



The *Great* Canadian
Catholic Hospital History Project

Documenting the legacy and contribution of the
Congregations of Religious Women in Canada,
their mission in health care, and the founding and operation of Catholic hospitals.



Projet de la *Grande* Histoire
des hôpitaux catholiques au Canada

Retracer l'héritage et la contribution des
congrégations de religieuses au Canada,
leur mission en matière de soins de santé ainsi que la fondation et l'exploitation des hôpitaux catholiques.

Caring People, Helping People
The Religious Hospitallers of Saint Joseph of Cornwall
1897-1997

by

Delores Kane, RHSJ

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St. Joseph Region Archives

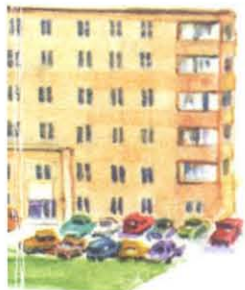
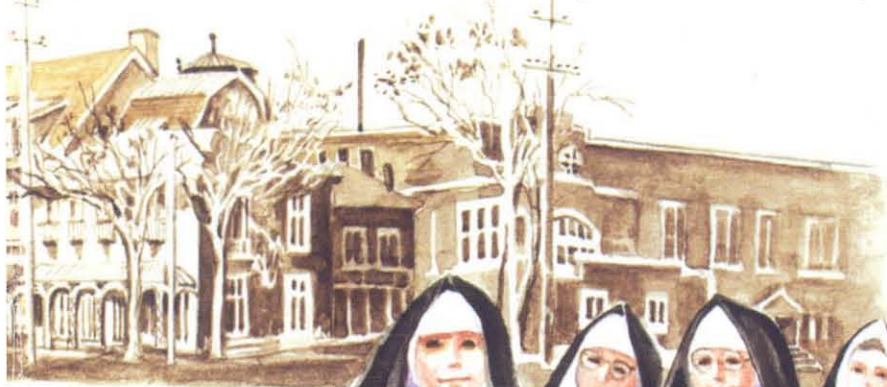
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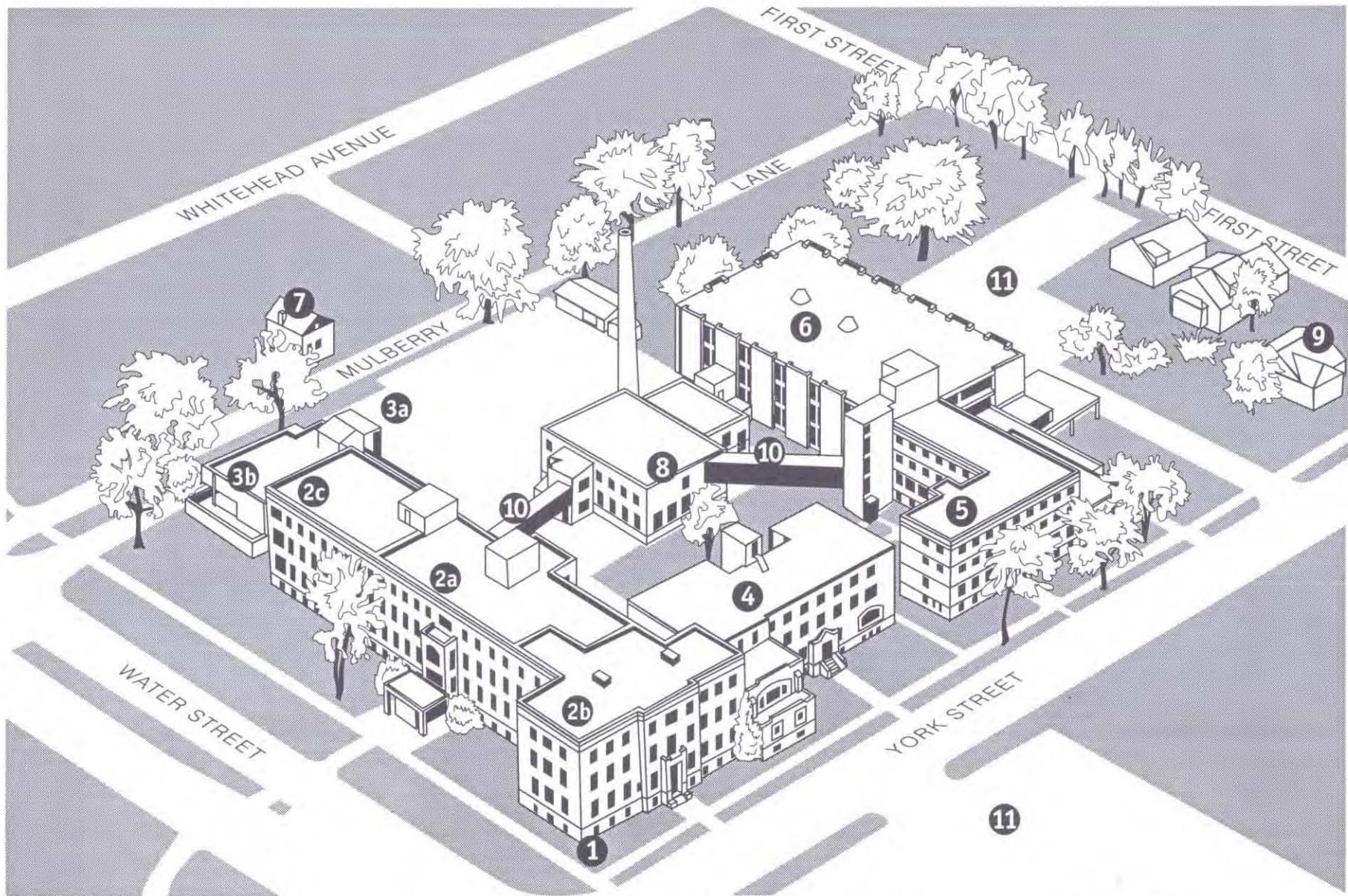
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Caring People Helping People

The Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph of Cornwall 1897-1997

By Dolores Kane, RHSJ





Downtown property of RHSJs, Cornwall

- 1** Original site of Ivy Hall, Residence of Ontario Premier John Sandfield Macdonald Hotel Dieu Hospital 1897
- 2a** Hotel Dieu erected 1901
- 2b** East Wing 1928
- 2c** West Wing 1938
- 2a 2b 2c** Marie de la Ferre Apartments 1992
- 3a** Original St. Paul's Home 1906-64
- 3b** Rehabilitation Department 1972-92
- 4** Monastery (Convent) 1914
- 5** St. Joseph School of Nursing and Nurses Residence 1934
- 6** St. Joseph's Villa
- 7** Site of first Orphanage
- 8** Former Heating Plant, Laundry and Bakery. Now Craft and Activity Shop and Maintenance Shop
- 9** Legault Family Home
- 10** St. Joseph's Villa Link 1992
- 11** Visitors' Parking

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Caring People Helping People

The Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph of Cornwall

1897-1997

By Sister Dolores Kane, RHSJ



THE RELIGIOUS HOSPITALLERS OF
ST. JOSEPH HEALTH CENTRE OF
CORNWALL

LE CENTRE DE SANTÉ
DES RELIGIEUSES HOSPITALIÈRES
DE ST-JOSEPH DE CORNWALL

**Caring People Helping People: The Religious Hospitallers
of St. Joseph of Cornwall 1897-1997**

By Sister Dolores Kane, RHSJ

ISBN 0-9681234-0-6

Catherine M. Perkins, Editor

Cover painted by Kathleen Dancause, AOCA

Published by the Centennial Book Committee,
Board of Directors, RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall

Printed and bound by 1000 Islands Publishers, Gananoque, Ontario, Canada

Legal Deposit: National Library of Canada, Ottawa—December 1996

For the first time in the history of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, a major document is being published simultaneously in English and French editions. The French edition of this book, *Compatir pour mieux servir: Les Religieuses Hospitalières de St-Joseph de Cornwall 1897-1997*,

was translated by Prof. Bertille Beaulieu, RHSJ.

(ISBN 0-9681234-1-4)

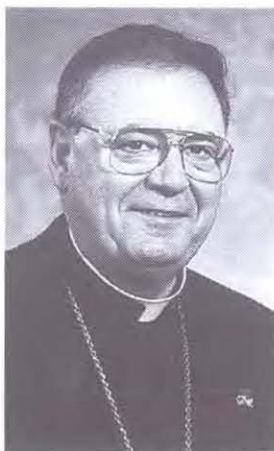
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Anniversary Greetings

Dear Sisters in the Lord,

For 100 years you have been exercising “the healing ministry” within our Diocesan Church. In so doing you have borne testimony to the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus, who came “not to be served, but to serve” and to give his life for the salvation of all.



Your Religious Community is well known to me. In fact, I am probably the only Bishop who was baptized by one of yours, Sister Corinne Monforton of Windsor. This beautifully exemplifies that your care has always been for the total person, body and soul.

May those who read this Centennial Book join me in giving thanks to God for your very precious presence among us; we also pray the Lord of the Harvest for vocations to your Community. Such a total ministry will always be needed in a field where technology with all its wonders obliges us to face even more complex ethical decisions.

Your hospitals are traditionally called “Hotel Dieu”—God’s hostel—where God acting through you is host to the sick, the suffering, the dying and even, especially in the early years, the poor and drifters.

Many professional people and lay helpers have co-operated with you over these 100 years. Our thanks to them and our hope that they will carry on this worthy and necessary Catholic ministry in the years ahead!

“Whatever you have done to the least of my brothers and sisters you have done to me,” (Matthew 25,40) says the Lord. May He bless you and reward you.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Eugene P. LaRocque

Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall

It is a privilege for me to offer heartfelt congratulations to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health Centre of Cornwall on its 100th Anniversary. Such a celebration provides an opportunity to recall the story and the remarkable work of our predecessors.



The foundation of the hospital was an adventure of faith and its development a story of charity and hope. Begun by Hospitallers who were motivated by love and concern for the poor and the sick, the first hospital has expanded to become the present modern health centre. All this could not have been accomplished without the generous and dedicated support of the clergy and many lay collaborators.

One can easily imagine that such wonderful accomplishments were not achieved without difficulties, challenges and suffering. Our predecessors followed the way of all human beings striving to build a world according to Gospel values. A blend of compassion, faith, courage and ingenuity sustained them in their lives devoted to better care of the sick, the orphans and the aged.

Such examples of dedication make us believe in the goodness and greatness of humankind and in the action of the Lord in their lives. May those pioneers inspire us in our efforts, as we constantly seek to promote a better quality of life.

It is right and just to give thanks to the Lord, the source of all good. May He bless each one of you and the people you serve.

Denise Lafond, RHSJ

Superior General

We celebrate a pilgrimage of 100 years which began in 1897 when five Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph left Kingston, Ontario, to respond to a request to minister to the sick in Cornwall.

Pilgrims have a destination; some join the journey at different points. As they travel, pilgrims pause from time to time to re-focus, share their stories and gain strength and courage to continue.

This is truly an occasion to pause and extend our gratitude to the Sisters and collaborators who have shared this journey of 100 years. The sick, orphans, frail elderly and needy complete the picture of 'Caring People Helping People', and we thank them for calling us to this ministry.

The book recalls stories of some events and persons involved since the journey began at Hotel Dieu Hospital. Health Care has changed since 1897, and in a world fractured by violence and wars, new illnesses and needs, our caring will continue to re-focus. What does not change is the destination: to serve with love and compassion the pilgrim people of God from birth to death.

With the collaboration and support of others, we have made a significant contribution for 100 years. From a few ministering to many, we now have many informed and concerned citizens sharing the responsibility for a healthy Cornwall community. The global community has a great need for caring people who encourage and strengthen one another and minister to others so our world becomes more caring.

We believe that the Spirit of God who began this work in and through us will bring us to our destination in ways we cannot imagine. And, to this same God, whose love and compassion console and challenge us, we say, *"Thank You for what has been; and for what lies ahead, give all caregivers the wisdom and courage to continue serving with love and compassion."*



Sister Anne Russell, RHSJ

Provincial Superior

On this happy occasion of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph in Cornwall, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to all those who throughout these many years have made it possible to bring this Institution to its fruition.



This Institution, which started as a small mustard seed one hundred years ago, has grown into a large tree where the people of Cornwall and Area were able to take shelter, be nursed and healed with love and compassion. This Mission was, and is, being carried on today, not only by our Sisters, but also by dedicated doctors, nurses, volunteers and all members of the staff. To all these dedicated persons, we owe a debt of gratitude.

In the past, our first sisters and all those who worked with them faced many challenges. The trials and the struggles, however, were conquered because of their undaunted faith and confidence in God. We too, today, face many challenges; let us not be discouraged or downhearted, but, like our pioneers, let us forge ahead with the same faith and trust that was theirs.

I pray that God will continue to be the Beacon Light that will guide this ship to its destiny.

Sister Annette Valade, RHSJ

Sister Liaison
RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall

“If history teaches us anything, it is that man, in his quest for knowledge and progress, is determined and cannot be deterred.”

(John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Address at Rice University, Houston, September 12, 1962)

This statement is exemplified by the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph who were never limited by lack of determination or insurmountable obstacles.

When the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall was implementing its program of Mission Understanding for the staff, we were told by Sister Maillet that it was important that we tell our stories about the Mission of our Health Centre in action. The stories of the formation of the Order, the arrival in Canada and the establishment of Centres throughout Canada and the U.S.A. have been well told. Now it is time, on the occasion of the 100th Anniversary, to tell the stories of the RHSJs in Cornwall.

Throughout these stories, one will find triumphs and defeats, dedication and love. One also finds that the spirit of God lived and guided the work of the Religious and those who supported them. One cannot help but be impressed by the sacrifices that were made as the struggle went on to establish the Hotel Dieu in Cornwall.

The stories, however, are not solely those of the Sisters, but are also reflections on the thousands of supporters who worked alongside those dedicated women. They, too, joined the struggles to raise funds for ongoing care and, in many ways, also made sacrifices to ensure that a high quality of care was provided to the sick, the aged, and in the early days, the orphans. We are honored to be a part of the RHSJ Health Centre as it is now known.



We know that the future will bring about more stories of innovation, restructuring, downsizing and cutbacks. However, we also know that we can continue to count on the community, our staff, physicians, and auxiliaries to provide even greater stories of achievement during (in some ways) equally difficult times.

We are pleased to be a part of the story of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph in Cornwall. We are confident that President Kennedy's statement of determination and unflagging commitment will be continued by those who follow us.

Elizabeth MacLennan
President, Board of Directors

John R. Haslehurst
Executive Director

Dedication

Dedicated to our Glorious Patron, St. Joseph, under whose patronage the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health Centre of Cornwall have served the people of Cornwall and Area since February 1897.

Dear St. Joseph, bless the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph and their collaborators of the past, the present and the future of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health Centre of Cornwall.

Also, bless all those who have been served, are being served and will be served in the future by the Sisters, dedicated physicians, staff members, benefactors and volunteers whose contribution has not heretofore been formally recognized. — DK



The Regina Press, NY

Preface

This anniversary book will attempt to set forth the activities of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, their collaborators and their institutions founded in Cornwall beginning in February 1897.

Given the scope of the book and the constraints of space, it was not possible to do other than to mention persons and events only to a limited degree. That does not in any way imply that those not mentioned were considered unimportant or that services were not valued.

Extensive research was done through the Sisters' Annals, correspondence, textbooks of the day, newspaper clippings, scrap books, anniversary books, and other sources, to name but a few.*

There are gaps in this history, and this should not be surprising. The first Sisters operated the entire hospital and took on more and more duties as the workload increased, so they simply did not have time to write when there were religious and apostolic duties to attend to. Another factor affecting reliable sources was that a fire destroyed valuable records.

I would like to acknowledge especially the assistance of Sister Loretta Gaffney, RHSJ, Archivist at St. Joseph Provincial House, Amherstview, Ontario; Sister Rosalia Cobey, RHSJ, special adviser

(deceased April 22, 1993); and the members of the Book Committee—Ms Elizabeth MacLennan, Chair; Sister Annette Valade, Sister Liaison; Sister Loretta Gaffney; Dr. K.M. Irwin, Hotel Dieu Hospital physician; Mrs. Anne Vincelli, Public Relations; and Sister Rosalia Cobey—as well as the Sisters of Cornwall and others who contributed pictures and shared memories, and finally all those who contributed in any way to the preparation of this book.

To all the clergy, religious, physicians, nurses, staff, auxiliary members, volunteers, benefactors, friends and collaborators who have encouraged and supported the Sisters in Cornwall over the past 100 years, thank you. Without your help, dedication and generosity, the Religious Hospitallers of today's St. Joseph Health Centre of Cornwall would not have been possible.

As another century begins, we count on your future collaboration.

*Sister Dolores Kane, RHSJ, MEd, RN
April 1996*

* For list of sources and references, please see Appendix V.

The First Twenty-five Years

1897-1922



Arduous Early Days

Beginnings

The Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph had their origin in France. Their founder, Jerome Le Royer de la Dauversiere, a devout married layman with a family, was inspired by God to carry out a special mission. Between 1630 and 1634, he was favored with a number of supernatural calls that affected him deeply, changing the course of his life and that of many others. He was convinced that God was giving him a three-point mandate:

- to found a Congregation of Hospitallers of St. Joseph at La Fleche, France, to honor the Holy Family under the patronage of St. Joseph;

- to colonize and evangelize the Island of Montreal;

- to establish at Ville Marie (later Montreal) a hospital under the direction of the Hospitallers of St. Joseph.

Jerome always received these inspirations when he was deep in prayer. For four years, Jesuit Father Francis Chauveau, his spiritual director, continued to advise Jerome against launching out on such adventures.

In the meantime, Jerome obeyed his interior inspirations by doing what his spiritual guide had *not* forbidden. For example, he took every means at his disposal to improve the hospice at La Fleche; he propagated devotion to St. Joseph by establishing a confraternity of the Holy Family under the patronage of St. Joseph; and he became acquainted with Mademoiselle Marie de la Ferre, who in God's plan was to become the co-founder and first Superior of the Daughters of St. Joseph.

In the year 1634, after seeing all these apostolic achievements at La Fleche, Father Chauveau finally gave his permission for Jerome Le Royer to go ahead with his plans. Jerome set to work on all three of the projects simultaneously.

First, the Congregation of Hospitallers of St. Joseph was founded on May 18, 1636. On that day, Trinity Sunday, Marie de la Ferre and four companions with like aspirations moved into the Hotel Dieu at La Fleche in order to devote themselves there to serving the sick and the poor.

In the years following, Jerome, assisted by the Jesuits at the College Royal de La Fleche, by St. Vincent de Paul and by Marie de la Ferre and her companions, drew up the Constitutions of the Hospi-

tallers of St. Joseph, which were approved on October 25, 1643, by the Bishop of Angers, Monsigneur de Rueil.

The first 12 Hospitallers made profession in 1644. They pronounced simple vows of Poverty, Chastity, Obedience and a fourth—serving the poor in union of charity. The first perpetual profession took place on January 22, 1652.

Secondly, the founding of Ville Marie took place in 1642. Jerome was the tireless spirit behind it all. He personally chose those in charge, including Monsieur Paul de Chomedey de Maisonneuve and Mademoiselle Jeanne Mance. The latter founded the Hotel Dieu of Montreal in 1642. Jeanne Mance, who has the distinction of being the first lay nurse of North America, devoted herself to the care of the sick at the Hotel Dieu and also served as the hospital's administrator from its foundation until her death in 1673.

Thus, within 14 years, Jerome Le Royer de la Dauversiere had completed his threefold mandate. It remained only for the Hospitallers to go to Ville Marie/Montreal. They did this in 1659. Jeanne Mance had traveled back to France in the fall of 1658. On her return to Montreal in 1659, Jeanne was accompanied by three Hospitallers of St. Joseph: Mother Judith de Bresoles, Sister Marie Maillet and Sister Catherine Macé. Although Jerome Le Royer was very ill at the time, he made the trip to La Rochelle to bless the Sisters before they embarked on their long journey. Jerome died on November 6, 1659, without knowing whether or not the Hospitallers had arrived in Canada.

Among the large group of colonists who had arrived in 1653 was Marguerite Bourgeoys, who was to found the Congregation of Notre Dame (CND) and who also provided invaluable support to the Sisters during those early years of struggle.

The story of the early beginnings of the Sisters in Montreal—dealing with fires, attacks by hostile Indian tribes, extreme poverty, plagues, famine and earthquakes, to name just a few setbacks—constitutes a book in itself. Histories of these early days of New France give one a deep appreciation of the role these brave and visionary Sisters played in the shaping of this nation.

The Call from Upper Canada

In the 1840s Kingston was a garrison town of about

6,000 persons. Unemployment and poverty were serious problems, especially among the unskilled Irish immigrants and the army personnel who had settled in Kingston after their military discharge.

Bishop Remigius Gaulin, who in 1841 had succeeded Bishop Alexander Macdonell, the first Bishop of Kingston, asked Bishop Bourget of Montreal for help. "I must have Sister Hospitallers to care for my poor and homeless orphans," he wrote.

In response, Bishop Bourget visited Kingston. On his return to Montreal he appealed to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph for help in caring for the sick and orphans of Kingston, and to the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame for aid in educating the city's young.

Although the Hospitallers agreed to go, it would be May 26, 1845, before the last obstacles were removed and the Sisters would arrive by steamer in Kingston.

Let us now leave the RHSJs in Kingston and consider the beginnings of Cornwall, where the Sisters would come to minister to the sick, the orphaned and the aged in 1897.

The Birth of Cornwall

The Revolutionary War between England and America was over in 1783. The officers and men of the First Battalion, King's Royal Regiment of New York, had been defeated after seven long years of fighting. Waiting in their winter quarters at Montreal, they wondered what would become of them and their families. Would the British Government make good its promise of land grants?

Sir John Johnson was notified by his commander, General Haldimand, that his regiment was to be disbanded on Christmas Eve 1784. Sir John took this opportunity to ask that the "lands to be granted to his men might be laid out from the upper end of Monsieur Longueuil's Seigniory."

This land had very good soil, and its forests had a variety of trees—maple, hickory, white oak and butternut, for example—although the site lacked a waterfall for a mill.

When Sir John set off for the future town of Cornwall, it was known as Pointe Maligne. Earlier French explorers had referred to it as Point à la Maude, "the cursed point." Why such uncomplimentary names? The St. Lawrence River widened into a

stretch of water known as Lake St. Francis, and above it were the swiftest rapids of the entire St. Lawrence River system—the Long Sault. These rapids were rough enough to force most travelers to take a land portage to avoid them.

This same land was claimed by the St. Regis Indians, and it took many skillful negotiations before land rights were settled peacefully.

Because the settlement was highly organized and subsidized by the Crown, the settlers had a distinct sense of their own importance and place in society. Some even had slaves!

From the settlement's beginnings, religion and education were deemed of great importance, and so churches and schools flourished. The infant township began to be called Cornwall, in honor of the Prince of Wales, who was also Duke of Cornwall in the late 1780s. Another early name was New Johnstown.

From both a military and economic point of view, Cornwall had a strategic location, and so the community grew rapidly. Even in its early days, Cornwall boasted many hotels, shops, businesses, mills, services and facilities, even though the roads were poor and cows roamed the streets. There were newspapers, a library, many schools, and churches of various denominations. Clubs and many sporting teams sprang up. Taverns and even a house of prostitution are noted in the historical records. In 1846 Cornwall was incorporated as a town. Soon there would be a train station, electric lights and telephones.

These developments, as well as the role of the Religious Hospitallers in the city's early history, are well chronicled in an excellent 1983 book called *From Royal Township to Industrial City: Cornwall 1784-1984*, written by Elinor Kyte Senior (Mika Publishing, Belleville, ON).

Medical Arts:

What about medical care?

During Cornwall's earliest days, history records that a woman named Peggy Bruce was beloved because of her care of the sick. She would come whenever called, and her standard care plan was to "stuff" as much food into the patient as possible, plunge the sick patient into a warm herbal bath, and leave a bottle or two of wine as a recuperative.

During times of war or civil conflict, temporary army hospitals were set up, and in times of plagues,

such as typhoid fever or cholera, temporary hospital sheds were erected outside the town.

Doctors worked out of their own homes, and midwives tended mothers who bore their children at home. One dollar was the usual fee for a delivery.

By 1891 the following advances in medical care had taken place on the world scene:

1842—Crawford Long used ether for anesthesia.

1846—The first hospital operation under anesthesia was performed at Massachusetts General Hospital.

1847—Ether anesthesia was first used in the delivery of babies.

1847—Semmelweis laid the scientific foundation for the work of Pasteur and Lister against bacterial infection.

1880—Louis Pasteur of France discovered a way to remove bacteria from cows' milk.

1886—Bergmann introduced steam sterilization.

1891—Aseptic practice was introduced in hospitals.

1890-1—Rubber gloves were invented and promoted by Halsted.

1896—Introduction of the X-Ray revolutionized medical treatment.

During these times, other notable inventions included the clinical thermometer, laryngoscope and ophthalmoscope.

Although the Town Council in September 1868 appointed a committee to "see about buying land for a hospital," nothing seems to have happened for several years.

In the *Cornwall Standard* of September 17, 1891, this article appeared:

"For several years we have raised the need of a hospital for Cornwall, a town of 6,000 persons. The need is felt every day. Friendless people are falling sick, accidents are happening, and there is no place to send them except Montreal, at an expense that is frequently prohibitive. Great suffering is the result. Would it not be better for the people of Cornwall to form a hospital trust and set the ball rolling? We must be poor citizens indeed if we would not respond liberally to a subscription for such a good purpose. Once established, the trust would receive legacies to an extent not dreamed of."

Patrick Purcell, a former Member of Parliament

for Glengarry who died May 1, 1891, had left such a legacy. John Purcell, his brother, who had shared a contracting business with Patrick, died in July 1891. The residue of his estate was to be devoted to the erection and maintenance of a hospital in Cornwall for sick people irrespective of creed or nationality. John Purcell's second wife was Katherine Macdonell, sister of Janet Macdonell, RHSJ, who would become known as the "Jeanne Mance of Cornwall." Isabel, wife of Patrick, would also become a benefactress of the new hospital.

Although the members of the Patrick and John Purcell families were prominent in the Catholic Church and close friends of Monsignor George Corbet, who believed that the Purcell legacy was intended to establish a Catholic hospital, others believed that this money was left to establish a non-sectarian one. The dispute eventually was referred to the courts, where it was ruled that the legacy was left with the intention that it be used to build a non-sectarian hospital.

Under the guidance of Bishop Alexander Macdonell and Monsignor Corbet, Pastor of St. Columban's, the Roman Catholics began negotiations to open a hospital in Cornwall. The Episcopal Corporation borrowed \$5,000 from the Ontario Bank to buy Ivy Hall from the widow of John Sandfield Macdonald for use as a hospital. This large house on the corner of York and Water Streets, which in 1822 had been the residence of Ontario's first Premier, thus became Cornwall's Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Arrival of the Sisters

On a cold February 9, 1897, the foundresses—Mother Margaret Donnelly and Sisters Amabel McCarthy, Anne Hopkins, Janet Macdonell and Margaret Powers—arrived from Kingston on the four o'clock train, accompanied by Bishop Alexander Macdonell.

A delegation consisting of Messrs. O'Callaghan, McDougall, Broderick, McEniry, Keating and MacDonald was appointed by the citizens to meet the Sisters at the station. The new arrivals' first visit was to St. Columban's Church, where they prayed for the success of their new foundation.

Since the Sisters did not have a place to live, they went to stay for their first four months with Katherine Purcell, sister of Sister Janet Macdonell,



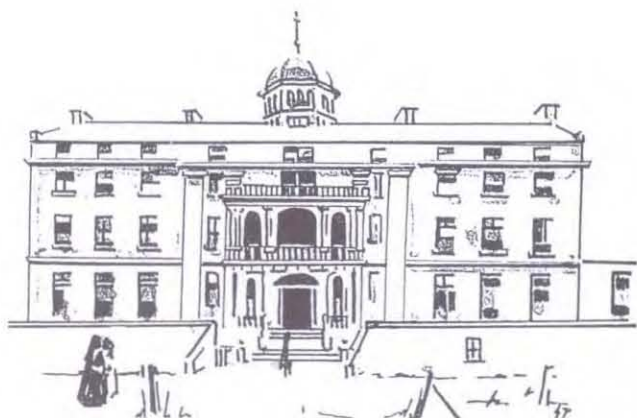
In the Beginning...

In 1659, 14 years after his vision of colonizing and evangelizing the Island of Montreal and founding a congregation of Hospitallers, Jerome Le Royer de la Dauversière blessed Jeanne Mance (second left) and her companion Hospitallers as they left La Rochelle, France, for their long and perilous voyage to New France. Jeanne Mance, the first lay nurse in North America, had already founded the Hotel Dieu of Ville Marie (Montreal) in 1642, under Jerome's direction. From Montreal, the RHSJ Sisters went on to found Hotel Dieu Hospitals in Kingston (1845) and Cornwall (1897).



*Mother Marie de la Ferre
1592-1652*

Co-foundress and first Superior of the Daughters of St. Joseph (later the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph)



Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston, Ontario, was founded in 1845. The view of this early building is from Sydenham St. (Sketch by Kingston artist Susan Paloschi)

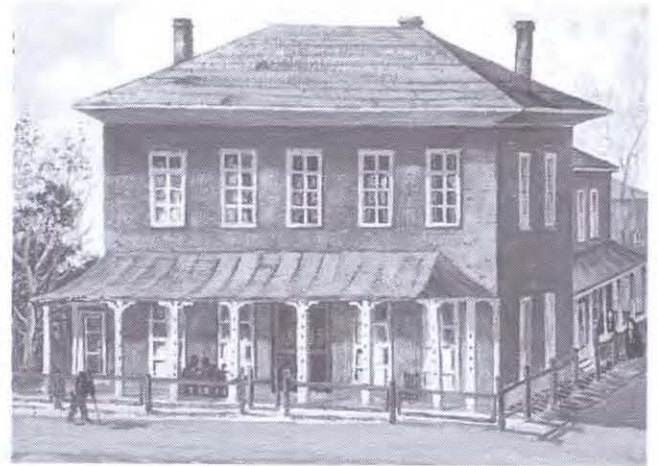


This house on First St. was home to the first five Sisters on their arrival in Cornwall from Kingston. It belonged to Katherine Purcell, sister of foundress Janet Macdonell.

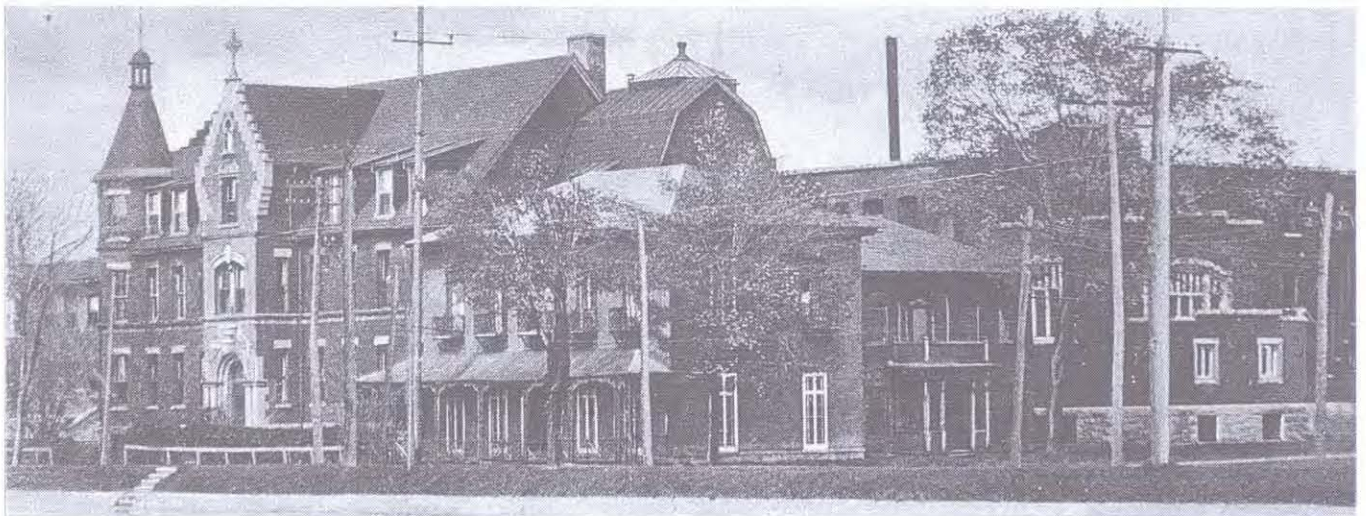


St. Paul's Home 1898-1906

Mother Margaret Donnelly (above left), led the five founding Sisters from Kingston to Cornwall in 1897 and was named Hotel Dieu's first Superior. (Photo by Monica Hammond, RHSJ) ABOVE RIGHT: The first St. Paul's Home for the aged, 1898-1906, was originally Ontario Premier John Sandfield Macdonald's stable. After successive service as bakery, heating plant and laundry, it was demolished in 1964. RIGHT: Ivy Hall, home of Premier Macdonald from 1822 to 1872, became Cornwall's first hospital in 1897.



Ivy Hall 1822



By 1915, the Hotel Dieu 'complex' was spreading along the canal. From left: part of St. Paul's Home, 1901 hospital wing, Ivy Hall (the original hospital) on the corner, and at right the Sisters' residence (Monastery).

on First and Marlborough Streets. It was Mrs. Purcell's credit that enabled the Sisters to buy the necessities for the new hospital.

There was much hard work to be done to ready the hospital building for patients. The main building was 52 by 32 feet, the wing was 42 by 30 feet and the kitchen was 24 by 40 feet. The rooms were large and well ventilated.

Duties of the First Sisters

Everything was done by the Sisters (administration, cooking, cleaning, laundry, nursing) for the sick, the elderly and, later, for the orphans. These duties were in addition to those they had in the Convent and to their religious life obligations. Fortunately, young women from Stormont and Glengarry began arriving as new members. In fact there were 46 postulants in the first 25 years. Most of these young women remained at Hotel Dieu Cornwall, caring for the sick, the poor and most needy.

The first Postulant to enter the Cornwall RHSJ Community was Miss Margaret Charlebois of Alexandria, on September 8, 1897. She was given the name of Sister St. Alexander in honor of Bishop Alexander Macdonell. Sixteen other young women would join the Sisters in the first ten years of the Cornwall foundation.

