





Q5/13.

Bedford Row Hospital  
LIMERICK.

(Established in the Year 1812).

*With the Hon. Secretary's  
Compliments*

LIMERICK:  
McKEENS PRINTING.  
1951

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# Bedford Row Hospital

LIMERICK.

(Established in the Year 1812).

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One Hundred and Thirty-Ninth

## Annual Report

FOR

Year Ending 31st December, 1950

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LIMERICK:  
McKERN'S PRINTING.  
1951

# Bedford Row Hospital.

## THE MEDICAL STAFF,

1950

### Consulting Accoucheur:

HUBERT ROCHE-KELLY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### Visiting Physicians:

JOHN G. HOLMES, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

TIGHE FOLEY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

WILLIAM P. DUNDON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

DENIS J. CORBOY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

PATRICK J. McMAHON, M.A.O., M.B., B.Ch.

JOHN C. TROY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H., L.H.

### Matron:

MISS K. WALSH.

Number of Patients for year ending 31st Dec., 1950 — 715

Number of Extern Patients ... 60

Number of Extern Visits ... 1240

Number of Deaths ... 3



# Bedford Row Hospital

Established 1812).

## OFFICERS 1950.

### Patron:

HIS LORDSHIP, THE MOST REV. PATRICK O'NEILL, D.D.,  
Bishop of Limerick.

### President:

MRS. L. O'BRIEN-KELLY  
Clonmacken House.

### Trustees:

HIS LORDSHIP, THE MOST REV. PATRICK O'NEILL.  
LADY NASH. DR. J. F. HOLMES.  
MRS. O'BRIEN-KELLY. MRS. SPILLANE.  
MRS. TREACY.

### Honorary Treasurer:

LADY NASH, Shannon View House.

### Honorary Secretary:

MRS. TREACY, Ard Caon.

### Committee:

MRS. J. R. DUNDON. MRS. J. G. HOLMES. MRS. T. CORBOY.  
MRS. O'MALLEY. MRS. SHEEHY. MRS. DEVANE.  
MRS. SPILLANE. MRS. IRWIN. MRS. CORBOY.  
DR. J. G. HOLMES.  
MRS. DOWLING (Hon. Member).

### Law Adviser:

EDWARD TREACY, Esq., Solr., 92 O'Connell St.

### Auditors:

Messrs. PURTILL & CO., Dublin and Limerick.

### Bankers:

PROVINCIAL BANK OF IRELAND, LIMITED.

### Architect:

EDWARD RYAN, Esq., A.I.A.A., Upper Mallow St.

# **Bedford Row Hospital,**

BEDFORD ROW, LIMERICK.

1951

The Hospital was established in 1812, and now comprises:

**Maternity Wards** to which Patients in Labour are admitted at all hours, beds being available for their reception.

**Gynaecological Department** for treatment of women suffering from diseases peculiar to their sex.

**Ante-natal Department** for treatment of expectant mothers.

**Extern Maternity Nursing Service** with a qualified Maternity Nurse.

The Hospital is intended primarily for the relief of the destitute poor and secondarily for those who, although not destitute, are not in a financial position to pay for treatment either in their own homes or in a Nursing Home.

No charge is made to the destitute poor, but those patients who are insured and whose husbands are employed, contribute half their maternity benefit.

The Hospital is situated in Bedford Row, Limerick, in the heart of the City, and is readily accessible to those patients who avail of its services.

There is a resident Matron and a staff of qualified Nurses.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR 1950.**

As will be seen from the Medical Report there were 715 patients admitted to the Maternity Wards of the Hospital during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1950, which shows an increase of 69 patients over the corresponding figure for 1949.

In all recent reports stress has been laid on the fact that the hospital building is all too small for the volume of work which it is called upon to do. This was all the more apparent in the year under review, the additional 69 cases taxing the efforts of the hospital administration very severely indeed.

It is obvious that hospital maternity treatment in Limerick will continue in this unsatisfactory condition for some time to come. There is, as yet, no visible sign of any start being made in the erection of the proposed new Maternity Regional Hospital on the Bellfield site which was transferred to the Corporation in 1949. Doubtless the plans are being prepared and considered and it is to be hoped that they will soon be put in operation because the need for such a hospital becomes graver as each year passes.

