony. I also require 2 gallons of whiskey, 1 dozen scrubbing brushes and 1 box of sanitary paper.

Miss Annie Hocquard was to be given first vacancy for a probationer. She had already applied some time previously but Miss Myrtle Bell had been appointed in her place. Mary Hume the cook resigned at the end of December her place being taken by Chrissy Urquhart.

December 15th, 1909. Dr. H. B. Oxenham applied for reappointment for a further term of one year. The request was complied with Mr. Fegan remarking that Dr. Oxenham had given every satisfaction.

15/12/1909. The Committee pointed out that the contract for the extension of the retaining wall in Hospital Lane had not yet been let but it was in the hands of the District Architect, the Government having granted an extra £312 for that purpose.

It was recommended that the site of the present isolation block of buildings was the most suitable one on which to erect the proposed new block

making provision also for the contemplated new children's ward and taking in the ground now occupied by the old morgue building.

Probationary Nurses J. Graham, B. Miller, A. Milligan and E. Summers having satisfactorily passed their preliminary trial had been admitted as pupil nurses. Nurse J. A. Gibb had passed her third year examination. Sisters Matthews and Steele and Nurse James were presented with their hospital certificates.

Accounts amounting to £342 were passed for payment the credit balance being £376/12/-. Mr. S. Fisher was reappointed collector for the year 1910.

The last item for Newcastle Hospital appearing the Newcastle Morning Herald 31/12/1909 was a complete closely printed column of names of people who had donated Christmas fare and gifts for the Christmas function. The inmates and staff must have been royally treated.

Dr. Dunlop operated upon Mr. M. Light for appendicitis. Light at that time was a very big man, it is stated 18 stone. Following the operation it was found that the lift was broken down, and the ward into which Light had to be carried was upstairs. A quick estimation of available man power for the carry was made and found to be inadequate. A ring to Lights Store soon brought 6 suitable porters all of the Jewish faith. As the procession proceeded up the stairs Dunlop turned to Beeston and said "Joey does that remind you of any tune?", the reply being "No." Dunlop said "The March of the Jordan Highlanders".

Dr. J. Beeston was having difficulty finding an infected appendix due to the poor anaesthetic and the location of the appendix. Several times bowel

bellied out of the wound. Dr. Dunlop tapped Dr. Beeston on the shoulder and said "Move your right foot Joey." This was done and Beeston then said "why?" Dunlop countered with, "I thought you might have been standing on a loop."

The lift having broken down again, two male kitchen staff were each carrying hot dinners inside a metal container and on top were the custards and jellies. As they walked up the stairs the custard started to slide off and soon the lid and then the potatoes. As the men were picking up the food with their hands and replacing it on the plates Sister Skelton came into sight. She accused the men of having partaken of strong drink. She was correct and one made the remark "You know what you can do with this tucker, I resign." The other was sacked on the spot by the Medical Superintendent.

number of school children who attended the outpatient department of the hospital for eye, ear, nose and throat treatment during the years 1906-1909. The returns showed 1906 - 9 boys, 6 girls, 1907, 18 boys, 17 girls, 1908, 33 boys, 45 girls, 1909, 72 boys, 58 girls, total 252. These figures refer to ear, nose and throat only as there is no ophthalmic department in connection with the outdoor work of the hospital.

The Kurri Kurri District Hospital was opened on 25th January, 1910. The President, Newcastle Hospital, Mr. W. Lyne, could not attend but several members of the Committee were present to represent the hospital.

Although the hospital laundry machinery was being run by the Council's electricity, the operating machinery had not yet been connected. The amount of

1910.

The examination paper for 1st year nurses is of interest.

- (1) Describe the means you would take to prevent the spread of infection from a case of enteric fever.
- (2) Describe (a) How you would clean and disinfect a bath.
(b) How you would clean and pad a splint for a leg.
- (3) State the purpose and method of using the clinical thermometer. What is the normal temperature of the body?
- (4) Trace the course of the red corpuscle from the time it leaves the left ventricle of the heart until it returns there.
- (5) Name the bones of the shoulder girdle.
- (6) State the position and functions of (a) the lungs
(b) the patella.

3/1/1910. The Under Secretary, Department of Public Instruction, wrote for a statement showing the number of school children who attended the out-patient department of the hospital for eye, ear, nose and throat treatment during the years 1906-1909. The return showed 1906 - 9 boys, 6 girls, 1907, 18 boys, 17 girls, 1908, 33 boys, 45 girls, 1909, 72 boys, 52 girls, total 252. These figures refer to ear, nose and throat only as there is no ophthalmic department in connection with the outdoor work of the hospital.

The Kurri Kurri District Hospital was opened on 15th January, 1910. The President, Newcastle Hospital, Mr. W. Lyne, could not attend but several members of the Committee were present to represent the hospital.

Although the hospital laundry machinery was being run by the Council's electricity, the operating theatre had as yet not been connected. The amount of

money involved £20 could not at that stage be granted by the Council for an estimated return of 15/- per annum. As the Secretary of the Hospital points out in his letter of 17/1/1910, this is a very low estimate of the revenue likely to be produced. Further to hasten the installation the hospital was prepared to advance £10 towards the cost of installation, "in view of the importance of having the light introduced as a surgical accessory in the successful treatment of diseases in this institution". To record the names of the paid officers of the hospital for the year 1909 the following list is given -

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Laing, S.S.L. | Secretary | £210 p.a. |
| Oxenham, H.B. | Resident Medical Officer | £200 |
| McAllister, Mrs. F. | Matron | £100 |
| Doyle, J.T. | Dispenser | £104 |
| Veenman, M. | Head Sister | £ 62 |
| Asher, B. | Sister | £ 52 |
| Matthews, A. | Sister | £ 52 |
| Steele, O. | Sister | £ 52 |
| McGregor, A. | Nurse | £ 35 |
| Morris, P. | " | £ 35 |
| Cuthbertson, E. | " | £ 35 |
| Slack, J. | " | £ 35 |
| Studdert, F. | " | £ 35 |
| Gibb, J.H. | " | £ 35 |
| Nicholson, L. | " | £ 25 |
| Smith, E.M. | " | £ 25 |
| Hughes, G. | " | £ 25 |
| Blacklock, H. | " | £ 25 |
| Richter, E. | " | £ 15 |
| Michie, A. | " | £ 15 |
| Bell, E. | " | £ 15 |
| Graham, I. | Probationer | £ 10 |
| Miller, B. | " | £ 10 |

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Millegan, A. | Probationer | £ 10 |
| Summers, E. | " | £ 10 |
| Mayton, M. | " | £ 10 |
| Bell, M.M. | " | £ 10 |
| Fawcett, C.C. | Foreman | £120 |
| Arendts, J. | Wardsman | £65 |
| Jordan, J. | Yardman | £ 52 |
| Godfrey, D. | Hall Porter | £ 45/12/6 |
| Bannister, S. | Cleaner | £ 13 |
| Gill, K. | Laundress | £ 52 |
| Lusmore, M. | " | £ 31/ 4/- |
| Martin, A. | " | £ 26 |
| Butterworth, E. | Cook | £ 52 |
| Butterworth, A. | Kitchenmaid | £ 20/16/- |
| Urquhart, C. | Cook, Nurses Home | £ 31/ 4/- |
| Rowe, M. | Housemaid | £ 31/ 4/- |
| Inglis, M. | " | £ 31/ 4/- |
| Slapp, F. | Wardsmaid | £ 26 |

An invasion of bed bugs in the Nurses Home caused some discomfort to the nursing staff so that the committee discussed at great length the methods adopted to eradicate them. The matron stated that she was doing her best but they had not only infested the beds but were in the walls. The Committee warned matron that her efforts were not to be relaxed and that she must use corrosive sublimate after the beds had been steamed. That great friend to the hospital, Mr. A. Gilbert, volunteered to thoroughly clean and renovate two bed rooms free of charge, providing the rest of the home was cleaned. Mr. Gilbert's generous offer was accepted with thanks. The City Council promised to instal the electric light into the operating theatre on the receipt of £10 toward the cost by the hospital. The Secretary was instructed to notify the Council that the moment the work was completed, the donation would be forwarded.

Matron's report showed that Nurse Michie underwent an operation for appendicitis on 31/12/1909, that Kathleen Gill, 1st laundress, was admitted to the ward suffering from enteric fever, Sister Matthews left for holidays 4/1/1910 and that Nurse Gibb had returned from holidays and that Maggie Roe started as Housemaid at Nurses' Home. Matron reported 14 days later that Nurse Michie was not progressing and would be away from the hospital possibly three months and asked that a new probationer be appointed suggesting Annie Hocquard as next on the list. Matron also requested the engagement of a trained nurse as she was short staffed and the hospital and isolation being full. These requests were granted her, Miss A. Hocquard to commence on 1/2/1910. The Foreman, C. C. Fawcett, reported that the iron railing on back balcony of doctors' quarters falling into disrepair due to weather and that wooden railing be substituted. The main roof required 30 slates and much guttering about the hospital needed repairing. The committee decided to pay Nurse Michie's salary for one month only, but payments would cease after that month until she returned to duty.

The results of the 1st year examinations were submitted to the General Committee on 14/1/1910, and were as follows - E. Richter 72%, E. Bell 67%, A. Michie 66%, B. Miller 66%, I. Graham 64% and A. Milligan 60%. All these nurses were promoted to the 2nd year grade. The Secretary was requested to notify the School of Arts that the General Meeting of the hospital would take place on Monday 31st January at 8 p.m. and intimating that the use of lecture room there would be appreciated.

Mr. J. L. Fegan moved that the Committee place on record their great appreciation of the services

rendered to the hospital by Mr. Walter Beavis as a member of the Committee and as VicePresident and their deep sense of loss sustained by the institution through his departure from Newcastle to Sydney and accord him their heartiest congratulations on his promotion in the Public Instruction Department. This motion was seconded by Mr. A. B. Gilbert and the President supported the vote.

Nurse Morris was operated upon for appendicitis. So that Matron was forced to ask for the services of the trained nurse for another week. Dr. H. B. Oxenham, Resident Medical Officer, considered the nursing staff overworked, he supported Matron's request for the services of the outside nurse for a fortnight and requested that the committee engage another probationer. The infectious cases within the hospital at that time were diphtheria 3, scarlet fever 1, and enteric 16. As a direct result of this request, Miss A. Hocquard commenced duties as a probationer, her appointment being agreed to.

24/1/1910. The Committee approved the Medical Officers' action in employing a man for a week to clear up the grounds and to cut the grass. They authorised the purchase of a lawn mower not to exceed £1/15/-.

The advertisement of the Annual General Meeting appeared in the Newcastle Morning Herald on 18/1/1910, to take place in the Newcastle School of Arts on Monday, 31st January, 1910. The business to receive the report of the General Committee of Management for the past year, for election of President, Vice President, Five Trustees, two auditors and 20 committee for the year 1910, to transact any other business that may be brought forward in accordance with the rules. All candidates for office with the exception of the

auditors must be contributors of not less than ten shillings and must be nominated by two similarly qualified contributors, in writing, their consent to be nominated having first been obtained. Candidates for the office of auditor must also be nominated in this manner.

The annual meeting of the subscribers to the Newcastle Hospital was held at the School of Arts last evening (January 31st). The President (W. Lyne) occupied the chair and there was a fair attendance. The report showed that there were 76 beds available for ordinary cases and 4 beds for infectious cases. During the year 1248 in patients were treated of whom 859 were cured, 197 relieved, 25 unrelieved, 97 died and 70 remained in the institution at the end of the year. The daily average number of in patients was 65.9 and the mean residence 161 days. The death rate of patients was 8.2 per cent and the death rate of patients who died within 48 hours after admission was 5.6. The average cost per bed was £69/9/3. The number of outpatients treated were 827, the attendances totalling 2357. There were 561 operations performed. Of the total number of patients 471 contributed to their maintenance and 777 were treated free. The report made reference to the death of Mr. C. H. Hannell, president of the institution, in March last and placed on record the Committee's appreciation of the great services that gentleman rendered to the hospital, he having been instrumental in raising £17,000 for the institution. The necessity of organising an ophthalmic branch in connection with the outpatients department was also referred to and the hope expressed that this would be accomplished during the present year. The Committee placed on record its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the medical staff and

other honorary officers of the institution. A tribute was also paid to the zeal and efficiency of the nursing staff. The report also made acknowledgement of the efforts of a number of ladies and gentlemen who organised entertainments on behalf of the hospital and others who made special gifts. The balance sheet showed that the income was £5333/8/5 including subscriptions and donations £1168/9/6, patients' fees £1511/18/3, Government subsidy £1741/9/9. Government grant for maintenance £199/18/-.

The principal items of expenditure were salaries and wages £1881/13/7, groceries £583/1/11, meat, fish and poultry £263, bread and flour £108/8/8, milk and eggs £281/8/10, drugs and dressings £414, fuel and lighting £274. The credit balance at the end of the year was £93/6/-.

In moving the adoption of the report, the chairman referred to the loss the institution had sustained in the death of the late Mr. C. H. Hannell who for 30 years had been identified with the hospital and during that time had been instrumental in raising £17,000 for the institution. He felt that it would be a difficult matter to fill Mr. Hannell's place and he would like the meeting to place on record its appreciation of the good work the deceased gentleman has performed. Early in the year he expected that an ophthalmic section would be added to the institution. He had to thank the honorary medical staff for the assistance they had given the committee. The nursing staff was in an efficient state, all the nurses who went up for examinations having passed successfully. The Government was deserving of their best thanks for many kindnesses, and in that connection they would not forget Mr. O. Gilbert, M.P., who had always been willing to do all in his power to assist the hospital.

The isolation wards when completed would be a credit to the institution.

He was pleased to be able to say that the collector, Mr. S. Fisher, had been most successful, but the men of money for some reason held themselves aloof from the institution. The money collected was not in keeping with the importance of the city, and he would like to see a more liberal response on the part of the public. Mr. A. Timbury in seconding the adoption of the report referred to the work of the subcommittee appointed to investigate the management of the institution.