The first patient, Charles Waters of St. Andrews, was admitted by his physician, Dr. Charles J. Hamilton, on June 14, 1897, and the first surgical operation was performed on July 6.

Official Opening

On June 17, 1897, the formal opening and blessing of the 30-bed hospital, staffed by the five Sisters, took place. The blessing was given by the Right Rev. Alexander Macdonell, first Bishop of Alexandria Diocese. Archbishop Cleary of Kingston was among the many clergy present in the sanctuary, and his presence meant a great deal to the former Kingston Hospitalers.

The annalist described the new hospital as follows:

"On the first floor there are two small wards and the pharmacy; on the second floor two more wards, three private rooms and a small operating room. The wing that had been added to the 1822 building on York Street was used for the Sisters' quarters. John Sand-

field's office became the Chapel. His widow gave the altar in his memory. The building and grounds are admirably adapted, and conveniently situated for a hospital."

Since there was no elevator, we can only speculate about how patients were moved from one floor to another.

Are you wondering what happened to the money left for a hospital in the Purcell wills?

While the Hotel Dieu was being officially opened in June 1897, the cornerstone of the future Cornwall General Hospital was being laid at the corner of Marlborough and Second streets, just outside the town limits. This new hospital of 36 beds would officially open in December of that same year.

Bridge Disaster

The International Bridge being built across the St. Lawrence just west of Cornwall was almost complete when it collapsed on September 6, 1898. As described by *The Cornwall Standard*, the disaster took place about three minutes before noon when pier No. 2, on which the ends of two of the three spans rested, gave way and disappeared under the waters of the St. Lawrence. The number killed and drowned was 14, and the number wounded 17. As soon as the men on shore saw what had happened, they put out in boats or swam out to save the workers in the water. The rescued men were taken to Cornwall on a tug, and the wounded were conveyed to the Hotel Dieu for medical care.

The same newspaper account continues as follows:

"The scene at the Hotel Dieu Hospital will never be forgotten by the eye witnesses. The wounded were being loaded when the Sisters were informed of the magnitude of the disaster. Immediately every patient in the public ward was moved upstairs and placed on the balcony. The beds were wheeled out and emergency operating room tables set up in their places. The wounded were carried in on stretchers and as fast as their injuries were attended to by the doctors a bed was wheeled in and they were placed on it; consequently, when the wounds were all dressed the ward was once more in perfect order. Some of those who were but slightly wounded went to their homes, but 12 are still at Hotel Dieu where they are receiving the best of care and are loud in their praise of the good

nuns who are doing their best to relieve the sufferers. On the day of the accident all the doctors of the town volunteered their services, which act of kindness has been much appreciated."

Those were the days before disaster plans were required for institutions and municipalities. However, the spirit of team work and co-operation evident at that time has continued to this day.

On July 31, 1993, the *Standard Freeholder* carried a story about G. Benson Stidwell discovering a monument in Cornwall's Woodlawn Cemetery erected in memory of those who lost their lives in the bridge disaster.

On the north side of the monument it reads: "In memory of our companions who lost their lives in the bridge disaster in the south channel of the St. Lawrence River, Cornwall, September 6, 1898."

Four of the dead are buried at the monument: William Sherman of Paddington, England; W.J. Cubby of Paterson, New Jersey; William Saunders of Baltimore, Maryland; and Raymond Dysart of Tyron, Pennsylvania. The Phoenix Bridge Company purchased the cemetery site, but it was the employees who paid for the monument. The south side of the monument was left blank.

A New Hospital

In the 25th anniversary book, *Jubilee Echoes*, published in 1922, there is this account of those early days:

"The boon that the Hotel Dieu with its limited accommodation proved to be to the injured victims on the occasion of the collapse of the International Bridge spurred on the Sisters and their friends to provide as soon as possible a larger and better equipped building. One of the first benefactors was Mrs. Isabella Purcell, widow of Patrick Purcell. Her initial gift was the sum of \$10,000. The new hospital was begun in May 1899 and the cornerstone was laid on July 16, 1899."

It was solemnly blessed by Bishop Macdonell of Alexandria, assisted by Vicar-General George Corbet, Rev. P. Desauhac, Rev. C. McRae, Rev. D.A. Campbell, and Rev. Father Gillies of Gaspé, Quebec. The sermon was preached by the Rev. James O'Callaghan of St. Patrick's Church in Montreal. Addresses were given by members of the Town Council, local representatives of the medical profession and others.

Among those who spoke were the Mayor (Dr. D.O. Alguire), Dr. C.J. Hamilton, Dr. P.J. Maloney, Col. R.R. McLennan, MP, Reeve P.E. Campbell, and Michael McEniry.

The priests of the Diocese donated the funds for an elevator in the new hospital building. As work progressed and funds became very low, Vicar-General Corbet visited the parishes in the Diocese to solicit funds so that the work could continue. His appeal was met with a generous response, and on July 24, 1901, Bishop Alexander Macdonell blessed the new 75-bed Hotel Dieu Hospital.

That same evening, the hospital was open to the public for viewing. As the many needs of the new building were manifest, the Sisters were encouraged by the numerous offerings given to furnish rooms and to provide equipment for the operating room, kitchen and other areas. They were grateful to those cherished benefactors who understood and appreciated their work on behalf of suffering humanity. The Sisters remain grateful to this day to all who have helped and are helping them in their work.

Care of the Elderly

On February 9, 1898, the first anniversary of their arrival, the Sisters opened a Home for the Aged in a renovated brick stable on the spacious hospital grounds. They were making history as the first RHSJ Community of their Congregation to open such a facility. Rev. Paul Desauhac blessed it, officially giving it the name of St. Paul's Home.

The first residents were a few homeless men who had stayed at the hospital and worked for their room and board. Jim Burns was one of them, and he went on to serve the Sisters for almost 40 years.

Funds for a new St. Paul's Home were obtained from all the parishes of the Diocese through the efforts of Vicar-General Corbet, who was administrator following the death of Bishop Macdonell. The need for additional beds for the elderly kept increasing. On June 13, 1905, the building of a new Home was begun, and on January 15, 1906, the old people were moved to more comfortable quarters. The old St. Paul's Home had been heated by coal stoves. The annalist recorded that it was an amusing sight to see the old people feeling the radiators in the new Home and exclaiming: "They are hot, but where is the fire?"

A government inspector by the name of Dr.

R. W. Bruce Smith, Inspector of Hospitals and Public Charities, had this to say in his report of 1909:

"Since my last inspection, a fine new brick building of two storeys with a commodious basement has been erected. This new building with a capacity for 100 inmates has been erected at a cost of \$28,000. On examining the books I found the records neatly and correctly kept. Only three of the 60 inmates pay their own maintenance. I find that many of the poor are sent from different Townships in the United Counties, but their maintenance is not paid for by the Municipalities from whence the inmates come. I was most favorably impressed in regard to the discipline and maintenance of this institution."

The following interesting story appeared in the Annals. While sorting the belongings of an elderly female resident who had died, one of the Sisters found a leather folder in which the photo of a gentleman had been kept. On removing the photo, she found a twenty-dollar gold piece. It was this gold piece that was used to bind the bargain of the York Street property known as the Greenwood House, site of the orphanage and later of the first School of Nursing.

Arduous Early Days

The first years were very arduous due to the lack of proper equipment. The laundry was done by hand on washboards, hung out to dry, and then ironed by hand. The Sisters did all the nursing, which meant 24-hour coverage. Days off, holidays and vacations were unheard of until 1941.

The Sisters prepared the patients' meals and sent them to the floors, where they were placed on trays in the centre of the large wards and later in the diet kitchens. Then dishes were washed by hand and stored on the floor for the next meal. The Sisters made all their own preserved fruits, vegetables, pickles, etc., because there were no canned or fresh frozen foods available then.

The years 1902 and 1903 were recorded, with some understatement, as being "busy." "Although the hospital was busy and the beds constantly occupied, the revenue from hospital operations was practically nil." In those days men earned 50 cents a day. Private room rates were \$3.50 per week, and the very poor were not expected to pay. Patients who could not pay their bills with money often brought various farm produce, which was a great help in those days.

It was not until 1907 that the vacated stable of John Sandfield Macdonald was converted into a steam laundry at a cost of \$3,700.

The Sisters kept nine or ten cows in a building on their property and pastured them across the canal in summertime. This milk supplied the hospital, St. Paul's Home and later the orphanage. The cows were often milked by some of the Sisters. Around 1927 the cows were sold when pasteurization became the law. The Sisters then purchased all their milk from a dairy.

Early Benefactors

The general merchants of Cornwall were very good to the Sisters in the early years of the Foundation. They sent flour, sugar, tea or whatever they thought could be useful. On weekends, perishable items such as bread, pastry, vegetables and meats were sent to St. Paul's Home and the hospital. The textile mills located in Cornwall were also very generous. They gave bolts of material from their factories—cotton, flannel, various yard goods and blankets.

The people of Stormont and Glengarry were not rich, but they were generous. The farmers drove the Sisters from one place to another in a horse and buggy when they went begging for the poor. The parish priest would name a home where they could stay at night. Sister Mary Augustine and Sister Mary Joseph not only collected money and other necessities but, above all, their exemplary life-style attracted many of the young Catholic women of the Counties to join the Religious Hospitallers in their work at Cornwall.

Benefactors were very generous. On one occasion a gentleman came with a cheque for \$1,000—a most significant gift for the time. This money was used to buy up-to-date laundry equipment. The Sisters also record the name of A.B. Macdonell as donor of the money to lay hardwood flooring on the first floor of the hospital.

Early Hotel Dieu Physicians

When the Hotel Dieu opened in 1897, the following doctors were practising in the town of Cornwall: Dr. Harrison, Dr. D.O. Alguire, Dr. C.J. Hamilton, Dr. Wagner, Dr. Gravely and Dr. Wheeler. It is unfortunate that records omit so many first names or initials.

The *Jubilee Echoes* anniversary book of 1922 noted that one of the principal items of success that had attended the Hotel Dieu since its beginning had

been the care, kindness and assistance with which the doctors acquitted themselves. The attending and lecturing physicians spared no pains to make the Sisters acquainted with all the necessary branches of learning concerning the nursing profession. These doctors devoted themselves day and night to the interests of the Sisters and their charges.

At the time of the Silver Jubilee year, only Drs. Alguire and Hamilton were still alive.

The Cornwall Dentists

A souvenir of the 1906 Old Boys' Reunion in Cornwall and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry records that the following dentists were practising in Cornwall: W.B. Cavanagh, DDS; W.J. Gunn, DDS, Lancaster; W.D. Knight, DDS; J.A. Liddel, LDS; W.C. McGill, DDS; and A.A. Smith, LDS.

Trials & Consolations

In 1904 the Sisters were undergoing a trial within their own Community. Their dear Sister Margaret Mary (Margaret MacDonald), a fervent and zealous member of 27 years of age, had been ailing since April. In spite of everything that could be done for her, she succumbed on August 22 and was buried in St. Columban's Cemetery.

Sister St. Alexander, another member of the Community, had such a serious infection that the doctor feared for her life, but after a Novena to St. Anthony, she recovered.

On May 29, 1905, the revered Bishop of the Diocese, Alexander Macdonell, died after a lingering illness. His memory would not soon be forgotten by the Sisters of Hotel Dieu. He was succeeded by Rev. W.A. Macdonell as the second Bishop of Alexandria.

Records show that several young women entered the Community and that there were many conversions to Catholicism among the patients and elderly residents. The Annals also tell of many material donations gratefully received and put to good use to benefit the patients. About this time Archbishop Gauthier of Kingston paid a visit to the Cornwall Sisters.

By 1907 all the Foundresses, except Sister Janet Macdonnell, had returned to Kingston. Sister Mary Chisholm was the first local Sister to become Superior of the Community.

New Outreach to Children

Three years after the opening of the new St. Paul's Home, another desperate need became evident. A Society called "Children's Aid" had been formed to attend to the housing needs of destitute children until they were placed in permanent homes. It became extremely difficult to find shelter for these children, and it was then that Nazareth Orphanage came into being to respond to this need.

Two small frame houses were purchased and placed together on Mulberry Avenue. Nazareth Orphanage opened on January 16, 1909. By September of that year, 26 children were housed in these small buildings. Although far from suitable, the orphanage provided food and shelter until a better building could be found.

In October 1909 the Greenwood House on York Street became available for the orphanage, and it served as such until November 28, 1919. On that day the children were moved to 'The Highland Manor', the residence of Mrs. John McMartin, located on the southwest corner of Second and Sydney streets.

As a memorial to her late husband, Mary McMartin deeded the property to the Sisters of the Hotel Dieu for the Orphans' Home. The gift represented between \$80,000 and \$100,000. She also provided the funds to heat the orphanage.

Bishop W.A. Macdonell blessed the house and the Oratory, after which he celebrated Holy Mass.

Children were received from age 12 years down, and as soon as they were of school age the girls were sent to the Convent school of the Sisters of Notre Dame and the boys to the school of the Presentation Brothers. Their education was on a par with that of other city children.

Father William Fox served as Chaplain at this time, and Dr. Nichol was one of the physicians who provided medical care for the orphans.

Five Sisters were assigned to staff and live at the new orphanage. The government paid only two cents per day for each child, so the Sisters found it difficult to meet the expenses of clothing and feeding the children. They had to begin begging more often. The ladies of the town helped by forming the Nazareth Orphanage Society and devoting much time and effort to help with the orphans' care.

(Continued on page 17)

Following is a fictional account of a child's first day at the orphanage, written by Sister Mary Frances Clancy, RHSJ, who had worked a year there during her novitiate.

A DAY AT THE ORPHANAGE

I was seven years old when I arrived at the orphanage. The building was so big and had many rooms and stairs. There were about 100 boys and girls there. I was frightened and wanted to run away. Then a lovely fat little lady met me at the door, all dressed in black with her head covered. I wondered where her ears were and how she could walk in such a long dress. I couldn't see her shoes, but she had a nice smile and took me by the hand.

She said, "You are my little girl. You will have lots of playmates here. I am a Sister, and you will call me 'Sister'. When you want anything, don't be afraid to ask questions. I will watch over you and make you happy. This is your home. I will tell you what to do and give you another girl to help you do the things you will have to do. She will be your little mother."

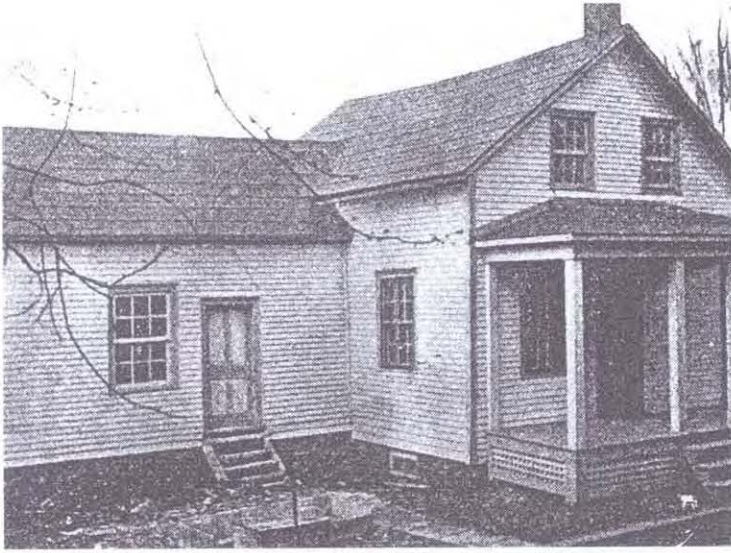
Later I learned that the kind Sister was Sister St. Emily.

I was then taken to the big dining room where there were lots of children. Sister had me by the hand and said, "Boys and girls, this is a new little girl who has come to join our family." They all yelled, "Good, we need another girl for our ball games." I felt better and not so scared. Sister seated me by my "little mother", put a bib on me and got me some supper. After supper the children went out to play in a big yard until 7:00 p.m. A bell rang and we all piled into the house. The boys went to their floor and the girls to theirs. Those who had homework did it then while the others were getting a bath.

Then we all gathered in a big room and Sister led us in prayer, after which we each went to our own little bed. Mine was beside my little mother. After we were all in bed and the lights turned off, Sister came to each one with a light in her hand. I was crying, and she sat on my bed and talked very low to me until I fell asleep.

At 6:30 a.m. a loud hand bell rang. I was afraid. Everyone jumped out of bed and ran to the washrooms, where we had to stand in line because there were only a few of them. We washed, made our beds and gathered in the big room where Sister said the prayers. Then we went to breakfast which consisted of juice, cereal, egg, toast and a glass of milk. We then went to the kitchen and a lady helped us pack a lunch of fruit, a sandwich and milk to take to school. At 8:30 we walked to St. Columban's, west on Augustus Street, with a guardian. Before we left we had to go before Sister, who checked that our clothes were clean, hair combed, teeth brushed and neatly dressed. She made sure that we had our books and lunch too.

At 4:00 p.m. when we came home, Sister was at the front door waiting for us and asked each of us what kind of a day we had. We hung up our clothes and took our lunch bags to the lady in the kitchen. She checked if we had eaten well and if not, we had to report why not. After getting into our play clothes we were given a glass of juice before going out to the play yard to play until supper at 6:00. There was always someone who supervised us. I grew to love my new home and everyone there in a short while.



The Orphan's Cradle, as the first orphanage was called in 1909, was at 17 Whitehead Ave. From three children in January, it grew to 24 by October.



Nazareth Orphanage children making their First Communion in 1941 wore the traditional attire: a veil for the girls, beribboned suits for the boys.



Fr. George Corbet, St. Columban's pastor and Hotel Dieu co-founder



Fr. William Fox, chaplain to the orphans, in 1926



Benefactress Mary McMartin, widow of MP John McMartin, gave Highland Manor to the Sisters for a new orphanage in 1919.



When Pier 2 on the Cornwall side of the International Bridge collapsed September 6, 1898, 14 workers were killed. Seventeen wounded were taken by tug for emergency treatment at Hotel Dieu. (Photo courtesy of the Ontario Provincial Archives)



From five foundresses in 1897, the Cornwall Community had grown to 16 by 1904. The Sisters, postulants and novices above are, from left: TOP, Sisters St. Alexander (Margaret Charlebois) 1897, St. George (Margaret McDonald) 1899, Mary Joseph (Mary Ann McDougald) 1897, Mary Chisholm 1899, Janet Macdonell (who entered at Kingston 1872), Lydia O'Connell 1902, Victoire (Catherine McDougall) 1903, and Isabella (Margaret McDonald) 1900. MIDDLE: Sisters Margaret Mary 1899, Katherine Cameron 1902, St. Joseph (Mary Agnes Leahy) 1872 Kingston, Mary Augustine (Mary McCaffrey) 1898 and Margaret Hazelton 1896 Kingston. FRONT: Sisters St. Catherine (Adeline Carriere) 1903, Monica (Ellen Barrow) 1904 and Mary Agnes (Florida Poirier) 1903.



Before the convent chapel was built in 1915, the Sisters' chapel (above) was in the former library of Ivy Hall. Note the cloister grill at left.



Still cloistered, the Sisters smile behind the fence in this 1918 photo taken near St. Paul's Home.



In 1915, the Sisters were asked to hospitalize maternity patients. Nurse Katherine Cameron, RHSJ (above), organized this new department, along with Dr. A. J. Lalonde.



Scene from a ward in the old hospital. Note the large dining table and the curtains dividing the several beds. Names of the postulant at left and the little girl with her doll are unknown. The others are Sr. Mary Thompson (behind the fern) 1884-1950; postulant Mary Malone, who entered the RHSJ in 1911 and served till 1929; and Sr. Mary Lewis, right, 1885-1966.



Dr. J.C. Hamilton and Sr. Janet Macdonell are shown in the operating room as it existed about 1932. Throughout his long association with Hotel Dieu, Dr. Hamilton insisted that Sr. Janet, a foundress, attend him on medical rounds.



Dr. D.O. Alguire, shown here in 1906, was the Mayor of Cornwall when the Hotel Dieu was founded, and he became the Sisters' own physician. He died in 1925.

Celebration in Montreal

The year 1909 was remarkable for an historic event that took place in Montreal. There was a celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Hospitallers from France to Canada in 1659. The Superiors and Sister/companions from each of the 10 houses then in existence in the USA and Canada were in attendance in Montreal. It was at this time that the now famous Jeanne Mance Monument was unveiled at the Hotel Dieu in Montreal. In 1992 this memorial was refurbished for the 350th Anniversary of Jeanne Mance's arrival in Montreal.

20th Century Isolation

On May 25, 1911, Dr. Prairie of Massena, NY, was admitted with a contagious disease which was later determined to be smallpox. Father Corbet asked that two Sisters go to care for this patient in a small building on the Commons located on 9th Street. The Sisters had a tent erected for themselves.

Dr. Alguire and Dr. Hamilton brought provisions and delicacies to the Sister Nurses and their patient. It was recorded that Dr. Alguire, who was the Sisters' Community physician, brought flowers often to the Sisters to boost their spirits. He called them "his daughters." Sister St. Anthony and Sister St. Monica were the nurses, and a Mr. Pichon served as orderly, valet and general handyman. The patient did recover and eventually went back to his home in New York.

United Counties Home of Refuge

In the Sisters' September letter of 1911 it was noted that the House of Refuge being built by the United Counties *"is progressing very slowly, the foundation is laid...and we have the consolation of knowing that we will not lose our old people, and even if the new home does materialize, we will continue to get our Government grant as before."*

The House of Refuge and Industry opened in 1913. It was the predecessor of the Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge and was located on 11th Street East. Originally it gave refuge to persons of all ages who could not fend for themselves. Residents of the institution were recorded in a register, along with causes of their 'pauperism'. These descriptions ranged from 'simple-mindedness' to 'idiocy' or 'infirmity'. The home also

accepted people who were sick or simply unable to work. Later, the House of Refuge and Industry became known as the Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge and Farm. After it moved to East Front Street, it became known simply as Glen-Stor-Dun Lodge, the name under which it continues to this day as a home for the aged.

An Auspicious Year

During the year 1912, a woman who would become Superior General entered the Cornwall Community. Miss Jeanne Villeneuve from the Maxville area was impressed by the devotion of Sister Mary Augustine and Sister Mary Joseph on their questing tours (begging for the sick, the orphans and the elderly). Her young and generous spirit prompted her to ask to join the Sisters. She was given the name of Marie de la Ferre, the name of the co-foundress of the Religious Hospitallers. God began early to prepare this zealous young woman to lead the religious congregation she joined in 1912. She went on to serve as Superior General from 1957 to 1969.

On October 6, 1959, she received a Bene Merenti Medal on the occasion of the Tercentenary of Hotel Dieu Hospital, Montreal. The Bene Merenti Medal is bestowed by the Pope for exceptional accomplishments and service. It has a laurel on one side and a likeness of the reigning Pope on the other.

New Home for the Sisters

As recorded above, in the beginning the Sisters lived in part of the old John Sandfield Macdonald home. The increasing number of Sisters, combined with a fire which occurred in August of 1914, made it necessary to build a new convent. A local newspaper recorded the fire as follows:

Sisters' Quarters at Hotel Dieu Guttled by Fire and Water

"A fire which is supposed to have originated from a defective wire in the Sisters' home of the Hotel Dieu on Friday evening

almost completely destroyed the building and did a great deal of damage to the hospital property.

"One of the Sisters, who was on night duty, heard what she thought was burglars, and went out into the hall on the first floor and felt the heat on the woodwork. She then gave the alarm to the other Sisters in the institution and once they were awakened, steps were taken to get the patients out of the hospital. These were quickly removed to St. Paul's Home and Nazareth Orphanage.

"Before this, several attempts had been made to ring the fire alarm, but it would not respond, and finally the whistles of the Stormont Mill and St. Lawrence Brewery were blown and brought the firemen and hose around.

The flames, which did not look very bad from the street, gave the firemen a stubborn fight, and it was after midnight before the fire was under control. Practically the whole of the House was damaged inside, if not by fire, by smoke and water. The greater part of the damage by fire was in the rear of the building. A large number of valuable books belonging to the Sisters were destroyed, as well as furnishing, bedding, etc.

"A particularly unfortunate thing in connection with the fire was that the water which was being poured onto the fire worked its way to the hospital, the floors of which had just been varnished, and a great deal of damage was done to them.

"The loss is fully covered by insurance.

"The house used by the Sisters is one of Cornwall's landmarks, being built many years ago and occupied by the late Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald. The Sisters have temporary quarters in the Hotel Dieu."

A bequest to Vicar-General Corbet by Sir Alexander B. Macdonell was the initial financial incentive for starting the building of a new convent. Construction began in the summer of 1914. The red brick building consisted of three storeys and a basement. During the month of May 1915, the public was invited to tour the convent before cloister would be imposed. On June 15 Bishop Macdonell blessed the Sisters' new home and sang Pontifical High Mass.

A Future 'Mother Teresa' Joins the Ranks

Another young woman from St. Andrew's by the name of Mary Catherine MacDonald joined the Sisters on December 8, 1914. She was called Sister St. Emily because at that time there were already 13 Sisters with the surname of MacDonald. Sister St. Emily would care for thousands of orphans and later elderly persons. She became known as the Mother Teresa of Cornwall and had her lifelong work recognized by a Bene Merenti Medal from the Vatican. Sister lived to the advanced age of 99 years and was much loved by the orphans, the elderly and the Sisters of her Community.

Workmen's Compensation

In 1914 in Ontario, the financial burden of industrial accidents and diseases was alleviated through a compulsory insurance program in specific industries. Workmen's Compensation was provided for all accidents arising out of and during the course of employment in these industries. Rates were assessed according to the risks of each particular industry or occupation and premiums were deducted at the source. The work of the Sisters would benefit from this government legislation.

Maternity Department Organized

Until 1915, hospitalization had not been considered for maternity patients. Because of the growth of Cornwall, however, and the urgency for this type of service, the Sisters were asked to consider taking on a Maternity Department.

Sister Katherine Cameron, a graduate nurse, organized it, in conjunction with Dr. A.J. Lalonde.

Even before the department was officially opened in 1915, babies were born at the hospital. History records that the first two such babies were John Donihee (later a priest in Cornwall) and baby girl Cleary, both born on August 13, 1914.

Since maternity cases were not registered until 1916, we do not know exactly how many babies were born at Hotel Dieu before then.

Royal Visitors

The Sisters had the privilege of receiving a visit from the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Princess

Patricia in June of 1914. As a souvenir of their visit, they presented their pictures to St. Paul's Home. In June 1915, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire paid a formal visit to Hotel Dieu Hospital and St. Paul's Home.

World War I

World War I began when the Germans invaded Belgium on August 14, 1914. It was a war that would last until November 11, 1918.

The populace became very involved in wartime activities. Cornwall's 59th Battalion did guard duty at such vulnerable points as canals, bridges, and public buildings.

The 154th was Cornwall's special Battalion. Its flags were provided by the St. Lawrence Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire (IODE) and were presented on August 23, 1916, when the 154th Battalion returned to Cornwall after its year of training in Barriefield. The flags were dedicated by Rev. Hugh Sutherland, Moderator of the Presbytery of Glengarry, whose son had been killed in action. The flags were received by Lieutenant Frank Pendergast, who later would give his life for his country.

By May of 1916, more than 1,500 men had been recruited, and 89 would lose their lives in battle.

John McMartin of Charlottenburg equipped and uniformed the Pipe Band, and Mrs. McMartin presented a large silk flag to the Pipe Band as a gift of the Long Sault Chapter of the IODE.

Although Cornwall experienced wartime rationing, money was plentiful. In 1917 Cornwallites bought \$454,900 in Victory Loan Bonds, and in 1918 their objective of \$390,000 was over-subscribed by \$115,000.

A branch of the Great War Veterans' Association was formed in Cornwall in the fall of 1917, followed shortly thereafter by the city's first Canadian Legion.

Cornwall's special Battalion, the 154th, was officially disbanded before its return from England. Its flags were retired at an impressive ceremony on August 1, 1926, when they were deposited in Trinity Church. Colonel A.G.F. Macdonald presented them to Canon W. Netten "for safekeeping, as a token of their gratitude to Almighty God by Whom alone victory is secured...to provide a memorial to the men of all ranks who served under these Colors, and to

afford an inspiration for patriotic service and sacrifice to all who worship here."

The women of the two Cornwall Chapters of the IODE were instrumental in getting a cenotaph erected in Memorial Park on Second Street. They organized an impressive unveiling ceremony which was held on June 5, 1925. Present were Governor General Baron Byng, 104 veterans of the 154th Battalion who supplied the Guard of Honor, led by the Pipe Band of eleven pipers and five drummers. Also present was Private Alex G. Atchinson of Knox Church, who had won a Military Medal. From the time of the cenotaph's unveiling, Remembrance Day ceremonies became more impressive.

Spanish Flu

Despite their hospital's crowded conditions, the Sisters were called upon to care for victims of the Spanish Flu when it struck in May 1918. What began as a common cold turned to pneumonia with temperatures as high as 104° F. With no antibiotics, the flu was almost always fatal. Even young men who had fought in the trenches could not fight this enemy. Sometimes it struck so fast that people who seemed perfectly healthy in the morning were dead by nightfall. Among the cures and preventatives used were brandy and garlic. Doctors and nurses (the Sisters) worked inhuman hours.

In September 1918 the Sisters recorded that they had finished the central heating plant which heated the hospital and St. Paul's Home from one boiler.

A Millionaire's Request

Early in 1919, Mr. John Chisholm (a millionaire) of Duluth, Minnesota, asked the Sisters to open a hospital in Alexandria, Ontario. He wished to fund it in memory of his mother. At that time there were 42 Sisters, but, for reasons not recorded, they did not accept this kind offer. Mr. Chisholm later provided the funds for a convent of Precious Blood Sisters in Alexandria.

Answering an Appeal

From the Annals comes this note: "On August 18, 1917, a memorable date in the annals of our house in Cornwall, two of our dear Sisters, Sisters Thompson and Mary Agnes, left to assist our house in Polson,

Montana, in the USA in response to their touching appeal for help. It took the Sisters only three days from obtaining the Bishop's permission to be on their way to Polson." The house in Polson had been established by the RHSJs of Kingston.

The Silver Anniversary 1897-1922

This important milestone—the hospital's 25th year in Cornwall—was celebrated June 13, 14 and 15, 1922. The first 25 years were summarized in *Jubilee Echoes*, a booklet that was circulated to the Sisters' benefactors, friends and the public. It was noted that from June 1897 to October 1921 almost 16,000 patients and almost 1,000 aged persons had been cared for. The total number of children cared for since the opening of the orphanage on January 16, 1909, was 446.

The annalist's notes include this record of the celebrations:

"Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by our beloved Bishop, the Right Rev. Felix Couturier, in thanksgiving for the favours received during the 25 years. In the afternoon we had Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

"On the second day, a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of the deceased Sisters and benefactors was sung by the Very Rev. George Corbet. On the third day, a Solemn High Mass for our living benefactors was sung by Rev. D. Macdonald of Nativity Parish.

"Each day the Mass was sung at nine o'clock at which a large number of outsiders assisted—especially the doctors and Ladies of the Society who had organized a Jubilee Fair. The Fair took place on June 14 and 15 for the purpose of raising money for the Hospital.

"In all, both the spiritual as well as the temporal affairs—our Jubilee was a great success."



The Second Quarter Century

1922-1947



Trials, Tragedy & Triumph

Just like the Cornwall Sisters' first 25 years, the next years would be equally interesting and busy. Drama, excitement, trials, tragedy and triumph would be experienced.

It is interesting to note from today's perspective that when money was so limited, the hardships of the Depression caused new and creative means to be found and applied to health care. And almost paradoxically, the home and overseas hardships of World War II were to have some positive and far-reaching effects on the Cornwall institutions and on Catholic hospitals in general. And it was this quarter-century that would see the advent of health care affiliations on provincial, national and even international bases.

Lieutenant-Governor Visits

His Honor Henry Cocksheet, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, visited Cornwall and the Hotel Dieu Hospital on October 11, 1922. Edward O'Callaghan, Warden, reviewed briefly the excellent work being done at the hospital. After visiting the new x-ray department, His Honor addressed the Sisters and dwelt on the noble calling of the nurse as being one of love, self-sacrifice and devotion.

St. Joseph's Cemetery

In 1926 a parcel of land on McConnell Avenue on which St. Joseph's Cemetery would later be located was deeded by Sister Janet Macdonell and Christine Macdonell to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph.

Since the first death in the Community of Sister Margaret Mary (Margaret Macdonald) on August 22, 1904, six Sisters and Mrs. Katherine (Macdonell) Purcell, a very generous benefactress of the Community, had been buried in St. Columban's Cemetery.

Sister Mary Malone was the first to be buried, in November 1929, in the new St. Joseph Cemetery. She was followed by Sister Julia Twomey in September 1930.

From the Minutes of a Community Meeting held on September 12, 1930, we read: *"The Council unanimously agreed to the transference of the remains of the six Sisters and Mrs. Katherine (Macdonell) Purcell, buried at St. Columban's Cemetery, to St. Joseph's Cemetery on McConnell Avenue."*

In April 1993 the old statue of St. Joseph and Child began to disintegrate and had to be removed. A new monument consisting of three panels, with a

medallion of St. Joseph and the Child Jesus in the middle, was installed. The names of those interred are listed on the side panels. Small headstones replaced the old ones on the individual graves. (See listing of deceased Sisters at the back of this book.)

Sad Accident

The Sisters experienced tragedy in 1923 when their Superior, Sister St. Patrick (Catherine O'Shea), lost her arm in an unfortunate laundry accident. Her right arm had to be amputated at the elbow, and she was right-handed. With her usual courage and spirit of dedication, Sister St. Patrick continued to carry on a very active and fruitful apostolate at Hotel Dieu Hospital for almost another quarter century.

Incorporation

It was in 1927 that the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph of Cornwall, Ontario, became incorporated. As was true of other religious institutions, the Local Superior inherited the position of Administrator, and she and her Council served as the members of the Corporation and the Board of Directors.

East Wing Added

As the demand for more beds and services increased, an East Wing was added to the hospital in 1928 at a cost of \$80,000. It was built on the site of the old Sandfield building. Construction began on March 25, 1928, and the building opened for patients on April 29, 1929.

The blessing of the new wing and chapel occurred on March 28, 1929. Kermess, an annual fair, was held in the basement of the new wing and was well attended by friends and benefactors.