Bedford Row has continued to fill the gap and to provide that hospital maternity service which is so essential in any city. That it has found itself able to do so during these recent years has been due to two main causes ; firstly, the financial assistance which it has received from the Hospital Commission by way of income from invested Grants as well as by the clearance of annual deficits, and secondly, by the whole-hearted and efficient co-operation of the medical and nursing staffs of the hospital.

The cost of running any hospital has naturally increased considerably of recent years. Apart from medical supplies, remuneration of nursing staffs has gone up, the cost of provisions has mounted appreciably and the charges for repairs to what can reasonably be called an old building are always a source of worry to the Committee. Were it not for the interest received from the investments which were made from the Hospitals' Trust Funds, the income of this hospital would be in a sorry state and the Hospitals' Commission has been very generous and understanding in making good the annual deficits on the running of the Hospital. For this we are very grateful.

It would be difficult adequately to record the appreciation of the Hospital Committee of the great work which continues to be done by the medical and nursing staffs.



The medical staff, comprised as it is of highly experienced doctors, has always been a tower of strength to this hospital.

The nursing staff, under the capable guidance of Miss Walsh, the Matron, carries out its duties cheerfully, efficiently and successfully. It is of interest to note that so overcrowded with patients can this hospital become that some of the nurses have to be accommodated outside the hospital premises.

Fortified as it is by the kindly and appreciative assistance of the Hospitals' Commission, and also by its confidence in its medical and nursing staffs, this hospital will continue to offer to the citizens of Limerick that maternity nursing service required by the citizens until the new Regional Maternity Hospital opens its doors.

During the year, the Hospital suffered a very great loss by reason of the death at an early age of Doctor John C. Troy, who had been a valued member of the Medical Staff since 1946.

Nurse Gilligan, who administers the District Maternity Nursing Scheme for the Hospital, had a busy year. Her visits to the homes of Extern cases was 1,240 as against 1,092 for 1949. This scheme continues to be of considerable benefit to the mothers of poor families who are unable to come in to the hospital for confinement and the hospital is pleased to co-operate with the City Board of Health in its administration.

A. TREACY,

*Hon. Secretary.*

### MEDICAL REPORT FOR 1950.

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During the year 1950, 775 patients were treated by the Hospital Staff. 715 in the wards and 60 in their own homes. Of the 715 patients treated in the Hospital, 543 had live babies.

There were 22 complete Abortions.  
 39 Forceps Deliveries.  
 22 Breech Deliveries.  
 Threatened Abortion—30 cases.  
 Adherent Placenta—16.  
 Placenta Praevia, 9.  
 Albumin and High Blood Pressure, 23.  
 Twins, 9 sets.  
 Caesarian Section, 4.

Three deaths occurred during the year. The first was brought to Hospital in an unconscious condition, had four Eclamptic seizures before admission and died without regaining consciousness. Baby not born. The second was also an Eclamptic. She was having twins and had a contracted pelvis. The first baby was a difficult Forceps and lived. The second baby only survived birth 10 minutes. The patient died four days afterwards. The third death was an aged primiparae. She was admitted with Hydramnious and was a very difficult Forceps delivery. She was delivered of a Hydracephalic stillborn baby and died 24 hours afterwards. Four patients were sent to other Hospitals for Caesarian section. Three were for contracted pelvis and one for Placenta Praevia. All the mothers did well and the babies lived.

There were 22 cases of Complete Abortion, who were treated in the Hospital for 5 or 6 days. There were 43 Forceps deliveries. One patient was an Eclamptic, and a case of twins. She had a contracted pelvis, and was a difficult Forceps case. Both babies were born alive.

There were 9 sets of twins born. All the babies were born alive.

There were 21 Breech deliveries. Two babies were stillborn.

The placenta was removed manually in 16 cases. Four patients had their babies born at home and were admitted as cases of retained placenta and post partum Haemorrhage. Six cases of Placenta Praevia. One had Caesarian Section performed. The other patients were normal deliveries.

There were 89 cases admitted with Haemorrhage in the early stages of pregnancy. 45 required operative treatment for incomplete abortion, the others after being treated went the full term.

The Hospital had a very successful year having had 775 patients, a substantial increase on last year. For the past ten years there has been a steady yearly increase in the demand on the Hospital's services. This has resulted in many periods of over-crowding and consequent anxiety. The fact that there were no cases of infection or morbidity during those periods of overcrowding is due to the Nursing Staff, who deserve the greatest praise for their unremitting attention for the assiduous care of their patients.