The committee had placed the house staff on a far more satisfactory footing and everything was now working smoothly. The motion for the adoption of the report and balance sheet was carried unanimously. The Secretary, Mr. S. L. Laing, announced that the following nominations had been received for the various offices, President, Mr. W. Lyne, re-elected. Vice President, Mr. A. Timbury, Trustees Dr. J. L. Beeston, M.L.C. and Messrs. J. R. Hall, W. Lyne, G. W. Mitchell and A. Timbury. Auditors, Messrs. F. Brooks & E. W. Paton. Committee J. Alcock, W. Bethune, R. Bond, T. Butler, F. Crofts, J. Fegan, F. Fletcher, A. Gilbert, Revd. Golding-Bird, W. Goodman, J. Grahame, G. Irvine, Revd. James, H. H. Macdonnell, A. Mason, G. Mitchell, F. Richardson, T. Raysmith, J. Rees and M. J. Moroney. There were 21 nominations but Mr. Timbury having been elected vice President he withdrew his name, thus an election was avoided. Mr. Lyne thanked the subscribers for re-electing him president and with the assistance of the committee he hoped to be able to carry out his duties satisfactorily. Mr. Timbury also returned thanks for his election as vice President. As he was the oldest member of the committee he thought he was entitled

to the honour. For 18 years he had worked for the hospital and was the inaugurator of the hospital Saturday movement in Newcastle. Mr. Fegan interjected "That is not so". Mr. Timbury, continuing said he had the hospital books to prove that he was the inaugurator, originator and organiser of the first hospital Saturday in Newcastle. Mr. Fegan said he did not want to take credit from anyone. There were many present who would remember the demonstrations that were held on a Sunday but they were approached by the church people and asked to forego the Sunday in favour of Saturday. The churches agreed to make an annual appeal but they only made one, while the committee of the hospital Saturday movement held sacredly to the agreement. The churches evidently thought they wanted the money just as badly as the hospital. In moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. Raysmith paid a tribute to the ability displayed by Mr. Lyne as president of the institution and proceeded to say that the affairs of the institution were never managed better than they were at the present time. At the next Committee meeting in February the following honorary officers were elected. Honorary Consulting Surgeon, Dr. John Harris, Honorary Medical Staff, Doctors Beeston, Crawley, Eames, Douglas, Dunlop, Horsfall, Leslie and Nickson. Honorary Pathologist, Dr. Robert Dick, Honorary Dental Surgeons, A. E. Vesper, J. A. D. Robb and H. McL. Marsh, Honorary Solicitor, Mr. H. J. Brown, Honorary Treasurer Mr. T. M. O'Neill, Honorary electricians Messrs. E. & W. Filmer, Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon, Dr. S. Hughes for indoor patients only. House Committee, Messrs. Bond, Fegan, Gilbert, Goodman, Grahame, Raysmith and S. Mason.

Sister Mary Martin, the relief sister engaged for a fortnight to overcome nursing shortage due to

illness of Nurse Michie and Nurse Morris was released from her duties as the emergency had become easier. She was paid £4/11/10 for the fortnight, which amount included fares. Dr. Oxenham confirmed the Honorary Medical Officers opinion that more space must be made immediately for infectious cases. Those cases already in the hospital were diphtheria 4, scarlet fever 2, enteric 16. Strictly speaking there were only 4 infectious beds. Making emergency beds, dislocated the nursing service bringing about excessively long hours and he feared that more staff would go down with illness unless more convenient nursing arrangements were made.

Mrs. G. A. Campbell as agent for the Melbourne eight hour Art Union forwarded a cheque for £9/15/- as Newcastle Hospital's share in the proceeds of that lottery.

James Inglis Ltd. of Sydney donated 400 fans for patients use and their annual subscription of £1/1/-.

Many lodges intimated that owing to distress in the district, usual subscriptions could not be forwarded. The New South Wales Railway & Tramway hospital fund however sent £41/11/3 which included a bonus of £27/14/8. Dr. S. Rand of Hamilton forwarded his usual subscription.

C. C. Fawcet applied for an increase of £1 in his salary. He had 14 months service in his present position and during that time he had saved the hospital much money by the prompt attention to machinery and upkeep of the buildings. He was granted the increase, his salary in future to be £11 per month. Daniel Godfrey whose wages were reduced 2/6 for fighting had them restored to £1 per week providing he maintained his good conduct and did not neglect his duties as porter. Genevieve N. Hocquard, sister to probationer

Annie Hocquard, applied for a position as probationer. Matron, however, stated she did not approve of 2 sisters being junior probationers at the same time.

Matron reported 15/2/1910 that Nurse Blacklock had returned from holidays as did Sister Mathews. Sister Steele left for holidays on 7/2/1910. Nurse Morris had been discharged from the ward and had gone on leave, her annual leave being almost due. It was included in her sick leave. Changes had taken place in the domestic staff, Kathleen Gill leaving and Sarah Wilson being taken on as laundress in her stead. Nurse McGregor asked to leave the hospital at the end of the month as she wished to be married.

Florrie Slapp proving unsatisfactory as a wardsmaid was asked to secure another position which she did.

The police donated rum and whiskey which had been taken over from persons charged with drunkenness.

The shipping interests in Newcastle held a sports carnival at the Rugby football ground and donated £21/4/5 as the hospital share of the proceeds. Caledonian Collieries arranged for a wagon of small coal to be shunted on the Newcastle siding for hospital use.

The Secretary of the Wallsend Mining District Hospital intimated that his president and nine members of his committee would like to visit Newcastle Hospital on 20/2/10 to learn all they can from the senior hospital.

Captain Samuel Boulden asked for an interview with the committee relative to treatment received by Joyce Boulden between 31/1/1910 and 3/2/1910. Committee instructed the Secretary to ask Captain Boulden to report at the next Committee meeting. The Secretary on behalf of the Honorary Medical Officers Association

objected to the plans for the proposed new isolation wards, as supplied by the Chief Secretary's Department. He stated that the plans were lacking appreciation of the difficulties presenting no provision made for the expansion of the district, which was growing space and enclosing a pencil sketch which they considered the minimum requirements. This sketch showed buildings to house 15 beds and permanent quarters for 4 nurses attending the infectious cases. A separate report by the Honorary Medical Officers showed that the wards were becoming dirty looking, lockers needed cleaning and painting and beds needed an overhaul.

The Committee requested C. C. Fawcett the foreman to take the position in hand, Mr. Gilbert promising to paint the lockers two coats for 3/- per locker. The examiners reported very good marks obtained by 3rd year nurses, that they were a credit to the hospital. Nurses L. Nicholson 79%, E. Smith 78%, H. Blacklock 83%.

It was recommended that as each nurse be granted an increase in salary as they become due by service.

The operating theatre ceiling, needing attention Mr. A. Gilbert promised to paint, two coats of flat paint and to clean off and refrost windows, the whole to cost £4/9/6.

Matron reported 25/2/1910 Ethel Forman started as housemaid at 10/- per week. Minie Luxmore was deserving of an increase of 2/- making her wages 14/- and that Sarah Wilson was to be engaged as laundress at 18/- per week.

The Secretary reported that he had engaged Thomas Richards at 5/- per day to clean the yards and cut lawns.

The Committee presented to Nurse Annie McGregor the hospital certificate of competency as a fully trained nurse, Certificate No. 43 as at February 1st 1910, after four years' training. With reference to the works of completing the retaining wall in hospital lane and providing approach to the new morgue building Mr. Owen Gilbert, M.L.A., interviewed the Committee with respect to the proposal for a staircase and opening into hospital lane as shown on tracing plan drawn by the Government architect. It was pointed out to Mr. Gilbert that this proposal was unsuitable while it was very necessary that the approach to the basement floor of the morgue should be made as direct as possible from the hospital and the entrance to it kept within the walls for privacy to friends of deceased persons and to give ready access to it for the hospital officials and others having business there. This was also supported by Dr. J. Beeston on behalf of the Medical Board. It was decided to forward the views to Mr. Gilbert by letter on the matter so that he might lay them before the Government Architect at once so that the completion of the work might be expedited. Captain Boulton appeared before the Committee at his request and made complaint of the treatment to his daughter Joyce during the time she was a patient in the hospital viz. 1st to 3rd February, 1910. Having a dirty nightdress, the property of the hospital, put on her, when there were clothes of her own at hand. Mrs. Boulden supported her husband's statements. Also on visiting it heard it crying found it in the ward with no nurse present, baby dazed with crying, took it home on the third day. She did not think it right that the baby should have been taken to the mens ward to be nursed. Matron McAllister was present and said the nightdress was clean, it was flannelette but not a good colour. All the child's night clothes were soiled.

Baby was nursed by men as it seemed to like them and was quiet with them. Nurse Cuthbertson said she was in charge and had the (Objectionable) nightdress put on as all the baby's nightdresses were soiled. Captain and Mrs. Boulden withdrew after the President had pointed out that the best had been done for the child and the investigation closed.

Statement showing the cash outgoings for the month of February 1910.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Salaries and wages | ... | £156.19. 4 |
| Groceries | ... | 52.19. 8 |
| Meat, Fish, poultry | ... | 20.16. 9 |
| Bread and flour | ... | 8. 2. 6 |
| Milk and eggs | ... | 24.10. 4 |
| Fruit and vegetables | ... | 7.10. 9 |
| Ice and aerated waters | ... | 5.17.10 |
| Wines and spirits | ... | nil |
| Drugs and dressings | ... | 16.18. 1 |
| Surgical instruments | ... | 8. 7. 4 |
| Fuel and lighting | ... | 12.19. - |
| Bedding and linen | ... | nil |
| Drapery | ... | 1. 3. 2 |
| Furniture and utensils | ... | 8. 6. 7 |
| Stationery, printing and advertising | ... | 18. 5. - |
| Burials | ... | nil |
| Ambulance | ... | 4.10. 6 |
| Insurance | ... | - . 3. 3 |
| Freight & Cartage | ... | 2. 1. 6 |
| Commission | ... | 2. 2. - |
| Petty Cash | ... | 14. 8. 7 |
| Repairs, extra labour | ... | 9.15. - |
| T. W. Heide's cheque dishonoured | ... | |
| | | <u>£375.17. 2</u> |

The items, Wines & Spirits, Bedding & Linen, Insurance & Burials, are subject to special quotation and are not included in the list. Messrs. Scotts and Winns following tenders for articles submitted by them were each given a list of requirements. Scotts list is here given to demonstrate that although wages were low so also were goods low in price.

100 yards shroud calico at 2/9d. per dozen yards.

50 yards unbleached calico 4½d. per yard.

50 yards white calico 5/3d. per dozen yards.

50 " unbleached damask 1/11d. per yard.

25 " huckaback 1/2½d. per yard.

6 pairs sox 5d. per pair.

6 doz. Coates cotton 2/11d. per doz.

6 doz. tapes 5/3d. per doz.

3 doz. Glace cotton 1/4½d. per doz.

12 bath towels 1/3d. each.

G. Dawson & Co., Hunter Street West, secured the contract for the supply of lawn mowers and were asked to supply "electric" 21/6 and "Diamond" 45/6. Jones Bros. bakers, Junction, secured the contract for bread at 2½d per 2 lb. loaf less 5%, Muncaster of Dempsey Island, milk at 2½d. per quart, Mrs. Chard of Wickham supplied fish and ice, fish scaled and cleaned, mixed kinds at 4½d. per lb. less 5%. Ice at 2/6d. per 100 pounds less 5%. A. Toll of Wickham Coal cartage at 1/6 per ton, Thomas Moore, burials at £1/17/6 per interment, and Charles Pankhurst secured the contract for the supply of a driver and horses, for ambulance service at his quotation.

That excellent architect, F. B. Menkins, who gave such service to Newcastle bequeathed the sum of £50 to the hospital his trustees notified the hospital on 18/3/1910.

A most eulogistic letter was sent to Malcolm MacTaggart Esq. on his promotion to the Tamworth office of the Government Architect. Mr. MacTaggart was Public Works Department representative here in Newcastle for many years and during that time was of much service to the hospital. By 30/3/1910 the Nursing staff had increased to 24, including matron, for a daily average of 65.9 beds occupied. Other staff numbered 15 including the Medical Officer and Secretary so that the average number of persons to feed per day numbered 105.

On 20th April, 1910, Dr. H. B. Oxenham submitted his resignation to be effective on 18th May. The Committee in its report of 20/4/1910 recommended that a senior at £100 per annum and a Junior at £75 be appointed in future. That applications should be obtained through the Medical Board and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Sydney University and that the incoming House Committee be empowered to make arrangements for the required additional accommodation. Mr. Frank Hickey was the successful tenderer for the contract to alter female dayroom and supply extra lavatory accommodation. The electric light had been installed (17/3/1910) in the operating theatre and was a great success. It had cost £23/19/9 and the Committee considered the convenience gained was worth the money involved. The President expressed satisfaction at the Government's decision to complete the new morgue by making the approaches. He regretted that it had been found necessary to draw £300 from the fixed deposit but hoped they would be soon able to replace it. In reference to the appointment of two medical officers, it was known to the committee that on some occasions patients when admitted had not been seen by the medical officer for some time. They could not expect the resident medical officer to remain in the hospital all

the time and they thought it best to recommend the appointment of two officers one to be always on the premises.

May 26th, 1910, The President extended a welcome to the Dean of Newcastle, the Revd. C. H. Golding Bird, on his election to the House Committee for a period of three months. The President stated that the Dean's experience must help the hospital considerably.

Correspondence was received from Mr. J. Gilson, Under Secretary, stating that £100 had been granted for furnishing the childrens ward. From the Public Works Department, advising that the tender of Mr. C. A. Hutcheson of Newcastle had been accepted for the erection of a new staircase and walling in hospital lane. From the Chief Secretary's Department forwarding plan of the proposed new isolation block. The plan would be approved but the site for the block could only be sanctioned on condition that the children's ward was not erected as at present intended, as there would be an interval between it and the isolation block of only eleven feet which was much too small.

The House Committee's recommendation approving of the plan was adopted.

The Medical Board submitted a set of rules for the guidance of the two resident medical officers. These provided for a twelve months engagement and that one should always be on the premises, it was also provided that both should be in attendance on operating days and that the Pathological Department should be taken over and put in working order.

The House Committee in their report pointed out that Mr. Frank Hickey, the contractor for the work of alterations and additions to the day room and

lavatory accommodation in connection the female wards of the institution had almost completed his contract.

The work was being done under the supervision of Mr. MacTaggart who kindly offered his services while spending his holidays in Newcastle and who reported that the work was being carried out expeditiously and satisfactorily. Dr. A. C. Arnold commenced duty as senior resident medical officer on May 19th and Dr. A. M. Purves commenced duty as junior resident medical officer on May 23rd.

Mr. J. P. Doyle, the dispenser, was leaving the service at the end of the month and applications for the position were now being invited.

The President stated that the thanks of the committee were due to Mr. MacTaggart for superintending the erection of the day room that gentleman having sacrificed his holidays in order to perform the work.

The Dean of Newcastle said he had pleasure in handing to the committee a cheque £55 being the amount collected by him towards the purchase of the new ambulance.