The new addition was a modern fire-proof building of red brick and concrete finished to conform with the original hospital building. The wing contained a new operating room, pharmacy, private rooms, a chaplain's apartment, auditorium, chapel and balcony for the patients. The wing provided 25 additional beds and much-needed space for patient care and special service areas.

Apostolic Delegate Visits

On May 27, 1928, His Excellency Bishop Andrea Casulo, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, came to Corn-

wall. His first visit was to the Nazareth Orphanage, where he was welcomed by the children. He then proceeded to the monastery, where he gave his blessing and visited the sick Sisters. From there he visited every patient in the hospital and every resident of St. Paul's Home.

Nursing School Opens

Prior to the opening of St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1929, the doctors lectured to the Sister nurses and directed their nursing activities. Since the early 1920s the Sisters had dreamed of having a School of Nursing.

Now that their dream had come true, the Sisters obtained the services of Miss Katherine McLellan, RN, a native of Williamstown and a graduate of Hudson City, New York, as Nursing Superintendent.

The Greenwood House, previously the Orphanage, and the McTiernan House were used as residences for the students. The Greenwood House would be used until 1938, when it was taken down to make room for a new Nurses' Residence on York Street, which opened late in 1939.

When the first school opened on February 2, 1929, five Sisters were among the first students: Sisters Elizabeth Cleary, Janet Daniels, St. Ignatius, Ada MacMillan and Ruby Wood. Kathleen Deruchie, Mary Farrell, Nellie Fraser, Lillian Major, Evelyn McGillis and Margaret Wood were the lay students. Graduation for them all was held on June 27, 1931.

It is recorded that George E. Brennan (later Judge Brennan) presided at the graduation. Among the guests of honor was Dr. Charles Hamilton, who had admitted the first patient to the hospital in 1897. Dr. Hamilton addressed the first graduates. He touched on the history of hospitals in America and the early Christian hospitals in Palestine during the period of the Crusaders.

The nurses' caps worn by the graduates were designed and made by Sister Janet Macdonell.

The nursing course was originally two-and-a-half years in length, but was later extended to three years. Until 1932 applicants were admitted with a minimum of two years of high school education. Later the requirement was increased to high school graduation. Students received affiliations in communicable diseases at the Royal Alexander Hospital in Montreal and later in psychiatric nursing at Kingston Psychiat-

ric Hospital.

The School of Nursing Alumnae Association was organized in 1933 and held its first banquet on June 14, 1934, at the Cornwallis Hotel.

First Radio

At Christmas 1930, Dr. John Tallon gave the Sisters a radio for their community room. On February 12, 1931, they were able to hear the Holy Father, Pope Pius XI, speak on the Vatican radio for the first time.

A Founding Father Dies

On November 15, 1932, Monsignor Corbet died at St. Columban's Rectory. When the message was received that he was dying, Mother St. Patrick and Sister St. George went to assist him at his last hour and remained at his bedside all night. He died at 4:55 p.m. the next day.

After the funeral on November 18, the Sisters received visits from several Church dignitaries who were in Cornwall to attend the funeral. Among them were Bishop McDonald and Fathers Lellic and Carroll of Toronto, Bishop Couturier, Archbishop O'Brien of Kingston and Bishop Ryan of Pembroke.

A Special Occasion

On December 5, 1934, a Diamond Jubilee celebration was held for Sister Janet Macdonell, the only foundress still in Cornwall. A week of celebrations was enjoyed, including several special Masses, benedictions and entertainments. The other foundresses had left Cornwall by 1907 to return to Kingston or to serve in other RHSJ Institutions.

Rise of Health Organizations

In the 1920s, health care in schools consisted of the school nurse checking for tooth decay and head lice. In her school visits, the nurse would teach about good health habits, such as washing hands before meals and brushing one's teeth regularly. This was an era when chicken pox and measles were considered childhood diseases that were just part of growing up. The only immunizations given in the schools were against small pox and diphtheria.

After insulin was discovered at the University of Toronto by Frederick Banting and Charles Best, the first free insulin was *(Continued on page 28)*



LEFT: This East Wing at the corner of York and Water streets was built in 1928, attached to the Convent (Monastery) of 1914 (right). The turret of the 1901 Wing is at far left. BELOW: By 1938, the Hotel Dieu, with its entrance on Water St., had a West Wing (left) as well as the East Wing (right). In 1992 this structure would become the Marie de la Ferre Apartments.



The Sisters posed for this 1942 photo at their Holy Family Cottage at Summerstown. L-R: Sisters St. Catherine (Hunt), Evelyn Quinn (sitting), Mary Frances Clancy, Ruby Wood, Kathleen Hendrick (sitting), St. Patrick (O'Shea), and St. Thomas (Helen Chisholm). Lest anyone think they were simply holidaying, the Sisters rounded up props: lawn mower, spade, rake, shears, and a milk pail. (Photo courtesy of Sr. Evelyn Quinn)



This new building for St. Joseph's School of Nursing and the Nurses' Residence opened on York Street in 1939. It replaced the Greenwood and McTiernan Houses, which had been student residences since the School first opened in 1929.



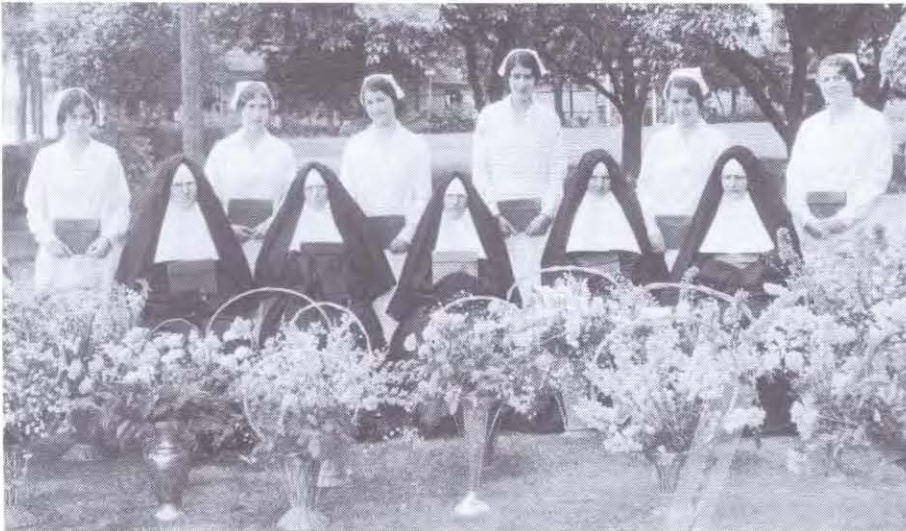
Student nurses Verna Windle, later Sister Windle, RHSJ (left), and Vivian George are ready for their operating room training in this 1945 photo.



1932 nursing graduate Florence Dupuis is pictured with Sr. St. George, Director of St. Joseph's School. They are in the garden of the former stable that became in turn St. Paul's Home, the bakery, heating plant and laundry.



Among those attending the nurses' graduation in 1936 (note the traditional flower baskets) were Dr. A.E.R. MacPhee (left), Fr. J.J. Macdonell, and Drs. J.A. Tallon, Roy Nichol and M.A. Kelly.



CLASS OF 1931. The first 11 nurses to graduate from two years of training at Hotel Dieu Hospital were, from left, seated—Sr. Janet Daniels, Sr. Elizabeth Cleary, Sr. Ruby Wood, Sr. St. Ignatius and Sr. Ada McMillan; STANDING—Kathleen Deruchie, Margaret Wood, Evelyn McGillis, Lillian J. Major and Mary Margaret Farrell. (Photo by Finley)



Miss Katherine McLellan, RN, was the original Nursing Superintendent when St. Joseph's School opened in 1929. She was a native of Williamstown and a graduate of Hudson City, N.Y. She died in Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1983.



CLASS OF 1969. The Regional School of Nursing opened in 1969, making these the last graduates of St. Joseph's School of Nursing. From left, FRONT row: Francine Claude, Mary Gault, Barbara Mongor, Carolyn Rines, Adele Copp, Anita Lauzon, Colleen Burson, Imelda Cleary, Therese Theriault, Louise Poirier, Maureen Malyon and Margaret Leduc. MIDDLE: Linda Lemire, Mary Jane MacPhee, Olive Bergeron, Anne Robertson, Shirley Lauzon, Peta Fraser, Sheila MacDougall, Mary Markell and Gloria McKinnon. BACK: Lynn McDonald, Sharon Emberg, Judy Bogar, Terry Szniger, Wendy Warden, Bonnie Painter, Jeanne MacIntosh, Lucie Laforge, Sheila Russell, Dorothy Ferguson, Gail McDonald, Andrea Fortin, Terry Cook, Lisette Boucher and Mary Hebert.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A STUDENT NURSE

By Sister Ella McGillis, RHSJ

I entered the School of Nursing at Hotel Dieu Cornwall in September 1937. My sister Evelyn had been a member of the first graduating class of 1931. From my earliest years, I intended to become a nun, but I wanted to take my nurse's training first. I was a graduate of Iona Academy and a parishioner of St. Raphael's Church in Glengarry.

My class lived in the McTiernan House on York Street. The older students lived in the Greenwood House, which was the former Orphanage. My last year was spent in the new school on York Street. The Director was Sister St. George and the clinical arts instructor was Sister Janet Daniels.

Medical lectures were given by such well-known doctors as Ian Gourley (Pediatrics), A.L. Crewson (Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat), A.E.R. MacPhee (Medicine), Michael Kelly (Obstetrics), John Tallon (Surgery), A. Lalonde, S.B. Fraser and George Cameron.

A typical 12-hour day for a student nurse in the 1930s was early rising, Mass at 6:30 in the chapel with Father Neil McCormick, breakfast in the hospital, and then duty on the assigned nursing unit. I admit to preferring Surgery. The work was arduous, and during my nursing course I developed a serious illness known as Erythema Nodosum which caused my legs to become painful and swollen. I told the Director, Sister St. George, that I was going home for a rest. She told me that if I went home I might not be able to return. I did go home and after two months I returned completely recovered. I told Sister St. George that I was back to stay and finish my nursing course.

As arduous as a nursing student's life seemed at Hotel Dieu Cornwall, I discovered it was much more so at the Royal Alexander Hospital for Contagious Diseases in Montreal, where my classmates and I spent three months in that nursing specialty.

My class was the first to graduate from the new School of Nursing in 1941. As nursing students we had lots of good times going for walks. A favourite pastime was going with friends in the evening to the Sugar Bowl Coffee Shop on Pitt Street to relax.

On June 10, 1940, I entered the Novitiate of the RHSJs in Cornwall and graduated as a postulant three weeks later on June 26.

I still have my thermometer and diploma.

distributed to diabetic patients in 1923.

The forerunner of the Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC), the Catholic Hospital Association (CHA), began in 1915.

The first International Council of Nurses meeting to be held in Canada was held in Montreal in July 1929. Several Religious Hospitallers from various cities attended and visited Cornwall enroute to their convents.

The year 1931 was important to the Cornwall Sisters because the first Catholic Hospitals of Ontario meeting was held fairly close, in Ottawa.

It is of note that Dr. Harvey Agnew, Secretary of the Canadian Medical Association, was the guest speaker at the St. Joseph nurses' 1933 graduation. He spoke of "present unemployment being the result of over-production of nurses, but (noted) that there was plenty of work for a nurse who graduated from a good institution." He also spoke of "a good preliminary training" and "a wholesome disrespect for long hours and fatigue."

Eastern Ontario Health Unit

In the Ontario Ministry of Health Annual Report 1981-1982 we read that during the Great Depression of 1933, representatives of the Department of Health met with the Canadian Hygiene Council to discuss a proposed campaign to promote dental hygiene. Because of the Depression, the program was made part of the Department's general relief program. It began as a trial project in Southeastern Ontario and was the beginning of the health unit network as it is known today. The Ontario Dental Association, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Ontario Medical Association all contributed their support.

The core of the medical health personnel working in the program was made up of the Department's eight public health nurses and one physician already in the area. All dentists and physicians practising in the counties of Stormont, Dundas, Prescott, Glengarry and Russell were part of the program and worked under the Director of the Dental Services Branch and the Director of the Division of Maternal and Child Welfare and Public Health Nursing.

During the first year, the success of the trial project encouraged the Department to request financial assistance from outside. The Rockefeller Foundation in the United States granted \$33,000 to help

operate the unit for its first five years. It was on January 10, 1935, that the Eastern Ontario Health Unit officially began to function. It would be the first of more than 40 health units and departments of health which serve the Province of Ontario today.

In 1935 the Canadian Medical Record Librarians began their first organized course in Canada. This course was given at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston under the capable direction of Sister Florence Campion, RHSJ. Sister Ruby Wood of Cornwall was a member of the first class.

In 1932 the famous George M. Weir Report on Nursing Education in Canada was released. It would take years for its recommendations to be implemented, but it would prove to be an outstanding contribution to Canadian nurses everywhere and would form the basis of a constructive plan for the improvement of nursing service on a national basis.

The year 1934 saw the first definite plans for a Medical Staff at Hotel Dieu. A book published in 1935 would become the fundamental text in the hospital field and a handbook for all hospital administrators. It was Dr. Malcolm T. MacEachern's *Hospital Organization and Management*. It would challenge administrators to continue to perpetuate health care for the good of the patient, the community and Canada. Among the administrators who used this book was Sister Marie de la Ferre (Villeneuve) at Hotel Dieu Cornwall.

Dr. MacEachern visited the hospital in 1934. His remarks greatly assisted the Sisters in their desire to have Hotel Dieu on the list of hospitals approved by the American College of Surgeons.

Inspections and Accreditations

On May 25, 1934, Dr. Williamson, Inspector of the American College of Surgeons, came to inspect Hotel Dieu. His inspections were made on an invitational basis at hospitals that wanted to improve their standards. Hotel Dieu Hospital did not hesitate to follow the leading hospitals in this movement. It took most hospitals ten years to meet the standards; Hotel Dieu Cornwall, however, appeared on the "Approved List" in 1935.

Among those who assisted the Sisters to achieve this approval were several Cornwall doctors: John Tallon, Michael Kelly, Ian M. Gourley, Arthur Llewellyn Crewson, George Cameron, Roy McGregor

Nichol, Alfred John Lalonde, G. Germain Paiement, E. Elzear Emard, and Simon Bartlett Fraser. Although there was great concern for providing hospital plants adequate for the needs of modern medicine, not as much attention was given to the education of those who would administer them.

An organization was needed which would be devoted solely to raising the standards of administration. The profession of hospital administration could be created only through professional education with means for recognition of achievement in that profession. Such an organization would be limited in purpose to the creation of a new profession which offered the hope for development of administrators well prepared to manage a 20th Century hospital. The American College of Hospital Administrators (ACHA), now known as the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), was that organization.

This new professional society was founded on February 13, 1933, at the Palmer House in Chicago. Membership was open to administrators and their assistants by invitation and examination. Many of the Sisters would receive recognition as Members and Fellows of ACHE in the coming years.

In May 1933 there was a visit by Miss A.M. Munn of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) for the inspection of the practical experience being given to the nurses in training.

By September 4, 1934, the *Annalist* recorded that "*Sister Companions were to teach the student nurses and the officers were to supervise. A central supply station was to be opened and staff conferences to be inaugurated. These conferences would be held every two weeks and would be beneficial in tracing many little faults in nursing procedures and would spur nurses to greater perfection in the care of Christ's suffering members.*"

First Hospital Day

Hospital Day was observed at Hotel Dieu Cornwall for the first time on May 12, 1933. More than 100 visitors toured the hospital, which opened all its departments to the public. After the tours, tea was served to the guests by the Catholic Women's League. The *Annalist* recorded it as "a very successful day."

Depression Years

While all these activities were taking place, the country was experiencing a severe depression. Since the Sisters could not afford to hire extra nursing and domestic help, they often worked overtime in the laundry, kitchen and switchboard in addition to their normal hospital and other duties. The annals record that flour sacks were bleached and used as sheets. Gauze was salvaged, washed and sterilized. The Sisters continued to can fruits and vegetables for use in the hospital, orphanage and St. Paul's Home.

In spite of the desperate shortage of money, the Sisters were able to keep on improving patient care and to give food to Cornwall's poor.

Visit by Brother André

Records report a visit to Hotel Dieu Hospital by Brother André of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. He was already renowned at this time as a channel for divine healing. A patient threatened with the loss of a limb had invited him to Cornwall, but it seems that another patient benefited most by his visit. A young Protestant patient had great faith in St. Joseph and Brother André and had hoped to visit the Oratory before her condition made the trip impossible. While visiting the young man who was facing amputation, Brother André was asked to look in on this other very sick patient. The following week she asked for a priest, was baptized into the Catholic Faith, and died a few weeks later. The young man who had been instrumental in bringing Brother André to Cornwall had to submit to an amputation, but was consoled that another patient had been helped spiritually.

Higher Standards, Increasing Demands

With the rise of various health-related organizations and specialty groups, the demands on the Sisters and their institutions increased. Higher educational standards were required of the various health care specialty members. More and increasingly sophisticated equipment would be required for hospitals. Regulations at the federal, provincial and municipal levels would increase, and inspections would be held at regular intervals by one organization or another.

For the Sisters this meant seeking funds for the constant upgrading of buildings and equipment. It also

A Doctor Remembers House Calls

By Dr. A.E.R. MacPhee

Soon after "setting up shop" in the late '30s, I spent much time in the operating room giving anesthesia. One hot August day as I was leaving the hospital for lunch, Sister St. Gabriel, who was on switchboard duty, stopped me close to the exit to inform me that a doctor was needed at a house in Legaultville. This was a place in the North East of Cornwall and populated by the very poor. There was a woman in labor having a most difficult time but she was refusing admission to the hospital. Also present was the head nurse of the local VON, who was unable to persuade the patient to go to the hospital. A "clique" of old neighborhood "experts" edged their way in and took up a strategic position at one side of the room. Once in place, there was a running commentary of how obstetrics was done in their day. I must add that their presence was most disconcerting. Early that evening, a healthy baby finally arrived. Such were the joys of home obstetrics.

There was a memorable delivery some years later. It was a Sunday morning about five o'clock and again the VON nurse was present. The birth process was proceeding as nature intended when I heard a thud behind me. The nurse was unconscious on the floor—a victim of exhaustion and too many confinements that night. The delivery was concluded and full attention then given to the nurse. It was evident that she had fainted and soon revived. She made her way home via taxi.

My most memorable house call came on a New Years Eve when Monsignor Ewan MacDonald, then Parish Priest at Dickinson's Landing (now under water), called to ask if I could make a house call to a sick parishioner since his regular attendant was not available. It was a miserable night, blowing snow and freezing rain. The home was on a concession road north of Highway 2. After a harrowing trip, I was rather upset to be greeted by Monsignor MacDonald and Dr. Brown, who had appeared out of 'nowhere'. No wonder that house calls lost their appeal

meant continuing education for the Sisters, and many were sent to university to take various courses. Among them were Sister Janet Daniels to the University of Toronto for Nursing Administration in 1931; Sister St. Raphael (McDougald) to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto for X-Ray Technology; Sister Helen Ryan to the University of Guelph in 1935 for Dietetics; and Sister Margaret Mooney to St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto, for Laboratory Technology.

Later, Sisters Ella McGillis and Mary Frances Clancy went to Kingston to study Laboratory Technology at Hotel Dieu Hospital and at the Richardson Laboratories of Queen's University. During 1944-45 Sister Elinor McDonald studied Nursing Administration at the University of Ottawa. Sister Margaret Mooney received her B.Sc.N. at the University of Ottawa in 1949 and her Master's degree in Nursing Education from St. Louis University in Missouri in 1963.

Year of Celebration

1936 was a year of celebration: the Tercentenary of the founding of the Sisters' Congregation in LaFleche, France. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in St. Joseph's Chapel by the Most Rev. Felix Couturier, DD, Bishop of Alexandria. On Monday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, Solemn Benediction with a sermon was held. All celebrations were of "a religious nature."

To mark this year of Jubilee, a West Wing of 50 beds was added to the hospital. It would do away with the old TB balconies, since the tubercular patients had been moved to the St. Lawrence Sanitarium, opened in 1935 at East Front Street in the Township of Charlottenburg. Bishop Couturier, accompanied by Fathers J.J. Macdonell and William Smith, blessed the new wing and celebrated Mass.

On May 22 the wing was opened. Many visitors came to see it and the new equipment purchased for the operating rooms. The Standard-Freeholder newspaper gave the hospital excellent publicity in a special Hotel Dieu supplement with photos, historical data and descriptions of the new building.

1937 Highlights

Sister Janet Macdonell died on May 3, 1937. She was the only one of the five foundresses to die in Cornwall.

About this time sulfa drugs were being used extensively, and electric shock treatments were being used for the treatment of the mentally ill. Pioneering work on blood transfusions was being done in Spain by Dr. Norman Bethune, a Canadian.

The Canadian Society of Laboratory Technologists received its Charter in 1937.

An Oratory was opened in St. Paul's Home, and permission was granted to celebrate Mass there once a month.

Bigger Nursing School

Following the recommendations of the Weir Report and because the school was over-crowded, a new school of nursing was planned. On November 6, 1939, the new facility on York Street opened, with accommodation for 58 students. The cost was \$85,000.

McTiernan House Moves

The McTiernan house, which had variously accommodated orphans and nursing students and served as a Novitiate, was moved on May 15, 1939, to First Street to provide housing for housekeeping maids.

World War II

The Germans invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, triggering the beginning of World War II.

The war years were busy for the citizens of Cornwall. Heavy industry was converted to wartime production. Bingley Steel Works serviced equipment for aircraft and ships at dry-dock.

The Department of Munitions and Supply constructed a \$3-million plant that eventually housed about 50 buildings. It was fenced in and surrounded by armed guards at Cornwall's West End on old Highway 2.

The canal was guarded, the women took up war-related activities, the auditorium of the Town Hall became a recreation centre for service personnel, and a Basic Training Centre consisting of 29 wooden huts, a chapel, hospital and a drill hall with an indoor range was constructed on Marlborough Street.

The war effort was taken seriously. In 1941 Cornwall led Canada in its per capita purchasing of War Savings Stamps. Citizens bought a total of \$10,985,600 worth of bonds and collected more than

(Continued on page 33)



The Laundry (La Buanderie). In this 1947 photo from the book 'Jubilate Deo', men and women staff are shown handling linens from all the RHSJ institutions: hospital, orphanage, nurses' residence and St. Paul's Home.

WAR IS DECLARED—SEPTEMBER 10, 1939

*By Walter Burns Adams, a resident of St. Paul's Home,
as told to Sister Evelyn Quinn, RHSJ*

Today we are at war with Germany! Canada declared war on Hitler and his destructive forces early this morning. It is 21 short years since the Armistice was signed following the Great War of 1918. I was then young, not in service, and now I am an old man (75 years old), not in service. The horror of it all is still with many of us! We attend Mass daily in the hospital Chapel and today special prayers were offered for our country and people—indeed, for all the countries soon to be involved.

After breakfast at 6:30 the residents went back to the Assembly Room to listen to the radio again. For the past year news trickled in to us of the beginning advance of the German troops into France and Poland. Poor people, we pray for them.

About 7:00 each morning I start my collection of soiled linen from the hospital chutes, utility rooms and the Nurses' Residence, to be brought to the laundry. I do this task at 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and it takes considerable time to do it. About 2:30 p.m. I return for the final collection of the day.

At about 10:00 a.m. I brought over the clean linens in a basket to St. Paul's Home. Then I stopped at the kitchen and was greeted by Sister M. Agnes and given a special treat. Sister is a great cook. Then it was time to return to the chutes.

On this day I met Dr. Claude Hall near the x-ray chute. He wanted to know if I had ever found a nurse tossed down the chute. I was surprised and amused, for we get about everything else in the chutes. He is a great joker. I met many of the staff and Sisters along the corridors. They looked sad and anxious and with good reason.

I went to dinner at 11:30 a.m., which is always a good nourishing meal. Then I went back to the radio for a news report. Mobilizing is all the order of the day. A Basic Training Centre is being planned for Cornwall.

Once again, I went to collect linen for the Home, Hospital, Convent and Nurses' Residence. Later the linen will go out to the Girls' Residence and the Orphanage when John Sauve (resident) brings the horse and cart around. The horse is stabled in the next building. (Author's note: Unfortunately, the barn and horse were destroyed by fire in 1943.)

Today I worked for an hour or so on the grounds with Duncan McLennan and Sister St. Anthony. We are trying to restructure the grounds and flower beds between the Hospital, Convent and Nurses' Residence. There is so much work to be done! The nurses live in the basement of the 1928 York Street Wing. I will check to see if they need laundry or uniforms.

At 2:30 p.m. I returned to the chutes and met Father Neil McCormick, the Chaplain, and had a good visit. Later I met Sister Isabella and Sister Quinn and exchanged war news with them. Sister Isabella reads a great deal and keeps Sister Quinn informed about events as the latter, being a novice, does not have access to newspapers nor radio.

Leaving the laundry, I stopped in at the Flower Shoppe and Workshop to chat with the boys—Mack McCarroll, Duncan McLennan, Charles O'Duffy, Jimmy Sylvain and Peter Belanger (Engineer).

Supper was served at 4:30 p.m. and the Rosary recited after supper in the main hall. We residents get very good care here as Sister Abrams looks after us well.

In the early evening I usually listen with the other men to the news unless some special entertainment is to be had. Tonight we are interested in war news. Some nights we sit on the large verandahs on the west side of the Home. There we play cards, talk, smoke or look at the scenery. The River and Canal afford us many distractions during the boating season. We have a lad (mid-40s) by the name of John McDonald who is blind and was born a spastic. He sits in his wheelchair, with us, and laughs at all the jokes.

By 6:30-7:00 p.m. I'm ready to go to the dormitory. It has been a long day but sleep is good medicine.

My sister Margaret was also a resident in the Home at the time.

three million pounds of salvage. The Red Cross set up blood donor clinics, and by 1944 Cornwall had passed its 10,000th donation.

War's Positive Effects on Catholic Hospitals

As the war ended in the mid-40s there occurred what amounted to a revolution in the financial management of Catholic hospitals. During the war, careful track was kept of the service rendered by the Catholic hospitals to the armed forces and the war effort in an attempt to have the government more aware of their indispensable services.

Other factors that influenced hospitals were the social post-war changes, indirect results of the Depression, World War II and the advent of Blue Cross.

In order to provide adequate facilities and up-to-date technological services, it was necessary for the Sisters to disclose the real value of their contribution to health care in the community. They were thereby able to enlist the support of the general public served by Catholic hospitals.

Another positive by-product of the war was that medical research dramatically improved. It is recorded that World War II began affecting public health well before its outbreak because of great uncertainty, tenseness and anxiety. When war broke out, the nation's Catholic hospitals stood ready to place themselves at the disposal of the Canadian Government. Out of a population of 12 million, one million young people were in uniform. Hospital superintendents, now known as Chief Executive Officers, were swept along in the tide of the war effort.

The Canadian Catholic Hospital Association, still under the aegis of the U.S. Catholic Hospital Association, was determined to stand shoulder to shoulder with fellow Canadians. This was the moment for Canadians to form their own association as a stronger and more autonomous organization.

The actual formation of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Hospitals (now the Catholic Health Association of Ontario) and that of the Canadian Catholic Hospital Association (now the Catholic Health Association of Canada) followed an historical pattern. Voluntary associations of various Sisterhoods sought self-development and solutions to mutual problems through co-operation and unity. More specific aspects of hospital management flowing from the nature of

Catholic hospitals were behind the formation of both associations. The term "Catholic Hospital" implied not merely stewardship and administration of Catholic health care centres by a group of religious belonging to the Catholic Church, but, even more characteristically, implied viewpoints and policies which should permeate every activity in the operation of such a health centre.

Besides the nature of the Catholic hospital itself, the nature of the religious life of individuals living together in community gave rise to the need for an association for hospital-affiliated religious and the lay persons who worked with them. Restricted as religious were by their rule of life and their contact with lay people, they were not active in the early days of the 20th century. With the formation of the OHA, OMA, the Catholic Health Association in the USA and Canada, and other such organizations, it was imperative that religious health care workers also form ways and means to improve patient care. From the inception of these organizations the Sisters at Hotel Dieu Hospital Cornwall were in attendance.

In 1932 the CHA of the US and Canada joined with the American Hospital Association and the Protestant Hospital Association to form a joint committee. The principal aims were to ensure that federal legislation dealing with hospitals include the voluntary hospital and that a successful dual system of public and voluntary hospitals should also have a say in federal plans for construction.

This joint committee remained in effect until after World War II and was a significant forum in affecting federal legislation. The philosophy was that voluntary hospitals had an obligation to provide care to the indigent, because the poor were, in effect, wards of society, rather than wards of the state.

The Ontario Blue Cross Plan

The Blue Cross hospital insurance plan came into being in Ontario in 1941 as a committee of the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA). It was voluntary, non-profit, and provided several benefits in terms of hospital care. Prepayment was required from subscribers. Benefits usually included up to 21 days of hospital bed and board, general nursing service, operating room services, anesthetics, lab services, ordinary drugs, dressings, casts, electrocardiograms, x-rays and metabolic tests. Generally not included

were serums, vaccines, expensive drugs, oxygen therapy, ambulatory services, private duty nurses or the services of private physicians.

As the plan became established and financially secure, the scope of benefits increased. Premiums were raised to provide for these increased benefits and for the rising costs of hospital services.

Why was the Blue Cross plan important? For the first time many people were able to afford hospital care. As more and more people were enrolled, the use of health care facilities began to grow at a phenomenal rate.

With the advent of the Ontario Hospital Insurance Plan (OHIP) in 1959, Blue Cross was modified so that subscribers could obtain additional benefits beyond OHIP coverage, such as a semi-private room instead of ward accommodation.

‘Prophecy’ of Bishop Brodeur

It is necessary at this point to recall some important happenings chronicled by the Sisters at Hotel Dieu Cornwall.

In 1941 Bishop Couturier died and was succeeded by Bishop Rosario Brodeur. His episcopacy would have a profound effect on the Sisters and Catholic health care in Cornwall. Bishop Brodeur was the representative of the Canadian Conference of Bishops (CCCB) to the Catholic Hospital Association of Canada (CHAC). The decision for the CHAC to leave Montreal for Ottawa originated with Bishop Brodeur. He taught Ethics to the student nurses at Cornwall for many years, and was strongly committed to the social issues of this era.

It is of historical interest to read how Bishop Brodeur felt more than 50 years ago about hospital matters. On February 12, 1942, he summed up the proposed state-sponsored insurance in these words:

“On the one hand, state intervention in the administration of Catholic hospitals—traditionally autonomous institutions—could sooner or later pose a general threat to their independence. There is a danger that the state might ultimately impose its own standards, and that it might be tempted to override the existing code of medical ethics and thus permit practices contrary to Catholic morals. On the other hand, the implementation of such a health insurance program would undoubtedly benefit the downtrodden of society while at the same time providing valuable

financial assistance to Catholic hospitals. The Church and Catholic hospitals would have to devise strategies to protect their vital interests should this come to pass.”

Little did the Bishop realize how prophetic his words would appear today!

Days to Remember

In the early days when the Sisters worked 12, 16, yes, sometimes 24 hours a day and Dr. John Tallon was the Community Physician, it was his repeated request that the Sisters have a place away from the hospital where they could rest, relax and get plenty of sunshine.

In 1941 Bishop Couturier and Dr. Tallon heard that Crawford’s Point, a mink farm, was for sale. This beautiful spot 12 miles east of Cornwall and one mile in from the main highway seemed ideal. It had a cottage of eight private rooms, living room, sunporch and a barn that could easily be converted into a chapel. It was located on Lake St. Francis overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The site was purchased by the Sisters and named Holy Family Cottage.

Bishop Couturier donated his eight-passenger Cadillac to the Community to provide transportation. The car was reported to look like a hearse, but it served its purpose well. Jim Burns and Peter Belanger, maintenance men at Hotel Dieu Hospital, served as the first drivers for the Sisters.

The annalist noted that in the winter months the infirmary had always been filled with 16 to 20 Sisters off duty at one time. After the first summer with the cottage, the infirmary was deserted.

Chaplains

In the early days, the spiritual needs of the Sisters, patients, elderly and children were provided for by various priests from the local parishes of the Diocese.

Daily Communion in the early days was not a common practice, and the ‘Last Sacrament’ or ‘Extreme Unction’ was administered only in case of apparent approaching death. Chaplains were on call and could be asked to see patients if visiting the hospital or when they themselves were patients, if able. It was not until the East Wing was built in 1928 that a Chaplain’s suite was even available.

Commonly, priests served whenever they were needed whether at the hospital, St. Paul’s Home, the

orphanage or for the Sisters.

The following priests have been recorded as serving as Chaplains in those early days. The Sisters and their collaborators wish to pay tribute to them for their devoted and untiring service—ever ready at all hours to minister to those suffering in mind or body.

Rev. Francis Foley
Rev. Neil McCormick
Rev. William Fox
Rev. Duncan McDonald
Rev. L. Houde
Rev. Bruno Pilon
Rev. Francis Lefebvre
Rev. Raoul Rouleau
Rev. D.A. Macmillan
Rev. Roland Rouleau
Rev. Adalbert Lalonde
Rev. Ewen MacDonald
Rev. B. Baker
Rev. J.J. MacDonald
Rev. B.J. Brunell
Rev. R.A. MacDonald
Rt. Rev. George Corbet
Rev. R.J. McDonald
Rev. Paul Desauhac
Rev. D.C. MacRae
Rev. Felix Dulin
Rev. John MacRae
Rev. J. Foley
Rev. J. McPhail
Rev. Donald A. Kerr
Rev. Duncan McPhee
Rev. E. Leahy
Rev. Michael O'Brien
Rev. D.A. Macmillan
Rev. Leon Seymour
Rev. A.L. MacDonald
Rev. Dean Twomey
Rev. D.A. MacDonald
Rev. R. Villeneuve
Rev. J. Wylie.

Tribute is also paid to the clergy of the various denominations who provided pastoral services to patients and residents in the Cornwall health care facilities from the beginning to the present day.

Bishop Brodeur named Father Adalbert Lalonde resident Chaplain at Hotel Dieu in 1943.

Infirmiry Outgrown

By April 1943 the Convent infirmiry was too small to accommodate the senior Sisters requiring care there. A piece of land with a comfortable brick duplex known as the Legault House became available on York Street. It was renovated to be used as a novitiate so the infirm Sisters could have increased space in the part of the Convent that had been the old novitiate.