As the foundations of the New Hospital are now being laid we can look forward in a few years to freedom from anxiety in a modern well-equipped Maternity Hospital where there will be no overcrowding and every facility for smooth running for the Nursing Staff. The fact that we will have facilities for performing Caesarian Sections in the Hospital will obviate the necessity and consequent hardships in removing these cases to other hospitals.

(Signed) : J. HOLMES.



Dr. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31st, 1950.							
To Provisions	.....				1,301	9	4
„ Surgery and Dispensary	.....				223	16	3
„ Linen	.....	71	0	5			
„ Hardware and Delph	.....	6	9	7			
„ Laundry	.....	93	6	11			
„ Cleaning and Chandlery	.....	46	0	1			
„ Light and Heat	.....	309	15	5			
					526	12	5
„ Salaries and Wages	.....				2,128	19	1
„ Printing and Stationery	.....	25	3	3			
„ Telephone	.....	20	1	9			
„ Postages	.....	3	0	0			
„ Audit and Secretarial	.....	26	5	0			
					74	10	0
„ Insurance of Buildings, etc.	.....				10	12	6
„ Repairs to Premises, Furniture, etc.	.....				25	1	3
„ Bank Interest and Charges	.....	5	8	8			
„ Rent and Rates	.....	63	13	0			
					69	1	8
„ Sundry Expenses	.....				2	2	0

£4,362 4 6



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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DEC., 1950. Cr.

INCOME.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31st, 1950.						
By Voluntary Gifts .....				19	0	0
„ Revenue from Patients .....				1,452	7	7
„ Corporation Grant .....				248	12	0
„ Interest and Dividends .....	1,356	0	5			
„ Rents Receivable .....	18	0	0			
				1,374	0	5
„ Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income for the Year .....				1,268	4	6

£4,362 4 6

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sundry Creditors					53	19	8
Capital Account :—							
Balance at 1st January, 1950		32,817	7	6			
Add : Deficit Grants from Hospital Trust		2,187	0	0			
		£35,004	7	6			
Deduct : Excess of Expenditure over Income for year		1,268	4	6			
Premises Reserve Account					33,736	3	0
					2,042	15	0

£35,832 17 8

AUDITORS'

Certified prepared from the books of the Hospital and correct  
 33/34, Anglesea Street,  
 Dublin.  
 23rd April, 1951.

31st DECEMBER, 1950.

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Cash in Bank		2,371	13	1
Cash on Hands		61	9	3
Sundry Debtors		176	14	1
Stock on Hands		165	2	8
Investments per last Balance Sheet		28,794	7	4
Furniture and Effects per last Balance Sheet		125	11	8
Hospital Premises per last Balance Sheet		4,137	19	7
Other Assets :				
Barbara Tuthill Bequest—				
Share of Rents and Dividends		Not	Valued	
Westropp Trust—				
Proceeds of £900 invested on foot of Deed of Trust		Not	Valued	
Humphreys Trust—				
Share of Income from Property		Not	Valued	
O'Brien Bequest—				
Share from certain Properties and Securities		Not	Valued	

£35,832 17 8

CERTIFICATE.

and in accordance therewith.

PURTILL & COMPANY,  
Auditors.

THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTIONS AND GIFTS  
AT CHRISTMAS, 1950, ARE GRATEFULLY  
ACKNOWLEDGED:—

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SUBSCRIPTIONS, 1950

				£	s	d
A. Guinness Son & Co., Ltd.	...	...	...	10	0	0
Lady Nash	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. O'Brien Kelly	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Treacy	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Dowling	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. O'Malley	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Sheehy	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Devane	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. D. Corboy	...	...	...	1	0	0
Mrs. Holmes	...	...	...	1	0	0

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GIFTS, 1950

Lady Nash—Confectionery  
Mrs. O'Brien-Kelly—Turkey  
Mrs. Treacy—Turkey  
Dr. Holmes—Wines  
Dr. Dandon—Turkey  
Dr. McMahon—Sweets  
Dr. Foley—Sweets  
Dr. Corboy—Sweets  
Mr. Sheahan—Turkey  
Miss Daly—Cake

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