The only request he made was that it should be called the King Edward VII Memorial Ambulance.

24/5/1910. Dr. F. G. Bauer, 20 Bolton Street, Newcastle, applied to the Committee for the position of Honorary Ophthalmic surgeon. This matter was referred to the Medical Board. Dr. A. C. Arnold, Senior Resident Medical Officer, reported 9 cases of an infectious nature in the hospital being 8 diphtherias and one typhoid. There were 8 applications for the position of dispenser. R. G. Mathews was chosen as the most likely to suit the hospital requirements.

List of Staff at Dr. Oxenham's retirement,

May, 1910.

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Resident Medical Officer | H. B. Oxenham | £200 p.a. |
| Secretary | S. L. Laing | £210 |
| Matron | F. McAlister | 100 |
| Dispenser | J. T. Doyle | 104 |
| Head Sister | M. A. Veenman | 62 |
| Sister | B. Asher | 52 |
| " | A. Mathews | 52 |
| " | O. Steele | 52 |
| Nurse | P. Morris | 35 |
| " | E. Cuthbertson | 35 |
| " | J. Slack | 35 |
| " | F. Studdert | 35 |
| " | J. H. Gibb | 35 |
| " | E. Nicholson | 25 |
| " | E. M. Smith | 25 |
| " | G. Hughes | 25 |
| " | H. Blacklock | 25 |
| " | E. Richter | 15 |
| " | A. Michie | 15 |
| " | E. Bell | 15 |
| Probationary Nurse | I. Graham | 10 |
| " | B. Miller | 10 |
| " | A. Milligan | 10 |
| " | E. Summers | 10 |
| " | M. Mayton | 10 |
| " | M.M. Bell | 10 |
| " | A. Hocquard | 10 |
| Foreman | C. C. Fawcett | 132 |
| Collector | S. Fisher | 75 |
| Laundress | S. Wilson | 18/- per wk. |
| " | M. Luxmore | 14/- " |
| " | E. Forman | 10/- " |
| Cook | E. Butterworth | 20/- " |
| Cook Asst. | A. Butterworth | 8/- " |
| Cook | C. H. Urquhart | 12/- " |
| Housemaid | M. Roe | 12/- " |
| " | M. Inglis | 12/- " |
| Wardmaid | A. Martin | 10/- " |
| Hall Porter | D. Godfrey | 20/- " |
| Yardman | J. Jordan | 20/- " |
| Wardman | J. Arendts | 25/- " |
| Cleaner | S. Bannister | 5/- |

With the exception of Secretary, Foreman and Collector, all the above have board, residence and washing.

The details of the cost of Newcastle for 3 years 1907, 1908, 1909, showing the sums disbursed on the chief items of hospital expenditure.

| | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Provisions | 497.19. 7 | 572.13. 4 | 550.18. 7 |
| Domestic & Establishment | 529.17.11 | 661. 6. 1 | 689. 1. 1 |
| Administration & Printing | 305. 6. 1 | 283.12. 7 | 345.10. 3 |
| Sec. Wages Etc. | | | |
| Salaries & Wages | 1409.14. 9 | 1539.10. 3 | 1614.18. 7 |

| | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Capital expenditure | 1274. - . - | 2895. - . - | 2296. - . - |
| Miscellaneous | 223.19. 6 | 200. - . - | 167.14.11 |
| | <u>£5380. 9. 4</u> | <u>£7593. 9. 2</u> | <u>£7036. 2. 5</u> |

Notice to Out-door patients -

On and after Wednesday, 1st June, 1910, outdoor patients will be seen by the Senior Resident Medical Officer at 10 o'clock a.m. Patients are particularly requested to be in attendance punctually and to bring clean bottles and pots for their medicine. A charge of one shilling as a registration fee will be made in each case. S. Laing, Secretary.

Following the handing over of a sum of money by the Dean of Newcastle to the hospital authorities for the purpose of supplying a new horse ambulance, the Secretary was instructed to write to the St. John's Ambulance Association of Sydney asking for plans for the best horse drawn ambulance available. This association through R. B. Rainsford Esq. supplied the names of several firms who made good ambulances. These firms were approached by letter and quotations received. The Committee considered that as there were now two resident medical officers, it was time that the wardsman should cease doing dressings and passing catheters. This ruling was forwarded to the medical board as was the following paragraph relative to the X-ray work - "With respect to the treatment of patients with the X-ray apparatus, I am to request that before photos are taken or other work done, the medical staff will see that patients or their friends make arrangements with the Secretary prior to the first sitting for treatment."

3/6/1910. Nurse Miller is suffering from typhoid fever not influenza as first diagnosed. She will be off duty some weeks and matron asked that another nurse should be appointed. The Committee pointed out that there were only 67 patients in the hospital. Matron then reported that although there were only 67 patients, one was a nurse with typhoid, there were 7 diphtherias and one patient had died from pneumonia so that the staff had been very busy. Her request was refused.

Dr. Arnold asked for more beds. He stated he wished to accommodate male patients temporarily in the dining room. The Committee refused his request and asked him to curtail number of patients as at that time the hospital was far from financial. There was a sum of £244 only at credit in the bank. An enquiry took place over the treatment of Guard Brien at the hospital. The Train & Tramway employees fund representative laid the complaint. Those in the enquiry were Dr. Arnold, Sister Asher, and Nurses Blacklock and Graham. The guard after a wait of 15 minutes asked the Sister if the doctor was coming, but she replied "The Doctor left word that he was not to be called." No one but the guard and his companion heard sister make this statement. She denied that she did and her evidence was corroborated by Nurses Blacklock and Graham. Dr. Arnold denied making the statement or "to tell the patient to return at 11.30 a.m." The President expressed regret that Guard Brien had not received proper treatment on the occasion under consideration at the hands of the Resident Medical Officer. Regarding sister's statement "that the Doctor left word that he was not to be called" the President said that there was no doubt a misunderstanding on the part of Brien and his witness. Guard Brien expressed

satisfaction with the enquiry and the matter terminated.

15/6/1910. Dr. F. G. Bauer who had applied for the position of Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon was accepted by the Board. In his letter he stated that for the past two years he had confined his practice to special work only. The Honorary Medical Board endorsed his application.

G. H. Olding of Paddington furnished some of the features of a modern up to date horse drawn ambulance. It would cost £133. Several new features were incorporated. The spare stretcher was made with a slight sweep so as to form the back of the right hand seat. Telescopic handles and rollers enabled this to be run in over the top of the attendants seats and there was a space between the two stretchers to allow the attendant to walk up between. When the doors were opened they swung back on outriggers offering no obstruction to the removal of the stretcher. The lantern roof was ventilated and allowed an ordinary man to stand upright and there was a ventilator on each side and in each door. There were two cases for first aid requisites and a box containing water bottle etc. Quiet running was secured by heavy rubber tyres on the wheels and patent rubber D.shackles. The draught of the waggon which weighed 12 cwt. was reduced to a minimum by the fitting of roller bearing axles.

22/7/10. The General Committee wish to acknowledge receipt with grateful thanks of the sum of ten pounds collected by Mrs. James Jones of Buchanan Street, Junction, towards the cost of providing a new horse ambulance for the service of the hospital in amounts ranging from ten shillings to threepence, and in addition to the sum of £56 raised by the Very Revd. the Dean of Newcastle, also of the donation of 185 pillow cases from the girls of the Cook's Hill Superior

Public School through their mistress, Miss C. Anderson.
S. L. Laing, Secretary.

14/6/1910. Matron McAllister reported that Nurse Slack wished to resign, that she needed another probationer. Mrs. Hudson had donated blankets. Two mattresses require repairing. Co-op. Coupon Company had donated to the hospital damaged cups.

Dr. A. C. Arnold reported the men's ward still congested. Asks for an extra probationer. One death from nephritis. Four cases of diphtheria and one scarlet fever. Dr. Dick has the hospital's blood counting machine and that he had reduced the cost of the pathological instruments by £2/10/-. The Committee, despite the request of the matron and Resident Medical Officers, refused to add to the staff and asked that admittances be restricted. Dr. Campbell Douglas of Adamstown complained of the delay in obtaining the services of the hospital ambulance on the evening of 21st June, 1910 to go to Adamstown. Had to wait 2½ hours. The case was an urgent one. C. Pankhurst, the ambulance contractor, wrote stating that an employee left his services at a moment's notice "he just walked out on me". It took time to secure another driver. The Honorary Medical Officers Board submitted certain recommendations amongst which item "7", suggesting coordination of work in duties of the R.M. Officers, Dr. A. C. Arnold to be responsible for the cases under Drs. Crawley, Douglas, Horsfall and Leslie. Dr. Purves to take charge of cases belonging to Drs. Beeston, Dunlop, Eames and Nickson.

Matron's difficulties, 24/6/1910. Myra Little started duty as probatuoner 19/6/1910 and at noon 20/6/1910 decided that the work was too heavy for her so she left. I have since sent to May Bell who has

not answered the letter. I then wired to Janet Chalmers at Narrabri hospital and received word that she had left the district without leaving her address. I then sent to Dora Mosely, Military Road, Newcastle, who has gone away to Sydney and today wired to Amy Reid, Queanbeyan Hospital. (Amy Reid stayed to become a trained nurse, graduating on September 6th 1914, receiving certificate No. 63). I require 1 dozen large knives and one dozen small knives, 2 gallons of whiskey £2, 6 dozen dermal soap 13/6d, and 6 dozen castille soap 15/-. The head laundress was asking me if arrangements could be made to lighten her work as she finds the washing now very heavy. When she only had one resident doctor his weekly washing averaged 3 shirts, 4 collars, 7 handkerchiefs, 1 pair pyjamas, 1 pair of socks, whereas now the average is much higher, i.e. this week's washing for the two resident doctors, 3 singlets, 3 pairs underpants, 17 handkerchiefs.

Besides this there is the dispenser's washing and the washing for the male staff and in the summer with white suits the washing will be much heavier, but even now the Committee will see that the work is much harder. All these things have to be washed by hand (as are all the nurses clothes) as the machine does not wash out the starch and it is the extra number of ironing of starched articles that makes the work so heavy as they require great care and must be done by the head laundress herself. I thought it best to put the matter before the Committee so that they can arrange for the best. The Committee asked the Resident Medical Officers to curtail their laundry as much as possible.

Matron also required 2 gallons of whiskey, 2 dozen dessert spoons, £1, two dozen dessert forks £1, and two dozen tea spoons 10/- for ward use.

1/7/1910. Dr. Arnold reported that Dr. Dick's pathological requirements had come to hand. There was great strain on the isolation ward due to 9 diphtherias, 1 scarlet fever and 1 typhoid requiring constant nursing attention. The Secretary was instructed to obtain further estimates and designs for the new ambulance. It was decided to draw the Medical Board's attention to the fact that 12 tins obtained at their request for ward dressings some months previously at an expense of £2/14/- had not been brought into use and asking for the reason.

8/7/1910. The Secretary, the A.T.N.A., reported to matron that Miss Jessie A. Gibb and Miss Flora Studdert were successful in passing the final examination held on 7th and 8th instant.

Hours of duty of nurses on the staff of this hospital as supplied to Owen Gilbert M.L.A.

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| On duty 6 a.m. til 8.30 a.m. | 2 hours 30 minutes |
| Breakfast 30 minutes | |
| On duty 9 a.m. till 1.15 p.m. | 4 hours 15 minutes |
| Dinner 45 minutes | |
| On duty 2 p.m. till 6 p.m. | 4 hours |
| Tea 30 minutes | |
| On duty 6.30 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. | 2 hours |
| | <hr/> |
| | 12 hours 45 minutes |
| Less off duty allowed each nurse daily | 3 hours |
| | <hr/> |
| Actual time on duty | 9 hours 45 minutes |
| | <hr/> |

In addition to meal times the nurses are allowed time for tea at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Also each nurse is allowed 1½ days off duty each month and 31 days holiday on full pay annually.

The night nurses come on duty at 8.30 p.m. and go off duty at 7.30 a.m. They have an hour allowed for refreshments during the night making their hours on duty 10.

S. L. Laing, Secretary.

Statement of expenditure for the month of July, 1910 -

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Salaries and wages | ... | 156.18. 9 |
| Groceries | ... | 49. -. 6 |
| Meat, fish, poultry | ... | 18.14. 2 |
| Bread and flour | ... | 8. 6.10 |
| Milk and eggs | ... | 23. 3.11 |
| Fruit and vegetables | ... | 12.15. 3 |
| Ice and aerated waters | ... | 2. 8. 4 |
| Wines and spirits | ... | 2.10. 9 |
| Drugs and dressings | ... | 18.17.10 |
| Surgical instruments | ... | 15. 5.10 |
| Fuel and lighting | ... | 22. 8. 4 |
| Bedding and linen | ... | 1. 5. - |
| Drapery | ... | 1. 2.11 |
| Furniture & utensils | ... | 5.14.10 |
| Printing, Stationery, Advertising | ... | 19. 6 |
| Burials | ... | 13. 2. 6 |
| Ambulance | ... | 3.18. 3 |
| Insurance | ... | Nil |
| Freight and cartage | ... | 12. 9 |
| Commission | ... | 9.10 |
| Petty Cash | ... | 2. 1. 6 |
| Repairs, labour | ... | 3. -. 7 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | £362.18. 2 |

Number on staff risen to 43, dai ly average in-patient attendance 67.

Complaints of blood stained bed linen sent in directly from the laundry, together with continual agitation on the part of Matron for extra staff in the laundry, caused the Committee to ask Mr. Sydney Hewson of the Newcastle Laundry for advice. Mr. Hewson determined that the washing machine was being run at too slow speed and that the washing solutions used were not efficient and that the laundry staff did not pay attention to the length of time the fabrics were washed. C. C. Fawcett, the foreman, spent some time at the Newcastle Laundry examining the machines and reported to the Committee that for efficiency the above three observations would have to be carefully observed. The complaint made by Mrs. Bowditch was the means of vastly improving the results obtained from the laundry.

The Committee decided as a direct result of the complaints of Mrs. Bowditch that a letter should be written to the matron conveying to her their

conclusions and informing her that so many lapses of proper supervision had come under their notice of late showing great laxity on the part of the matron in the discharge of her duties that they feel it incumbent upon them to impress upon her the necessity of making a radical improvement in the control and management of her department forthwith otherwise they will be compelled to recommend such changes as will best serve to achieve this much desired result.

The Secretary, Honorary Medical Board, recommended that when the children's ward was renovated that white tile be used in the white marble fireplace surround and that two small windows be opened up to make a large window for the purpose of allowing more light to enter the ward. The Committee decided that the cost of enlarging this window namely £16/5/- was excessive for the amount of good the extra light would do.