Legault House was blessed on March 30, 1944, by Bishop Brodeur, who also offered the first Mass there.

Jeanne Mance Pledge Introduced

The year 1943 was special for the graduating nurses, because the Jeanne Mance Pledge was recited for the first time. It was written by Monsignor J.P. Sullivan, then Chaplain at Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston. From 1931 to 1943 the Florence Nightingale pledge had been recited there by each graduating class.

Jeanne Mance Pledge

That I may be strengthened in my resolve to model my life of duty after that of Jeanne Mance, the first lay-nurse of my beloved Canada, I place myself in the presence of God, and I pledge myself with the help of His grace to be faithful to the following ideals:

I will be true to the practice of religion which is the inspiration of my noble vocation, and while administering to the body will serve the soul by observing the principles of right ethics and nursing honor.

I will be devoted to the profession that is mine, obeying the physician within the sphere of his authority, and I will make my work a labor of love rather than of profit whenever the service of God or country requires it of me.

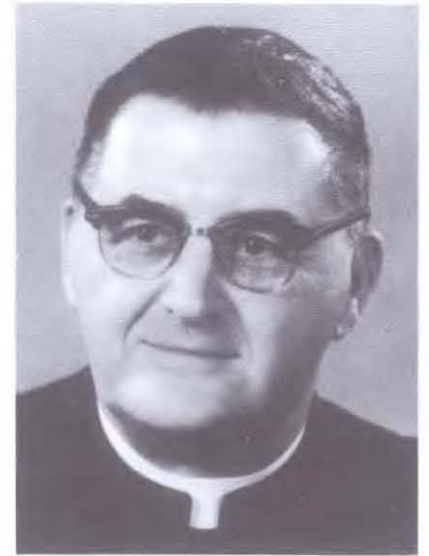
Earthquake!

Earthquakes had been felt in Cornwall as far back as 1663, and others had been recorded in 1860, 1877, 1935, 1939 and 1940. On Monday, September 4, 1944, shortly after midnight, the worst earthquake to date struck. Four distinct quakes within a few minutes caused devastating damage throughout the town. Slight tremors continued for several days and damage was estimated to be almost a million dollars. The epicentre of the quake was just 40 miles to the northeast of Cornwall. Few buildings escaped dam-

(Continued on page 37)



A highlight of the 50th anniversary in February 1947 was Mass celebrated in Hotel Dieu's chapel by Bishop Rosario Brodeur. The people in the pews at left were residents of St. Paul's Home. The Sisters were still cloistered behind a screen to the left of this area (not shown). (Photo by Ken Gosling)



Fr. Adalbert Lalonde was named Resident Chaplain of the old Hotel Dieu in 1943 and went on to serve at the new hospital from 1955 until his death in 1983, except for a brief stint as chaplain at St. Joseph Villa. He had also been chaplain of Nazareth Orphanage in 1940.



A popular fund-raiser at 1940s socials on the hospital grounds was the fish-pond. Note the children in their Sunday best.



This elegant third home of the Nazareth Orphanage (1919) was deeded to the Sisters by Mrs. John McMartin. Located at Sydney and Second streets, it housed 60 children at the time of the Golden Jubilee. (Sketch by Kathi Legault Roth)

age, but the townspeople again united to help and share with one another. The centre part of the 1901 hospital required many repairs.

Cornwall Attains City Status

The war and the earthquake disaster served to unite the citizens, and they soon were pressing for improvements to their town. The Town Council under Mayor J.A. Phillips sought city status in 1943, but it was refused by the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs. It was reported by the *Standard Freeholder* that the Minister said, "The people of Cornwall want to live in a city and at the same time...retain the status of a town for municipal purposes, including assessment."

Two years later, though, Cornwall's 15,118 inhabitants welcomed in the New Year of 1945 as citizens of Ontario's newest city. Eight days later an official celebration was held at the Cornwallis Hotel with George A. Drew, Premier of Ontario, as a guest of honor. Aaron Horovitz began serving his third term as Mayor. Cornwall was known as the "Friendly City" until the 1950s, when it became the "Seaway City."

Post-War Activities

After the close of World War II, doctors returned from military service with new techniques in health care. Increased bed utilization also demanded new and better health care facilities. To address this problem at Hotel Dieu Cornwall, a campaign for funds was undertaken throughout Alexandria Diocese. The money was earmarked for a new St. Paul's Home and a new hospital. Thanks to the generosity of the people in the three United Counties, the campaign reached its goal of \$200,000.

The Hospital Auxiliary

October 6, 1946, marked a very important event in the hospital's history. On that day, the Auxiliary to the Hotel Dieu Hospital was founded with the stated aim of helping to improve patient care. These were the founding members:

Mrs. B.R. Mooney (Elizabeth), President; Mrs. M.A. Kelly (Marie), Treasurer; Mrs. Vincent Lally (Ruth), Secretary; Mrs. E. Emard (Noella); Mrs. Charles Lalonde (Nora); Mrs. W.C. Sullivan (Marjorie); Mrs. George Cameron (Margaret); Mrs. J.A.

Tallon (Kathleen); Mrs. G. Paiement (Marguerite); and Mrs. A.E.R. MacPhee (Mona).

The six Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph present at the organizational meeting in 1946 were Sister St. Patrick (Superior), Sister Thompson, Sister St. George, Sister Campbell, Sister Conlon and Sister Marie de la Ferre.

Truly, it would have been impossible for the Founding Members to foresee the incredible growth that would take place in this organization.

The Golden Jubilee

The Jubilee Celebrations of 1947 paid tribute to the magnificent contribution made by the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph to the welfare of Cornwall and area in health care and social services.

The statistical report for 1946 included the following details:

Number of patients admitted: 5,144
Daily average census: 122
Laboratory tests for 1946: 17,849
Transfusions: 85
X-Rays: 4,875
Basal Metabolism tests: 86
Surgical Operations: 2,150
Plaster Casts: 440
Physiotherapy: 1,509

A *Jubilate Deo 1897-1947* book was published and distributed in celebration of the golden anniversary.

Members of the Medical Staff were :

Dr. A.J. Aubin
Dr. Michael A. Kelly, Secretary
Dr. George Lester Bateman
Dr. Alfred John Lalonde
Dr. Henry Elmer Drew Bateman
Dr. Harold J. Mack
Dr. Lorne Anderson Caldwell
(Chairman, Medical Records)
Dr. Archibald E.R. MacPhee
Dr. George James Cameron, Pathologist
Dr. John Alfred McGuire
Dr. G.W. Cragg, Tuberculosis
Dr. W.A. Milligan
Dr. Arthur Llewellyn Crewson
Dr. Bernard R. Mooney, Radiologist
Dr. Elzear E. Emard

Dr. Roy McGregor Nichol,
 (President, Chief of Staff)
 Dr. Ladislau Emard
 Dr. J. Germain Paiement
 Dr. Simon Bartlett Fraser
 (Chairman, Credentials)
 Dr. Melvin J. Sproul (Chairman of Interns)
 Dr. Alexander J. Gardiner
 Dr. Charles Archibald Stewart
 Dr. Ian M. Gourley
 Dr. John Alexander Tallon, Vice-President
 Dr. Claude M. Hall
 Dr. J.Cameron Wilson.

At the time of this anniversary, Hotel Dieu Cornwall had 12 public wards, two solariums converted to wards, 11 semi-private and 16 private rooms. There were four pediatric wards, two delivery rooms, two nurseries and one for premature babies. The operating room area included a special eye, ear, nose and throat room and a sterilizing room. There was an X-Ray Department, Physiotherapy, Orthopedic and Clinical Departments. A main kitchen, diet kitchens, nurses' duty stations and workrooms were also part of the physical plant.

The Golden Jubilee celebrations were held on June 24, 25, 26, 1947. On June 24 a Solemn Pontifical Mass was celebrated by Alexandria Bishop Rosario Brodeur. The sermon was preached by the Archbishop of Kingston, J.A. O'Sullivan. The RHSJ Choir sang, accompanied by Sister Evelyn Quinn as organist.

A banquet was held in the Nurses' Residence at noon with Bishop Brodeur presiding. Guest speakers

included the Right Rev. J.E. McRae of Toronto, Superior General of the Scarboro Foreign Missions, and Rev. H.L. Bertrand, SJ, President of the Catholic Hospital Council of Canada.

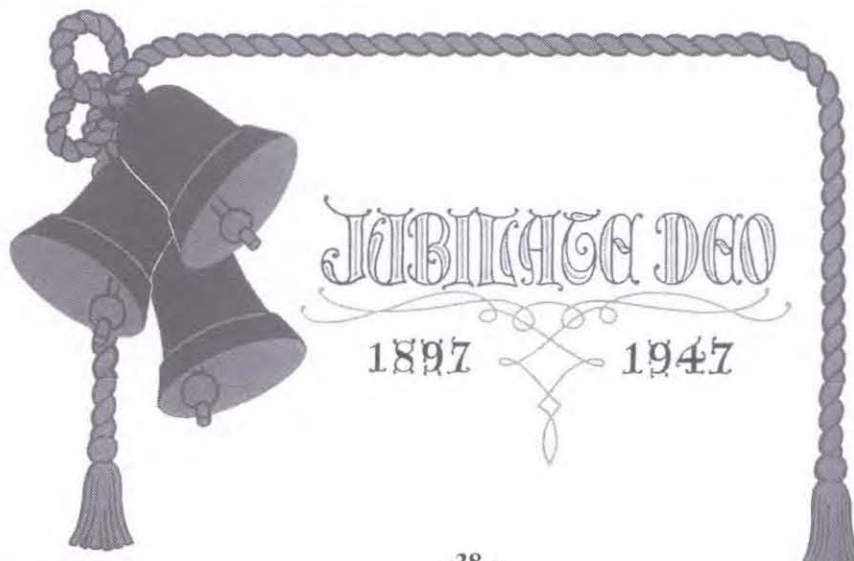
In the evening a civic and medical banquet was held, again at the Nurses' Residence, with Bishop Brodeur presiding. Speakers included Judge G.E. Brennan and Dr. J.A. Tallon, FRCS, FACS. The Honorable Lionel Chevrier sent greetings by telegram, as he was unable to be present.

The next day, Solemn High Mass was offered by Rt. Rev. D.R. MacDonald of Alexandria, with the Nativity Parish Choir participating.

A luncheon was held in the Nurses' Residence for the Alumnae, graduates and student nurses. President Uldine Leblanc presided, and the guest speaker was Miss Katherine McLellan, the first superintendent of St. Joseph's School of Nursing. The Alumnae presented their alma mater with the gift of a Wagensteen suction-siphonage apparatus.

On the final day of celebrations, Solemn Pontifical Mass was offered by the Most Rev. W.J. Smith, Bishop of Pembroke, a former pastor of St. Columban's Church. Dr. MacPhee directed St. Columban's male choir for the occasion. Solemn Pontifical Benediction with the *Te Deum* was held at 4:00 p.m., with Bishop Brodeur presiding and the RHSJ Choir providing the music. Bishop Brodeur and Dr. Tallon gave brief addresses in French. The ceremonies included a reception for the participants and a social hour in the Nurses' Residence.

It was a fitting celebration to thank God for his many blessings over the past half century.



This third quarter-century was destined to be one of rapid change in many ways. On the local scene, the Nazareth Orphanage would be closed, St. Paul's Home would be closed, and a new St. Joseph's Villa would replace it. St. Joseph School of Nursing would be absorbed into a new Regional School of Nursing. A new Hotel Dieu Hospital would open on McConnell Avenue and the former Hotel Dieu on Water Street would become Macdonell Memorial Hospital for the chronically ill.

Beyond these physical and administrative adjustments, there were many changes happening in the Catholic Church, in society, and in government attitudes to health care that would influence the lives of the Sisters.

Changes for the Sisters

Delegates from the Sisters' houses in Canada and the United States had met at Hotel Dieu Hospital, Kingston, in 1938 to discuss the possibility of uniting all the houses into a Generalate.

A Generalate governance structure involves a Council consisting of a Superior and Assistants elected by the members of the Congregation. Duly constituted by canonical (Church) and civil law, this Council has the authority and responsibility to assure the overall welfare of all the Sisters of the Congregation as well as the Congregation's goods and works, in keeping with its own Constitution.

The idea was not new, but it would take several more years before it became a reality for the 1,100 Sisters who comprised the RHSJ Congregation.

In 1949 three Generalates were established. The English-speaking Generalate began operation on October 7 in Kingston, Ontario. Sister Marie de la Ferre, Local Superior at Cornwall, was named Bursar of the new Generalate. It did not take long for the Sisters to realize the advantages of having only one Generalate instead of three. By 1953 a single Generalate would be located in Montreal. Mother Berthe Thibault was appointed its first Superior General, and Sister Marie de la Ferre was named her first assistant.

Three Provinces were established: Ville Marie (VM) in Montreal; Notre Dame de l'Assumption (NDA) in New Brunswick; and St. Joseph Province in Amherstview, a suburb of Kingston. Mother Cecilia Murray was named St. Joseph's first Provincial Superior.

The formation of the Generalate brought about many changes in the lives of the Sisters. Schedules changed, the wimples were rounded, and the Sisters were allowed to wear their white gowns and veils on Sunday, whereas they previously had to wear their black habits to Mass and Vespers. Although they didn't know it then, this would be a preparation for the changes that would result from the Second Vatican Council.

The title Chief Hospitaller was changed to Superintendent of the Hospital and was used until Administrator-C.E.O. (Chief Executive Officer) came into vogue.

Fire at Nazareth Orphanage

On Friday, May 4, 1950, as Sisters Cameron, St. Emily, St. Monica and Mary Theresa were sitting down to lunch, the fire alarm sounded. Five pre-school children were being fed in the dining room.

Rev. G.S. Lloyd, Pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church, was the first to arrive on the scene and to offer his assistance. The Sisters and children were safely outside when the Fire Department arrived. Mrs. Stuart McDougall, a neighbour, took the five little ones into her home. Representatives of the Children's Aid Society arrived to pick up the children who had been in school and take them to the Salvation Army Citadel until their relatives could come for them. The cause of the fire was unknown, but it was thought to have been due to faulty electrical wiring.

More than 2,200 children had been cared for since the original Nazareth Orphanage opened in 1909.

The orphanage site was later expropriated so that the city's Post Office could be built there. In 1994 a decision was made to renovate the building and make it the main branch of the Public Library.



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The New Hospital: from Dream to Reality through Heartache and Anxiety

In 1947, the total bed capacity of the Hotel Dieu Hospital was 125 beds and occupancy was 100%. The population of the city of Cornwall was 17,400. The hospital also served the municipalities of Stormont with a population of 26,612, Dundas with 15,656, and Glengarry with 16,794. The Cornwall General Hospital, with 86 beds, also served the same areas.

As the population of Cornwall and the surrounding areas grew, it became apparent that more beds would be required to care for the future needs of the community. It was impossible to consider enlarging the present hospital because it was hemmed in on all sides by St. Paul's Home for the Aged, by the Convent, by the Nurses' Residence and by a new laundry building. The original hospital was in the centre, and the time had come to consider building a completely new hospital.

This major decision was made in 1947. The Sisters owned a large tract of land, 100 acres, on the outskirts of Cornwall. This property had been willed to Sister Janet Macdonell by her father in 1848, and she had long dreamed of a hospital standing on the property of the old Macdonell farm.

In October 1948, Sister Marie de la Ferre made application to the Minister of Health, Russell T. Kelly, Deputy Minister J.T. Phair, MB, DPH, C.J. Telfer, Inspector of Hospitals, and Medical Inspector M.E.J. Stalker, MB, to build a new Hotel Dieu. Special meetings were called with the architects and the Sisters. Some of the controversies to be ironed out were the provincial and federal grants allocated on the basis of additional patient beds for the new and the old hospital, maintenance grants, and the cost of any necessary rehabilitation programs. The Ministry of Health was also concerned that a million-dollar debt on a 250-bed hospital was more than the hospital could reasonably carry. The Ministry also believed that a 250-bed hospital was 20 beds over the allowable

limit and 38 in excess for the care of chronic patients.

On May 18, 1950, Inspector Telfer wrote that the architects had left a set of plans for the proposed new hospital, but they would not be reviewed since formal approval of the program had not yet been obtained. Almost one year later, March 29, 1951, MacKinnon Phillips, the new Minister of Health, wrote to Sister Marie de la Ferre that he hoped to give a definite approval for the building program at an early date. He thought it advisable, however, to make a personal visit and look into the situation, but this could not be done until after the close of the present session of the Legislature.

On May 10, the Minister wrote again to say that Ministry approval would be given to proceed with the construction program, but details of the project would have to be considered by the Interdepartmental Committee on Hospitals. On May 22, Inspector Telfer wrote that the Interdepartmental Committee was now satisfied that the proposed capacity of 250 beds was not beyond the limitations set by their hospital legislation. However, the capital grant application had gone astray and so a new application was necessary. He also specified that officers of his department meet with the architects to discuss the plans further.

After all this, the Sisters realized they would be financially unable to cope with a large building program. They consulted with their attorney, George E. Brennan, who had recently been appointed to the Bench, and he approved of forming an Advisory Council of lay members to assist the Sisters. Judge Brennan was appointed Chairman at the first meeting. The other members were Bishop Rosario Brodeur, Honorary Chairman; Nicholas I. Battista, Chairman of the School of Nursing; Judge P.C. Bergeron, Chairman of the Medical Committee; Mayor Aaron Horovitz, Chairman of the Finance Committee; William P. Nesbitt, Chairman of the Building Committee; and councillors R.C. Adams, Fred Broder, Arthur Chevrier, John Coleman, Frank Lagden, Monsignor R.J. MacDonald, Major A.A. McDonald, C.J. McDougall, and Emile Menard.

On October 23, 1952, a ceremony was held where Bishop Brodeur, using a pointed silver spade, turned the first sod for the new hospital. Construction was to begin immediately and was expected to take two years. Among the 50 or so present for the ceremony were members of the Advisory Council of Hotel Dieu, Sisters, members of the Catholic clergy

and of the Cornwall Ministerial Association, members of the City, Township and United Counties Councils, and heads of local industries. Contractor D. Sullivan of Arnprior was also present.

The site of the new hospital was described as a brush-covered hill on McConnell Avenue between 5th and 7th Streets. It had formerly been used as an assault course and shooting range for army basic training during World War II. It was recorded that McConnell Avenue was named after a farmer of that name in the area.

After the ground was broken and construction started, application was made for construction grants. Then followed years of endless correspondence. Eventually, personal visits were resorted to. Judge Brennan and his Committee met with Ontario's Minister of Health, Dr. Kelly, and later with his successor, MacKinnon Phillips, and with the Honourable Paul Martin, federal Minister of Health and Welfare, but all to no avail. Time was passing and construction was progressing!

Correspondence continued between the Sisters and the Ministry of Health on matters of approval and grants and with the architects about planning details. As late as February 1954, records show that the correspondence on this file, as well as the approved original set of plans, had been mislaid at headquarters in Toronto. The explanation probably was that Mr. Telfer was away for some considerable time the previous year and that those items had not been carried through by others in the department. One can imagine the heartache and misery all this caused the Sisters, as well as the uncertainty to both them and the Advisory Board.

Up until this time, Sister St. Joseph, Superior, and Sister Daniels, Bursar, gave what time they could to follow up the work of the contractors, and it was thought necessary that some appointments be made. On August 13, 1954, Sister St. Mary Magdalen (Elinor McDonald), was named Superior/Administrator of the new hospital and Sister Daniels was named Bursar. Now the work began in earnest of furnishing and equipping the partly finished hospital. X-ray equipment arrived in October 1954 and there was no place to store it. Department heads were advertised for, as well as dietitians, physiotherapists, engineers, and a chef. An anesthesiologist was hired to begin working June 1955.

It was determined that the original incorporation

of 1927 covered the new hospital as well as the former.

The North Wing of the hospital's first floor was the area set aside for the use of the Sisters. It included a community room, dining room, servery and a few rooms for sleeping quarters. Other rooms used as Sisters' bedrooms included some on second North and the supervisors' offices. The question of a laundry caused much concern. There was no money available to build a laundry, and the only alternative seemed to be to send the laundry to the "old" Hotel Dieu.

The cornerstone was laid on June 16, 1954, with special ceremonies conducted from a stand specially built for the occasion in front of the main entrance. The stone was blessed by Bishop Rosario Brodeur, assisted by Fathers R.J. MacDonald and R. Gagnon. The Ontario Minister of Health, Dr. MacKinnon Phillips, was presented with a silver mason's trowel by W.P. Nesbitt, Chairman of the Advisory Board's Building Committee.

Mother St. Joseph (Alice Huot) placed a copper box containing historical documents in a cavity behind the stone. The box held copies of the *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder*, *Montreal Gazette*, *Toronto Star*, *Ottawa Journal* and *Glengarry News*, all dated June 16, 1954. There were lists with the names of the Advisory Board Members, Mayor and Council, Sisters, the Bishop and clergy, architect and contractor, members of the General and Provincial Councils, the Prime Minister of Canada, the Governor-General and the Premier of Ontario. There were also various photographs, a program of the event, and medals of the Sacred Heart, Our Lady and St. Joseph.

When the masons had lowered and set the stone, Dr. Phillips tapped it in the traditional fashion and declared it "well and truly laid."

Master of Ceremonies was Judge G.E. Brennan, Chairman of the Hospital Board of Advisors. Among others present were Mayor A. Horovitz, Charles Adams, Sr., Percy Bergeron, Police Magistrate, Nick Battista, Major A.A. McDonald, Howard Smith President W. Nesbitt, Royal Bank President John Coleman, Arthur Chevrier, Morrisburg Reeve F.H. Brodeur, and Glengarry MPP Ossie Villeneuve.

On March 19, 1955, architect Harry Smith and contractor Dominic Sullivan met with the Sisters and members of the Advisory Council and agreed that the new building could be ready by June 1. On May 29 Sister St. Mary Magdalen (Elinor McDonald), Sister

(Continued on page 45)



The official opening of the new hospital took place September 14, 1955. LEFT: The ribbon-cutting ceremony featured Bishop Rosario Brodeur (left), Reeve and doctor Elzeard Emard, Ontario Premier Leslie Frost, Dr. G.D.W. Cameron, Ontario's Deputy Minister of Health, Mayor Aaron Horowitz, and Judge George Brennan, Chairman of the HDH Board. ABOVE: In 1955, the six-storey hospital's McConnell Avenue farmland site looked barren in this Ken Gosling photo.



Mary Thibault (AEO Patient Services) took this splendid photo from an air balloon. Forty years after its opening, Hotel Dieu Hospital (facing McConnell Ave., left) looks beautifully landscaped. Janet Macdonell Pavilion is in the foreground. The Convent and helipad for the air ambulance are top centre and right. (See map inside back cover.)

In November 1962, this two-storey convent adjacent to the new hospital welcomed its first residents. Previously, Sisters assigned to Hotel Dieu had lived in the hospital. With 25 bedrooms, this convent was able in 1989 to accommodate the 12 Sisters who had to leave their downtown home at Macdonell Memorial Convent. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



St. Joseph's Villa once again gave the Sisters a home for the aged in 1969. St. Paul's Home had been demolished in 1964 because of fire hazards. The Villa faces York St. and incorporates the former School of Nursing and Nurses' Residence (left). The first patients were admitted to the new facility on August 27, and the official opening was on October 20. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



LOOKING BACK: a view of the old hospital complex before St. Paul's Home was demolished in 1964. At its most crowded, the home had 100 elderly residents in four large dormitories. At right: a corner of Hotel Dieu's West Wing. In between: a view of the Nurses' Residence, now part of St. Joseph's Villa.

Dubuc, Sister McDougall and Sister Daniels moved to the new hospital and used the Bishop's suite temporarily for Sisters' quarters. On June 2, Mr. Sullivan called a meeting of all the trades and realized the nearest date for opening would be sometime in July. Aurele Clement of the Sullivan firm was employed as Chief Engineer; Findlay McGillis and Harry Bolster were the third-class engineers.

Father Adalbert Lalonde, who had been Chaplain for 11 years at the old hospital, was named for the new Hotel Dieu Hospital, and he arranged for the blessing of the Chapel and the Hospital by Bishop Brodeur on August 7, 1955. During the ceremony there was a tremendous downpour of rain so violent that the roads were wiped out and traffic came to a standstill. The drain on the roof deck of the second floor was too small to carry off the torrent. It forced open the door into the corridor, and water poured down the stairs and elevator shaft, flooding the three lower floors to the basement. When the procession left the chapel for the front entrance, the water was so deep it seemed impossible to go through it. The Bishop said, "We will continue, Sisters. The devil is out to prevent this blessing!" and he waded through it. Power throughout the city was off due to the storm, making the hospital's elevator inoperable and forcing the Bishop to climb six flights of stairs to the maternity floor to start the blessing of the hospital. Father A.R. Cameron celebrated the first Mass in the Chapel.

The four RHSJ Councillors had already taken up residence in the new hospital on August 1, 1955, and Mother Borden, Provincial Superior, appointed other Sisters to the new community. So it was that on August 13 Sister St. Mary Magdalen, Superior, read the appointments to the Sisters assembled in the community room and they were as follows:

Sister St. Mary Magdalen (Elinor McDonald), Superior/Administrator;

Sister Eugenie Dubuc (from Vermont), 1st Councillor, Admitting Office;

Sister Helen McDougall, 2nd Councillor, Surgical Floor Supervisor;

Sister Janet Daniels, Bursar; and 14 other Sisters: St. Cecilia (Catherine Ann McDonald), Ruby Wood, St. Ignatius (Emma Teresa McDonald), St. Catherine (Hunt), Kathleen Hendrick, Margaret Mooney, St. Margaret Mary (Margaret Ann McDonald), St. Theresa (Loretta Kelly), Sister McDonald (Ella McGillis), Theresa Kennedy, Evelyn Quinn,

Verna Windle, Sara Benoit (on loan from NDA Province), and Rita McDermid (on loan from Kingston).

The *Annalist* noted on September 14 "a sense of sadness and loss as young and vital members left for the new mission (Hotel Dieu Hospital on McConnell Avenue)."

The Sisters were given a deadline for preparing 'their' hospital for its opening to patients. It was decided to open Maternity and Paediatric Departments on Wednesday, August 17, and the Medical and Surgical Departments (second and third floors) on August 22.

At 9:30 a.m. on the 17th, Sister Dubuc admitted the first patient, Mrs. Huguette Ledoux, to the maternity floor where Sister Hendrick and her staff were waiting. Dr. S.B. Fraser was her physician. The first baby was born the next day (August 18, 1955) at 12:36 a.m. to Edward and Mrs. Viola Godbois. Baby boy Allan was delivered by Dr. A.E.R. MacPhee.

Plans were being made for the official opening, now set for September 14. Donald MacDonald, Director of the fund-raising campaign, assumed responsibility for the entire function. A joint meeting of the Advisory Council, the Executive of the Women's Auxiliary, Sisters of the Local Council and members of the Medical Staff was held in the Doctors' Board Room, the first meeting to take place there. The official opening, exceptionally well organized, was held as planned on September 14. Among the 3,000 people present that day was Monsignor D.R. MacDonald, who was the only person, so far as is known, to have been present also at the opening of the old Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1901. Mother Thibault, Superior General, was present with her Council, as were Mother Borden, Provincial Superior, and her Council. A luncheon was served, tours were conducted, and all thanked God that night for the huge success of the great day of the official opening.

At this time, all floors and departments were open, with the exception of the fourth (Medical) and the Physiotherapy Department. It was on October 11 that the fourth floor became operational; Miss Nancy Cole opened the Physiotherapy Department on November 5.

The statue of St. Joseph for the hospital's front entrance had not arrived in time for the official opening, but it was installed the following March 19.

A price of \$30,000 for the landscaping of the

hospital grounds was quoted. Bill Nesbitt, a friend of the hospital, arranged with the firm of Coleman and Munro to donate the use of their new trucks and equipment and asked the Knights of Columbus to organize work on the grounds on a voluntary basis. Since the only day all this could be done was a Sunday, Judge Brennan went to Bishop Brodeur to obtain his special permission. Ontario Hydro was working on the Seaway at the time and donated a whole field of rich topsoil. And so it was that this wonderful work was all done in one day at no cost to the hospital.

In 1955 the Sisters had purchased a school bus to transport the nursing students to the McConnell Avenue Hotel Dieu. Raymond Noel was the driver.

On December 8, 1956, the Lieutenant-Governor, by Order-in-Council, approved the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations for the new hospital.

Convent for the Hotel Dieu Sisters

Initially the Sisters assigned there lived in the hospital itself. In 1958, Sister Mary Magdalen, Superior/Administrator, discussed with architects from Toronto and Montreal plans for building a convent for the Sisters and a residence for the student nurses. In April 1961, Sister Veronica Callaghan, the new Superior/Administrator, approached the authorities to build a new Nursing Sisters' Residence. On September 16, she arranged a meeting with the Ontario Hospital Services Commission to again ask permission to build. She was accompanied by Mother St. Joseph of the Provincial Council, Judge Brennan, President of the Advisory Council, and W.A. Bradshaw of the hospital's auditing firm, Hudson, McMackin and Company.

Confirmation arrived on September 30, with instructions to submit an application for a government grant. A soil test was made of the site on the same date, and so all was in order to go ahead with the building.

On March 6, 1962, the lowest bid, \$167,000, made by Cornwall contractor Noel Couture, was accepted. Architects Bimid Murray Associates set to work, and the two-storey, 25-bedroom building was opened and blessed on Wednesday, November 28, of the same year.

To mark the occasion, Mass was celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Jacques Landriault in the hospital

chapel, after which everyone proceeded to the new convent. Bishop Landriault, assisted by the Chaplain, Father Lalonde, blessed the building throughout. Present for the occasion were Mothers Savoie, Tetrault, and Savard from the General Council in Montreal and Mothers Coderre and St. Joseph from the Provincial Council in Kingston. More than 300 invited people toured following the official opening. The following day, November 29, Open House was held for the public from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Multiculturalism & Mrs. Labekovski

Records show that by 1931, out of a population of 11,126, Cornwall had 4,846 French-speaking citizens, of whom 958 had been born in Quebec. Of the 5,320 English-speaking residents, 938 were from the British Isles and 304 came from the United States. Several smaller ethnic groups were represented: Dutch, Jewish, Italian, German and Asian, including Chinese.

Aaron Horovitz, Mayor since 1930, was the first Jewish mayor ever elected to head a Canadian municipality. He was born in Romania and served as Mayor of Cornwall for 18 years.

The war years, postwar construction and the building of the St. Lawrence Seaway drew many people to Cornwall from various countries.

In the early 1950s the Sisters hired many newly arrived immigrants to meet a great employment need at the hospital. Mrs. Tatiana Labekovski, a young widow, was one such person. She was destined to make a significant contribution to health care and nursing education in Cornwall.

Mrs. Labekovski was hired on April 5, 1951, and began work in the housekeeping department the following morning. She had a B.A. in Philosophy and Philology from the University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and had been working toward a medical degree when her studies were interrupted by World War II. After joining Hotel Dieu, she went on to graduate from St. Joseph's School of Nursing in 1955 and obtained a Diploma in Nursing Education from Queen's University, Kingston, before returning to Cornwall to teach at St. Joseph's School of Nursing.

From 1963 to 1967 Mrs. Labekovski held several important positions in Toronto. In January 1967 she accepted the position of Director of the newly approved Regional School of Nursing (located at the

corner of Fourth Street and McConnell Avenue). In 1973, Nursing became a Department of St. Lawrence College, and Mrs. Labekovski was appointed the College's Chair of Nursing, a position she held until her retirement in 1977.

For several years she served on various health-related boards of directors and committees and as a member of the District Health Council. Mrs. Labekovski died at her home in Cornwall on December 3, 1994.

Recognizing the importance of meeting the needs of patients and residents regardless of ethnic backgrounds, the Sisters themselves and staff members have supported classes in the French language, appropriate signage and lists of interpreters to meet language needs. Pastoral Care manuals describing religious practices of various denominations are another means to recognize and meet individual differences and needs.

As a *Cornwall Standard-Freeholder* article remarked in recent years, "Cornwall is a truly representative Canadian city where town and country and Canadians of British and French descent work and live with people from many lands."

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Memories of 'Old Hotel Dieu'

By Duncan McLennan

My name is Duncan Patrick McLennan. I started working at Hotel Dieu Hospital, Cornwall, on May 3, 1933. I was 18 years old. It was a Monday morning, and the Manager of the laundry was Peter Belanger, who was also the Chief Engineer. He told me I'd be working in the laundry. At that time the washing was done on Monday and Tuesday until noon and all day on Friday.

The rest of the days I would help the carpenter, Jim Mitchell. I also cut the grass; there were no power mowers then. Sister St. Anthony was in charge of the flowers. When it came time for the nurses' graduation I would make all the baskets. We had a great variety of flowers in our hospital garden. We had one large garden in front of the maids' house and another between the convent and the laundry.

In the fall of 1933 I was put in the boiler room, where I worked seven nights a week, 12 hours a night. At that time we had three low-pressure boilers, coal-fed by hand. I made one dollar a day, which gave me \$7.00 a week.

In the summertime when the heating season was over I was back on day duty working out of maintenance—back to \$6.00 per week. In the morning I would get up at four o'clock to start up the high-pressure boiler for steam for the laundry. Then I would wake up the Chief Engineer who ran the laundry, and go back to bed until required at 8:00 a.m. I was lucky at that time, for the Depression was on. I had my room and board. I slept at the time in the men's dorm over the old laundry.

Every morning at 5:00 a.m. I would have coke fires to make in three different kitchens, one in St. Paul's Home, one in the hospital kitchen which had five separate fire pots, and one stove in the monastery kitchen. There were furnaces in the maids' home and one in each of the nurses' homes (Greenwood and McTiernan Houses).

In the winter time I had to shovel a path to all these buildings before 6:00 a.m. after a heavy snowfall.

Let me recall some of the service buildings that comprised the Hotel Dieu complex on the corner of

York and Water Streets. First there was the ice house, the carpenter shop, the paint shop, hot house for flowers, five garages and a wood shed—all connected. The morgue was out in the centre garden north of the hospital.

When the earthquake struck in 1944 I was walking through the monastery corridor at 4:00 a.m. to start the fire in the monastery kitchen. You were wide awake after the second jolt. It was scary!

In 1938 Mr. Mitchell built a cottage in the backyard bordering First Street. It cost \$2,700. The Sisters had a tennis court built for the nurses and interns. It was near the cottage. It was the interns and I who would be out there every evening and on Sunday. The nurses were too busy studying and enjoying boy friends. In the winter we made a skating rink for the nurses. Erving Legault of Elco Electric donated and installed the lighting for the rink on the tennis court.

The ice house was filled up with ice from the canal by a Mr. Caine who had the contract. Twice a week a room next to the hospital kitchen was filled up with blocks of ice.

When Peter Belanger retired in 1948, Sister Marie de la Ferre, who was Bursar, asked me to take over as Chief Engineer. In the boiler room we went from hand-fed coal to stoker feed. The next change was new boilers. They were gas and oil fired. One high-pressure boiler was for steam for the laundry. The manager of the laundry was Charles O'Duffy. (Charlie came from Ireland in 1936. He and another boy, Barry, came to the back door of the hospital looking for food. The Sisters called such persons 'St. Joseph'. Charlie asked if he could work to pay for his meals. The rear drive was being paved. He went to work there, remained as our laundry manager and then transferred to the Regional Laundry until his retirement.

When I was Chief Engineer we had four engineers in the boiler room. Their names were James Sullivan, Wilfred Desjardins, Henry Ouellette and myself.

On January 4, 1943, we had a sleet storm. We had no electrical power for a day and a half. We kept the boilers going by throwing in cold wood that was full of ice. There was no forced draft to raise the steam. At midnight the power was restored.

When the Sisters bought their cottage at Pilon's Point in 1941, they bought the works: minks, boats,

ducks, hens and even a horse. They had a caretaker, D. Currier, and later a Mr. Al McAndrews. (Other caretakers were Alex Pilon Samson, Matt Valade and H. Vaillancourt, all experienced farmers). Once a week we would go down with a panel truck to get the eggs—about 1,000 a week. Also, in season, berries, apples and vegetables. When the Sisters got rid of the hens we had a 'bee' with Sister Marie de la Ferre in charge. We would pluck a couple of hundred hens and store them in the cold storage in the garage.

When the Regional Laundry was built we had no more use for high-pressure steam. We had to let some of the men go. Charles O'Duffy went to the Regional Laundry. There was Angus Macdonell who was a cousin of Sister Janet Macdonell. He was laid off.

Another faithful employee was Rose Malloy, a seamstress with Sister Mary Chisholm. Rose came to the Sisters through the orphanage. She knew little of her parents—had a brother and a sister. At a very young age, 10 or 12, she developed osteomyelitis of her right hip. After a long hospital stay and working around the Women's' Ward the Sisters decided to employ her in a gainful way. By her late teens she was a full-time seamstress for the hospital. She did supply work in the laundry. She continued on until her advanced years, long after Sister Chisholm died. After living in a basement room, she moved to the girls' house on First Street until final retirement. She went to live at St. Joseph Villa in 1969, where she died suddenly.

Irene Blair was a young Cornwallite whose mother died when she was two. Irene was placed in Nazareth Orphanage and remained there until as a "Big Girl" she graduated and started to work in the Business Office at Hotel Dieu. She worked there for 40 years on and off. Irene lived at the Girls' House and I had my room in the basement of St. Paul's Home. We were married May 18, 1940, in St. Columban's Church by Father Donald Kerr. Our family picture is in the cornerstone of the new Hotel Dieu Hospital. Sister Janet Daniels who was Bursar at that time asked for our family picture.

When our first baby, Robert, was born March 12, 1941, there was a bad snowstorm. At four o'clock in the morning I awakened Mr. Jim Burns who lived at St. Paul's Home and who looked after the horse, to come out and clean the sidewalks with a V-shaped plow. At that time the baby was born. The nurse was Veronica Wattie Ezard, a good friend of ours. She

could not get in touch with me to let me know. Dr. John A. Tallon could not get out to deliver Irene so Sister Cameron took over. As well as shovelling snow, I was back in the boiler room. At midnight March 12, Rex Ezard (Veronica's husband) came to the boiler room. He had brought Veronica to work and had his car snowed in. We were in the boiler room with no phone. No one thought to look for me there.

In the old days everything that could be sold was saved. Rose Malloy, seamstress, saved rags and flower baskets. The baskets were taken to Whittaker Florists where \$1.00 was given for each basket. Rags and iron were taken to Miller and Sons—13,550 pounds of old rags from St. Paul's Home brought in \$135.30. All moneys were turned in to the Bursar.

One of the Chief Engineers at the Howard Smith Paper Mill between 1960 and 1975 was Bill Boyd. This very intelligent man was one of MMH/HDH Board members. Whenever I had an engineering problem, Bill would be right down to help me. Sister Albert was Administrator when the Villa opened in 1969. We, the maintenance gang, toasted the raising of the flag. There was no ball available at the top so we used a ball from a toilet bowl. It is still there.

(Duncan McLennan died at Hotel Dieu Hospital on February 23, 1995.)

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New Superior General

In 1957 the Sisters of Cornwall were delighted to learn that Mother Marie de la Ferre had been elected Superior General of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph. She would hold this office for 12 years.

Hotel Dieu Becomes Macdonell Memorial Hospital

As noted earlier, the new Hotel Dieu on McConnell Avenue opened in 1955. It was the dream of the Sisters that the old hospital would be renovated and used for chronically ill patients. It would be named after Sister Janet Macdonell, at the suggestion of Mother Marie de la Ferre.

Although planning had begun several years before and some government grants became available, it was not until August 6, 1957, that a contract for

renovation was given to Angus MacDonald and Sons.

As many patients as possible were discharged. Some were transferred to St. Paul's Home and the rest were cared for in the private room section of the East Wing. The West Wing was completely ripped apart and made over. New plumbing, electrical equipment and systems were installed. A new roof covered the entire building. Everything was completely new and updated. On May 16, 1958, patients were moved to the finished West Wing. Only the brick walls of the central part of the building were left standing.

The wing was blessed privately by Father Henri Bougie, Chaplain, on May 28, 1959, the Feast of Corpus Christi. He processed with the Blessed Sacrament to every part of the building.

The 100-bed chronic care hospital was officially opened on Wednesday, November 11, 1959. Pontifical High Mass was offered at 4:00 p.m. by Alexandria Bishop Rosario Brodeur, assisted by Fathers Donald Kerr and V. Donihee. Many priests and friends were in attendance. The Ladies Auxiliary served a buffet lunch on each floor, and the Bishop and priests were served in the dining room.

Many persons availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the new facility during an open house held from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

It is to be noted that the reconstructed Macdonell Memorial Hospital was attached to the existing laundry building by an enclosed heated runway. Passageways connected the East Wing with each level of the Sisters' Convent.

An ambulance elevator was installed at the rear of the building, and a new passenger elevator was installed in January 1966.

On January 14, 1971, a contract was signed with Entwhistle Construction to add an extension to the West Wing at a cost of \$243,000. This would provide for a renovated rehabilitation unit of 22 beds and for a Physical Medicine Department.

The following January 9, 1972, the Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Guido del Mestri, visited the new facilities, accompanied by Bishop Proulx. Later in the month there was a private showing.

After Father Lalonde's assignment to Hotel Dieu on McConnell Avenue, the following priests served as Chaplains at Macdonell Memorial Hospital: Fathers C. Bishop, Elzear Danis, Francis Foley, Lionel Bourque, Henri Bougie, Donald Kerr and Gordon Villeneuve.

Accreditation of New Hotel Dieu

Returning to 1955 and the new Hotel Dieu Hospital, it was visited on December 9 by Dr. Paul LaPlante, field surveyor for the Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation, and in February of the following year notification was received that the new hospital had been accredited as "Fully Approved." This approval was granted on the performance of the previous three years, and the Sisters still present in the old hospital were given equal credit for the high rating.

The Macdonell Memorial Hospital achieved its own accreditation as a Chronic Hospital on October 14, 1967.

Unions in Cornwall

Over 100 years ago, Pope Leo XIII in his social encyclical *Rerum Novarum* affirmed the fundamental rights of workers, stressing not only the dignity of the worker, but also the dignity of work: "*Work belongs to the vocation of every person, and man/woman expresses and fulfils himself/herself by working.*"

He went on to say that it is a natural human right to form private associations. This means above all the right to establish professional associations of employees and workers or of workers alone.

The present Holy Father, John Paul II, in many of his addresses and papers reaffirms the rights of workers and reminds them that "*the workers have obligations to carry out their work loyally, since otherwise there cannot be a just social order.*"

Unions have existed in Cornwall industries since the early days of the 20th Century. In 1930 Cornwall's industrial force of 3,673 workers were employed in 41 industries. In 1936 the *Standard-Freeholder* reported that employment in the city's industries had reached an all-time high of 4,779 workers. "Steady, hardworking employees," noted the paper, "were able to afford their own homes, have well stocked cellars and provide for growing families."

Today, there are unions in most of the industries in Cornwall, including health care facilities.

Closing of the Canal

The completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway and the resultant closing of the Cornwall Canal ended an important era in St. Lawrence River shipping. The canal had been in operation since 1842, with the first

boat to pass through the canal being the City of Windsor. High steel logs closed off navigation in the canal forever after the last ship, the Colonel R. McCormick, cleared the structure on July 1, 1958.

The Hospital Services Commission

When the Hospital Services Commission of Ontario Act was legislated in 1957, the new Commission assumed all the duties of the Division of Public and Private Hospitals. According to the Ontario Ministry of Health, the new Commission was to continue to administer the payment of grants to hospitals, among its other inherited duties. It would also be responsible for creating, organizing and administering any hospital care insurance program undertaken by the Provincial Government.

In preparation for such a plan, the Commission made a survey of hospital facilities and staff and met with representatives of various groups that would be affected by such a program.

Preliminary studies led to the drawing up of a new Act that would become the cornerstone of modern medical care in Ontario. The Ontario Hospital Insurance Plan (OHIP) became effective in 1959, and every citizen of the province was now assured of getting hospital and medical care when necessary, regardless of income. With the coming of this plan, the amount of paperwork required of hospitals escalated dramatically.

Health Units Catch On

Health Units multiplied rapidly. In 1954 there were 27 Health Units and by 1961 there were 35. About 80% of the province's six million or so people were receiving public health services through local boards of health employing full-time medical officers of health, public health nurses, and other trained staff.

Public Health Activities

By the end of the 1950s the Ministry of Health reported that there had not been a single polio death in Ontario and that the tuberculosis death rate had fallen to a new low of about 2.3 persons per 100,000 population. Some factors that contributed to these favourable conditions were that all milk for sale was

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This is the bus that shuttled nursing students between St. Joseph's School downtown and their hospital training after the Hotel Dieu moved out to McConnell Ave. in 1955. The driver was Raymond Noel. Second from left is Sr. Aileen Byrnes. RHSJ Sisters and some from other congregations may be seen among the 1956 students.



*Sr. St. George
1935-1953*



*Sr. Margaret Mooney
1953-1956*



*Sr. Aileen Byrnes
1956-1960*



*Sr. Audrey Mantle
1960-1962*

DIRECTORS OF ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL OF NURSING

(See Katherine McLellan on page 26)



*Sr. Mary MacKenzie
1962-69*



Operating Room technicians and nurses practise their skills: nurse Karen Malloy (left), tech Richard Leroux, nurse Madeleine Willis, tech Paul Gosselin and nurse Nora Nixon. (Photo by Carl Malcolm)



Hotel Dieu Cornwall's first triplets—12 lbs. altogether—were born in 1959 to 80-lb. Bertha Ladouceur and her husband Camille. Shown with Mrs. Ladouceur in the 'Standard-Freeholder' of October 5 are the triplets (originally called John, Mary and Joseph, later renamed Donald, Donna and Ronald), Mrs. Veronica Ezard, RN (left), and student Heather MacPherson.



At the ceremonial opening of Cornwall General Hospital's new wing in 1959, Governor-General Georges Vanier and his wife Pauline chatted with Sr. St. Mary Magdalen (Elinor McDonald), first Administrator of the new Hotel Dieu Hospital, and Sr. Anne Burns (Donovan) of Macdonell Memorial Hospital. (Photo by Studio C. Marcil, Ottawa)



When the sod was turned for the \$1.3-million Regional School of Nursing on April 4, 1967, those collaborating represented several institutions. Treasurer of the new school was Sr. Mary Murphy (left), Administrator of Hotel Dieu Hospital. D.A. Robertson, President of the Board of Governors, was also Administrator of Cornwall General Hospital. Mrs. Tatiana Labekovski, School Director, formerly taught at St. Joseph's School of Nursing. At right is Irvin Brown, Vice-President. The Regional School was completed in June 1968. (Photo by Ken Gosling)



The Regional School of Nursing at the corner of McConnell Ave. and Fourth St. was a nine-storey building with classroom space for 200 students and residence space for 144. (Photo by Ken Gosling)

pasteurized, an Air Pollution Act had been passed, and there were new efforts for research and treatment of cancer. Also, ways to integrate the mentally ill and TB patients back into the community were being studied. The increase of syphilis and infectious hepatitis were a growing concern. Diseases such as Chick-enpox, German Measles and Mumps were under control because of immunization programs. By 1954 there was not a single case of small pox reported in Ontario.

Many efforts were made to humanize the treatment of the mentally ill. The Mental Health Act of 1954 dealt with alternatives to the traditional mental hospitals and regulated a different kind of care in the field of community mental health projects, such as mental health clinics, child guidance clinics and community psychiatric clinics. With the development of psychotropic medications, the symptoms of mental disorders were controlled so that patients could be hospitalized for shorter periods or even treated on an outpatient basis.

1959: Year of Many Happenings

Religious Leave

Our Lady's Missionaries, who had lived in the Novitiate House while taking their nurses' training at St. Joseph School, left for the Diocese of Toronto in 1959. Sixteen of these Sisters had completed their nurse's training before leaving Cornwall.

Another religious order, the Presentation Brothers, left Cornwall in June 1959. They had been in the city since 1913 and had provided education for the boys at Nazareth Orphanage.

OHIP Rates

Budget preparations for OHIP that year showed that the per diem rate was \$14.70 for a standard ward bed, with a differential of \$2.00 for semi-private accommodations and \$5.00 for a private room. Hospitals were allowed to keep 50% of this differential for hospital usage. It was many years before Hotel Dieu was able to use these funds for other than paying off its debt.

Triplets!

In 1959, there was great excitement when the first living triplets were born at Hotel Dieu Hospital. The babies had a combined birth weight of 12 pounds. Camille and Bertha Ladouceur became parents to Donald, Donna and Ronald. Dr. Allan McLeod delivered the triplets, and Dr. Ian Gourley became their pediatrician. Sister Kathleen Hendrick was Supervisor of the Maternity Department at the time.

The Seaway

The St. Lawrence Seaway project had started on August 10, 1954. It eventually uprooted eight communities, 6,500 persons and 300 homes at a cost of \$329,025,700. Some 12,300 workers were employed to make the 33-mile-long Lake St. Lawrence, and the mammoth Seaway project took almost four years to complete.

On June 30, 1958, thousands of people gathered for the blasting of the coffer dams that had held back the water of the river to prevent flooding of the areas where the Seaway and Hydro Authorities were working. It was hoped that the Seaway would increase Cornwall's population and provide numerous opportunities for employment. Unfortunately, this did not happen.

On June 27, 1959, Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip officially opened the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Eisenhower Locks were opened, and the Royal Yacht Britannia passed through. Many of the Sisters went to Glen Walter to view the Britannia docked at Summerstown. The Royal Couple later visited Cornwall.

Tercentenary Celebration

The Tercentenary of the arrival of the first RHSJ Sisters in Montreal was celebrated on October 6, 1959. The Cornwall Sisters were pleased to welcome three Sisters from France: Mother Brossier, Mother St. Marguerite Marie and Mother de la Ferre.



The Sixties: Change and Challenge

The Early 1960s

The '60s were not kind to Cornwall, and as a result the City developed image problems. It was considered a depressed area which needed tax incentives to attract new industry. In fact, Cornwall held the record for the highest rate of unemployment of any Canadian city. To put it mildly, this was not a desirable situation by any means.

Chapel Changes

On July 16, 1960, Father Bougie blessed the stained glass window newly erected in memory of donor Albert McRae. It depicted the Holy Family in the workshop at Nazareth. The annalist noted that it was very beautiful and added much to the devotional appearance of the Macdonell Memorial Chapel.

The previous year had seen the removal of the choir seats and side elevations in this chapel and the installation of regular pews.

Change and Challenge for the Sisters

The formation of the one Generalate and of the three RHSJ Provinces, as reported earlier, brought more changes for the Sisters. They no longer remained in the same convent in which they had entered the Order or to which they had moved in order to start new missions or to help out on a temporary basis. Sisters from other parts of Canada and the United States now might find themselves assigned to any community in their Religious Province. Thus Cornwall Sisters were moving to other houses and Sisters from other areas were moving to Cornwall. Adjustments had to be made.

In 1961 the elderly and sick Sisters were delighted to have an elevator installed at the Macdonell Memorial Convent. It hadn't been easy to walk from the basement dining room to a bedroom on the third floor.

The dress of the Sisters changed gradually. The train was removed, the skirts were shortened, the stiff wimple was replaced by a soft collar, the forehead

band was removed, and one short veil was worn instead of one short thick veil and one long thin one. The rosary and scissors were no longer worn.

By 1969 the Sisters were wearing suits, dresses or jumpers instead of uniform dress. The wearing of a veil became optional, according to the wishes of each Sister.

Readers will have noticed in previous chapters that some of the Sisters were called by their family names and others had a saint's name. Many Sisters had the same family name, even if it was spelled differently—MacDonald and McDonald being examples—and several Sisters had their sisters or other relatives in the Community. On October 17, 1986, the Sisters who had not been using their family names were given the opportunity to do so. Some Sisters kept the names they had used for so many years and others took advantage of the chance to change to their own family names.

With increasing professional standards and accreditation demands, more and more Sisters were enrolled in various courses. Sister Annette Valade received her Bachelor of Nursing Science degree (BScN) from Ottawa University in 1961.

Sister Kathleen Hendrick obtained her BScN-Education at Ottawa University in 1966, after previously taking post-graduate courses in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.

Sister Evelyn Quinn studied at the University of Ottawa and graduated in 1966 with her BScNed and Public Health qualifications.

Sisters Quinn, Valade and Aileen Byrnes were enrolled in the Hospital Organization and Management (HOM) Course through the Canadian Hospital Association.

Sister St. Margaret Mary (MacDonald) studied Paediatrics at Ottawa University and the Children's Hospital in Washington, DC, as did Sister Valade.

Laymen from both hospitals (Hotel Dieu and Macdonell Memorial) were also sent to obtain their HOM Certificates. Among them were John Burke, Jack Fry and David Smith. Continuing Education was a reality in all of the health care facilities!

Mill Fire

On October 31, 1961, the old Canadian Cotton Stormont Mill had a terrible fire. The Mill was opposite the Macdonell Memorial Hospital. Although the win-

dows of the hospital became very hot, there was no damage to the hospital or St. Paul's Home.

Fortunately, the wind changed direction before the fire reached its full fury, and gusts up to 25 miles per hour pushed the smoke away from the hospital and home. Hospital staff and citizens responded to the need for assistance. Friends and relatives hurried to comfort the patients and residents.

Officials were ready to put the disaster plan into action if evacuation were to be required. Luckily, it was not necessary.

The Cotton Mill was thought to be empty, but, as was later discovered, it contained floats and equipment being stored for the city's annual Santa Claus Parade.

Flames could be seen still smoldering on November 3.

Before demolition of the mill, the ruins were used to practise the survival methods being taught at the Cornwall Armories. It took only two days to demolish what was left of the mill.

Portrait of a Foundress

In August 1961, Stuart McCormick, a local artist, was commissioned to paint a large portrait of Sister Janet Macdonell, one of the five original foundresses of Hotel Dieu Hospital Cornwall in 1897. This painting now hangs in the parlour of the Sisters' Hotel Dieu Convent.

Second Vatican Council

On January 25, 1959, Pope John XXIII made a completely unexpected announcement that he planned to convoke the Church's 21st Ecumenical Council—the first since Vatican I of 1869-1870.

The Council finally opened on October 11, 1962, and its first session ended on December 8, 1962.

On September 29, 1963, John XXIII's successor, Pope Paul VI, opened the second session, which lasted till December 4.

The third session began on September 14, 1964, and lasted until November 21. It concluded ceremonially with Mass in St. Peter's Square on December 8 that same year.

As Father Avery Dulles, SJ, noted, the first task of the Council was to adapt the Church's structure and procedures to meet the demands of the present

times. Thus, reform in the context of Second Vatican Council would mean evolution, rather than revolution.

The Council promulgated 16 documents. These would have a profound influence on the lives of priests, religious and laity in the Church.

The Cornwall-Massena Bridge

On July 3, 1962, the official opening of the Cornwall-Massena International Bridge took place. Several of the Sisters took a ride over the bridge and back on that day.

This \$8-million bridge from Ontario to New York measured more than 11,000 feet from approach to approach. The superstructure was 5,300 feet long.

First Female Physician

In 1963, Cornwall welcomed its first female physician in the person of Dr. Patricia Irwin, a general practitioner whose husband, Dr. Max Irwin, was an obstetrician.

St. Paul's Home Closes

When the then-new St. Paul's Home for the elderly opened in 1906, it was described as being excellent in every way. By 1962 articles in the *Standard-Freeholder* were not so complimentary. Living quarters were described as far from cheerful for the 23 women and 36 men who called St. Paul's their home.

"Residents up to 93 years of age sleep in four large dormitories—two on the top floor for women and two on the main floor for the men. There is an average of 15-17 beds in each dormitory," the newspaper said, adding that there was a large dining hall and a lounge on each floor where the residents could watch television, do handicrafts or just sit and talk. "The kitchen in the basement was spotless but the equipment was outdated."

In later years there were as many as 102 persons living in the building. This number was ordered decreased because of the danger of fire in the outdated structure.

Planning had been going on for many years, but until proper financial resources were available, a new Home would remain a dream. By the Spring of 1962, plans for a \$1.1-million seniors' home seemed ready

to be put into action. According to the original plans, the new home was to be built on the original hospital grounds, immediately behind the existing St. Paul's Home. During the winter, a new location just south of the Hotel Dieu Hospital on McConnell Avenue was selected. The new home would be only two storeys high, but would cover a larger area of land. The Ontario Government was to provide a grant of \$2,500 per bed for the proposed 150-bed home. The remainder was to be made up from public and institutional sources, as well as long-term debentures.

Elderly persons from the United Counties and Cornwall Island were to be admitted, regardless of creed or ethnic background.

The big concern about St. Paul's Home was the inadequacy of fire protection. No doubt the citizens had vivid memories of the recent mill fire the previous year.

The annalist recorded on August 14, 1963, that St. Paul's Home "*must be closed before winter.*" Accordingly, by October 31 all 45 residents had been placed in good homes. Closure was very hard on them. Many had lived at the Home for years. Sister St. Emily, who had been with them for 13 years, shed many a tear as she said good-bye to her friends. It was a difficult decision, but a necessary one, to spare residents the possible harm from fire. St. Paul's Home was demolished in 1964.

Federal Health Measures

In 1966, the Government of Canada approved several health initiatives. Five of them are outlined below.

* **The Medical Care Act**, the provisions of which were to become operative not later than July 1, 1968. It provided federal contributions for provincially administered medical care programs. Provincial plans would provide comprehensive physicians' services to all residents of the province without regard to age, ability to pay, or other circumstances.

Provincial health insurance programs would be publicly administered, and benefits would be portable from province to province, thus ensuring the national character of the plan.

The amount of the federal contribution would be based on the average cost of insured services in participating provinces and would be calculated on a per capita basis.

* **The Health Resources Fund Act** provided a

fund of \$500-million over 15 years to assist in acquisition, construction, renovation and equipping of health training facilities and research institutions. The federal payments for any projects would be up to 50% of the total cost.

* **Smoking and Health Programs.** Two major weapons were added to this program: a teachers' kit with completely Canadian content and an animated film, *The Drag*, directed at teenagers.

* **Fitness and Amateur Sports Grants.** Expenditures under this program were approaching the \$5-million level. Support was provided for international and national sports, games, scholarships, bursaries and research.

* **Environmental Health Centre.** This major expansion in Ottawa of the Federal Government's health facilities was completed in October. The new building accommodated laboratories and offices for the Occupational Health Division, the Public Health Engineering Division, and the Consultant in Aerospace Medicine.

Canada's Centenary

The year following these major developments in federal medicare, 1967, was marked by two special events. Canada celebrated its Centennial as a nation and the City of Montreal hosted the World's Fair under the title of Expo '67. Many of the Sisters, physicians, and staff took the opportunity to visit this outstanding exposition.

Intensive Care Units

Hotel Dieu's first Intensive Care Unit opened with six beds in 1967. By 1970 there were five medical and six surgical intensive care beds. It was 22 years later, on September 19, 1989, that a newly located fourth floor Critical Care Unit with 11 beds was opened.

Regional Linen Services

The Regional Laundry was organized in 1968. The Hotel Dieu, Macdonell Memorial Hospital and the Cornwall General Hospital were among the founding members.

All laundry from hospitals in the area was done at the Regional Laundry located at 1395 Rosemount. Later, when St. Joseph's Villa opened, it too would use this facility.

St. Joseph's Villa: New Home for the Aged

The dream of a new home for the aged was not forgotten by the Sisters. They and their workers were now accustomed to delays and frustrations, so they waited until the time was right to bring forth a proposal. Following many meetings and much planning, a contract for a new Home, to be called St. Joseph's Villa, was given to John Entwistle, a Cornwall contractor, in March 1968.

Money, as usual, was of great importance to the success of the project. Miss Sybil Everett became President of the Steering Committee for the St. Joseph's Villa Campaign. Meetings were held almost weekly as the fund-raising efforts gained momentum. Pledge cards were given out abundantly.

Although there were government grants and the people were very generous in responding to the campaign, a 50-year mortgage had to be taken out. At the time of this 100th anniversary, it is still being paid off.

The new Villa was constructed on York Street in order to incorporate into its structure the vacated St. Joseph School of Nursing Residence.

The Annalist noted that an interesting hockey game between the Flying Fathers and Cornwall Old Timers netted proceeds of \$2,000 for the Villa. She did not record who won, so maybe it was a tie?

By August, Sister Anne Marie Albert returned from studying at Marillac College in St. Louis, Missouri, and was named Administrator of St. Joseph's Villa.

Five residents were admitted to the Villa on August 27, 1969: Mrs. Marjorie Chisholm, Mrs. Mary Ann Cavanaugh, Miss Exelda Carriere, William Walsh and Alex Gadbois.

Monsignor Henri Bougie celebrated the first Mass at the Villa on September 1. The official opening ceremonies were held on October 20, 1969, presided over by R. Carl Donihee, President of the Advisory Board. Following the singing of *God Save the Queen*, Mr. Donihee gave a message of welcome, followed by an Invocation by Rabbi M. Subar of Beth-El Temple.

Greetings were received from Mayor Kaneb, City of Cornwall; Cecil M. Nabb, Warden of the United Counties; Noble Drew, former Director, and Mr. Passmore, Executive Officer, Department of

Social and Family Services, Homes for the Aged Branch; Sister Tetrault, Superior General of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph; and Dr. A.J. McLean, speaking for the medical profession.

The dedication was made by Bishop Adolph Proulx of the Diocese of Alexandria and Archdeacon W.H. Bradley.

The Honorable Fernand Guindon, MPP for Stormont County, introduced the Honorable John Yaremko, QC, Ontario's Minister of Social and Family Services, who gave the day's major address. He was thanked by Dr. J.A. Tallon, FRCS, FICS, physician for St. Joseph's Villa. Remarks were made by the Honorable Lucien Lamoureux, MP, Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Presentation of the Keys was made by contractor J. Entwistle, Sr., and architect C.A. Woods, Jr., to Sister St. Anne (Anne Marie Albert), Administrator.

Closing remarks were made by Carl Donihee, who also shared with Sister St. Anne the plaque unveiling ceremony. Tours of the Villa followed, and a buffet luncheon was served.

Regional Nursing Facility replaces St. Joseph's School

On May 14, 1956, the Silver Jubilee of St. Joseph School of Nursing was celebrated. Sister Margaret Mooney, Director of Nursing, was credited with the planning of that memorable event.

Less than a decade later, on August 12, 1965, representatives of the Cornwall General Hospital and Hotel Dieu met for the first time to discuss the establishment of a Regional School of Nursing. They decided to pool their resources so that personnel and facilities could be used more efficiently for the preparation of a greater number of nurses.

On March 24, 1967, a Charter was granted by the Provincial Secretary to the following members: D.A. Robertson, Administrator of Cornwall General Hospital; J.I. Brown, Hotel Dieu Hospital Board; Sister Mary Murphy; Sister Mary MacKenzie; E.R. Gole; J.M. Hawkes; Dr. K.M. Irwin, MD; Sister St. Anne; H.P. Stel, Administrator, Winchester Memorial Hospital; and G.W. Thom, insurance agent.

There was agreement, in principle, that the Regional School of Nursing be built on the Janet Macdonell property at the corner of 4th and McCon-

nell Avenue, equidistant from both hospitals (Hotel Dieu and the Cornwall General).

The contract for construction of the school and residence was awarded on March 29, 1967, to M. Sullivan and Son of Arnprior, under the direction of J. Bruce Bateman, an architect from Toronto. Ground was broken on April 4, 1967, by the first President and Chairman of the Board of Governors, D.A. Robertson, and the Regional School moved into its new building on June 3, 1968.

The educational facilities were financed in full by a grant from the Ontario Government and funds obtained by the Board of Governors. The School was approved by the Ontario Hospital Services Commission and the College of Nurses of Ontario, and the first class was registered on September 11, 1967. The yearly enrolment at the time was 90 students.

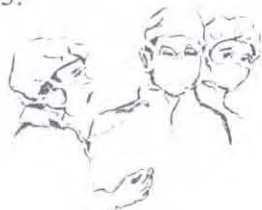
The School's first offices were established in accommodations provided by Hotel Dieu Hospital; later, temporary offices were rented. In 1967-68, the students were living at the Cornwall General Hospital Residence and in private homes. The first classes were held at the Muldrum Funeral Home and later at the Cornwall General, Hotel Dieu and Macdonell Memorial Hospitals.

Bedside nursing was taught, followed by practical experience at six hospitals: Cornwall General, Hotel Dieu, Glengarry Memorial, Macdonell Memorial, Winchester District Memorial and Brockville Psychiatric.

The Board of Governors for 1968 were J.I. Brown, President; H.P. Stel, Vice-President; Sister M.L. Murphy, Treasurer; Sister M.M. MacKenzie, Secretary; J.F. Adams; J.M. Hawkes; Dr. K.M. Irwin; Sister E. Quinn; G.W. Thom; and D.C.E. Wilson.

Sister Mary MacKenzie was the last Director of St. Joseph's School of Nursing. Mrs. Tatiana Labekovski became the first Director of the Regional School of Nursing.

With the opening of the Regional School of Nursing, the York Street school building was closed on August 31, 1967. This Regional School became a unit of St. Lawrence College in 1973.



Seaway Valley District Hospital Planning Council

Minutes of the Advisory Board Meeting in 1969 recorded that Chairman Nick Battista reported on the formation of the Seaway Valley District Hospital Planning Council. A meeting of the Steering Committee had been held on January 22, 1969, at which time it was agreed that the boundaries would coincide with the area covered by the United Counties. A meeting of the provisional board would be held on February 24 to commence the legal work necessary to obtain corporate status.

Also noted was that S.W. Martin, Chairman and General Manager of OHSC (Ontario Hospital Services Commission), had sent letters to all hospitals announcing that the special grant of \$75 per rated bed, which had been paid to all hospitals in Ontario for several years, would not be available beginning in 1970.

Later in 1969, Mr. Battista reported that the Seaway Valley District Hospital Planning Council had received its Charter, effective September 15.

The problem of chronically ill patients awaiting transfer from the acute care hospitals became a familiar theme.

District Council Undertakes Role Study

On March 15, 1971, the members of the Advisory Board, representatives of the medical staff and the Sisters' Governing Board assembled in the Macdonell Memorial Hospital Auditorium for a luncheon meeting with Ron McQueen, a hospital consultant of Agnew Peckham & Associates Ltd. He spoke at length about an upcoming Role Study to be done for the Seaway Valley District Hospital Planning Council. He explained its purpose: evaluation of hospitals and related health needs in the Cornwall area, as well as the need for long range planning.

The Agnew Peckham study was done and the report was dated June 1971. It would have a profound influence on the operation of hospitals in Cornwall and area. It would mark the beginning of continual and relentless efforts to control hospitals and other health care facilities.

The report made 35 recommendations. Recommendations 31, 32 and 33 concerned the Cornwall hospitals and were as follows:

31. *The Cornwall General Hospital, in brief summary, should continue its existing role and range of services with an extension of psychiatric features into the district and an elimination of its chronic care service. An addition of five more psychiatric beds is justified at the present time. The ambulatory aspect of its role should be extended. Some additional examination and treatment rooms are needed now in the emergency and outpatient department. The facilities are generally adequate and excellent in some respects. A long-range role will need more determination on allocation of obstetrical, medical and surgical specialties. (VII-A)*

32. *The Hotel Dieu Hospital role, in summary, should be to broaden its ambulatory care program. Additional facilities will be required to do this. In-patient beds should be reduced to the rated capacity. The radiology service should be enlarged and with better staff coverage. The physiotherapy service also needs expansion in relation to the increasing out-patient role. The long-range goals will need to evolve allocation of specialty assignment in Cornwall for obstetrics, care of the newborn and for certain medical and surgical sub-specialties. (VII-B)*

33. *The Macdonell Memorial Hospital role, in summary, should be altered to concentrate on a faster turnover of patients (with the) accent on rehabilitation. The number of beds may also be reduced slightly. Out-patient services should be developed, including the possibility of certain clinic features. A better program should also be offered for the care of children and young adults. The need for a laboratory and radiological service here could be questioned. (VII-C)*

Mediklick

Through the efforts of the Addiction Research Foundation, Sister Audrey Mantle (BScN, Queen's University), Administrator at Macdonell Memorial Hospital, and a few other persons, a free and confidential medical clinic designed to meet the needs of youth was opened on June 14, 1971, at Hotel Dieu Hospital. It was modeled on the Mediklick which Sister Mantle had opened at Hotel Dieu Hospital in St. Catharines.

Although the clinic would diagnose and treat all types of medical problems, its primary purpose was to treat venereal diseases and hepatitis, provide pregnancy tests, and help young people with drug addic-

tions. It was staffed by eight volunteer physicians, a nurse, lab technician and community volunteers. The Mediklick Clinic closed about a year later for lack of clients.