The 18th July, 1910, was a very stormy 24 hours. During that time many slates were blown off the hospital roof, and from the nurses home, Ventilator blown off operating theatre roof and rain coming in caused much damage to the operating theatre. Iron was blown off the covered way and tiles from the roof of the kitchen. The repairs caused the hospital extra expense at a time they could ill afford to spend the money.

Matron requested the use of a trained nurse for a week. The hospital is very heavy at present. We have 15 cases of diphtheria in Isolation and one nurse is not enough to look after so many. They are nearly all young children and helpless. We also have a very bad case upstairs that we have to have a nurse watching day and night, and Nurse Nicholson being so new, is practically useless at present. The result of

her request is not given either in the minutes or in matron's book. Matron also requested 2 gallons of whisky now risen 5/- to £1/5/- per gallon, 1 water can 3/9, 12 enamel basins at 1/9 each and a saucepan for 6/9.

5/8/1910. The 5th Battalion Senior Cadets band offered to play at the Rugby Union fixture in aid of the hospital. Offer accepted. W. Winn & Co. were successful in a tender for furniture in the renovated children's ward, their prices being below those of other tenderers and were - 6 white enamel drop sided 4' x 2'6" cots £2/7/6 each, 1 table 5' x 2', 13/6d., 1 linen press 6' x 4'6" £3/5/-, 6 chairs at 5/6 each, 6 hair mattresses at 19/9 each.

Dr. A. C. Arnold had requested that medical history sheets similar to those in use by Prince Alfred Hospital be used in the hospital. His request sponsored by the Medical Board was granted and these sheets came into force on 1/8/1910.

The Secretary reported that the gas fire in the private ward had been the cause of an extra £1/9/11 for the month of July as compared with its non use in June. The nurses were instructed to constantly supervise the consumption of gas.

Nine hundredweight of soap and 50 pounds of soda ash having been purchased from Mr. Hewson of the Newcastle Laundry, he allowed his foreman at 8/- per day to teach the laundresses how to cope with the laundry problems. Mr. John Gilbert was asked to meet the Committee relative to the building of the new memorial ambulance. Dr. Beeston conferred with the Committee on 3 points (1) Dr. Arnold's request for the removal of the gas lights over the operating table now that the new electric current was satisfactory. Dr. Beeston preferred the gas brackets to remain in case

the new electricity should not function properly at any time. (2) The design of the ambulance "Oldings" preferred and (3) He must stress the necessity of more light and air for the children's ward. Windows to be put in the eastern end. The Committee could only consider this scheme if an additional grant were received from the Chief Secretary.

17/8/1910. A meeting of the General Committee of the Newcastle Hospital was held last evening, the President, Mr. W. Lyne, in the chair. There were present S. G. Mason, F.W.J. Fletcher, J.P. Rees, Rev. W.F. James, T.C. Butler, A. Timbury, R.J. Bond, F. Richardson, W.H. Goodman and T.H. Raysmith.

Mr. D. Watkins, M.H.R., wrote forwarding a letter he had received from the Premier relative to the payment to Hospital authorities of portions of the pensions payable to inmates of such institutions and for the defrayment of the burial expenses, should they die whilst in the hospitals. Mr. Fisher advised that the representations would receive attention. The letter was received.

The Matron wrote that she was promoting a linen tea to be held on August 27th and inviting the committee to be present. The invitation was accepted. The receipts for the month totalled £639/2/8 including £128/19/8 fees of patients and £39/7/11 subscriptions. The House Committee in their progress report pointed out that the completion of the contract for the renovation of the children's ward had been delayed owing to the matter of putting two large windows in the eastern side replacing the former narrow ones now there. This extra work would increase the cost by £40 but Dr. Beeston, M.L.C., had interviewed Mr. Wood, the Chief Secretary, on the subject and obtained from him a verbal promise to grant a further sum of £50 towards this

object. Orders for the supply of the new furniture were placed with W. Winn & Co.

The tender of Gilbert Bros of Newcastle was recommended for acceptance for the construction of the King Edward VII memorial ambulance at a cost of £133. The design chosen was similar to the type of ambulance waggon recently presented to the Western Suburbs Branch of St. John Ambulance Association by the residents of Ashfield.

Certain improvements to machinery in the laundry as well as extra fittings had been introduced which would quicken the work of the department and provide better results. In this connection the Committee desired to thank Mr. S. Hewson and his foreman of the Newcastle Steam Laundry in affording advice and instruction in the manipulation of the washing machinery.

Nurse Studdert having finished her 4 year course and regularly attended the series of lectures necessary and passed satisfactorily all her examinations had been presented with the hospital's certificate of a duly trained nurse.

29/8/1910. Matron McAllister's linen tea. There was a very large and representative gathering at the Newcastle Hospital on Saturday afternoon on the occasion of the linen tea organised by Mrs. McAllister, the Matron, to assist in the furnishing of the new children's ward.

Parcels were sent in by about 100 donors and the value of the gifts was considerable. They included 29 quilts, nine mosquito curtains, blankets, eiderdown quilts, towels, sheets and pillow slips, and the whole made a large pile on a table in the children's ward. The seven white enamelled cots with polished brass footrails and mosquito nets caught up

with blue ribbons had a bright and pretty appearance. Mrs. McAllister received her guests on the lawn on the north side of the nurses home and proceedings were enlivened by an excellent programme rendered by the 4th Regiment Band under bandmaster Oliver.

Mr. W. Lyne and a number of the committeemen were present, and the honorary medical staff was well represented while Dr. Arnold and Dr. Purves, the resident medical officers, were also present. Afternoon tea was served.

Sister Veenman, the senior member of the nursing staff, and the other sisters and nurses gave Matron every assistance, and the whole function passed off pleasantly. In acknowledging their invitation a number of people sent donations and in this way the matron received £32/6/9 on which the Government will pay a subsidy of an equal amount.

2/9/1910. Owing to the excessive telephone account the Committee caused the following notice to be pasted above the phone. "It is hereby notified for general information that owing to the toll rate being charged by the Department, telephone messages on private business must NOT be sent on this telephone without the authority of the Resident Medical Officer in charge, the Matron or the Secretary. All calls on other than hospital business must be paid for at the rate of one penny per call. The regulations to come into force on 1st September, 1910."

Scott Laing too, concerned with hospital finance, addressed the following memorandum to the House Committee

"Re Nursing Staff" "I beg to draw attention to the present state of the nursing staff with respect to the way the staff is becoming congested with nurses in the highest grade by reason of the nurses who have completed

their full course of training and fully qualified for their certificates as hospital nurses are continued in the service of the institution instead of leaving to follow their profession elsewhere, thus keeping up the expenses in this department unnecessarily and which will if permitted to go on have the effect of ultimately closing the hospital as a training school for nurses and having no grade inferior to trained nurses on the staff." The staff as now constituted consists of -

Permanent Staff. 1 head sister £62, 3 ward sisters £52. Nurses who have completed their training and received their certificates, 3 nurses at £35, 1 nurse at £35 finishes in September 1910. 1 Nurse at £35 finishes on 1st June, 1911. 3 nurses at £25 will complete their training by the end of 1911. All the above have passed their final examination and have only to complete their 4 years course of training. 2 nurses at £20 are in third year, 2 nurses £15 are in their second year. 6 probationers are in their first year at £10.

I would respectfully recommend that the committee give this matter early consideration with a view of introducing a rule that nurses who have completed their full course of training and received the hospital certificate of competency as being duly qualified shall leave the service on the termination of their full period of training unless appointed at a position on the permanent staff as a sister or in some other capacity. This practice will have the effect of reducing the amount paid as salaries in the higher grade, while maintaining each of the grades in comparative strength and be the means of having regular vacancies every year for a certain number of Probationers. The regular staff should be sufficiently large to meet all the demands on the bed accommodation and thus obviate the practice of engaging special assistance when an occasional pressure of work happens".

Mr. Owen Gilbert M.L.A. was approached to obtain extra funds to build a brick coach house to accommodate the new horse ambulance being built by the Gilbert Bros. This house was to cost £150. The Mayoress, Mrs. Reid, agreed as sponsor of Ladies Committee to arrange for collections on Hospital Saturday. Miss Kirkwood who had been honorary Secretary of the Ladies Committee since the Hospital Collection Day had been inaugurated, agreed to act once more. Sorbys were successful in the tender for cups and saucers. They were to supply cups and saucers at 5/3 per dozen or cups at 4/- per dozen. Each article to have the hospital monogram baked on. Dr. Arnold still pressed for extra beds, although instructed to cut down on admissions, a quotation for 6 stretchers was called for, so that in an emergency they could be erected in the dining room. The Committee were not pleased when they read in the morning paper that both Dr. Arnold and Dr. Purves were present at the same time at a local function a letter was addressed to each asking for an explanation.

Matron was asked to apologise to the very Rev. the Dean of Newcastle, for being abrupt to him and for not delivering to the Dean the exact message given by Dr. Purves. By not delivering the message in the exact manner as told her offence was given to the Reverend Gentleman. The Matron's report of 9/9/1910 states that Nurse Amy Reid had started as a probationer, Amy Butterworth, Cook, left, Freda Sheppard started as cook, Chrissy Urquhart, the home cook leaving, Rebecca Brough starts in her place. Mrs. New donated flowers.

Dr. Arnold gave an explanation as to why both Resident Medical Officers were away at one time. There were five cases of diphtheria in the hospital and that he had found three iron bedsteads not in use as they

lacked mattresses. If the committee could supply three mattresses only three stretchers need be purchased.

The Committee asked the Medical Board to appoint a representative to attend the next meeting to discuss the re-organisation of the nursing staff and to inspect the milk supply for diphtheria germs.

Mr. W.W. O'Shannessy of Teralba complained of the speed with which his son was conducted to the hospital by horse ambulance. It took only 15 minutes from Broadmeadow to the hospital. Sister Veenman and Steele accompanied the ambulance and both stated it was a comfortable ride at the usual pace and neither they or the patient complained of the trip.

16/9/1910. The House Committee adopted the memorandum supplied by the Secretary relative to nurses who had received the hospital certificate and completed four years of service retiring from the Hospital staff to make room for more probationers. The above became the rule of the hospital and still stands (1954). Dr. Arnold reported that Dr. Dick's tests of the milk supply to the hospital were satisfactory. Dr. Beeston stated that the Medical Board recognised that no medical man outside the properly appointed members of the Honorary Medical Staff and Residential medical staff was allowed to perform operations or otherwise treat cases in the hospital. The Committee concurred. It was decided to ask the undermentioned bands to give their services on hospital Saturday.

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Afternoon | 4th Regiment and Senior Cadets |
| Night | City and Railway. |

It was also decided to ask permission for the bands to be stationed at the following points.
School of Arts, Central Hotel.

15/9/1910. T. M. O'Neill Esq., honorary treasurer to the hospital, directed attention to the fact that the Saturday half holiday would come into force in Newcastle on October 22nd and said it would be advisable to allow the date previously fixed for the collection to one coming before the Saturday half holiday Act came into operation. It was decided to hold the collection on October 8th. Mrs. J. C. Reid, the Mayoress, entertained the members of the Committee to afternoon tea. Mr. O'Neill suitably thanked Mrs. J.C. Reid for her help in arranging the meeting and for the refreshments.

22/9/1910. A letter was received from Mrs. S.A. Vellacott, President of the Ministering Childrens League, forwarding £20 for the support of the Ministering Children's cot. A cheque £16/16/- was received from P. J. Fleming secretary of the Northern Branch of the Rugby Football Union representing the Hospital's share of the proceeds of the benefit matches. The financial statement showed the receipts for the month of August to be £443. The amount brought forward from the previous month was £227 making a total of £671. The total expenditure was £477 leaving £193.

Through the instrumentality of Messrs. Timbury and Bond, Messrs. Dix and Baker had consented to give a matinee cinematograph entertainment on Wednesday next.

The President regretted the resignation from the Committee of the Dean of Newcastle who had done a good deal for the hospital and was in every way a sympathiser of the hospital. The Editorial, Newcastle Morning Herald, 8/10/1910 is of interest to my readers. -
The Annual Appeal on behalf of the Newcastle Hospital will be made today throughout the city and suburbs. The appeal is made in such a way that very few people

will be able to avoid an opportunity to give something towards the support of a most deserving institution. The maintenance of a hospital is an obligation placed on the community in the name of charity and is moreover an insurance to minimise the disaster which follows accident or sickness. The Newcastle Hospital does a great work. It not only relieves the sufferings of those who seek its sheltering care but it lifts from many a home the expense and toil which are the accompaniments of sickness. It is not only a life saving institution but it is a money saver and it is the duty of every man and woman in the community to contribute to the cost of keeping it in a state of high efficiency. The members of the honorary medical staff ungrudgingly give their time and skill to the institution the doors of which are always open to those who being sick are in need of succour. The institution stands upon the broad basis of humanitarianism. It knows neither creed or colour and the most lonely outcast can find relief within its walls. During the first nine months of the present year 1070 patients have been admitted to the hospital. Of these no less than 97 were cases of diphtheria drawn from a very wide area. This large number of diphtheria cases entailed much expenditure on the hospital for the isolation wards were continuously occupied for months and a large amount of money was spent in the purchase of anti-toxin for the treatment of these cases. Since the commencement of this present year the expenditure of the committee has amounted to £3605 and the revenue £3366 which shows a deficit of £299. The average expenditure is £400 per month and any reduction would mean a decrease in efficiency. Today an appeal is made to the people of Newcastle to help to meet this expenditure in return for which the community gets a magnificent return."

The collection amounted to £346/10/8 being only 4/1 better than in 1909. In September there occurred two social functions which increased by £100 the funds of the hospital. Firstly the ball promoted by the wives of the honorary medical officers of the institution and secondly the hospital juvenile ball.

"The children's Ball held in the Parish Hall was a most successful function. There were about 150 children present all in fancy dress and a large number of adults and the march by the children was a beautiful sight. An interesting feature of the ball was the dancing of the Waltz Cotillion by eight little girls dressed in David Garrick Costume. This charming dance was performed gracefully and the children enthusiastically applauded. The music was supplied by Messrs. Porter and Bohle and the M.C.s were P.W. Vaughan and Keith H. Wood. The Committee which organised both this and the ball of the previous evening included Mrs. J. R. Leslie.