February 9, 1972

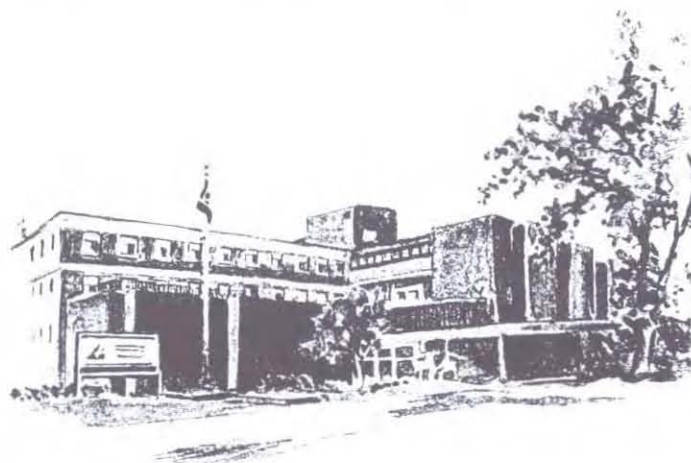
This day marked the 75th Anniversary of the arrival of five Sisters from Kingston to found the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Cornwall.

A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated at St. Columban's Church at 7:30 p.m. by Archbishop Joseph Wilhelm (Kingston), Bishop Adolph Proulx (Alexandria), Father Norman Andries (CHAC, Ottawa) and Father Bernard MacDougald, Pastor of St. Columban's Church. Dr. A.E.R. MacPhee directed the choir.

Special guests included members of the General Council, Sister Rose-Anna Tetrault (Superior General), Sisters Cecile Renault, Ferne O'Keefe and Irene Duchesneau (Council members), and Provincial Councillors Sister Rosalia Cobey (Provincial Superior) and Sister Elinor McDonald. Also present from St. Joseph Provincial House were Sisters Anne Marie Albert, Marie Harriman, Mary Mahaney, Margaret Quilty, Mary Anne MacDougald, St. Oswald and Theresa Kennedy.

Many clergy were in attendance, as well as the Honorable Lucien Lamouroux, Speaker of the House, the Honorable Fern Guindon, representatives of the District Hospitals, plus Directors and four Sisters from Hotel Dieu Hospital in Windsor.

Following Mass, all the guests were invited to St. Joseph's Villa for refreshments.



The Janet Macdonell Pavilion at Hotel Dieu was officially opened on September 4, 1989. It replaced Macdonell Memorial Hospital, providing chronic care for 100 patients on two air-conditioned levels. Like the institution it replaced, the Pavilion was named in memory of Sr. Janet Macdonell (right), a foundress of Cornwall's Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1897. The current Hotel Dieu is built on land that was inherited by Sr. Janet from her father. (Three recent photos by Anne Vincelli)



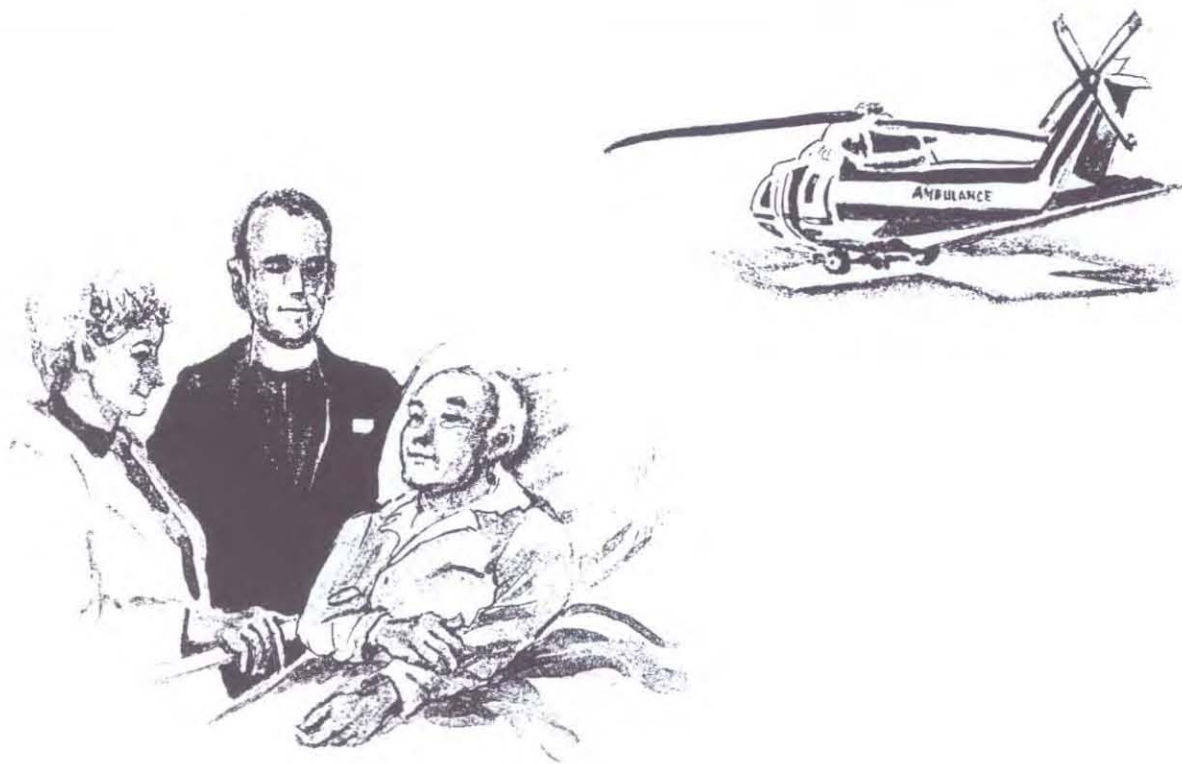
A.J. 'Jack' Fry (right) retired in February 1989 as the first lay Executive Director of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall and passed his keys to his successor, John Haslehurst.



The Hon. Gilles Morin, Minister of Senior Citizens' Affairs (3rd from left), and Charles Villeneuve (in wheelchair) cut the ribbon to officially open the Janet Macdonell Pavilion. Mr. Villeneuve was a member of the Pavilion's Residents' Council. The others, L-R, are Sr. Rosemarie Kugel, President of the RHSJ Health System, MPP John Cleary and Sr. Audrey Mantle, Provincial Superior.

The Fourth Quarter Century

1972-1997



*Reaching towards
the Century Mark*

Before continuing the story of the Religious Hospitalers of St. Joseph and their institutions in Cornwall as they look forward to celebrating a century of service, let us consider what was happening in health care in the 1970s.

1970s Overview

On April 1, 1972, the existing Ontario hospital and medical plans were combined into one insurance scheme called the Ontario Hospital Insurance Plan, or OHIP. Almost seven million residents of Ontario were protected with family benefits and another 1.3 million held individual policies. They paid a total of almost \$250-million in premiums. In addition, the Federal Government, through the Medical Act of Canada, contributed \$225-million to Ontario's OHIP coverage. The Provincial Government made up the remaining cost of the program.

As this was happening, the Ontario Ministry of Health was being restructured to accommodate this single comprehensive plan which would serve the needs of the total population without restriction to age, nature of illness or other criteria. The restructured Ministry came into being the following year, 1973.

Also in 1973, a Green Paper known as 'Community Living for the Mentally Retarded in Ontario: A New Policy Focus' set in motion another administrative change in the Ministry of Health. On April 1, 1974, the Mental Retardation Service was transferred from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Through the 1970s new legislation continued to be passed which changed the basic features of the health care system. Significant among these enactments were the Denture Therapist Act and the Health Disciplines Act of 1974. These Acts set down new rules for the governing of the five major professions or fields: Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Optometry and Pharmacy.

The Ministry opened 11 detoxification centres across the province. It also began an alcoholic education program and prepared guidelines for the establishment of non-smoking areas based on the 1975 Task Force Report on Smoking and Health.

The government Drug Benefit Plan was established in 1974 and extended to all senior citizens and welfare recipients the following year.

At the federal level, Marc Lalonde in his book

A New Perspective on the Health of Canadians, published in 1974, stated that the Government of Canada proposed to take steps that would start the nation on the road to levels of health care even higher than those Canadians then enjoyed. The Government of Canada in co-operation with others would pursue two broad objectives:

1. To reduce mental and physical health hazards for those parts of the Canadian population whose risks are high;

2. To improve the accessibility of good mental and physical health care for those whose present access is unsatisfactory.

In pursuit of these two objectives, five strategies were proposed:

- * A Health Promotion Strategy aimed at informing, influencing and assisting both individuals and organizations so that they would accept more responsibility and be more active in matters affecting mental and physical health;

- * A Regulatory Strategy aimed at using federal regulatory powers to reduce hazards to mental and physical health and at encouraging and assisting provinces to use their regulatory powers to the same end;

- * A Research Strategy designed to help discover and apply knowledge needed to solve mental and physical health problems;

- * A Health Care Efficiency Strategy, the objective of which was to help the provinces reorganize the system for delivering mental and physical health care so that the three elements of cost, accessibility and effectiveness were balanced in the interests of Canadians;

- * A Goal-Setting Strategy, the purpose of which was to set, in co-operation with others, goals for raising the level of the mental and physical health of Canadians and improving the efficiency of the health care system.

The Air Ambulance Service began in 1977 with a chopper based at a small airport near Metro Toronto. It was named Bandage I.

In the same year, money from provincial lotteries was made available for health services, notably five CAT scanners for five health science centres. Cornwall's turn would come in the 1990s, but under different circumstances.

By 1979-1980 the French Language and Metri-
cation Offices were expanded, and OHSC played an

important role in the regionalization of hospital services, community involvement in the planning process, and the development of Hospital Planning Councils, the predecessors of District Health Councils. The first formal District Health Council was established in the Ottawa-Carleton Region in 1973.

All these changes had an influence on all the health care facilities in Ontario. In particular, the introduction of chronic care co-payment in April 1979 had profound implications for the financial situation of Macdonell Memorial Hospital. Prior to co-payment, patients admitted to chronic care received their Old Age Pensions while in hospital. Many families used this money to pay for semi-private or private room coverage. Once co-payment came into effect, these cheques had to be used to help pay for the basic ward accommodation, and so families no longer would pay differentials for private or semi-private accommodations. With 100% occupancy, there were no empty ward beds to move these patients to, and those coming from other institutions automatically were waiting for ward accommodations. It did not take long for the hospital to be in a deficit position.

A Diamond Jubilee

June 22, 1974, was a special day of rejoicing for the Sisters at Macdonell Memorial Convent. Mother Marie de la Ferre celebrated her Diamond Jubilee of Religious Profession, and Sisters St. Ignatius McDonald and Ruby Wood celebrated their Golden Jubilees.

A Mass was offered in the Macdonell Memorial Chapel and a reception followed at St. Joseph Villa. Mayor Ed Lumley, on behalf of the City Council, presented the jubilarians with a plaque in recognition and gratitude for their services to the citizens of Cornwall.

Administrative Changes

Sister Audrey Mantle, Administrator of Macdonell Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa, was named a member of the Ontario Senior Citizens Advisory Council in 1974. In 1975 she was appointed to serve for a year as a Research Associate of the Special Health Care Study Committee set up jointly by the Ontario Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. As part of this assignment, she visited Sweden and England to look into their care of the elderly. On her return, she spoke in

many Ontario centres about her findings.

In 1974 Sister Margaret McNeil became Administrator of St. Joseph's Villa and the Villa acquired its own Board of Directors with Nicholas Battista as Chairman.

Replacing Sister Mantle as Administrator at Macdonell Memorial Hospital in July 1975 was an American, Sister Dolores Kane, who was within a year of earning Fellowship in the American Academy of Medical Administrators (Dallas, Texas). She was not American for long, because she became a Canadian citizen, by choice, on November 29, 1976. Just weeks later, on January 14, 1977, Sr. Kane was declared an Honorary Citizen of Cornwall by Mayor Parisien at City Hall.

Sister Audrey Mantle replaced Sister Mary Murphy as Administrator at Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1976 when Sister Murphy took a sabbatical after serving in the post for 11 years.

A Special Jubilee

On September 8, 1976, Sister St. Emily celebrated her Diamond Anniversary of Religious Profession. Holy Mass was offered by the Most Rev. Eugene LaRocque, DD, who had become the Bishop of Alexandria-Cornwall in 1974, assisted by Monsignor Kerr, Chaplain of Macdonell Memorial Hospital, and Monsignor R.J. MacDonald of St. Columban's Parish. Monsignors Bougie and Wylie and many other clergy attended.

During the ceremony, Bishop LaRocque presented Sister St. Emily with a Bene Merenti Medal from Pope Paul VI for her outstanding contributions to the citizens of the Cornwall area and for her service at the Nazareth Orphanage, St. Paul's Home and Macdonell Memorial Hospital. Other honours she received included a citation from Mayor Parisien on behalf of the City of Cornwall, a Medal of Merit from the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall, and a plaque from Ontario Premier William Davis. Present at the ceremonies were Sisters from the Generalate, the Provincial House in Kingston, and Cornwall. Many relatives and friends were also on hand to extend their congratulations to Sister St. Emily.



Board Chairman Named Judge

Mr. Jean Forget, Chairman of the Board of Hotel Dieu and Macdonell Memorial Hospitals, was named a Judge for the District of Sudbury in 1976. He was succeeded on the Board by Harry Follon, a local barrister, in 1977. Mr. Follon served in that position for 13 years! Concurrently, he also served as an officer of the Ontario Hospital Association and was appointed to the Administrative Services and Blue Cross Committees.

During his years as Chairman, Mr. Follon was involved with the following health care decisions:

§ the merging of St. Joseph's Villa and Hotel Dieu Hospital into the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall;

§ construction of the Janet Macdonell Pavilion at Hotel Dieu Hospital;

§ the closure of Macdonell Memorial Hospital, with the transfer of chronic care patients to the new Janet Macdonell Pavilion and of rehabilitation patients to the Cornwall General Hospital.

At the close of the Board Meeting on June 14, 1990, Mr. Follon was presented with a gold watch in appreciation for his many years of dedicated service.

Other 1970s Events

- The landmark Church of St. Raphael was destroyed by fire on August 10, 1970.
- On February 17, 1974, Bishop Adolph Proulx was named Bishop of Hull, Quebec. He had served as Bishop of Alexandria (including Cornwall) since 1966.
- Later, on September 3, 1974, the Sisters attended the installation of Bishop Eugene LaRocque as Bishop of Alexandria in St. Finnan's Cathedral.
- The same year, Sister Ruby Wood attended the closing of the School of Medical Record Librarians in Kingston. She had been a 1935 graduate of the school.
- In 1976 the Diocese was renamed Alexandria-Cornwall.
- Gordon Bryan was ordained as a Permanent Deacon on September 16, 1976, at St. Francis de Sales Church by Bishop LaRocque. Early in 1985 Mr. Bryan, with his wife Françoise and son Paul, left for Mansa, Zambia, where he would teach for a year. Mansa, with a population of 50,000, is twinned with Alexandria-Cornwall Diocese. The

Rev. Mr. Bryan later served as Board Chairman of the Health Centre from 1990 to 1992.

- Sister Annette Valade received her Specialist Certificate as a Chaplain in Institutional Ministry from CAPE in 1978.
- Jeanne Mance was commemorated when a federal building in Ottawa was named in her honour. The building serves as the National Health and Social Welfare Department of the Ministry of Health.
- Dennis Timbrell became the Ontario Minister of Health in 1977 and would later become President for a period in the 1990s of the Ontario Hospital Association.

Hotel Dieu Happenings

With the completion of the new fire alarm and gas line systems in 1976, Hotel Dieu Cornwall became the first hospital in the country to meet the new safety codes of Canada.

Separate Pastoral Care Departments came into existence early in the 1970s in the RHSJ Health Care facilities. Sister Aileen Byrnes organized the first Pastoral Care service at Hotel Dieu Hospital. By 1973 it was a department, with Sister Annette Valade as Director and with Sister Byrnes assisting part-time at Hotel Dieu Hospital and volunteering her pastoral care services at Bestview Lodge. It was not until January 1977 that Pastoral Care departments were made mandatory in health care facilities by the Canadian Council on Hospital Accreditation.

Obstetrics and Pediatrics were amalgamated and centred at Hotel Dieu Hospital in July 1976.

By Fall 1977 laboratory services in Hotel Dieu and Cornwall General Hospitals were consolidated, and the hospitals learned to cut costs and eliminate wasteful duplication. This would be only the beginning of a relentless effort on the part of the government to demand more and more rationalization of services.

The Celtic Cross

While the Entwhistle Construction Company was fortifying and laying bricks at the front of the Macdonell Memorial Convent in August 1978, it was discovered that the large Celtic cross originally erected over the 1901 hospital was tottering. This 700-pound cross was removed and lowered, and went

on to receive a place of honour in the Sister's Cemetery on McConnell Avenue.

Three Deaths

1979 brought three deaths that saddened the RHSJ community. The first was that of Dr. John Tallon on March 19. He was described as a "devoted and kind physician, surgeon and friend." His death was followed by that of Monsignor Henri Bougie, Chaplain at Macdonell Memorial Hospital from 1956 to 1971, and the sudden loss of Dr. John McKeown on December 30.

Villa Happenings

Sister Kane, Administrator of Macdonell Memorial Hospital, was also appointed, on May 4, 1979, Administrator of St. Joseph's Villa. She succeeded Marc Ainslie, who had served one year as the Villa's first lay administrator.

The Villa's tenth anniversary on October 20, 1979, was marked by a week of special activities. Bishop LaRocque celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Villa, and guests were invited to the cafeteria for refreshments afterward. An 'Appreciation Afternoon' was held for the staff, Villa Auxiliary members and volunteers. Ten-year service pins were presented to Anita Menard, Claude Mainville and Eileen Rowe. Nineteen staff members received five-year pins, and certificates were awarded to volunteers. Deacon Gordon Bryan and Sisters Aileen Byrnes, Birdie Candee, Helen Chisholm and Margaret Woods received their certificates for more than 1,000 hours of service each.

Other activities included a Family Day for residents and their families, an Ecumenical Service of Thanksgiving, an Open House for the public hosted by the Villa's Auxiliary, and a final Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated in the Villa Chapel.

Peat, Marwick & Partners Study

In March 1980, the firm of Peat, Marwick and Partners of Toronto was chosen by the Cornwall Hospitals' Co-ordinating Committee to study the proposed realignment of health services involving the three hospitals (Hotel Dieu, Macdonell Memorial and Cornwall General).

The Report recommended closing Macdonell Memorial and using the savings to build a new

100-bed chronic unit at Hotel Dieu. It also recommended converting an area of Cornwall General for a Rehabilitation Unit. This was approved by the Boards and the Ontario Ministry of Health.

Within weeks, meetings were held between the Hospitals and the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) concerning the pending closure of Macdonell Memorial Hospital. The employees were given forms on which to indicate which hospital (Hotel Dieu or Cornwall General) they would prefer to work in. Rehabilitation staff would be transferred as a unit to the General Hospital. Later, jobs would be assigned when there would be openings due to retirements, resignations, etc., and employees would be notified and given an interview. Every effort would be made to treat employees fairly.

Because of the excellent reputation Macdonell Memorial Hospital had for care of the chronically ill and its rehabilitation department, there was concern expressed by the local community, and petitions were circulated to prevent its closure, but to no avail. However, it would be 1989 before the hospital actually closed.

Seaway Valley District Health Council

Upon recommendation of the Ontario Ministry of Health on March 26, 1980, an Advisory Committee to be known as the Seaway Valley District Health Council was approved by Order-in-Council. Laurent Coyen of Hawkesbury was named Chairman. The Health Council was to have 17 members from the five counties of Eastern Ontario. The membership included our Board nominees: Mrs. Tatiana Labekovski, Mayor Gerald Parisien, Dr. J.T. Baird, Mr. Keith Jodoin, Miss M. Maguire and Mr. Ronald Bergeron.

Events of 1981

The year opened with the amortization of the Hotel Dieu Hospital debt on January 5th. The Annalist's comment was, *Deo gratias!*

In May, the firm of Education, Health, Environment of Ottawa Limited was given the contract to do the functional program for the Hospital Building Project.

A special Catholic Hospital Conference of Ontario (CHCO) was held in Toronto on February 27 to discuss the relationships between District Health

Councils and Catholic Health Care Facilities. During that time a fire occurred at the Inn on the Park, and Sister Rosalia Cobey had to walk down 24 flights of stairs in housecoat and slippers to safety.

Sister Kane received her Fellowship in the American College of Hospital Administrators (now known as the American College of Health Executives) on August 20 in Philadelphia, PA:

Sister Mantle was appointed Co-ordinator of the Health Care Philosophy Program of St. Joseph's Province in November. In that role she visited all the health care facilities of St. Joseph Province and presented a special program to all levels of staff in each facility.

Also in November, the media reported that Cornwall was the first city in Ontario to be chosen for a pilot project to help consumers. When completed, the project would be used as a model for other Ontario communities which might want to offer similar consumer self-help programs.

'New' Hotel Dieu marks 25 Years

A highlight of 1981 was the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Hotel Dieu Hospital. A slate of special activities was planned for this Silver Jubilee, including the following:

September 8

Mass for the patients in the Chapel, with a Jubilee Dinner later;

September 10

Folk Mass in the Chapel followed by a barbecue on the lawn for all the staff;

September 18

Mass of Thanksgiving in the Hospital Chapel;

October 15

Anniversary dinner for Board members, Medical Advisory and Management Committees, and a few other special guests, with Father Everett MacNeil, Executive Director of the Catholic Health Association of Canada, as the guest speaker;

November 19

Dinner for retired staff members of Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Brother André Is Beatified

Sister Kane left for Rome on May 18, 1982, to represent the Sisters of St. Joseph Province at the beatification of Brother André, CSC, by Pope John

Paul II. Brother André had once visited the old Hotel Dieu Hospital on Water Street. Sister Kane also visited the French RHSJ Houses and the Shrine at Lourdes.

Canine Residents

The advantages of pet therapy have long been known, and many institutions had birds and fish for the enjoyment of their residents. However, you cannot hug or stroke a bird or a fish; so how about canine residents? Why not? The idea was checked out with the various authorities and the (human) residents, and all were in favor of trying the idea.

In March of 1982, two cuddly, crossbred female puppies from the same litter became available. 'Snooks' was beige and looked like her Samoyed mother; 'Scamp' looked like her German Shepherd father. The dogs were an immediate hit at the Villa. Unfortunately, while playing, the dogs got their collars entwined, and Snooks died.

Nobody who looked through the glass doors of the Villa at night stayed long when they saw police dog Scamp on her rug before the statue of St. Joseph. For many years she was the faithful companion of the residents and staff until the infirmities of old age claimed her life.

Although there are no canine residents in the Health Centre now, pets regularly visit patients and residents.

Villa Accredited

October 6, 1982, would be a day long remembered! St. Joseph's Villa received the coveted three-year accreditation award following its first-ever survey by the Canadian Council on Hospital Accreditation.

Chaplains Feted

Friends and family of Father Adalbert Lalonde celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination and 40 years of service at the 'old' and 'new' Hotel Dieu Hospitals on June 29, 1983. A special tea was held in his honor.

Monsignor Donald Kerr, Chaplain at MacDonell Memorial Hospital, celebrated his 50th anniversary as a priest on June 15. A party was held in his honor at the hospital.

Palliative Care

Care of the dying has always been considered of the greatest importance to the Sisters.

A Palliative Care Committee was formed at Hotel Dieu Hospital under the direction of Sister Annette Valade in 1983 and was approved by the Board of Directors the following year. The first Palliative Care Week was held April 26-May 3, 1986, at Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Originally two beds were reserved for the special care of the terminally ill, but by 1994 there were seven beds available for palliative care patients. Patients may be admitted directly to the palliative area or moved there later when a bed becomes available. The Palliative Care Team is available for consultation in other units in the hospital, as well as being available to the community at large.

This service is supported through 'In Memoriam' gifts made at area funeral homes, donations from service clubs, and fund-raising events. Such funds pay for a full-time co-ordinator and other professional team members, training programs for staff and volunteers, films, educational materials, and workshops to keep the service up-to-date and ensure that it meets the special needs of patients and families.

1983 Deaths

Father Adalbert Lalonde, long-time Hotel Dieu Chaplain, died on May 31 and was replaced by Father Claude Halle on June 29.

Miss Katherine McLellan, first Director of St. Joseph School of Nursing, died on June 28. She had been a patient at Hotel Dieu Hospital for several months.

Milestones of 1983

Construction began for the new Provincial Ambulance Offices at 850 McConnell Avenue early in 1983.

The Metric System was introduced into Ontario Health Care Facilities in June of 1983. AIDS became a reportable disease in August the same year.

Cornwall's Mayor, Gerald Parisien, was elected President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

The Ontario Ministry of Health announced that during the previous three years the health system had

grown an average of 15.5% while the population grew an average of less than 1%. Health care represented 29% of the Ontario Government's total estimated expenditures of \$22,777-million.

Postage had risen to 32 cents for a Canadian destination and 37 cents to the U.S.A. Looking back, this seems cheap compared to 45 cents to Canadian addresses and 52 cents for USA destinations in 1995.

Cornwall held its first Multicultural Festival on July 1 at the Civic Complex.

St. Finnan's Cathedral, Alexandria, celebrated its 150th Anniversary (1833-1983).

Health Care in Cornwall, 1984

By 1984, the population of Cornwall was listed as 47,000 and the catchment area was 100,000. The residents of Cornwall and Area had many health care services available to them.

There were 512 acute care hospital beds, 138 at the Cornwall General Hospital and 174 at Hotel Dieu Hospital. There were 122 Chronic Care and Rehab beds at Macdonell Memorial Hospital. Laboratory services included blood banks, bacteriology, histology and chemistry. Radiology services included x-rays and ultrasound. Electrocardiography, stress testing, Holter monitors, electroencephalography and electromyography were also available. Emergency Departments were open 24 hours every day.

Therapy Departments included physiotherapy, occupational therapy, inhalation therapy and speech therapy.

The Eastern Ontario Health Unit was directed by Dr. R.V. Peters and was staffed with part-time physicians, Public Health and Registered Nurses, public health inspectors, a part-time dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistants, a physiotherapist, occupational therapist, nutritionist (part time), speech pathologist, social worker, child development specialist, home workers, an administrator and secretary.

Programs included Public Health Nursing, School Health Immunization and Disease Control, Environmental (including private sewage disposal), prevention of dental cavities, Home Care (Acute and Chronic), Infant Stimulation, Nutrition Counselling, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

Vaccines were available for Polio, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Flu, Typhoid and others.

The big killers were the four Cs: cars, cancer, coronaries and cigarettes.

The number of Doctors resident in Cornwall and Area was 82. The number of Doctors seeing patients in Cornwall was 108. There were 68 specialists available.

The District Health Council had sub-committees on:

- §Health needs and services
- §Long term planning
- §Hospital planning
- §Mental Health
- §Disaster Planning
- §Lung Cancer
- §Sexually transmitted diseases.

St. Lawrence College was now 'educating' rather than 'training' Registered Professional Nurses, Laboratory Technologists, Ambulance Drivers and Homemakers.

Registered Nursing Assistants were educated at the Cornwall General Hospital.

By 1994, Registered Nursing Assistants (RNAs) had a new title: Registered Practical Nurse (RPN). The change in title did not mean a change in role or a change in educational requirements.

RHSJ Health System

In January of 1984, the Sisters of St. Joseph Province indicated their approval of having a corporate office for an RHSJ Health System. This office was located at St. Joseph Provincial House at 16 Manitou Crescent East in Amherstview, Ontario, west of Kingston. On July 20, 1988, this office moved into Kingston, to 225 Johnson Street, near Hotel Dieu.

The RHSJ Health System is a decentralized system, with each health care facility having separate incorporation from the religious congregation which sponsors it. The Health System provides the means for the Sisters and their sponsored facilities to participate more effectively in the mission of the Church by the ministry of healing. They achieve this through:

- *Creation of a structure which is enabling for both sponsors and sponsored;
- *Provision of efficient and effective governance and leadership;
- *Provision of assistance and support to individual health care facilities;
- *Facilitation of communication and sharing be-

tween and among individual health care facilities;

*Provision of consulting services.

Sister Rosalia Cobey was the first President of the RHSJ Health System.

Sister Rosemarie Kugel finished her six-year term as Provincial Superior in 1987 and was succeeded by Sister Audrey Mantle for a six-year term. Sister Mantle was succeeded by Sister Anne Russell in 1993. Sister Kugel became President of the RHSJ Health System in 1989.

Cornwall's Bicentennial

In 1984 the City of Cornwall celebrated the 200th Anniversary of its founding by the United Empire Loyalists. A Bicentennial Committee was established well in advance, in 1977, to investigate ways to mark the event. Dr. Elinor Kyte Senior was commissioned to write the City's history under the title *From Royal Township to Industrial City: Cornwall 1784-1984*. A competition to find a logo was won by a local artist, Bob Eadie.

The Bicentennial Committee was incorporated in 1982 and became known as 'Le Bicentenaire de Cornwall Bicentennial Corporation'. A co-ordinator was hired and a temporary office was opened. Its purpose was "to promote, plan, co-ordinate and operate projects, functions, programs and celebrations for the general benefit of the City of Cornwall in marking the 200th Anniversary of its settlement."

As part of Cornwall's celebration, Sister Theresa Shannon co-ordinated the Hotel Dieu Hospital display at the Brookdale Mall. The Auxiliaries of Hotel Dieu, Cornwall General and Macdonell Memorial Hospitals shared a booth. The Cornwall Academy of Medicine had a booth depicting advancements in Medicine over the past 200 years.

Celebration in the Shadow of Closure

Macdonell Memorial Hospital celebrated its Silver Anniversary as a chronic and rehabilitation hospital on November 11, 1984.

In spite of impending closure, a week of activities was planned. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated on November 11 in the Chapel by Bishop Eugene LaRocque, with the participation of the Senior Choir of St. Columban's Church under the direction of Dr. A.E.R. MacPhee and with Sister Robillard, CND, at the organ. Refreshments were served

in the auditorium following the liturgical celebration. On November 12 and 14, Masses were celebrated for the employees and volunteers and for the patients, again with refreshments afterwards in the auditorium.

Open Houses for the public, with conducted tours and refreshments, were held on November 13 and 15. The celebrations concluded with an Employees' Dance at St. Joseph's Villa Auditorium.

350th Anniversary of the RHSJ Congregation

Several Sisters attended the opening ceremonies of the 350th Anniversary of the Congregation held at the Motherhouse in Montreal on November 9, 1985. Sister Marie de la Ferre, former Superior General, aged 94, was able to be in attendance at this special occasion. The celebrations would continue for an entire year. All of the Sisters were given the opportunity to go to France and visit 'our roots' in either 1986, 1987 or 1988.

Representatives of the Sisters, clergy and laity of Cornwall were in Kingston on September 7, 1986, to celebrate the 350th Anniversary with the Sisters of St. Joseph Province. Mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Cathedral, followed by dinner at the Ambassador Convention Centre. Several Sisters attended the formal closing of the Anniversary in Montreal on November 7-9, 1986. A Mass of Thanksgiving was held at Notre Dame Basilica, followed by dinner at CEGEP Maissoneuve in Montreal East.

Unexpected Surgery

Early in April 1986, Sister Kane went to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto for an angioplasty procedure. During this procedure she experienced a heart attack and a few days later underwent an emergency triple bypass operation under the famous surgeon Dr. James Yao. After a good recovery, she was back to her administrative duties at Macdonell Memorial and St. Joseph's Villa in a few months.

Ontario Doctors Go on Strike

In order to protest certain activities of the Ministry of Health, the medical staffs of the Cornwall hospitals began a rotating withdrawal of services on June 17, 1986, restricting their services to life-threatening situations.

The physicians and surgeons were objecting to the passage of Bill 94 by the Ontario Legislature—a Bill concerning the regulation of medical practice.

Emergency Department services were restricted to patients with life-threatening conditions. One day the Cornwall General Hospital accepted emergency patients and the next day the Hotel Dieu Emergency Department was opened and the General's Department was closed. The next day the procedure was reversed.

Daily bulletins kept the hospital staff informed of what was happening with the striking physicians and which Emergency Department was open that day.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, in a written statement dated June 16, 1986, expressed its concern about the climate of confrontation between the medical profession and the government. It stated that it wished the public and professionals to understand its position that:

1. The complete closure of emergency departments is unacceptable;
2. Disruption of emergency department services is causing increasing public concern.
3. It is unacceptable to have a serious disruption of emergency capabilities in referral to tertiary care institutions.
4. If Bill 94 was passed, further services would be withdrawn and, at the call of the OMA President, all members of the OMA would tender their resignations from the staffs of their respective hospitals.

Bill 94 was passed in the Legislature by a 69 to 47 vote. Withdrawal of services continued and resignations were tendered.

It was only on August 1 that Dr. R. Gatien, Chief of Staff, informed Administration that the 'strike' was over and the Medical Staff of Hotel Dieu Hospital would immediately resume membership on Hospital Committees.

What were the consequences of the strike to the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Macdonell Memorial Hospital and the Villa? In the Acute Care hospitals in Cornwall, it was a nuisance and a concern not knowing how long the disruption of withdrawal of services would continue. Also, there was concern for the care of patients, the public and staff.

The Macdonell Memorial had only chronic care patients, and if necessary, a patient could be transferred to the emergency department of the hospital open that day.

The Villa had its own medical director, Dr. Michael Cox, and residents could also be transferred to an emergency department if it became necessary.

Auxiliary's Anniversary

On October 4, 1986, the Auxiliary to the Hotel Dieu Hospital celebrated its 40th Anniversary (1946-1986) with a Gala Dinner and Dance at the Best Western Parkway Inn, Cornwall.

From a small group of ten members, the Auxiliary, now known as the Auxiliary to the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health Centre, has grown to more than 300 adult and teen members.

The aim of this group in the beginning was to improve patient care, and although this aim has not changed, the manner of achieving it has changed and expanded with the years.

This very important organization forms a vital part of the Health Care community. It carries out many significant initiatives, projects and services, and sponsors many special programs and events. Through its Volunteer Services, the Auxiliary provides thousands of volunteer hours each year for the benefit of the Health Centre and those it serves.