The adult ball, also held in the Parish Hall, was an unqualified success. Well over 200 were present. The Committee consisted of Mesdames Nickson (Secretary) Beeston (Treasurer) Harris, Eames, Dunlop, Russell, Horsfall, Bauer and Ferguson, wives of the doctors resident in Newcastle and Hamilton and Miss Douglas, sister of Dr. Douglas of Adamstown. There were two fancy sets danced, a card set promoted by Miss Dora Sparke and a mask and domino set promoted by Mr. Keith H. Wood. These sets which were danced simultaneously following the opening march provided a brilliant spectacle, the black dominoes of the gentlemen and the red dominoes of the ladies in Mr. Wood's set and the novel and artistic card designs worn by the dancers in Miss Sparke's set being very effective. The march was headed by Mr. P. Vaughan and

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Miss Turner. The funds of the hospital will benefit by a substantial amount. It is twelve years since the last ball was held in aid of the funds of Newcastle Hospital."

The money was earmarked by the ball committee for the purpose of renovating the X-ray apparatus at the hospital so in the letter addressed to Mrs. W. Nickson, 3/10/1910, the Secretary stated that doubtless the hospital committee would accede to that request.

STAFF OCTOBER 1910.

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| Medical Officer | A. C. Arnold | £100 |
| | A. M. Purves | 75 |
| Secretary | S. L. Laing | 210 |
| Collector | S. Fisher | 75 |
| Dispenser | R. G. Mathews | 104 |
| Matron | F. McAllister | 100 |
| Head Sister | M. A. Veenman | 62 |
| Sisters | A. Mathews | 52 |
| | B. Asher | 52 |
| Nurses | O. Steele | 52 |
| | P. Morris | 35 |
| | E. Cuthbertson | 35 |
| | F. Studdert | 35 |
| | J. H. Gibb | 35 |
| | L. Nicholson | 35 |
| | E. M. Smith | 25 |
| | G. Hughes | 25 |
| | H. Blacklock | 25 |
| | A. Michie | 15 |
| | E. Bell | 15 |
| | I. Graham | 15 |
| | B. Miller | 15 |
| | A. Milligan | 15 |
| Probationers | E. Summers | 10 |
| | H. Mayton | 10 |
| | M. M. Bell | 10 |
| | A. Hocquard | 10 |
| | A. Wright | 10 |
| | F. Nicholson | 10 |
| | Amy Reid | 10 |
| | C. C. Fawcett | 132 |
| | J. Arendts | 65 |
| | D. S. Gain | 52 |
| Foreman | J. Jordan | 52 |
| | S. Bannister | 13 |
| | S. Wilson | 46/16/- |
| | M. Luxmore | 36/ 8/- |
| | B. Watson | 26 |
| Wardsman | F. Shepherd | 52 |
| | R. Brough | 31/ 4/- |
| Hall Porter | M. Rae | 31/ 4/- |
| | K. Gill | 31/ 4/- |
| Yardsman | A. Martin | 26 |
| | | |
| Cleaner | | |
| Laundresses | | |
| | | |
| Cooks | | |
| | | |
| Housemaids | | |
| | | |
| Wardswmaid | | |

Matron reports, "I would ask the committee to reconsider the matter of granting another probationer

to the present staff. Through opening the children's ward one nurse is required for that ward alone. All last week the ward was full and we had one very bad case in it that required constant watching. We had three nurses in isolation, 2 nursing diphtheria cases and one nursing scarlet fever and measles so we could only have five nurses on the upstairs flat and we require six. I am sure I need not point out to you how much more nursing children require than adults. Their helplessness alone is sufficient excuse and we had a good many bad cases amongst the women making those wards heavy. We have a bedroom furnished at the home so the main expense will be the salary." Matron won her case. The Committee approved the appointment of a new probationer.

"I have also received two children's gowns from Mrs. Isaac Winn which were not finished in time to be sent with her contribution to the linen tea."

October 20th, 1910. Sister Bertha Asher wrote resigning her position having been appointed to the position of head nurse at Kurri Kurri Hospital. Nurse Phoebe Morris also tendered her resignation having been appointed matron of Murrurundi Hospital. Both resignations were accepted.

Mr. T. J. Pepper, honorary architect, forwarded a pencil drawing and details of the proposed lift for the morgue at the hospital at an estimated cost of £65. Mr. Bond considered the work should be carried out by the Government. Mr. A. J. Plumridge wrote thanking the President, Committee, Medical staff, Matron and the nurses for the skilful treatment and the great kindness shown to his wife while a patient in the hospital. He could not adequately express his thanks to Dr. A. C. Arnold, Dr. Purves and Dr. Douglass. Their kindnesses would always be remembered.

The House Committee in their progress report pointed out that nothing had been heard of the application to the Government for a special grant of £150 for the purpose of building a new ambulance shed nor had tenders yet been called for building the new isolation ward block of buildings in connection with the scheme for the proposed new hospital. Application should also be made for a special grant for the purpose of supplying storage accommodation in connection with dispensary, kitchen and laundry departments, such stores having been omitted when the present additions (Kitchen and laundry) were provided.

Miss Dora Moseley and Miss Constance Becket had been appointed probationer nurses on trial. Nurse J. H. Gibb having completed her four year course of training and satisfactorily passed all necessary examinations was presented with the hospital certificate, she being the 48th nurse to receive the hospital certificate.

The Medical Board recommended to the Committee that Nurse Edith Cuthbertson be promoted to the position of Sister.

A fee charged a patient for ambulance transport (2 horses) from Catherine Hill Bay to Newcastle Hospital was fifty shillings. R. Marks, Manager, Coal mine at the Bay paid that amount on behalf of a juvenile patient.

Dr. A. C. Arnold was asked by the Committee to give an explanation as to why he was away two mornings in last week. He stated he was helping Dr. Douglas who was confined to his bed through illness. The Committee then wrote asking him was he paid for the service to Dr. Douglas' patients and when Dr. Arnold stated he was paid, the Committee deducted two mornings' pay from Dr. Arnold's salary.

Dr. Beeston as secretary to the Honorary Medical Officers' Board was then approached by letter asking him to acquaint all honorary officers that on no account must they employ a resident to attend to patients other than within the hospital.

The Medical Board asked that the space on the verandah in front of male medical ward be fenced in with picket palings to prevent persons handing anything to the patients. Dr. Beeston stated that some articles of diet, injurious to a patient, had been passed to him through the ward windows. Dr. A. C. Arnold was asked had he filled in any history sheets for patients which he had bought for the hospital and if so where had he placed them. The reply was that only when a history was medically interesting was one taken and then it should be filed with the chart. (I think Steve was becoming fed up with the pin pricks.)

16/11/1910. Mr. A. Mathieson, manager of the Hetton Colliery, sent a cheque £7/15/- being amount of fines imposed on miners for loading dirt with the coal.

Mr. J. Grisdale, Newcastle Jockey Club, cheque for £99/13/11 being the hospital's share of the charity race meeting recently held by the club.

Lily Wallace, Laurel Kirk, Mary Hughes and Ivy Hughes, four little girls, forwarded £7/12/8 the result of a bazaar promoted by them in aid of the hospital. The result exceeded their expectations and they hoped it would be an inspiration to others to assist such a worthy object in a similar manner.

Application had been made through Mr. Gardiner M.P. for a special grant of £500 for the purpose of providing patent up to date lifts in the main hospital and mortuary, an additional steriliser for theatre and ward dressings and for a new ambulance

The skating carnival under the management of Mr. R. W. Brittain returned a profit of £20/11/8, and the thanks of the committee were due to the directors and manager of the Olympia Skating Rink for their kindness in arranging the benefit and to the conductor and musicians of the band of the Fourth Regiment for their services.

Mr. A. Timbury expressed the hope that the new Government would redeem the promises made by the Wade Government and give the amount required for the ambulance shed. He also said "He was surprised no mention had been made of the visit to the hospital of the Vice Regal party. He would like to know as it appeared to him that the institution had been ignored." The Secretary, Mr. S. L. Laing, said he was assured by the mayor that Lady Chelmsford would visit the hospital either on Friday or Saturday.

December 23rd. Dr. A. M. Purves wrote making application for the position of senior resident medical officer in place of Dr. A. C. Arnold who was about to retire. The Medical Board recommended that Dr. Purves be appointed and that recommendation was adopted.

Many donations of money and goods were received by the hospital for the nurses and patients' Christmas tree.

Drs. Nickson and Horsfall reported having conducted an examination of second year nurses at the hospital, the following passed - Nurses Michie, Miller, Bell, Milligan and Grahame. Nurse Bell did particularly well.

A wonderful Christmas was spent by the patients and finally each patient received on New Year's Eve a present from Mr. William Longworth, "Gilroy", Karuah.

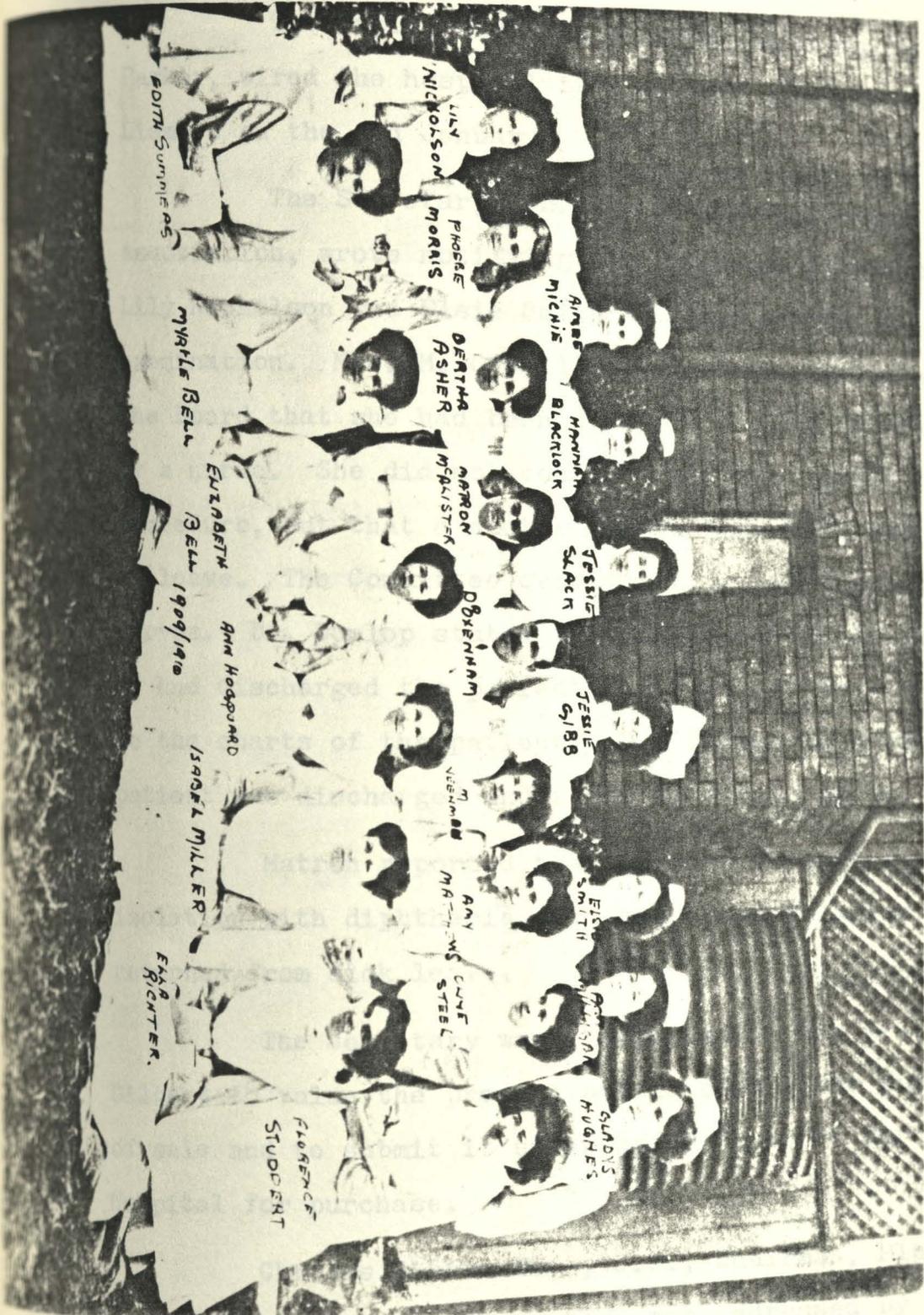
Professor Anderson Stuart recommended Dr. T. E. Parker as Assistant Resident Medical Officer.

The Revd. Kem Yee a Presbyterian clergyman of Chinese nationality wished to see Dr. W. L. Nickson on a matter of importance. He thought he would contact Dr. Nickson at his surgery but found the surgery full of patients. Reaching into his pocket for a piece of paper he scribbled the words "May I see you for a few moments" and handed it to Dr. Nickson's secretary to deliver to the doctor. Unfortunately the paper also had on it some Chinese characters. The Secretary came back in a few seconds to report that Dr. Nickson said that Mr. Kem Yee had come to the wrong surgery, that the paper handed to him had Dr. Beeston's signature on it but if Mr. Yee would go to Donald's, Mr. Henderson there, would get him the medicine.

Dr. Dunlop referred a female patient to the hospital with a note "Please X-ray bearer." On the Radiographer ringing him to find which part had to be X-rayed Dr. Dunlop replied "Suit yourself, she has plagued me for three months to be X-rayed, so don't let her leave without having the X-rays."

Dr. Harker met Dr. Horsfall driving his first car but it was minus a windscreen. On being asked why he had taken the windscreen off he said, "No wind resistance me boy, I get an extra mile from a tin of petrol this way."

Dr. Dunlop was responsible for the nurses viva voce examination on instruments. During the examination he pointed to a certain instrument and asked its name and use. The nurse concerned said "Dr. Dunlop I have never been told what it is or its use." Dr. Dunlop said, "It's my car crank handle, you would not have seen it before, it's from a new car."



EDITH Sumpster

MYRTLE BELL

EUGENIE BELL

1909/1910

ANN HOOPARD

1500 FT MILLER

ELEANOR RICHTER

FLORENCE STUDENT

LILY NICKOLSON

PHOEBE MORRIS

MARRION BLACKLOCK

DEBRA FISHER

MARRION MCKAY

JESSIE SKACH

DOROTHY

JESSIE GIBBS

VERNER

ESTHER SMITH

ANY MATHEWS

MARISSA STEEL

MARISSA STEEL

GADVIS HUGHES

The first meeting of the House Committee, comprising Messrs. W. Lyne, President, G. D. Irvine, R. J. Bond, W. Bethune and F. G. Crofts, was held on 5th January, 1911. An apology was received from Mr. J. F. Grahame.

The Junior Resident Medical Officer, T. Eric Parker, wired the hospital that he would arrive from Lismore on the 2nd January.

The Secretary, the Australian Trained Nurses Association, wrote notifying the hospital that Nurses Lily Nicholson and Elsie Smith had passed the A.T.N.A. examination. Mrs. M. O'Neill of Waratah complained to the Board that she had been discharged from the hospital by a nurse. She did not consider it the correct procedure, but that a doctor should have told her when to leave. The Committee questioned Dr. Dunlop and Dr. Purves. Dr. Dunlop stated that as her medical officer he had discharged the patient and referred the Committee to the charts of the patient. Dr. Purves said the patient was discharged under the direction of Dr. Dunlop.

Matron reported that Sister Matthews was in isolation with diphtheria and that Nurse Bell had returned from sick leave.

The Secretary was instructed to ask Mr. Gilbert to value the present ambulance for the purpose of sale and to submit it under offer to Kurri Kurri Hospital for purchase.

Charles Hibble Esq., J.P., Chairman, Plumbers and Gasfitters Board, Newcastle, was addressed by letter asking that exemption from any award which might or might not be made dealing with plumbers be waived on the following grounds (1) only one plumber employed (2) very small part of his duties deals with plumbing or gas fitting (3) his principal duties are to look

after machinery (4) the hospital being a charitable institution had limited means.

Matron was asked if nurses would volunteer to act as collectors at the Naval and Military display on 19/1/1911 in the upper reserve. Nurses did volunteer and collection took place.

A. Timbury, Esq., forwarded his subscription but intimated he did not intend to seek re-election to any office at the forthcoming elections. The Committee forwarded him a letter thanking him for past services.

The Secretary, the Newcastle Surf Club, asked for the loan of 40 collection boxes which request the Committee granted provided they were returned in the good order in which they were handed to the surf club.

Mr. R. G. Matthews, the dispenser, was asked to secure a new position and was immediately paid off.

Matron reported that Sam Bannister had sore knees and could not scrub the male ward efficiently.

The lettering on the King Edward VII Memorial Ambulance was left to the President to advise the contractor. The lecture room at the Newcastle School of Arts was engaged for the annual meeting of subscribers on 31st January at 8 p.m. Mr. Gilbert valued the well used ambulance at £30 and for this sum it was offered for sale.

Mrs. Ada Williamson (Belmont) forwarded the sum of £7/9/4 as a result of her concert and asked could the Secretary thank Mrs. Hannell, Miss Annie Cain of Swansea and Mrs. Yardley of Belmont for helping with items.

Mr. Patey was successful in his tender for repairing the ambulance shed preparatory to the

reception of the new ambulance. Mr. R. J. Bond stated that as this was the last meeting of the Committee for 1910, he moved that a vote of thanks be accorded the President for the work done by him through the past year.

Mr. Lyne had expressed himself as not seeking re-election as President and he, the mover, expressed a wish that if Mr. Lyne would not be President he would allow himself to be nominated as Vice President. Several other speakers remarked that it was unusual for a president to step aside for another president but they appreciated Mr. Lyne's position. Mr. Lyne suitably responded and stated that it was an honour to be President of Newcastle Hospital, but that for the hospital's sake he considered some one of better standing should occupy the chair. He thanked the members of the Committee for loyal support during the past year.

Mr. W. Lyne chaired the annual meeting on January 31st. The year 1910, with the exception of the year 1908, had been the busiest in 20 years.

The number of operations performed 727 during 1910 was greater than in any year previously, while the number of patients admitted, 1378, was only 35 less than 1908.

Again the wards in the isolation area had been continuously occupied with infectious diseases cases and frequently greatly overcrowded. At one period the diphtheria ward held fourteen cases where the accommodation was for 4 only. In 1908 the chief secretary of the then Government promised a special grant of £2,000 which sum has since been allotted for the purpose of providing a new block of buildings for the accommodation and treatment of infectious diseases to be erected on the present site as a further instal-

ment towards the completion of the proposed new hospital but although the money has been set aside for the purpose for so long a period the matter of the new buildings being an accomplished fact appeared as far off as ever. The present buildings were old, obsolete and in great disrepair and had been condemned as unfit for their purposes both by the Board of Health authorities and the honorary medical staff.

Application had been made through the member of Parliament for Newcastle, Mr. A. R. Gardiner, to the Chief Secretary for a special grant of £500 for the purpose of providing store room accommodation, a new ambulance house and a new steriliser for the operating theatre and he had been instrumental in eliciting a promise from the Minister that the matter would receive consideration.

The upper room of the new morgue building was brought into use early in the year, but the contract for the stairway leading to the lower room with the continuation of the retaining room was not completed until very late in the year. The building could not be properly utilised until a lift had been installed. The efficiency of the members of the nursing staff in the discharge of their duties had been satisfactory and the high standard hitherto attained by the nurses trained in the hospital was being well maintained by the present staff. The pupil nurses regularly attended the classes of instruction in the various grades and generally exhibited zeal and diligence in the prosecution of their studies and care and attention to their practical work.

A contract for the construction of a new ambulance waggon had been let to Messrs. Gilbert Bros. Newcastle West. The vehicle was being built on the most

modern up to date lines with all modern improvements. At the request of the Dean of Newcastle who devoted the collections of the memorial services held in the cathedral to this object the new ambulance will be designated the King Edward VII Memorial Ambulance.

The financial condition of the hospital was at a very low ebb and the year has closed with the bank account overdrawn to the extent of £122/9/9. The account of revenue shows reductions compared with the previous year in subscriptions of £112/9/7 and in fees of patients £122, in Government subsidy of £668 and £300 transferred from invested funds. Economy has been practised in the expenditure as the maintenance accounts are £60 below those of 1909. During the earlier part of the year, owing to the depression of business, many subscriptions were not paid and the mining trouble prevented the usual support from the lodges being forthcoming. Only three lodges sent in their donations.

This condition of affairs caused the committee much concern to make ends meet. They called for greater support. The work done during the year, often under difficulty, was a credit to Newcastle.

The number of patients had been a record and he thought that the work done was also a record.

Great credit was indeed due to the honorary medical staff for the way they had managed matters. But though good had been done, the isolation wards were a disgrace and it was marvellous what the honorary medical staff had accomplished under those very unfavourable conditions.

In 1908 the late government promised a grant of £2000 for new buildings and, although he understood the money was placed on the estimates, so far it had

not been made available. The new morgue had been built by the late government, but it had not been furnished sufficiently to be made efficient. But he understood that a special grant of £500 applied for would be granted.

He then went on to refer to the training of the nurses and said it was very creditable to the institution. He regretted that the hospital was not as well supported by the general public as it should be. Dr. J. Beeston in seconding the motion also referred to the isolation wards in which all sorts of infectious diseases had been treated and they were now reeking. No hovel in Newcastle he said could be worse than those isolation wards.

The diphtheria wards built to house two patients had carried as many as fourteen and that was scandalous. Referring to the operating theatre he said there was only one steriliser and if that broke down they would not be able to operate. He was glad to say that through the year the Committee and the honorary staff had worked amicably together and the hospital was doing good work though handicapped. The following officers were elected, S. S. Cohen, Esq., President, W. Lyne Vice President. As there were more candidates than required for the Committee, it was decided to conduct a ballot. Mr. S. S. Cohen in acknowledging his election as President said that he had thought considering how well Mr. Lyne had conducted things it was a pity to disturb matters. But it was pointed out to him that Mr. W. Lyne had determined to retire, and then only, he consented to take the position. He looked upon the hospital not so much as a charity but as place where those who wanted help could get it. He considered that the hospital should be placed in a

condition whereby it would not be necessary to drag money out of people. The meeting adjourned until the 9th instant for the election of a committee.

On that date the following gentlemen were elected to the Committee, Revd. James, D. W. Miller, J. F. Graham, W. Bethune, F. Fletcher, E. Bearby, A. B. Gilbert, H. M. Shedden, G. W. Mitchell, F. G. Crofts, M. J. Moroney, J. Fegan, J.P. Rees, J. Birrell, W.H. Goodman, H.P. Cornish, P. Bond, F. Richardson, T. Dunlop, W. Hudson. The following were not elected - T. Butler, G. D. Irvine, E. Solomon, A.C. Hollingshead, C. Robbins and H. Macdonnell. Of 300 voting papers sent to subscribers only 166 were returned.

At the first meeting of the new committee W. Lyne, the ex-president, and now vice-president, congratulated Mr. S. S. Cohen on his appointment as president and guaranteed him his personal loyal support. He stressed the necessity of team work and maintained that Mr. S. S. Cohen had a team of which he would be very proud as the year progressed. The President, Mr. S. S. Cohen, in acknowledging the congratulations said he was obliged to Mr. W. Lyne for his kind remarks. He certainly would do his duty and knew from past experience with most of the members of the committee that they also would give of their best. Money would be required throughout the year and outside help would be expected and welcomed. He had heard that members of the committee would not help in raising money considering that by serving night after night that they were entitled to rest on their laurels. He wanted the committeemen not only to work by serving, but also lend their support to raise money.

Gilbert Brothers notified the hospital that the new ambulance was ready. Mr. S. S. Cohen considered

it proper that the Dean should be asked to publically hand over the ambulance as he instigated the fund. Mr. Lyne also stated it was the correct thing to do and suggested that at the function afternoon tea be served and that invitations be extended to members of Parliament and to friends of the hospital.

Mr. T. W. Heide of Melbourne, through their Newcastle representative, G. Campbell, subscribed £21/10/- from the Melbourne eight hour art union. The other donations from January were £34 from the New South Wales Railway & Tramway employees hospital fund and £8 from Mr. A. Mathieson, being the result of fines imposed on miners for sending up dirt in the coal.

Little Myra Howland wrote enclosing 10/- proceeds of Christmas Tree for the hospital which came to 7/6d., the balance being made up by her mother. The honorary officials to the hospital were elected. Drs. J. L. Beeston, A. C. Crawley, W.L. Eames, J.C. Douglas, N.J. Dunlop, A.H. Horsfall, J.R. Leslie and W. Nickson, Hon. Pathologist, Dr. R. Dick, Ophthalmic surgeons Dr. Bauer, Dr. Hughes. Honorary Dental Surgeon, Mr. A.E. Vesper. Solicitor H. J. Brown, Treasurer Major T. M. O'Neill, electrician E.S. Filmer. Amounts £246 were passed for payment. The Secretary stated that the credit balance was £12/9/- but there was an amount £1000 due as a government subsidy.

The House Committee desire the matron to be informed that it is their wish that she should be on active duty in the hospital during the hours allotted for the visiting of patients by their friends during the regulation hours in order that a proper supervision of the wards may be exercised by her. On occasions when the matron is unavoidably absent this duty must be performed by the head sister acting as deputy matron. The House Committee regret that this instruction has

already been issued to matron but she has not carried it out.

The Under Secretary of the Chief Secretary's department wrote 559/11/20590. "A place on the medical staff shall be open to every reputable medical practitioner of the district who desires to occupy one, the title of Honorary Surgeon to be abolished as a distinctive designation unless applied to all members of the staff alike." Mr. W. Lyne asked that the matter stand over for one month as he had heard that the Government did not intend to go ahead with the ruling. Mr. C. Pankhurst who had the contract to supply horses and drivers on demand for the ambulance notified the committee he had sold his business to Mr. R. McAuliffe and asked that Mr. McAuliffe be allowed to carry out his contract.

Sister M. Veenman gave one month's notice of her intention to resign her position as senior sister at the hospital, as she had been appointed matron of Balmain Hospital.

The Resident Medical Officer reported that he had extreme difficulty in keeping the hospital free from insect life and asked that expert opinion be obtained as at the present time the hospital was very verminous.

The battery purchased only last year is now ruined and Mr. Filmer reports it impossible to be repaired. There were 6 cases of an infectious nature in the hospital and that the ventilators in the morgue were defective. He also considers that hot water should be laid on to that building. It was decided to appoint Andrew McDonnell as a hall porter at 20/- per week with board, residence and laundry. The Resident Medical Officer was instructed to see that the dispenser kept the dispensary in a tidy state and not in the perpetual muddle which was evident to the House Committee.

It was decided to effect insurance on the ambulance shed the ambulance and the hand ambulance, £60 on shed, £130 on ambulance and £10 on hand ambulance. £300 was granted the hospital for the purpose of installing a new lift. The Secretary, the Kurri Kurri Hospital, wrote declining to buy the old ambulance.

2/3/1911. The infectious cases in the hospital were 6 typhoid, 4 diphtheria, and 1 measles. The tenders for the year's supplies were let. Great Northern Bread Coy. 2d. per 2 pound loaf less 5%. Samuel Hoyle, Milk, 2½d. per quart, meat to be supplied by J. Cotterill as per schedule. A. F. Toll, coal, 12/3 per ton large, 8/3 per ton small. A. F. Toll cartage of coal 1/3 per ton. James Hay, Burials £2/15/- each.

Ethel M. Pearce of Orange applied for the position of probationer nurse but as she was 20 years of age she was informed "too young". Dr. Robert Dick submitted his report on the 2 samples of milk labelled Muncaster and Hoyle. This report was too late to prevent the tender for Hoyle being accepted. Dr. Dick stated that the "Muncaster" milk was much superior.

A lack of hot water at various times was traced to lack of attention to the firing of the boilers by the foreman. This was strenuously denied by the foreman but his objections were overruled by the Committee. The Committee decided that providing Lane and Trewartha supplied Hansen's Junket and Crosse or Freemans Pickles their supply of groceries would be satisfactory. Matron was asked to remove from the wards all cups chipped, cracked or handleless.

The House Committee inspected the hospital at a special survey and decided to recommend to the General Committee (1) new lift for medical wards (2) alterations to lavatories and water closets in the

male medical wards (3) the erection of a fumigating and sterilising room (4) lift in morgue (5) more ventilators in morgue (6) weather protection in Servants Quarters (7) roadway to ambulance shed (8) removal of old laundry building (9) coal bins (10) renovations at nurses home both external and internal. The Committee approved the wages of the cook Theresa Brooks being raised from 20/- to 30/- per week conditionally on her doing the work satisfactorily without the assistance of a kitchen maid.

13/3/1911. Matron was granted a fortnight's holiday before the departure of Sister Veenman. A stamped addressed enveloped to Mr. J. T. Seale, Fowlers Pottery, Darby St., Newcastle was enclosed in an anonymous letter which also contained 5/4. It was considered by the Secretary that this money might be the result of a wager.