The Auxiliary also continues to provide invaluable financial assistance, especially in terms of contributions to purchase needed equipment and to assist with special Health Centre projects. It assists with the needs of the Hospital, Janet Macdonell Pavilion and St. Joseph's Villa.

The RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall is deeply grateful to the members of its Auxiliary for their dedicated, generous and valued services.

A Consultant Comes to Cornwall

On November 7, 1986, it was announced that Chet Singh, Associate Executive Director of St. Joseph Hospital in London, Ontario, would be coming to assess operations at the Hotel Dieu and Macdonell Memorial Hospitals and St. Joseph's Villa at the request of the Provincial Council of the RHSJ's (Members of the Corporation). Government funding was inadequate to cover expenses at the three health care facilities, and there was concern.

Mr. Singh had recently completed a survey at Hotel Dieu Kingston regarding administrative structures.

The report of his Cornwall findings was given

to a joint meeting of the Boards of the three Cornwall institutions on December 12, 1986. He indicated that considerable savings could be realized if the three institutions were under one administration.

In anticipation of future changes, Sister Kane, after 11-1/2 years at Macdonell Memorial Hospital and eight at St. Joseph's Villa as Administrator, accepted a position as Director of Research and Consultant in Quality Assurance with the RHSJ Health System in Kingston.

The following Monday (December 15) a special issue of the Hotel Dieu Hospital newsletter, *The Dieu Review*, reported: *The following statement is being released to the press today:*

Sister Rosalia Cobey, President of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health System, today announced that following a Consultant's Study, the Sisters have decided to ultimately bring their three institutions in Cornwall—Hotel Dieu Hospital, Macdonell Memorial Hospital, and St. Joseph's Villa—under one Board and one Management.

The first phase of this amalgamation will begin on Monday, December 15, 1986, with the assumption of the administrative responsibilities for Macdonell Memorial Hospital by Mr. Jack Fry, Executive Director, Hotel Dieu Hospital. Miss Jeanette Fargo, the present Assistant Administrator and Director of Finance at Macdonell Memorial Hospital, will assume responsibility for the Management of St. Joseph's Villa, replacing Sister Dolores Kane. Miss Fargo will be assisted on an interim basis by Sister Rosalia Cobey, who will function as a Consultant.

An Amalgamation Committee will be established in the New Year comprised of representatives from the three institutions, the Boards of Directors, Medical Staffs and the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph to oversee the amalgamation. It is expected that a single Board for the three institutions will be in place by June 1987 with Mr. Jack Fry as Executive Director for the amalgamated facilities.

Because St. Joseph's Villa is experiencing severe financial problems and is projecting a substantial deficit for this fiscal year, it has become necessary to reduce staff at the Villa to bring its costs more in line with funding. Every effort is being made to ensure that the quality of care is not compromised by these staff reductions.

Sister Cobey further stated that in order to

(Continued on page 73)



Sr. Ella McGillis, a 1941 nursing graduate, was still tending seniors at Macdonell Memorial Hospital in 1989. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



Villa resident Lillian Ross celebrated her 110th birthday on August 24, 1991. She was Canada's oldest person when she died on March 20, 1993. With her is Villa AEO Jeanette Despatie. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



When the Hospital Auxiliary marked its 40th anniversary in October 1986, 13 past chairpersons were assembled for this Standard-Freeholder photo. Seated, L-to-R: Jane Hebert '67-68, Cecile Lavigne '65, Alice Brennan '58-60, Cecile Megan '56-58 and Marie Kelly '48-50. STANDING: Anne Vincelli '87-88, Melinda Mahoney '84-86, Irene Larin '82-84, Lorraine Robertson '80-82, Dale Duncan '74-76, Shirley McDonald '72-74, Hilda Burns '70-72, and Wanetta Fortin '68-70.



On May 12, 1993, the RHSJ, Historical Society and Ontario Heritage Foundation collaborated on a plaque to commemorate Ivy Hall. (See page 84)



Five past Board Chairs were honoured at a plaque presentation ceremony on December 18, 1990. From left: Mr. Justice Jean A. Forget, Maurice Roussy, Michael Despatie, Harry Follon and the then-Chair, Deacon Gordon Bryan. Past chairpersons not present: R. Carl Donihee, Nicholas I. Battista and Fred Bradley. (Photo by Standard-Freeholder)



This was the combined Board of Directors of Hotel Dieu, St. Joseph's Villa and Macdonell Memorial Hospital when the 'new' hospital celebrated its silver jubilee in 1980: L-to-R, seated, are Sr. Dolores Kane, Harry Follon (Chair) and Sr. Rosalia Cobey (Sister Liaison); standing—Tatiana Labekovski, Matthew Holden, Grace Schell, Sr. Rose Marie Dufault, Jack Fry (CEO), Dr. J. Louis Hebert, Dr. Victor Villeneuve, Dr. Denis Deslauriers, L. Hurrell, Alderman Aimé LeBlanc, M. Jeurond and Sr. Evelyn Leonard. (Photo by Carl Malcolm)



In 1992, the RHSJ Housing Corporation converted the former Macdonell Memorial Hospital into a non-profit apartment building for senior citizens. The \$4.4-million project provided 59 apartments, six of them for disabled tenants. A covered walkway links the building to St. Joseph's Villa. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



Mother Marie de la Ferre is commemorated in the apartment building at left. She entered the RHSJ Congregation as Jeanne Villeneuve in 1914, served as Superior of Hotel Dieu (1939-45 and 1948-49) and Macdonell Memorial Hospital (1969-72), and died in 1988. (Photo by Daily Standard-Freeholder)

ensure that the needs of the long-term care patients receive full attention, a Long-Term Care Committee of the Board is being established. This Committee will ensure that the needs of the long-term care patients and residents are kept in the forefront.

Planning for the new building on the Hotel Dieu site to accommodate the chronic care patients now cared for at Macdonell Memorial Hospital is in the final stage.

Health Centre Beginnings

The idea of a health centre was not entirely new. In the early days the Home for the Aged and the Orphanage were closely associated with the Hotel Dieu Hospital because they were all under the same executive body and were staffed by the same Sisters. As far back as June 11, 1970, the Annals reported a meeting of the two local Sisters' Councils with Sister Cobey concerning "the possible merger of our three Cornwall institutions."

By March 1987 several departments had been amalgamated. Revised Corporate By-Laws were under review, and approval had been granted for a 100-bed addition at Hotel Dieu for the patients from Macdonell Memorial Hospital.

On August 13 the tender of Fuller Construction won the contract for the proposed Janet Macdonell Pavilion project.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors held in accordance with the new By-Laws of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall was in September 1987. The officers were Harry Follon, President; Michael Despatie, Vice-President; and A.J. Fry, Secretary-Treasurer.

New Entrance for Hotel Dieu

A Letter of Intent was signed on September 24, 1987, for a new patient entrance for Hotel Dieu Hospital.

The official opening and blessing of the new entrance and the new Critical Care Unit was held on January 12, 1989. The program included a welcome and introductions of special guests by Harry Follon, President of the Board of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall; opening prayer and comments by Alexandria-Cornwall Bishop Eugene LaRocque, followed by greetings from Sister Audrey Mantle, Provincial Superior, St. Joseph Province; Cornwall MPP John Cleary; Stewart Hart, Warden of the three United

Counties (Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry); and Cornwall Mayor Phil Poirier.

Following this ceremony, a reception was held in the Doctors' Dining Room of Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Joint Hospitals Fund

Why did the hospitals need to expand and renovate at this time?

Hotel Dieu would be building a new two-storey, 100-bed, chronic care wing to replace Macdonell Memorial Hospital. It would expand the Physiotherapy Department and ICU\CCU. A separate outpatient services area would also be added.

The General Hospital would receive 22 rehabilitation beds from Macdonell Memorial, necessitating the expansion of its Rehabilitation Medicine services. The administration offices, chapel and gift shop would be relocated so that the overcrowded, poorly situated Emergency Department could be expanded and relocated.

By December 1987 the two hospitals had set up a Joint Hospital Fund-Raising Co-ordinating Committee to launch a public appeal for \$2-million. This would be in addition to \$2.5-million from the City of Cornwall and the United Counties. The total cost of the projects would be almost \$25-million. The Province of Ontario agreed to provide \$16.4-million.

The kick-off date for the Joint Hospital appeal was March 14; by April 2, \$696,000 had already been pledged toward the \$2-million goal. A few months later, in October, pledges totalled \$1,810,384. The objective was realized in April 1989, and it was agreed that any further funds raised would go to the RHSJ Health Centre Project.

By August 1989 the Joint Fund had reached a total of \$2.2-million, but recognizing that all who had pledged would not be able to meet their commitment, extra funds were still needed.

On Thursday afternoon, October 10, 1992, a ceremony was held to unveil plaques in appreciation of donations made to the Cornwall Joint Hospitals Fund 1988-92. It was held in the main hallway, Level 2 of Hotel Dieu Hospital, at 4:00, followed by refreshments in the loggia area of the Janet Macdonell Pavilion.

Anne Vincelli organized the design and placement of the plaques, with the support of the Public Relations Committee of the Board of Directors.

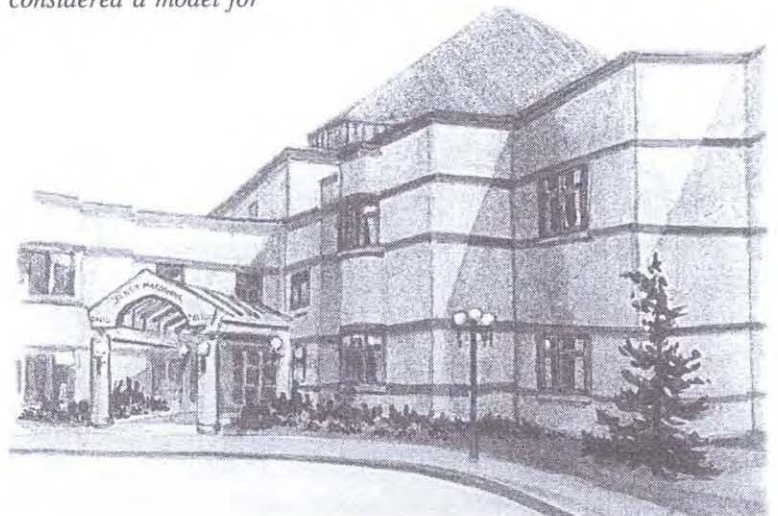


**MACDONELL
MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL**

Macdonell Memorial Hospital, now the Marie de la Ferre Apartments for seniors, ended its medical service in 1989 when Hotel Dieu Hospital took on the care of the chronically ill. Until 1992, the structure at left was the Rehabilitation Department. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



In Spring 1989, the two-story, 100-bed, chronic care unit was still under construction at Hotel Dieu Hospital. (See map inside back cover for location.) Its design concept is considered a model for the 21st Century. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



Sketch by Cornwall artist Kathleen Dancause shows the landscaped entrance to the new wing, now named the Janet Macdonell Pavilion. (See painting on the cover.)

Soliciting for the Fund was to be completed in 1994.

Words cannot express the deep appreciation the Health Centre has for its generous benefactors.

Board Goes on Retreat

The Board of Directors of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health Centre held a Retreat on January 8-9, 1988, at the Donald Gordon Centre in Kingston.

The following report was made afterwards by Elizabeth MacLennan, Michael Warden and Jeanette (Fargo) Despatie:

* Those present included a number of current Board Members and Senior Administrative Staff. Father Everett MacNeil acted as facilitator.

* The purpose of the retreat was to attempt to bring the current Health Centre Board members together in a relaxed atmosphere in order to provide an opportunity to express conflicts and concerns resulting from the amalgamation of the Hotel Dieu Hospital (HDH) and St. Joseph's Villa (SJV).

* The primary issue appeared to be the obvious difference in style and philosophy of the former HDH and SJV Boards in their approach to governance.

* The retreat could be evaluated as having met its objectives. Through a frank and emotional weekend a direction was established and there was an increased solidarity among the members on the approach to governance.

* The retreat concluded with a missioning ceremony—an opportunity for the members to confirm their commitment to the RHSJ Health Centre and its mission and philosophy.

Health Centre Logo

The Board of Directors approved a new logo for the RHSJ Health Centre in 1988. It was designed by IMS Creative Communications and is composed of three crosses positioned against gradations of solid colour and straight lines. The two religious crosses in the logo symbolize the Health Centre's grounding in Christian values. The three gradations of solid colour and straight lines can be seen to stand for the three levels of care the Health Centre provides. The medical cross is juxtaposed to the religious crosses and reinforces the RHSJ commitment to caring both spiritually and physically. The logo's strong foundation is

the platform for the Health Centre's future, from which the Centre will move forward in unity.



A.J. Fry Retires

Jack Fry came to work in Hotel Dieu Hospital as Business Manager on February 23, 1961. From 1978 to '79 he served as Acting CEO, and the following year, 1979, he was appointed the first lay Executive Director of Hotel Dieu Hospital. Then he became the first Executive Director of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall.

In addition to his administrative duties in the Hospital and Health Centre, Mr. Fry was actively involved in the Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC), where he served as Secretary Treasurer and also as President of the Catholic Health Association of Ontario.

The *Hotel Dieu Hospital Review* of January 30, 1989, noted that Mr. Fry would be retiring on June 30. On February 1 he became 'special advisor' until his actual retirement date.

Mr. Fry received many tributes in recognition of his many contributions. Among them were a Robert Bateman painting presented by the Auxiliary to the RHSJ Health Centre, a dinner in his honour sponsored by the Sisters of Hotel Dieu and Macdonell Memorial Hospitals, and a retirement party on May 17 at the Cornwall Civic Complex, attended by many of his family, friends and co-workers.

On May 22 the Mohawks from the Akwesasne Reserve presented a gift to Mr. Fry in appreciation for his efforts in securing ambulance service for them.

John Haslehurst Takes the Helm

John Haslehurst (BSc in Pharmacy, Diploma in Hospital Administration, University of Toronto, and Certification, Canadian College of Health Service Executives) became Executive Director of the RHSJ Health Centre on February 1, 1989.

A Missioning Ceremony was held for him in the Hospital Chapel. During a missioning ceremony, the

new Executive Director makes a public promise to carry out all of his/her responsibilities and to ensure that quality care is provided according to the Philosophy, Mission and Values of the RHSJ Health Centre.

Deaths of Two Pioneers

Sister St. Emily (Mary Catherine MacDonald) died in Cornwall on May 10, 1988. She was 99 years of age.

Sister Marie de la Ferre (Jeanne Villeneuve) retired to St. Joseph Provincial House in June of 1986 because of ill health. When she died on September 29, 1988, she was 97 years of age.

Both Sisters were mourned by their Religious families and their many friends.

Health Centre Slogan

A contest was held in March 1989 to find a slogan for the Health Centre. The winning slogan, *Caring People Helping People*, was submitted by Lynn Heatley of the Pharmacy Department.

Macdonell Memorial Closes

In preparation for receiving 100 patients from Macdonell Memorial Hospital, Hotel Dieu made some adjustments, such as the removal of pews in the Chapel to accommodate wheelchairs. This was accomplished on September 1, 1989, and 50 patients arrived on Tuesday, September 8. The remaining 50 patients were transferred the following day.

The 22 patients in the Rehabilitation Unit had been moved to the Rehabilitation Unit at the Cornwall General Hospital on August 22.

Janet Macdonell Pavilion Officially Opened

The official opening of the 100-bed, air-conditioned chronic care facility was held on Thursday, September 14, 1989. Bishop Eugene LaRocque dedicated the new wing, blessing each room and individual patient.

Elma Heidemann, Assistant Executive Director of the Standards Program for the Canadian Council on Health Facilities Accreditation, was the guest speaker at a dinner for 150 invited guests in the new auditorium of the Pavilion.

During the evening ceremony, Gilles Morin, Ontario Minister of Senior Citizens Affairs, officiated

at the ribbon-cutting. He was assisted by Sister Audrey Mantle, Provincial Superior, and Charles Villeneuve, a member of the Residents' Council.

After the opening, guests and members of the public were invited to tour the facility and enjoy refreshments.

Macdonell Convent Closes

The Annalist recorded on September 27, 1989, that "It was the Sisters last day at the Convent, and it required all of our emotional energies to spend this last day at Macdonell Memorial Convent. Although we had closed the door on a past full of fond memories, we felt that God was calling us to something new. We had a ceremony of closure at 1:30 p.m. and then left for our new home on McConnell Avenue. We were graciously welcomed by Sister Patricia Cudihy, Superior, and the Sisters. This helped us—Sisters Helen Chisholm, Mary Frances Clancy, Kathleen Keevil, Ella McGillis and Evelyn Quinn."

The words of the Prayer Service at 1:30 p.m. were as follows: *On this day of closure of our convent here in Cornwall, let us join together in prayer. Let us offer to God our prayers of thanksgiving for the 92 years of service rendered in His name by our Sisters living and deceased and ask for guidance in this new call to service. New calls help us to grow in the Lord. In the words of the Mass of this day we hear, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, He has anointed us." This leaves a permanent mark that changes our lives and renews us each time we fulfil our appointed tasks. Now let us ask God's forgiveness for the times our service was not filled with the love and gratitude we owe Him and let us ask that He be with us to guide us on this new journey. Amen.*

A para-liturgical service followed.

It should be noted that prior to the closure of the Convent, Sisters Anne Marie Albert, Mary MacKenzie, Ada MacMillan, Catherine Frances McDonald and Ruby Wood had been missioned to St. Joseph Provincial House over a period of a few months. Sister Margaret Woods had been missioned to Chatham, New Brunswick, and Sister Rose Champagne to Antigo, Wisconsin.

CHAC's 50th Anniversary

The Catholic Health Association of Canada (CHAC)
(Continued on page 79)



LEFT: These 12 Sisters were the last to live at the York Street Convent. In June 1989, the last of them moved to the Hotel Dieu Convent. BACK, from left—Srs. Anne Marie Albert, Helen Chisholm and Evelyn Quinn; FRONT—Srs. Kathleen Keevil, Ada MacMillan, Catherine Frances MacDonald, Mary MacKenzie, Rose Champeau, Ruby Wood, Ella McGillis and Mary F. Clancy. (Staff photo by Anne Vincelli) ABOVE: The seven residing in the Hotel Dieu Convent in 1996 are, seated—Srs. Kathleen Hendricks, Mary Frances Clancy and Ella McGillis; standing—Srs. Evelyn Quinn, Annette Valade (Superior), Helen Chisholm and Isabel McLaughlin. (Photo by Bryan Clouthier)



In January 1991, the RHSJ Health Centre began operating a non-profit day care centre in their former convent on York St. Called 'Free to Become/Libre de Choisir Pre-School Cornwall Inc.', it provides services to 34 children aged 18 months to five years. Under the name 'York Centre', the second and third floors provide space for the offices of various community groups. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



By opening 'Free to Become' so close to St. Joseph's Villa and the imminent seniors' apartment complex, the Sisters anticipated an interaction program for seniors and children. This 1993 scene with Mrs. Katie Theoret and little Melissa Rupert is proof that the program works! (Photo by Anne Vincelli)

Helicopter ambulance service was introduced to Hotel Dieu Cornwall by the Ontario Ministry of Health in 1991. The 'copter flies from Carp, ON, and lands at the helipad built in the north-east corner of the HDH grounds. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



On the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee in 1976, Sr. St. Emily (here with a resident of Macdonell Memorial Hospital) received awards from the Vatican, the Diocese, the Province and the City of Cornwall in recognition of her loving service to the young and old of Nazareth Orphanage, St. Paul's Home and Macdonell Memorial Hospital.



In the sophisticated Neonatal Unit of HDH, nurse Sharon Leclair (right) helps a mother with her new baby. (1993 photo by Anne Vincelli)



Due to a violent 1990 'casino crisis' on the Akwesasne Reserve across the river from Cornwall, elderly Mohawk people were evacuated to the vacant York St. Convent. Jeanette Despatie of the Villa administration later received this token of the Mohawks' appreciation.

Photos by Cornwall Standard-Freeholder



Technician Jackie Assaly directs a patient through the first CT Scanner in Cornwall. It was bought in 1993 with \$1.3-million raised through parking fees.

celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 1989 with the theme 'Faithful Pioneers: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow', honouring all health care workers who provide care with a difference. More than 150 health

care facilities across Canada would commemorate the beginnings of the CHAC, which works to help all Catholic facilities to achieve their mission.

The 1990s: The Future Is NOW

Change at Unprecedented Pace

In 1970 Alvin Toffler published the book *Future Shock*, which many considered science fiction—interesting reading, but not really anything to worry about in the near future or ever.

By the 1990s, many of Toffler's predictions had become fact, and other authors such as Peter Drucker and William Bridges were writing about the effects of change and transition on management and employees. Perhaps one of the greatest influences that caused a difference in business-as-usual was the recession of the 1980s, which had developed into a world-wide depression by the 1990s.

Just as the Industrial Revolution caused a mammoth upheaval in society, so too did the depression and the technological revolution dubbed the Information Highway bring about change in an unprecedented manner. When change begins, it takes a while (the transition period) to become the new established way of doing things. During transitional periods, there will always be confusion and suffering, as people try to understand what is happening, how it will affect them, and how they will be able to survive and cope in the new era.

The old meaning of having a defined job and job security was disappearing. There will always be work to be done, but how it will get done is what changes.

Effect on Health Care

Not only did the recession affect Cornwall with the loss of jobs through downsizing and plant closures, but health care facilities also were experiencing difficulties. During the early 1970s the rumblings of change were being heard. There were bed closures, and the buzzword was amalgamation of services. There were increased government interventions, rules and regulations, and by the time the depression arrived budgets were far less than what was considered

adequate to meet consumer demands and needs.

Still another change was the implementation of new standards by the Canadian Council on Health Facilities Accreditation. Its message was that being just good was not acceptable anymore. The new buzzwords would be TQM (Total Quality Management) and CQI (Continuous Quality Improvement), and this meant all groups within a facility must continually strive for higher levels of quality in operation, performance and service. With less money in the budget, fewer employees to do more work, there had to be concern that the new demands would require more time (paperwork, meetings) and resources.

Other factors also needed to be recognized. Cornwall had a history of being a multicultural city, but new immigrants came to Cornwall with even more varied ethnic and religious backgrounds, and all of them had health care needs to be met through holistic care.

In 1970 there were 20 Sisters at Macdonell Memorial Convent, of whom nine were active workers, eight served as volunteers, and three were aged and infirm. The Hotel Dieu Convent had 12 Sisters of whom 11 were active and one volunteered her services.

By 1990, the Macdonell Memorial Convent had closed and there were only seven Sisters living at the Hotel Dieu Convent. Of these, two Sisters were active and five were volunteers.

Through their Philosophy and Mission Effectiveness Programs, the Sisters developed strong ties with their employees, so that although they were fewer in number, the spirit of the Founder and of the founding Sisters of Cornwall continued to be manifested through caring, compassionate and excellent service at the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall.

Reading the signs of the times, the Board of Directors and Administration of the Centre began to prepare for what they could foresee would be drastic

changes in the delivery of health care services in Cornwall. Close collaboration was developed through frequent meetings and communications with the Cornwall General Hospital and the District Health Council.

As much as possible, Health Centre employees were kept informed of what was happening or anticipated. Frequent meetings were held, and the weekly newsletter had a special feature publishing rumours that were circulating and the actual facts related to those rumours. In spite of these efforts, many who heard and read the messages were still unwilling or unable to accept that coming events would make the old ways of health care delivery obsolete.

In addition, the Board of Directors, Administration and Medical Staff were concerned with keeping up with modern technology, replacing outdated equipment, attaining new 'tools', meeting the training needs of staff, and helping everyone to cope with the inevitable changes.

Tough People for Tough Times

Rev. Dr. Robert Schuller, a popular television evangelist of the last two decades, is fond of saying, "Tough times never last, but tough people do." And the Rev. Gerald Arbuckle, PhD, says, "Chaos offers opportunity for creativity." Given that the 1990s would be "tough times," it is interesting to review the ways the Board of Directors, administration, medical staff, personnel, volunteers and auxiliary members creatively met and maintained the spirit of the Founder and Cornwall's founding Sisters.

RHSJ Health Centre Meets the 1990s

John Haslehurst, Executive Director of the RHSJ Health Centre, had this to say in the January 5, 1990, issue of the Health Centre's Newsletter:

Here come the '90s and I can see that we are going to be in for some exciting times. We have approval from the Ministry of Housing to proceed to plan for the conversion of the Macdonell Memorial Hospital to rent-gearred-to-income apartments pri-

marily for use by seniors and handicapped. We have started to discuss as well alternative uses for the now vacant York Street Convent. Many ideas have been proposed. However, we are limited by a lack of capital funds, thus leading to another thrust in the '90s—fund-raising for capital. With cost constraints and new methods of funding both for hospitals and nursing homes, every person associated with the RHSJ Health Centre will be challenged to work smarter. French language services; employment equity; rationalization of union activities; accreditation; quality assurance programs; increased emphasis on ethical issues; telling our story more effectively to the public; the restricted smoking policy; risk management; changing roles of District Health Councils; new medical techniques; changing roles and powers of paramedical professional groups; strategic planning; organization and modifications; renovations; establishment of a heliport; working relationships with other health agencies; and most important, mission review and development, are just a few of the areas that we will need to deal with in the first year of the new decade. So these will be glorious and challenging times. They will not be times for rigidity of thought. They will not be times for those petrified by the idea of change.

We have exciting times ahead of us. Times to stimulate the imagination, times to spur on each of us to greater success. Times that I know each of you will join in with renewed efforts and dedication.

I look forward to our times together in the '90s.

The challenge was given and the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall responded with faith, hope, fortitude and creativity. Various ways were used to raise funds, such as a variety of sales, auctions and lotteries. Departments raised money not only to meet their own needs for equipment, but generously helped and supported each other wherever there were needs to be met.

Not only did the Health Centre continue to sponsor activities to promote the well-being of the staff through various programs such as safety, wellness, continuing education, etc., but it also continued to be a promoter of community activities such as the Great Rubber Duck Race, Bike-A-Thon, United Way, and the Cornwall Participation Challenge, among many many others.

Special occasions continued—occasions such as

teas and presentations of service pins, parties to celebrate an accreditation status won, special weeks to give recognition to various departments or groups, and special weeks designed to remind everyone of the importance of quality, safety, good nutrition, etc.

Of course, there were some unexpected happenings. The Cornwall Health Centre was selected to participate in a National Conference on Aging, Health and the Celebration of Life into the 21st Century. Karen Lauzon, Administrative Manager, and Ruth MacDonell, Assistant Director of Nursing, presented—in poster form—a community profile of health service and lifestyle expectations of local seniors. The conference was held in Ottawa in April.

Mr. Haslehurst agreed with John Naisbitt (author of *Megatrends*) that it is a fantastic time to be alive. In the Newsletter of April 12, 1990, he said:

Hospitals are going through a particularly difficult time. Currently the Government is taking a position that in Canada we institutionalize (hospitalize) too many people. There is no doubt that Canada does seem to provide an approach to health care that concentrates on admitting people to hospital who, in other countries, might be looked after in clinics or even at home.

The approach we take toward the provision of care is expensive. However, community surveys repeatedly tell us that the public is happy with the type of care given and is even willing to pay more for such care. On the theory that it is less expensive to provide services in the community rather than in hospitals, the Government is pursuing an active policy of increasing funding to community programs while reducing the amount of money being provided for hospital services. At the same time, health care technology is expanding and we are constantly being asked to provide more, while funding decreases. For this year (1990-91) the economic adjustment will be 5.5 percent in the increase to our budget. However, recent initiatives by the Government have introduced the Employer Health Tax, a Pay Equity program, increases in WCB costs, hazardous materials regulations, and more. Each program increases markedly our overall costs and challenges us to meet these legislative requirements. As a result, our frustration rises and we wonder if we will make it. Is it really a fantastic time to be alive?

I think that it is a fantastic time to be alive to work on these challenges. We can and do make a

difference. We do change the lives of those who come to us for help. We do this together—the 900 staff members, the 125 physicians, the 165 auxiliaries and the uncounted volunteers who work so hard to ease the pains we encounter daily.

It is the faith of Easter that we must carry throughout the year as we move on to try to improve our world and the lot of our fellow beings. We may not solve every problem; we cannot feed everyone who is hungry; we don't have cures for every disease; we won't solve inflation or prevent every murder. However, with our faith in God, in ourselves, and in each other we can overcome these obstacles and can make a difference. We can improve the world. We can say, 'What a fantastic time to be alive!'

Well Chosen Assistants

In July, Mr. Haslehurst announced that Dr. Raymond Legault would be joining the administrative staff of the Health Centre as his assistant, responsible for medical services. As a physician having practised in Cornwall for almost 20 years, as a past president of the Medical Staff, as a member of many committees and task forces including Quality Assurance and Ethics, Dr. Legault had a fine understanding of the pressures being faced. He brought experience and competence to this new position.

The other assistants were Mary Thibeault (Patient Services), George Dolejsi (Support Services) and Jeannette Despatie (St. Joseph's Villa).

Patient-Focused Care

In 1990 the Board of Directors of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall mandated the Management Coordinating Committee of Hotel Dieu Hospital to initiate restructuring in response to community needs and expectations, and also to reduce costs. The Management Committee endorsed a new directional plan and began actively restructuring toward a new objective known as 'Patient-focused Care'. Two stages were identified and pursued:

Stage One: Decentralization

It was agreed that Registered Nurses are competent to deal with difficulties which arise in their nursing units, along with Nurse Managers on call to assist in special situations. Therefore the positions of Director of Nursing and Nursing Supervisor were eliminated.

All units and departments were next assessed for compatibility of services in keeping with the objective of patient-focused care. The result was the amalgamation of selected departments under one manager. For example, the Diagnostic Imaging Department was created by uniting the previously distinct units of Radiology, Ultrasound, Electroencephalography and Electromyography.

Stage Two: Multi-Skilled Employees

Once the first stage was under way, the need for cross training of all hospital staff became more urgent. The Management Committee next challenged the following four levels of staff—support, administration, clinical and medical—to develop cross training programs.

Our Neighbors of Akwesasne

The Mohawk peoples migrated from the Mohawk Valley to Akwesasne in the mid-1700s, and by 1755 the St. Regis Church was established there.

Thanks to the Mohawks, Sir John Johnson and his weak soldiers were saved as they fled from the Americans in 1776 at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. They were taken by the Mohawks from the Adirondacks to safety in Montreal. Sir John later settled in what would become Cornwall.

Akwesasne is located on the international border between Canada and the United States. Its peoples are about evenly distributed among the three districts of Kanatakon (St. Regis Village), Kawennoke (Cornwall Island) and Chenail. English is the common language of the population, with about 21% also speaking Mohawk.

Between 1820 and 1850, epidemic diseases such as small-pox, cholera and typhus killed about half the population. It was during that time that alcohol became a concern among the inhabitants.

When factories opened after the construction of the Seaway, pollution made the fish inedible and airborne fluoride affected the livestock. Thus the Mohawks moved from being a farming and fishing community to being a business community.

There have been friendly relations between Hotel Dieu and its Mohawk neighbours ever since the hospital began in 1897. They have been patients, residents, orphans, employees and students in the School of Nursing. They have sought assistance and advice in health matters and were assisted when

possible. Records indicate that they showed special appreciation to administrator Jack Fry, Dr. John Tallon and Dr. Allan McLeod, whom they found especially helpful to them.

In 1990 there was a casino crisis among the Mohawk people on the reserve—some wanting one and some opposing it. Because of the violence which erupted, Chief Thompson made a decision to evacuate the nursing home, and Mr. Haslehurst was asked if the Health Centre could help them. In response, the Disaster Plan was activated, and the vacant Macdonell Memorial Convent was made ready to receive 21 nursing home residents. Some were brought across the river on pontoon boats and then taken by ambulance to the Convent. Others were transported directly by road.

The staffs of the Villa and Hospital responded with dedication, efficiency and compassion. When notice came of the possibilities of the reserve's feud escalating, essential hospital departments were asked to have stand-by coverage and to be ready to staff emergency services. Dr. Indira Gambhir, Chief of Emergency Medicine, along with staff from Hotel Dieu Hospital, went to the arena to check on the medical needs of evacuees from the Island. Fortunately, the differing views regarding the establishment of a casino were settled, the decision was No, and the emergency came to a resolution.

By June 1990, Hotel Dieu was pleased to welcome students from the Nursing Assistant Program of the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne for clinical experience. These students had started a home nursing program, but they wanted to extend their knowledge and so, in conjunction with Chateaugay Regional Valley School Board, the Mohawk Council established the Regional Registered Nursing Assistant Program. This program is unique in its approach since it is culturally oriented and emphasizes roles and relationships within the family.

Since 1990 several major projects have been completed by the Mohawk peoples of Akwesasne. They include a home for the elderly, three community recreation centres in St. Regis, Snye and Cornwall Island, a health facility, a chronic care facility, Business Development Centre\Peace Tree Mall, and the expansion of the gym at St. Regis School for multi-purpose use. An Adult Education and a Justice facility are in the planning stages.

Between 1988 and 1994, the following persons

of Akwesasne were appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall: Henry Lickers, Tim Thomson, Ernest Thomson and Mrs. Lucy Papineau, a 1968 graduate of St. Joseph School of Nursing who currently serves on the Board.

Physicians Mourned

The staff of the RHSJ Health Centre was saddened in 1990 by the deaths of two of its outstanding physicians. Dr. Ian Gourley, who had been a Pediatrician on the active medical staff for 52 years and on the Honorary Staff for four years, died on February 2. Dr. Joseph Irving McGillvary died on October 1 at the age of 78 years. He had joined the medical staff in 1963 in the Department of Anesthesia and had practised until his retirement in 1987. He served as Chief of Anesthesia for a number of years.

New Signage System

Hotel Dieu implemented new level designation and corresponding bilingual signage during July 1990. This was done in order to have the levels of the Hospital and the Janet Macdonell Pavilion co-ordinated. The ground level of the Hospital became Level 1; the first floor became Level 2 in order to correspond with Level 2 of the Pavilion.

The new system included room number signs and strategically placed directory boards on all levels, as well as elevator level indicators. Extensive use of pictograms was used as a universally recognizable form or means of communication.

Donor Recognition Wall

When the Cornwall Joint Hospitals campaign was established, the Board that directed the project agreed that significant donors to the Fund would be recognized by each hospital. On October 10, a brief service was held at Hotel Dieu Hospital to unveil the plaques in the Level 2 lobby near the elevators.