Messrs. Morrison and Bearby were thanked for their speedy work in putting back into commission the mangle in the laundry. The main bearing broke and the firm took patterns of the broken piece, cast it in gun metal and refitted the mangle and it was in working order in 4 days.

The infectious diseases on 16/3/1911 were typhoid, 3, diphtheria 1, diphtheria and scarlet fever 1, mumps 1, total 6 cases.

G. Chard of Wickham secured the fish and ice contract, ice at 2/6 per 100 pounds and fish at 4½d. per pound.

The Committee recommended that Sister Veenman be allowed to retire on the 25th March 1911, as the management of Balmain Hospital desired her to enter into her Matron's duties on March 27th. Sister Veenman had completed a service of 12 years and 9 months on the

staff of Newcastle Hospital. She gained her certificate of competency in June 1910 and had been head nurse since 1st March 1904 and had frequently acted as deputy matron. The Committee placed on record her services to the hospital. She was a most satisfactory and skilful nurse excelling in surgical work and had proved herself capable in the administrative department as acting matron. They were sure that she would in every way adequately fill the position and reflect credit on the hospital with which she had been so long and honourably associated. In connection with Sister Veenman's retirement the Medical Board was asked to attend a special committee meeting so that her successor should be appointed. At that meeting held on 21st March 1911, Dr. J. L. Beeston representing the medical board stated that they had unanimously decided that the position be filled by a qualified nurse outside the present hospital and that the matrons of Prince Alfred and Sydney Hospitals be requested to each submit the name of a suitable candidate for the position and that the salary paid be not less than £70 per annum. Dr. Beeston also stated that none of the present sisters were suitable for the position as the present state of discipline of the nursing staff was "almost deplorable", and the Board considered that the introduction of a suitable nurse from outside would have the effect of restoring the hospitals standard of efficient training which had deteriorated very much of late. Dr. Beeston then withdrew, and, after much discussion, it was decided to refer the whole facts to the General Committee for them to decide. The Board recommended the purchase of 12 scalpels at 2/- each and 1 Faradic Battery from J. D. Scott at £2/-/-.

Matron McAllister recalled before her leave had expired wired from 14 Liberty St., Stanmore, that

she would return on the last train on Saturday, 25th instant.

The Captain of "La Roche Jacquelin" forwarded his cheque £2 in payment of fees against a crew member of that ship. The Committee decided that females requiring to visit their friends at night in the wards must make special application in writing stating the reason to the House Committee and if approved a special pass will be issued by the Secretary. The concession to be subject to temporary suspension when ever the Resident Medical Officer may deem it necessary.

Mr. Pepper, the Architect, was asked to obtain quotations for the erection of the proposed, fumigating and sterilising rooms and for the pulling down and carting away of the old laundry.

H. Morris Cohen, Hon. Treasurer of the John C. Reid testimonial fund, forwarded £7/6/3 towards the funds of the hospital.

The temporary hand employed whilst the permanent scrubber was off sick with sore knees, also went sick and matron asked could not the ward be covered in linoleum or oil cloth to save scrubbing. Her request was not allowed. The following costs are of interest -

| Name of Hospital | Cost of bed for Inpatients | Cost per Outpatient |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Sydney | 85/9/10 | 2/1½ |
| Royal North Shore | 68/1/ 2 | Nil |
| Balmain | 54/-/ - | 5/- |
| Bathurst | 61/2/ - | 8d. |
| Goulburn | 68/-/ - | 10d. |
| Newcastle | 69/14/5 | 2/- |
| Wallsend | 94/12/5 | Nil |
| Maitland | 55/16/4 | Nil |
| Kurri Kurri | 106/2/ 9 | Nil |
| Royal Prince Alfred | 73/10/9 | 1/10 |

Dear Sir,

"In reply to your inquiries of the 28th instant re terms for a private ward in this hospital, I have to inform you that the rate is 10/- per day, exclusive

of special nurses, wines etc. if ordered by the patient's medical adviser. Private wards can only be secured by depositing in advance the sum of £10/10/- equal to three weeks fees. Should the patient not remain in hospital th at period only the actual time is charged for and the balance of the deposit returned to you. Private patients may have any doctor they desire provided that he is a member of the honorary medical staff of the institution. Under the rules the doctor has the right to charge fees for attendance on private patients in the hospital. The mother would be allowed to stay with the child during the day time only if he occupied a private ward. In the general ward the charge would be 3/- per day. No fees for doctors attendance. The mother could not be allowed to stay with the patie nt but would be allowed to visit him as often as the Resident Medical Officer thought advisable."

Mr. A. Tournay Hinde reported that the X-ray apparatus was in a deplorable condition. He strongly recommended th e use of the Council's electricity instead of batteries and asked that motor brake be installed. (A motor brake was the terminology in those days for a voltage stabiliser.)

His fee for overhauling the apparatus was £60. Mr. Filmer who had been attending the apparatus asked that he be heard on the subject. Mr. Moroney moved and Mr. Crofts seconded the motion that Mr. Tournay-Hinde quote be accepted. Mr. J. L. Fegan said he thought it would be fairer to Mr. Filmer if he was heard first, as many of the suggestions made by Tournay-Hinde had already been made several times by Mr. Filmer. On those remarks being made Mr. Moroney withdrew his motion and the repairs were left in abeyance until Mr. Filmer's report was made. Sister E. Cuthbertson submitted her resignation as she had accepted a position

at Balmain Hospital under Matron Veenman.

Sister Edith Cuthbertson graduated on April 30, 1910, holding certificate Number 45.

The Town Clerk, Mr. E. Scott Holland, wrote that the Council had agreed to allow the committee meetings to be held in the Council Chambers. The Committee expressed surprise at the scarcity of local applications for the nursing staff.

Referring to the vacancy for the position of head sister the committee stated that some applications had been received and passed on to the Medical Committee for comment. The joint report recommended the appointment of Nurse Bertha E. Joliffe of the Hobart Hospital as head sister and deputy matron at a salary of £75 per annum. Mr. Richardson objected to the proposal to go outside their own hospital for senior staff. Mr. Moroney however said the Medical Officers should know best. Applications were received for the position from Hobart, Tasmania, Darlinghurst, Warwick, Bundaberg, Lorne and Wyalong and one from Newcastle Hospital.

On questioning the Medical Board, they stated that as the discipline in the hospital was very poor at present an outside nurse would make discipline better.

In June there appeared an advertisement in the Newcastle Morning Herald inviting the public to be in attendance at a function in the hospital grounds. The occasion was the presentation of the King Edward VII Memorial Ambulance to the hospital. The presentation will be made by the Dean of Newcastle, the very Reverend C. H. Golding-Bird, D.D., M.A., in the presence of Members of Parliament for the city and district and the Mayors and Aldermen of the City and Suburban municipalities. The band of the 1st Battalion of the 4th Australian Infantry Regiment will perform

the following programme. By kind permission of Lieut. Col. Paton V.D.

March, Old Comrades by Teike
Overture, Barbier de Seville by Rossini
Waltz, Wedding of the Winds, by J. T. Hall
Cornet Solo, Rose Softly Blooming, by Spohr.
Intermezzo, Love in Idleness, Macbeth
Selection, Merry Widow, Lehar
Polka, Tout a la Joie, by Farhbach
Selection, Faust, by Gounod
God Save the King
Bandmaster, Ben. J. Oliver Sgt. and Bandmaster.

At the function there was a very fair gathering, when the new ambulance was formally presented to the institution by the Dean of Newcastle. The proceedings were under the supervision of Mr. S. S. Cohen, President of the hospital, and the whole of the members of the Committee were present and also the members of the hospital staff. Mr. F. Flowers, M.L.C., acting Chief secretary had been invited to present the ambulance and had consented to do so, but he had to forego his visit owing to the birthday celebrations in Sydney. An apology had been received from him, from Mr. Edden, the Minister for Mines, from Mr. M. Charlton, MHR and other gentlemen. The Dean, in presenting the carriage, referred to the history of the movement which he had initiated as a memorial of one who always had thought for the poor and for the sick - the late King Edward. They knew the old ambulance was nearly worn out and that it was not of modern design and so at the commemoration service he had asked the cathedral congregation to give liberally so that the means for conveying the sick and needy to the hospital might be provided. They had responded nobly and so he was able to hand to Mr. W. Lyne, the late president, a cheque for the required sum. In the name of the cathedral congregation and of the other people who had helped, he asked the president and the committee to accept the ambulance for the use of the sick and needy of Newcastle district. On the call of the dean, cheers were given for the King and the National Anthem was sung.

The President said he gratefully accepted the ambulance and desired to thank the dean very much for having instituted the fund for its purchase. He also desired to thank Mrs. James Jones formerly of the Junction, now of Weston, who had cooperated with the dean in the matter and had also sent blankets and towels for the equipment of the ambulance. The example set by the dean was one which he hoped others would follow, for (and he was sorry to say it) the hospital needed the help of everyone who could give it. The dean had said that the old ambulance was not all that it should have been. As President he was sorry to have to say that the equipment of the hospital was also far from what it should be. Their annual income for the past five years had been about £4440 and they spent within £8 of that amount. They sailed close to the wind and if they did not do all they would like to do or all that the public would like them to do it was because they had not the means.

They had accommodation in the isolation wards for four people and at present they had 13 patients there. In October 1909 money was placed on the estimates for the building of isolation wards but tenders were not called until a couple of months ago and since then they had heard nothing of the matter. Mr. Flowers had consented to come up next Saturday and they were hopeful that when the acting chief secretary saw their needs they would have some of those needs supplied.

Dr. J. L. Beeston, MLC, chairman of the Medical Board of the hospital said he desired on behalf of the Board to thank the dean for what he had done. There was a children's ward at the hospital and the little ones were delighted with any little toy that was brought them. The isolation wards had been referred to by the President. They were a disgrace to the

community. Money had been passed by the late government for the work of erecting new isolation wards yet things were still in the same condition. There was a number of children in those wards now and he said there should be separate wards to accommodate infectious diseases.

The President said the whole of the work had been carried out by Newcastle tradesmen and it was work of which they should be very proud. He had intended giving a dinner to the inmates and nursing staff on Coronation Day. Mr. John Brown had sent a cheque for £10 and had expressed a desire to give the dinner. His own would hold good for a future occasion.

The ambulance which was built by Messrs. Gilbert Bros. of Hunter Street West is constructed on the very latest principle, and will accommodate two patients. The body of the vehicle is of the best spotted gum, the pillars are of ash and the panels cedar. The roof is raised and fitted with ash sashes fitted with figured glass, the centre sashes swinging to admit air. The sides are also ventilated. There are two canvas stretchers, of blackwood fitted with telescopic handles and rubber rollers. A caned seat for the attendant is hinged and can be lifted when there are two passengers in the ambulance. The height of the vehicle inside admits of the attendant standing up and the doors are of the full height and swing outward. The seat in the front will accommodate one person beside the driver and a small swinging window admits additional light and air to the interior. The body is swung on three specially constructed springs at the back which are connected with rubber ball die shackles and the front carriage on two elliptic steel springs. The axles are roller bearing and the wheels are shod with Dunlop-Kelly rubber tires. The vehicle

rides very easily without jarring. Both shafts and pole are supplied so that either one or two horses can be driven. Inside the carriage the woods are in natural colour but outside the body is polished a rich black. Above them on either side is canvas for lightness.

A letter to Dr. J. R. Leslie by the Secretary is illuminating.

"Dear Sir, A woman named Mrs. Patterson presented a letter of recommendation from you at the outdoor department at this hospital which certified that she was a suitable subject for outdoor treatment. On inquiry it was ascertained that her husband is a carter in regular work earning 42/- per week with a family of 5 children. People so circumstanced should be able to subscribe to a doctor and should not be sent to the hospital outdoor department to meet with refusal. This department is only for the poor. I am,
Yours faithfully, S. Laing, Secretary."

Messrs. Potter and Bohle of Newcastle received the following letter 13/4/1911. "I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. offering the services "gratis" of your string band of 15 performers for this hospital's Annual Ball and in reply I am directed by the General Committee of Management to convey to you their very sincere thanks. At present no arrangements have been made respecting the holding of the Annual Ball, but as soon as a date is fixed my Committee will communicate with you on the matter. Yours sincerely,". Times certainly change. No saxophones, no drums, no trumpets, no trombones.

In May, Matron reported to the Committee the death of probationary Nurse Beckett. She had been ill for 14 days and for the whole of that time had been in a private room. The Committee instructed the

Secretary to write a letter of condolence to her parents. Matron was now very short of staff as two probationers on one month's trial decided the work was too hard. The Committee allowed Matron a trained nurse for a fortnight to tide her over her troubles. The isolation wards were her chief worry for there in residence were Typhoids 4, Diphtheria 7, Scarlet Fever 1.

22/5/1911. R. McAuliffe gave the hospital the timber from an old house opposite the hospital. He also loaned a horse and cart but could not supply a driver. The timber was used in making the fumigating room, coal bins and for fire wood.

The Committee approved the purchase of an L.C. Smith & Bros. visible typewriting machine as offered on 5.5.1911 for £15, the old Remington one being taken in exchange as well. The trial was satisfactory.

The Under Secretary, Chief Secretary's office, declined to pay subsidy on £118/5/6, the whole subsidy received by the hospital amounted to £661/2/2 a very welcome amount when the hospital account was down to £220.

The Committee decided to pay 1/- to each male hospital employee called up during the night or stopping late on duty.

Matron's special nurse was retained for another week amounting to 4 weeks in all, as Nurse Wright developed diphtheria.

Matron asked for extra help in the laundry, due to extra work caused by the infectious diseases, (8 typhoids and 4 diphtherias) in the hospital.

Help was granted but the chief laundress was docked 2/- per week whilst the extra help was employed. The Committee considered that this was a

good time to reduce laundry hours which were 6 a.m. until 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

On Tuesday, 6th June, the Committee was asked to attend at the visit of the Acting State Chief Secretary, Mr. F. Flowers, M.L.C. on 10th June 1911. He had been unable to attend the ceremony of handing over the new ambulance. The President, Mr. S. S. Cohen, introduced to Mr. Flowers, the members of the Committee. Dr. J. L. Beeston M.L.C. introduced the Honorary Medical Officers. Mr. Cohen traced the development of the hospital, the services rendered, the continual struggle for funds, the poor condition of the buildings and above all the tragic condition of the isolation building. To paint the buildings inside and out to render the Nurses Home watertight would cost £1000. It was impossible to meet these capital costs from income.

He also told how two years ago £2000 had been voted for isolation buildings and the hospital's recommendations for the buildings had been ignored. He had learnt that quite recently tenders had been let but as a hospital board they had not been informed as to any progress. As well as new infectious wards there was required additions to the Nurses Home, an administration block and much repair work brought about by the close proximity of the sea. The Committee considered that the institution ought to be run on a bed basis and in this connection he mentioned that the cost of maintaining per occupied bed in the year just past was £69/4/5 as compared with £94/12/5 for Wallsend Hospital, £106/2/9 for Kurri Kurri Hospital and £73/10/9 for the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and £85/9/10 for Sydney Hospital.

The average income of the hospital was £4447 per annum and the average expenses £4438 per annum.

With regard to the present isolation built for 4 patients at the present date 13 patients were housed there.

Mr. Flowers accompanied by Mr. S. Cohen, Drs. Beeston, Crawley, Leslie, Purves, and Matron McAllister and some committee members visited the hospital and saw for himself those wretched conditions described by the President. After the inspection, Mr. Flowers talked to the gathered officers of the hospital. He said how interested he was in hospital work. At the present time he stated that there was an alarming fall in the birth rate so that it behoved the Government to stop further wastage of lives by supplying better hospital facilities. He wanted to make sure the Committee realised that hospital facilities were available equally for the rich or the poor. They must not make any difference in the treatment given, all were entitled when sick to perfect hospitalisation. His opinion of the hospital as he saw it today was that the place was obsolete. He would like to see a brand new wing erected and a gradual replacement of all other buildings on the site. He would not tolerate excessive hours of duty for Nurses and as he saw it a new nurses home was just as important as a new hospital. He promised that if Mr. Gardner M.P. would put the requirements of Newcastle Hospital on paper he would do his best to help. A cheque for £10 was received from Messrs. J. & A. Brown to provide a dinner for the patients in the institution on Coronation Day.

Hetton Coal Company forwarded £8 as a donation. The money had been collected as fines from miners who had sent up dirt with their coal. A. B. Gilbert submitted a tender for £650 to paint inside and outside main hospital building, nurses home and kitchen block.

The Committee estimated that £350 could be spent on repairs, prior to painting. The tenders for the supply of blankets were opened. Messrs. Winn, Neve, Jones and Scotts submitted the tenders. It was decided to buy from Scotts at 13/- per pair on the advice of Mr. Graves of D. Cohen & Co. who was an authority and had checked each sample supplied.

Only four local girls replied to the advertisements in the Newcastle papers for nurse trainees. They were Lizzie Lloyd, Beaumont St., Hamilton; Kathleen Therry, Eddy Street, Hamilton; Mary Kelly, King St., East Maitland and Edith Alice Thomas, Coffee Palace, Newcastle.

The statement of cash received for the month of May amounted to £561, made up as subscriptions £29, donations £18. Entertainments 16/-, Fees from patients £220, subsidy to September 1910, £291 and miscellaneous receipts 23/-. During the first 6 days in June donations amounted to £20, Fees of patients £25/10/- and the belated subsidy to the end of December, 1910, £660. The credit at the bank after paying accounts was £592.

Matron reported that Elsie Grimshaw of Raymond Terrace be appointed a probationary nurse. Nurse Wright was still in isolation with diphtheria. Violet Deas, laundress, at 14/- per week left. Beatrice Goodwin started as a kitchenmaid at 10/- per week. Christina Murphy and Ettie Wagner both started as laundresses at 10/- per week. The only spare bedstead in the hospital had to be taken to the servants quarters to accommodate a laundress. That Gilbert Bros. did not supply cushions for the stretchers in the new ambulance and that the pupils of Cook's Hill Superior Public School and Adamstown Public School had supplied gifts to the hospital on Empire Day.

Lady Windeyer sent a case of oranges, Mr. S. S. Cohen sent illustrated papers. A fire screen was necessary in the children's ward and that Edith Walton had started as a 2nd laundress at 14/- per week. Dr. reported that he will do his best to reduce the number of telephone calls. There were ten cases in the hospital over 60 days and that isolation was again full, holding 12 diphtheria and one typhoid.

The Secretary, the Methodist Circuit, asked if a methodist clergyman could be appointed to the hospital but the Secretary was instructed to inform him that the rules did not provide for such an appointment.

13/6/1911 Nurse Olive Steele resigned her position as a sister. Sister Joliffe from Hobart commenced duty, 9/6/1911, and that although Nurse Grimshaw had started on trial there were still two probationer s short due to Nurse Wright being in isolation and Nurse Summers being off duty sick. Matron asks that another sister be appointed. The Matron was directed to submit a report substantiating her claims.

Matron's report is here given in full. It shows some of her difficulties and the troubles which pertain when a small hospital is short staffed due to lack of money and accommodation.

20/6/1911. I wish to consult the committee about a matter which concerns the interests of the hospital. We have lost two sisters one this month and one leaves next month, besides losing Sister Veenman in March. I regret to say I am afraid very shortly we shall lose the services of Sister Matthews. In fact she would have resigned this June only I asked her as a personal favour to wait a few more months I would ask the Committee to try to retain her services if possible.

Sister Joliffe is quite new to her duties and it will take some little time before she thoroughly understands them all. The other 2 sisters will both be new to the work together and it takes a nurse a month or more to realise the responsibilities and duties new to her as a sister. Therefore Sister Matthews is our one reliable stand by now and for some months to come, if we lose her it will be very detrimental to both hospital and nurses in training. She belongs to this hospital and naturally has its interests at heart and her influence is all for good. If the Committee approved they might send her a letter saying that they appreciated and valued her services and would like to feel assured that the hospital would enjoy them for some time to come and further as she has been a sister for 2 years and 6 years in the hospital altogether, if it can be arranged she certainly deserves an increased salary - at present she receives £52 per year, same as the most junior sister on the staff. I hope the Committee will not think that I am advising on matters that are not my business but I feel very strongly on this subject and I am sure you are all as anxious as myself to keep Sister Matthews on the staff and that emboldens me to offer these suggestions.

Re the matter of arranging the duties of the domestic staff, spoken of some weeks ago, I would also like to ask that something might be done in that matter. Perhaps 2 or 3 members of the Committee could be appointed who would consult with me or other arrangements made to decide the subject. Re the complaint made by Dr. Purves on the condition of the gowns used in isolation wards. I must say I was surprised at his action. He had spoken to me about them on that same day and I told him I realised their bad condition and

that others were being made and they would be replaced as soon as I could get them. The gowns were sent out and sent to Mrs. Farnham to be made up a day or so after I left for the 12 days leave of absence I took last March and when she was at the hospital the day the ambulance was presented I spoke to her about them telling her how badly they were needed and asked her to let me have them as soon as she could conveniently do so. She explained that owing to her husband's illness and household worries she had been unable to do them as quickly as usual. I have since written to her about the matter. I was placed in an awkward position as these ladies do our sewing voluntary and there are very few who do sew for us and I could not demand their return but must await their convenience and badly as I wanted them and though she had had them for some time I could only ask her to let us have them as soon as she could manage to do so. We have also had extra pressure put on the old gowns lately owing to so many cases which has helped wear them out even quicker than is usually the case." The Secretary wrote in red ink across this report "Gowns to be procured ready made if they cannot be delivered by voluntary workers without further delay."

The Committee was concerned at the possibility of a spread of infection from the overcrowded isolation wards to the hospital and staff. Dr. Dick was busily engaged swabbing each throat of staff persons and from him originally came the request for better and tidier gowns for isolation staff.

Sister Matthews was advanced to £60 per annum and thanked by letter for her services to the hospital. This voluntary sewing circle did not function very well and later the same month, June 1911, Matron asked that

some other scheme be adopted than that which had been operating for year.

For some years past Mrs. Morris has undertaken the cutting out of all garments needed, also sent them to various people to be made up and anything urgently needed or requiring special care she has done herself. By leaving the district and other reasons we have lost a number of ladies who used to sew for us and, although we often have offers of assistance, they cannot be relied upon. They get too tired after a time, also they wish to choose their own sewing, all want ing flannel or flannelette garments and no one will undertake those made of unbleached calico, shirts or similar tough materials. The night gowns are generally made by the Stockton school girls and Mrs. Morris makes the shirts herself. My suggestion is that Mrs. Morris be paid a small sum yearly to cover her train expenses and to recommend her for loss of time spent in cutting out, etc. Her husband is a working man. She does all her own housework and she has devoted a good deal of time and trouble to the hospital sewing. I am sure she has always done the work most willingly and not looked for any return. This is entirely my own suggestion. She has never spoken of time or expense but if she were given charge of arranging about getting the articles made up, it would save us again being placed in such a position as we were about the isolation gowns. All sheets, draw sheets, quilts etc. she always brings one of her daughters to stitch them on our machine while she is cutting out."

To this report and recommendation the Secretary wrote across Matron's book "Matter to stand over for consideration."

Miss Lee Morris forwarded a large quantity of flowers for Coronation Day.

Messrs. J. & A. Brown forwarded the £10 already mentioned in his account to be expended on a dinner for staff and patients on Coronation Day whilst W. Arnott in forwarding £1 stated that he hoped it would not be wasted on decorations but used to ameliorate distress. The Standard Waygood Ltd. secured the contract for installing two lifts, one in the mortuary and one in the hospital at a cost of £188. The Committee recommended that Sister Matthews salary be raised £8 per annum. The cost of living having risen a Committee was forced to enquire into wages paid the staff.

July 14th. The President, Mr. S. S. Cohen, was most jubilant on his return from an interview from the Acting Chief Secretary, Mr. Flowers. He was received most willingly and cordially by Mr. Flowers and after conversing on the impressions formed by his visit to Newcastle Hospital, Mr. Flowers stated that the claims of the hospital had been pressed so strenuously by the members of the district and the case had been made out so strongly by the hospital authorities that added to what he had seen for himself had caused him to decide that he would place before cabinet a scheme for the building of a new hospital to take the place of the present one. The new building would be of the most modern character and he felt sure he would be able to persuade cabinet to place on the estimates the sum of £10000 as a first instalment such money to be most economically spent. He hoped these would not be any great ornamentation, but that the greatest amount of accommodation would be provided with fine verandahs in order that the patients could be carried from the wards, bed and all. He wanted the greatest amount of good obtained with due regard for economy. Mr. Cohen

expresses himself as well satisfied with the success that attended his visit to Sydney and says he feels grateful to the members for the city and district and Mr. Gardiner in particular. At the committee meeting held at the council chambers on 19/7/1911, the President S. S. Cohen, occupied the chair and there were present Messrs. Lyne, Bethune, Crofts, Grahame, Rev. James, Cornish, Richardson, Miller, Birrell, Rees, Hudson, Dunlop and Bond.

Nurse Lusk wrote tendering her resignation. The Manager, Hetton Coal Company, enclosed a cheque £15/8/4 being fines paid by miners for sending up dirty coal.

F.W.J. Fletcher resigned from the Committee his place being taken by G.D. Irvine.

Dr. A. M. Purves resigned his position as senior Resident Medical Officer. Dr. F. S. Booth was appointed to the vacancy on the staff, Dr. T.E. Parker taking the senior position.

Mr. E. S. Filmer resigned his position as Honorary Electrician to the hospital. A letter to be forwarded to Mr. Filmer thanking him for many years service.

The Queanbeyan Hospital Committee wrote for this hospital's support in objecting to the Chief Secretary's mandate taking away the appointment of hospital medical officers from the committee appointed by a local body. Mr. Lyne said they should support the objection by the Queanbeyan Hospital. He said that if all doctors in Newcastle were members of the Honorary Staff the place would be chaotic.

Mr. Richardson in supporting Mr. Lyne's motion said that he had been on the boards of several country hospitals and felt that if a free hand were given to all doctors, friction would result. Mr. Lyne

spoke again and said "if they had all the doctors in the district on the staff the building would not be large enough to accommodate patients. The House Committee in their report pointed out that the present isolation wards had fallen into disrepair, that immediate steps should be taken to even put them in temporary repair to tide them over.

The President gave further particulars of his interview with Mr. Flowers. When he asked Mr. Flowers for the sum of £2000 for the isolation wards, it was suggested that that amount should go in with the £10,000 promised for the new building. Mr. Flowers said that Newcastle deserved not a parochial hospital but a base hospital for the district. As for the eye cases which had to go to Sydney for treatment he had suggested to Mr. Flowers that an ophthalmic surgeon be sent to the hospital for a couple of days each week. It would be goodbye to a modern hospital if they continued to agitate for the £2000 for the isolation ward.

The President stated that plans for the hospital ball were well ahead of time. Many tickets had been sold and only that day he had received offers from thirteen mothers whose children attended the Hill Kindergarten to act as waitresses and he regarded the offer as wonderful spirit on their part. During July five new nurses started as probationers. Nurse Lusk however was not strong enough to continue, leaving. Nurses Annie Allardale, Kathleen Garvey, Elsie Grimshaw and E. Lloyd. All these nurses eventually finished their training in May, June & July 1915.

The tickets for the hospital ball held in July 1911 were priced at gentlemen 12/6d, ladies 7/6d.

Dr. Beeston representing the staff giving nurses lectures and Dr. Purves for the resident staff

strongly objected to the proposal that the articulated skeleton in use for teaching purposes be loaned to Dr. Fahy of High Street, Waratah. Dr. Francis J. Fahy needed the skeleton for his ambulance classes. It was proposed that Dr. Fahy bring the members of his class to Newcastle Hospital if he desired the use of the skeleton. Dr. F. S. Booth, the junior resident medical officer, wrote that he would take over his duties on 1/8/1911.

The Committee requested Matron to furnish a report on the best means in her view to be adopted to reduce the actual time on duty of the nursing staff to 8 hours daily. The R.M.O. reported that there were 3 diphtherias and 1 typhoid in infectious block and that there were 4 cases in over 60 days, that the roofs of the casualty room and operating theatre were defective allowing rain to seep through.

1/8/1911. The Chief Secretary's circular No. 601 concerning admissions of persons to hospitals made it imperative that every person applying for admission shall be examined even if not subsequently admitted.

Mr. Kelly of Tighes Hill contracted to asphalt the yard consisting of 120 square yards and to maintain it for one year for £15.

Alexander Mathieson, Manager, Hetton Colliery, Carrington, forwarded a cheque £11/12/4 fines of miners for sending up dirt with the coal.

R.M.O.'s report of 1/8/1911. Dr. Parker took over charge on 29/7/1911. Dr. Purves left on 31/7/1911. Dr. Booth took up duty on 1/8/1911. Mens ward filled to capacity, 3 cases seeking X-ray. Mr. A. B. Gilbert, a committeeman for many years, died. The Committee decided to send a letter of sympathy to his family. The Secretary, A.T.N.A., stated that the educational