These plaques are a means of saying 'thank you' to the individual and corporate citizens of Cornwall. Without their support, the Janet Macdonell Pavilion and many other improvements would not have been possible.

Lifeline Program

A Lifeline program was introduced to expand the

community outreach program. Lifeline is a personal emergency response system that helps frail, elderly and disabled persons maintain independence in their own homes. In an emergency, one squeeze of a portable button will bring help within minutes of the person's need for it. This personal help button is worn on a chain around the neck.

Squeezing the button activates the home unit, attached to the telephone, which automatically dials the emergency response centre located at Hotel Dieu Hospital and operated around the clock. The hospital switchboard assesses the emergency. If there is no answer at the subscriber's home or if immediate help is needed, a reliable neighbour is alerted to provide assistance. In an urgent emergency, the Lifeline staff will send the police, fire department or medical professionals, as needed.

By 1995 there were close to 100 units in use in the community.

Study of Health and Aging

St. Joseph's Villa was randomly selected as one of three institutions in Northern and Eastern Ontario to be involved in a sample study known as 'The Canadian Study of Health and Aging'.

This national undertaking was the first such study in the world and involved almost every medical school in Canada. The information provided by the study would benefit older Canadians several ways: by developing a greater awareness of the problems of seniors; by assisting government agencies in planning future programs and services; and by assisting in the development of preventive programs.

Ontario Health Cards

The year 1991 opened with new Ontario Health Cards being issued to Ontario residents. Those 65 years of age and older had '65' stamped in gold on their cards. Because of multi-million-dollar health card fraud across the province, it was not long before these cards had to be presented every time a health service was requested.

Air Ambulance Arrives

The first air ambulance arrived at a helipad recently constructed on the north side of Hotel Dieu Hospital on January 23, 1991. An orientation on helicopter

access, safety and the implications of air transport for patients was given to physicians, surgeons, critical care unit and emergency staffs of Cornwall General and Hotel Dieu Hospitals, as well as ambulance, police and fire department personnel.

The Air Ambulance is based at Carp, near Ottawa, and is provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health. The helicopter is staffed with a pilot, a first officer and a paramedic with special air transport qualifications. The patient compartment can accommodate two stretcher patients and is equipped in the same way as a standard land ambulance.

Free to Become/Libre de Choisir

The RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall announced early in January 1991 that *Free to Become/Libre de Choisir Preschool Cornwall Inc.* would be operating a non-profit day care centre in the former convent at 12 York Street. The day care centre is licensed by the Province of Ontario to provide services to 34 children from the age of 18 months to five years. Due to the proximity to St. Joseph's Villa and the future seniors apartment complex at the former Macdonell Memorial Hospital site, an interaction program for seniors and children was planned.

Later, the second and third floor levels of the York Centre (former Convent) were remodelled and today are being used by various community groups for offices.

In 1993 part of the third floor of the building was set up for separated non-custodial parents to visit their children under supervision. The area contains an interviewing office, kitchen, waiting room, a large room opening into the hall, two parlors and a storage area.

Nursing's 60th Anniversary

Although St. Joseph's School of Nursing had closed in June of 1969, Monsignor Rudy Villeneuve celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving in the Hotel Dieu Hospital Chapel on May 30, 1991, in honor of the 60th anniversary of the School's founding. A social hour and dinner followed at the Janet Macdonell Pavilion.

The School was founded by the Religious Hospitaliers of St. Joseph in 1929 through the initiative of Sisters Janet Macdonell and St. George (MacDonald).

Directors of the school included:

- 1929-1935 Miss Katherine McLellan, RN
- 1935-1953 Sister St. George (McDonald)
- 1953-1956 Sister Margaret Mooney
- 1956-1960 Sister Aileen Byrne
- 1960-1962 Sister Audrey Mantle
- 1962-1969 Sister Mary MacKenzie.

Archival Records

Archival documents recording the history of the Cornwall Sisters and their institutions were brought to the Sisters' Residence on July 4, 1991. These documents had been processed at the Provincial House Archives Centre in Kingston, where they were inventoried to provide easy access to research material.

Documents related to the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall are now being carefully gathered and preserved in the Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Ultrasound Services

Ultrasound services became available at Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1979, but in 1991 the Ultrasound and X-Ray Departments were amalgamated under one manager and became known as the Diagnostic Imaging Department.

This equipment is used to provide data in the following types of examinations: abdominal, breast, cardiac, obstetric and pelvic.

In the mid-'90s the department acquired three new machines to replace two older ones and added one more, thus providing a complement of four machines. The expanded capability of the equipment allowed for 'doppler imaging' in monitoring vascular flow, and new procedures in prosthetic and shoulder ultrasound.

Marie de la Ferre Apartments

Long before the Macdonell Memorial Hospital actually closed, many people were speculating as to what the vacated hospital could be used for. After all, it was a fireproof building and had been properly maintained to meet existing codes and exacting accreditation standards.

In January 1991 the RHSJ Housing Corporation, which had been incorporated the previous April,

announced that it would develop the Marie de la Ferre Apartments in the former Macdonell Memorial Hospital at 211 Water Street. The Ministry of Housing provided a grant through the Homes NOW Program to create 59 apartments, of which six would be designated for the use of disabled tenants. There would be 49 one-bedroom and 10 two-bedroom units.

The apartments would be non-profit, accessible to the disabled, and would feature tenant and visitor parking, a common recreational room, a building security system, laundromat and an outdoor courtyard.

On May 29 Sister Rosemarie Kugel, President of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Housing Corporation, signed the contract with the representatives of Menard Construction (Canada) Ltd. to develop the Marie de la Ferre Apartments. Representing the local firm were Vice-President Ray Duhaime and General Manager Frank Perras. Pino di Stefano would be Building Consultant, and architectural design services were in the hands of Mohaupt Craig Architects Inc. of Ottawa.

The former hospital was renovated at a cost of \$4.4-million. On Friday, June 12, 1992, *The Standard Freeholder* carried a report of the previous day's opening of the Marie de la Ferre Apartments.

Sister Rosemarie Kugel as Housing Corporation President presided at the grand opening, which also featured Mayor Ron Martelle in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Others attending included Cornwall MPP John Cleary (Parliamentary Assistant to Minister of Citizenship Jenny Carter), Sisters, members of the Villeneuve family (relatives of Sister Marie de la Ferre, for whom the apartments were named) and many friends.

Mayor Martelle complimented the RHSJ Sisters for their efforts over the years. "Down through the years," he said, "the Sisters have done so much for this community. I guess you could call Cornwall a community with a conscience."

In March 1991 the Ministry of Community and Social Services approved a request to link St. Joseph's Villa and the Marie de la Ferre Apartments with a covered walkway. This linkage provides a Seniors' Centre, making it possible for seniors to have more services, such as access to meals, craft activities and recreational opportunities. The covered walkway meets St. Joseph's Villa at the first floor, just opposite the elevators.

Strategic Directional Plan

The Strategic Planning Committee of the Board of Directors held many meetings to identify the major issues that would be facing the RHSJ Health Centre. With the help of consultants, background papers were developed and presented to the Committee. The management staff participated in discussions, and certain members of the Medical Staff were interviewed to give their viewpoints regarding the documents.

On March 1, 1991, a Board Retreat was held at the Holiday Inn to review the issues identified by the Peat Marwick, Stevenson and Kellogg Consultants. Present were the Board of Directors, Medical Advisory Committee, Management Co-ordinating Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and members of the RHSJ Health System.

The Directional/Strategic Plan was concerned with Mission Effectiveness, Profile/Image, Utilization Management, the Changing Role of the Board, Human Resources, Strategic Alliances and Program/Service Planning. Under each of these headings was indicated existing realities, projects/initiatives and the willed future. Projects and strategies for implementation for 1991-1992 and for 1992-1993 were included.

This Board Retreat was considered most crucial and important for the future of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall.

Sister Cobey Honored

The Performance Citation Award, a prestigious Catholic Health Association of Canada Award, was presented to Sister Rosalia Cobey at the Awards Dinner on Tuesday evening, June 11, 1991, when the Joint Assembly of the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA-US) and Canada (CHAC) was held at the Palais des Congres in Montreal.

Her citation was in recognition of Sister Cobey's "outstanding contribution to health care in a Christian context, exemplary leadership of a national effort at building up the Christian Community, and unselfish dedication as a person for others."

Parking Fees Buy Equipment

Paid parking was introduced late in 1991 by the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall as a means of generating funds to buy equipment no longer provided through

government sources. It was hoped that after maintenance expenses and snow removal costs, there would be at least \$253,000 available annually for equipment.

The Hospital and Pavilion have 420 spaces and the Villa has 130. The only persons who do not pay for parking are the 300 Health Centre volunteers.

By January 21, 1994, Mr. Haslehurst reported that fees raised from the Hospital and Pavilion parking had paid for a \$1.3-million CT scanner and other needed equipment.

Paid parking fast became a way of life for all health care facilities in Ontario.

1992 Brings 'A Mess'

The old year ended on a somber note and 1992 began in the same fashion. Mr. Haslehurst wrote in the January 20th issue of the Newsletter:

Unless you have just arrived from another planet, you must know that the economy of Ontario is in a mess. Manufacturing plants and stores have gone bankrupt. Many people have been laid off. Transfer payments from the Federal Government to the Province for services such as health have been slashed. Naturally, because of less income, people are spending less and paying less taxes, thus making it even more difficult for the Provincial Treasurer to find the funds for every current service.

Services such as health and education are particularly vulnerable, since they depend so much on the Government for most of their funding—and the amount being spent each year is huge. The Health Ministry alone takes about \$17-billion each year. Like all other industries, the depression has hit the hospitals. We are hit also with new government initiatives such as expanded costs for Workers' Compensation, the Employment Health Tax and Pay Equity. The public demands for new technology and response to health care programs force our costs up as we attempt to provide the staff and the supply resources to meet those needs.

Therefore with cuts in revenues and increases in costs, Premier Rae is taking to the television networks to tell Ontarians what he plans to do. We have no secret pipeline to the Government. However, there have been sufficient comments made to let us know that we can expect less than a 2% increase over this fiscal year's cost. We know that in order to meet our commitments we need over 8% increase. If we receive

*nothing (0%), we will have a shortfall of over \$2.5 million. The Hospital is **not permitted** to have a deficit. Consequently other solutions must be found. Given the size of problems, the measures that we have to take may be extreme. As a result, members of the Management Team have been meeting to try to identify various solutions. No decisions have as yet been made, although there have been many suggestions considered.*

Yes, there was even more—but that will give you an idea of the situation being faced by all health care facilities in Ontario.

Arbor Day Introduced

The first annual Arbor Day Ceremony of tree planting was held in the Janet Macdonell Memorial Gardens, followed by a reception in the auditorium. Special tributes were paid to retired physicians, family members and co-workers. About 50 trees of different varieties were planted during the first year. The trees are tagged in an appropriate manner, and there are maps to indicate the location of the various species.

A highlight of the 1993 Arbor Day was the construction of a concrete walkway in the Janet Macdonell Memorial Garden, made possible through donations given for a 'Plant a Walk' campaign. The new walkway is wheelchair accessible.

Community interest in the past contributed to the growth of the first Commemorative Grove, a natural retreat for patients and visitors.

The Memorial Garden depends on community support to continue its growth and provide such additions as park benches and activity areas. Access to the garden is not restricted solely to patients and visitors, but also provides the community with a unique garden that should be a pleasure for years to come.

In 1994, panels for a permanent donor recognition wall to be located in the Janet Macdonell Pavilion and a permanent outdoor sign at the entrance to the garden were planned. The sign was erected for the completed project on September 26, 1995.

Dental Services Expand

The dental clinic was first opened in 1967 to provide emergency dental services. In 1992 it was renovated and relocated near the patient registration area on Level One, accessible to wheelchairs. It is equipped

to provide emergency services as well as dental services to long-term patients from the Pavilion, residents of St. Joseph's Villa, home residents, and disabled or handicapped nursing home residents.

Almost \$150,000 was spent on renovating the dental clinic, two-thirds of it funded by the Province. About \$30,000 was spent on equipment, including a dental chair, more effective lighting, and dental instruments. A new sterilizer was donated by the dental staff.

Pediatric Day Surgery

The official opening of the new Day Surgery Unit in the Pediatric Wing, Level 5 East, was held on March 23, 1994. This project, which had begun in 1992, was completed through the efforts of the Pediatric Group of the Health Centre Auxiliary, hospital staff and sponsors of the Lights of Hope Campaign.

Sister Chisholm Honored

On Sunday, September 9, at St. Finnan's Cathedral, Alexandria, the Sisters celebrated with Bishop Eugene LaRocque, clergy and parishioners the Centennial of the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall. At the Mass of Thanksgiving, Sister Helen Chisholm was presented with a Diocesan Medal, a tribute to her untiring work in Pastoral Care at St. Joseph's Villa.

Lay Woman Becomes Board Chair

In September 1992, Elizabeth MacLennan became the first lay woman chosen to chair the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall Board of Directors. She was also the first woman lawyer ever to practise in Cornwall and the three United Counties. Another first, for her, was being the first lawyer in the United Counties with experience to represent women under the new laws that established property rights for women.

Ms. MacLennan is currently in-house counsel for the Children's Aid Society, a past president of the SD & G Law Association, President of Free to Become Preschool Inc., and a past President of Big Brothers and Sisters of Cornwall and District. At the time of writing, she is serving a third term as Board Chair of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall.

A Special Tea

On October 7, 1992, Sister Annette Valade was

honoured with a Tea in recognition of her many contributions to the RHSJ Health Centre's Pastoral Care Department. Approximately 200 of Sister Annette's friends and family gathered for the presentation of a plaque that was later placed in the hospital. Congratulations were extended by Sister Isabel MacLaughlin on behalf of the Sisters, by Michael Warden representing the Board of Directors, and by Vicar General Donald McDougald representing Bishop LaRocque. The Tea provided an opportunity to give Sister Annette public recognition for almost 20 years in pastoral care service.

Parking Pays for CT Scanner

Health Minister Frances Larkin announced on November 20, 1992, that Hotel Dieu Hospital would be allowed to operate a computerized axial tomography (CT) scanner, popularly called a CAT Scan.

The hospital would receive a one-time grant of \$150,000 for monitoring systems to ensure that the CT scanner was used as a substitute for other diagnostic imaging procedures such as x-rays. The approval was granted only to hospitals with no operating deficits and those which had the support of their local District Health Councils. The scanner, which was installed next to the X-Ray Department, was paid for with fees collected from paid parking.

The official opening of the Doctor Renner CT Scanner Suite was held on March 30, 1994. Open House was held on two days, with the CT technologists available to answer questions and conduct tours.

Cobey Award Instituted

A special Sister Rosalia Cobey Award was introduced at the RHSJ Health Centre in January 1993 to promote and reinforce the values and philosophy held by the Centre as a Christian community and demonstrated by Sister Cobey herself. This award is presented annually to a health care employee who, in the opinion of fellow workers, best demonstrates some of the personal characteristics of Sister Cobey and who has illustrated in the delivery of patient/resident care the elements of the mission and philosophy of the RHSJ Health Centre.

Irene Joudoin, a nursing assistant at St. Joseph's Villa, was the first recipient of this award.

Sister Cobey became seriously ill with cancer in November 1991 and retired to St. Joseph Provincial

House in January 1992. Although her illness caused her much suffering, she remained interested in and concerned with all the activities of the Health Centre and served as a consultant to the author in the preparation of this book.

Sister Cobey died on April 22, 1993, and was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Kingston.

The Transitional Unit

The Transitional Unit is located on Level 3 of Hotel Dieu Hospital. Its purpose is to improve the level of independence of patients who no longer require acute medical or surgical care but do need a special care plan to resume a quality lifestyle on return to a home environment in the community.

The Palliative Care and Alternative Level of Care Units are under one nurse manager to form the Transitional Unit. The patient, family members and the patient's physician must agree to placement in this unit, and they must also work with the special unit team to maximize the patient's ability to return to an independent life-style outside the hospital.

The Transitional Unit provides intensive teaching programs on the use of health care aids, personal care, and adaptability skills in preparation for leaving the hospital. Family members are encouraged to participate actively in all the unit's scheduled programs and routine activities. Learning sessions for family members are scheduled as required.

The Transitional Team co-ordinates services that meet the care needs of the patient and provides educational materials on request. It works closely with members of the hospital's Multidisciplinary Team, which may include a variety of Diabetic Service, Home Care Program, Pastoral Care, Rehabilitation Services (Chiropody, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy) and Social Work.

Activity programs are designed and delivered at different levels of complexity to enable each patient to participate. Team members regularly assess the patient's ability to perform the activities of personal care and evaluate the family's ability to manage the illness or disability.

The length of stay in the Transitional Unit depends on each patient's need and personal progress, plus the availability of space in long-term care institutions.

Accreditation 1993

Early in May 1993, the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall was notified that it would be surveyed by the Canadian Council on Health Facilities Accreditation on May 17-18-19. This was the first time that St. Joseph's Villa and the Hotel Dieu Hospital would be surveyed as a Health Centre unit.

Notification came on July 16 that a three-year accreditation had been granted. This recognition indicated an above-average level of compliance with the standards for quality care set by the national Council. In appreciation for the contribution of all employees to this accreditation, a Staff Barbecue was held on Friday, September 10.

The Social Contract

During the summer of 1993 the Ontario Government announced its Social Contract legislation, and the senior management team began to plan how Hotel Dieu Hospital would meet this government target. A plan was developed calling for the rotating closure of beds and services which could be closed, the reduction of the operating room schedule for a period of time, and the taking of 12 'Rae Days' for those staff affected by the legislation. Throughout the closures and the reduction in surgery services, the staff capably coped with the situation. Due to careful planning and ongoing review of the hospital's plan, few difficulties were encountered despite the reductions. The co-operation of the medical staff was exceptional.

By late 1993, direction was received from the Ministry of Health concerning the 1994/95 operating plan process. The hospital's Social Contract target was eventually reduced by the Ministry, and consequently the 1994-95 fiscal year did not require the same kinds of closures and number of staff 'Rae Days' as in the previous year. Temporary closures would continue during the summer of 1994, Christmas of 1994 and March of 1995.

Cornwall General Hospital was consulted, since it, too, was planning periods of closures and services. In this way a consistent coverage would be available to the community. The two Cornwall hospitals met during the summer to study what further rationalizations could be made between them. Already chronic care, rehabilitation, pediatrics, psychiatry, obstetrics and detoxification were rationalized, and further areas

of the laboratories and diagnostic imaging were being considered.

The hospitals agreed that the services of Ted Gillespie of Dorset Management Consulting be retained to assist with the process and prepare a report for the Boards.

The study began with the setting up of eight task forces to make recommendations on possible areas of rationalization. The primary objective was not to eliminate jobs, but to ensure that the best possible service was provided to the community in a fiscally responsible manner.

The draft 'rationalization report' was received in February 1994 and distributed to Board members shortly thereafter. A joint meeting of the Boards of the two hospitals was called for April 12, 1994, and at its May meeting the Health Centre Board of Directors accepted and endorsed the Dorset study and recommended the report for approval, in principle, to the members of the Corporation and District Health Council.

Further issues of potential rationalization between the two hospitals continue. For example, it has been agreed that Urology should be located at Hotel Dieu Hospital since most of that service is carried out there. Also, pending the arrival of a new urologist, this would necessitate buying new equipment at only one hospital.

Cross-Training Introduced

The RHSJ Health Centre introduced cross-training programs as a major step in restructuring towards multi-skilled patient care teams. Under the leadership of clinical staff, including registered nurses, technologists and therapists, support services staff were offered the opportunity to maximize their skills and to train as Patient Care Aides (PCAs). Patient care teams are expected to provide patients with more effective care, by fewer people, and with less inconvenience to the patient. Patient Care Aides were first introduced in the Janet Macdonell Pavilion.

Birthing Bed Option

In 1993 a birthing bed located in a private room simulating a home environment was made available to expectant mothers as an option to the traditional labour room. It proved so popular that the Auxiliary

to the RHSJ Health Centre subsequently directed all its fundraising efforts into a half-million-dollar project to furnish the new Labour-Delivery-Recovery rooms (LDRs) and to modernize the Obstetrical Unit of Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Mother and baby, along with family members and visitors, are able to share in the comfort of a homelike environment while in hospital.

Plaque Installed

A memorial plaque to honor John Sandfield Macdonald and Ivy Hall was mounted near the York and Water Street entrance of the Marie de la Ferre Apartments on May 24, 1993. The burgundy and aluminum plaque is 30 inches high and 42 inches wide, with Cornwall's crest in the centre. The plaque has the following inscription in both French and English:

JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD and IVY HALL

IVY HALL, the home of John Sandfield Macdonald, local lawyer, militia officer, founder of the Freeholder, Mayor, Member of the Legislative Assembly and first Premier of Ontario, stood on this corner. Politically a moderate reformer, Macdonald supported Responsible Government, the separation of Church and State, and approval from both French and English for major legislation. In 1840 he eloped with Marie Christine Waggaman, the daughter of a Louisiana French patrician family. Here Macdonald and his devout wife raised six children amidst constant business and political activity and lavish entertainments. Sandfield died June 1, 1872, and lies buried at St. Andrew's West. IVY HALL was purchased by the Diocese of Alexandria and opened as Cornwall's first permanent hospital, the Hotel Dieu, in 1897 by the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph.

(The Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, S.D. & G. Historical Society. Erected with the assistance of the Ontario Heritage Foundation.)

Following the ceremony, remarks by representatives of the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Historical Society, the City of Cornwall, the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph and a member of the Macdonald family, the plaque was unveiled and its inscription was read. A reception and exhibit was held at the United Counties Museum.

Plan for 'A Healthier Ontario'

Ruth Grier, Minister of Health for Ontario, had published in October 1993 a brochure entitled *A Healthier Ontario: Progress in the 1990s*. The purpose of this publication was to prepare Ontarians for future changes in their health system. The report indicated the Ministry's health plan for the future and its approach to change. It explained why change was necessary and cited the progress already made and under way.

Under the strategic priorities listed were reforms for hospitals, mental health, drug programs, long-term care and support services, laboratories review, and strategies for cancer, tobacco, diabetes, substance abuse, aboriginal health, women's health, rehabilitation services, HIV/AIDS, health industries and health human resources.

Under the heading of hospital reform, the brochure stated that "hospital funding is more than 40% of the Ontario health budget and has increased by about 10% each year for a decade. A review of expenditures found that, for our hospitals to continue offering the high level of care we expect of them, the hospital system must be more efficient." To quote Ruth Grier, "The management of the hospital system needs to be improved, the duplication of services needs to be addressed, operational efficiencies need to be achieved, and the shift from in-patient to out-patient care needs to be accelerated."

The Sleep Lab

Located on the third level at Hotel Dieu, the sleep lab is a state-of-the-art testing centre for persons with sleep-related medical disorders. Using computer technology, the subjects' sleeping behaviour is studied in an attempt to find medical clues to problems such as daytime somnolence, pathological snoring, fragmented sleep and insomnia. Patients diagnosed with a sleeping disorder are reviewed by one or more of the medical members of the Sleep Disorder Group so that specific management plans can be suggested for them. The Lab opened on October 31, 1993.

Meetings Opened to Public

In 1993, the Directors changed their long-standing policy of closed door meetings to allow members of the public to attend. Board meetings are usually held

the first Thursday of the month, and meetings alternate between the Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa. It is possible for members of the public to make a presentation with prior approval from the Board Chair.

Cornwall Copes with the Recession

According to Mayor Ron Martelle, 3,000 jobs had disappeared between 1989 and 1992, of which 2,600 were in manufacturing. The unemployment rate was nearly 22%, and almost 40% of residents were on some form of social assistance. Just when the people of Cornwall needed help the most, social agencies were not able to keep up with increasing demands for service. Coupled with budget cutbacks, waiting periods increased to at least three months and usually longer. People seeking help became more angry and aggressive. More children went to school hungry. There were major lay-offs and plant closures. Statistics Canada reported that Cornwall's median income was one of the worst among Ontario cities.

Crime statistics rose because of social desperation, and break-ins, domestic violence, car thefts, robberies and impaired driving became common occurrences. A number of police officers and social workers were forced to take leaves of absence because of stress caused by heavy workloads and uncertainty over their own jobs. Then there was the problem of cross-border shopping and, later, negative publicity due to the smuggling of cigarettes and alcohol.

Mayor Martelle once said, "Cornwall's been down before, never this down. But we've never been out and we always bounce back."

By 1993 the City was "bouncing back." Two companies announced major expansion projects. The Ontario Ministry of Economic Development was trying aggressively to attract new business to the area by indicating its many advantages for business. The Cornwall Regional Visitors and Convention Bureau opened new offices at 1302 2nd Street West so that it could work closely with local and regional tourism partners to promote the area as a viable visitor and convention destination.

Queen's Park announced it would begin construction of a provincial government office building

by the fall of 1994 on the property between 2nd and 3rd Streets East, next to the former Capitol Theatre site. The facility would house the Ontario Court General Division, an Ontario Provincial Division, and offices of a number of provincial agencies.

The Heritage Murals of Cornwall Committee spearheaded the creation of Cornwall's first outdoor mural on the Standard Block Building in 1993. It was called *Cornwall, Circa 1910* and was painted by artist David Yeatman. A second mural was painted by Karole Marois on the north wall of Carl's Smoke Shop at the corner of Pitt and 3rd Streets.

The third mural is at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 297, corner of Second and Cumberland Streets, on the south wall facing Second Street. The offer of the Legion to sponsor this mural and the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II made the Legion site perfect for the 1995 mural. In addition to Legion sponsorship, funds were raised through the sale of mural prints and donations of goods and services from the private sector. Prints of the first mural proved to be a popular souvenir item for tourists.

The Committee plans for at least a dozen murals to be painted during the 1990s to help celebrate Cornwall's rich heritage, bolster community pride, improve the local economy and enhance the tourism industry.

A yearly lilac festival in June was another idea considered. Smile Day was introduced on February 2, 1993, and proved to be a very popular event.

Project 'Let's Get Growing!' was formed about this time to try to earn Cornwall the distinction of becoming 'Canada's Floral City' and a tourist destination.

More good news was announced in January 1994. Between April 1994 and March 1996, the city would receive almost \$6-million in federal and provincial grants under an infrastructure program. With the City's required contribution of \$2.9 million, the program called for a total of almost \$9-million in job creation projects such as waterfront and harbor area redevelopment, a new main branch of the library at the downtown post office building, and the reconstruction of Pitt Street between 9th and 3rd Streets and between 1st and Water Streets.

When established in 1995, the new Cornwall Environment Resource Centre was the only environmental centre in the province, and its programs have

become models for other communities.

There was altogether a more positive and promising atmosphere as Cornwall in 1995 celebrated the 50th anniversary of its incorporation as a city.

Anticipating Change and Reform in Long-Term and Chronic Care

With major changes taking place in long-term care, it can be expected that there will be a major shift taking place in the type of patient and resident being cared for. Many of the residents at the Villa will fall into a home care category. Chronically ill patients will be categorized as nursing home candidates. According to the government definitions, chronic patients will be only those who have a rehabilitation potential. Only about 5% to 10% of the present Pavilion patients fall into this category.

The outcome of these changes will be an expectation that there must be closer co-operation with the community to co-ordinate programs for those persons who will no longer be eligible for Homes for the Aged. This would mean that the Villa staff would be required to care for chronically ill patients with complex and multiple medical conditions.

Looking ahead to such changes, there was a reassignment, effective March 1, 1994, of responsibilities for the Nurse Managers at Hotel Dieu Hospital and the Director of Resident Care at St. Joseph Villa. This was another step in providing cross-training for the Nurse Managers.

Villa's Top Volunteer

The 1994 Community Volunteer of the Year Award went to Berthe Laniel, a volunteer with 24 years of service at St. Joseph Villa. In the nomination letter, she was described as an exceptional lady with boundless energy and enthusiasm and a perfect example of the Villa's caring philosophy, "always there when you need her."

Silver Bells at the Villa

Although the Sisters began their special apostolate of caring for the aged in 1898, the silver jubilee celebrated in 1994 was in recognition of 25 years of service in the present St. Joseph's Villa building, which officially opened on October 20, 1969. The celebration theme was 'Join Our Journey' or 'Faisons Route Ensemble'. The following activities marked this special occasion:

- * Wine and Cheese Reception for residents and families;
- * Cake and juice party for Day Care students;
- * Memorial Mass for deceased residents;
- * Tea\Reception for service clubs and volunteers;
- * Anniversary Mass for Board members, founders, RHSJ Sisters, clergy and managers, celebrated by Bishop Eugene LaRocque, assisted by Father Pedro and Father Villeneuve in the beautifully decorated chapel of the Villa, followed by luncheon in the McMartin Auditorium;
- * A Harvest Lunch and Dinner for the St. Joseph Villa staff. Celebrating 25 years at the Villa were Camilla Cavanagh, a resident, and Eileen Rowe, who began employment on the Villa's opening day.

First Mission Education Week

The first Mission Education Week was held June 13-17, 1994. Its purpose was to promote a continuing appreciation of the heritage and traditions of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, which encompass a holistic approach to care, including the promotion of health and wellness. Sister Sarah Maillet from New Brunswick made 11 presentations on these subjects at Hotel Dieu Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa.

While commitment to our fundamental philosophy and central values remain unchanged, it is recognized that certain aspects of those values may need to be modified to reflect the religious, ethnic and cultural transformation of the community.

The RHSJ Health Centre aims to have its mission, philosophy and values understood and supported by the entire staff, physicians, Board members and volunteers. Strategies to promote mission effectiveness have had to be implemented to counter the declining presence of RHSJ Sisters, who previously served as role models.

In 1995, all of the staff, physicians, Board

members and volunteers were invited to sign a large board declaring their commitment to the philosophy and mission of the RHSJ Health Centre. These boards are located near the cafeteria at Hotel Dieu Hospital and the Villa.

At the Board of Directors meeting on December 7, 1995, the Rev. Everett MacNeil was the guest speaker. He spoke of mission and philosophy and stressed, among other things, healing when spirituality is involved along with pharmaceuticals and surgeries, the right of each person to spiritual care in their own faith, be it Islam, Judaism, Christianity or other. He also explained how the environment is driven by the Mission Statement and by the individuals who create the environment. "When bogged down," he said, "stop and put up the periscope; the horizon is the Mission."

Represented in Medical Study

The three internists in Cornwall, Emergency Room physicians and nurses, and Cardiac Care Unit nursing staff are participating in a research project known as the CORE added treatment for acute myocardial infarct. This is a world-wide study involving the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, several Latin American countries, and Canada. Of the entire study group (337 patients), 12 are from Cornwall (eight at Hotel Dieu and four at Cornwall General Hospital), almost 4% of the total enrolment.

1995: Peaks and Valleys

Too Good to Be True

Towards the end of 1994, just when things were beginning to look hopeful for Cornwall, the Federal Government set new financial initiatives in place. These would see the provinces receiving far less in transfer payments for health, education and social services. The provinces, receiving less, had less to give to their municipalities.

Then, on June 8, 1995, the newly elected Conservative Government of Ontario took up the cry of "deficit reduction—no matter who hurts or suffers!" Budgets to health, education and social services were

again drastically cut. Even federal prisoners were found to be better fed, when their menus were published, than Ontario welfare recipients could afford. Many charitable organizations were forced to close their doors, and many who were previously contributors were now desperately seeking assistance for themselves and their families.

Grants promised in previous years were now greatly reduced or placed on hold. With plant closures and many jobs lost, the natural result was an increased demand for social services. It was fine to say, "Get a job and work," but with fewer jobs and no initiatives to stimulate them, one doesn't have to be an economist to know that this created an impossible situation.

As the Quebec referendum on sovereignty association loomed on the October horizon, there was fear that the country might even be split apart. Canada won by a very slim margin this time.

Some Rays of Sunshine Amid the Gloom

Cornwall was greatly affected by these many changes, but it put on a brave face for the benefit of its citizens and visitors. It accentuated the positive.

Traditional events such as Smile Day, Cornfest Days and Christmas activities were held as usual. The media provided excellent coverage to announce and support special events.

Domtar Fine Papers spent \$2-million to produce a cleaner pulp that would result in better-looking paper.

A computerized pilot project geared toward helping welfare recipients find work opened in September. It was known as the Cornwall and Area Joblink Resource Centre and was located at 709 Cotton Mill Street. It was one of 11 set up across the province with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Social Services. Funding was assured for three years. The Centre is open for anyone to use computer and career library services, find out about the labour market, or to prepare resumé's.

The Cornwall computer security company known as TCT-Thunder BYTE, which saved the federal budget in February, was very favorably noticed by the U.S. Government. Its Anti-Virus Utilities 6.34 computer program ranked number one out of seven major North American anti-virus programs.

The Thunder BYTE is distinct from other programs because it uses heuristic scanning to detect known and unknown computer viruses. Operating out of Cornwall, the Canadian section handles the support network for North America.

A special 1995 highlight was the centennial celebration of the Public Library on October 7. The staff dressed in 1890s costumes and visitors enjoyed music by former Cornwall musicians. Door prizes, souvenirs, birthday cake and refreshments added to the festivities. Displays showed the history of the library, the City of Cornwall, and world events of 100 years ago. Cornwall can indeed be proud of its new library and of the services continuously provided for 100 years.

Thinking Positively

The RHSJ Health Centre continued to put its best foot forward, too. During 1995, many things were accomplished.

Home Oxygen Services Initiated—The Ministry of Health approved the application for the RHSJ Centre to become a vendor of oxygen, respiratory equipment and supplies under the Assistive Devices Program. That meant that the respiratory staff would have a service to go to the homes of referred patients to provide them with oxygen therapy. A truck was outfitted for the job. It is expected that this new service will lead to the earlier discharge of patients to their homes and/or avoid admissions to hospital for respiratory services. The Hotel Dieu was one of only nine hospitals in Ontario to receive this approval.

Newsletter Renamed—On June 6 the Health Centre Newsletter displayed its new name, *Prism*. Sister Isabel MacLaughlin was the winner of the 'Name the Newsletter Contest'. *Prism* was chosen because it "is sharp-edged, points upward, the three sides represent the facets of the Health Centre, the triangle represents the Trinity, and it refracts light and creates the colours of the spectrum."

Activities in the Memorial Garden—A Mass of Blessing and Dedication was celebrated on June 11 by Bishop Eugene LaRoque and the clergy of the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall at a monument erected in the Janet Macdonell Memorial Garden to the memory of children lost to abortion. It was funded by the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Bishop Brodeur Assembly.



To acknowledge personal and corporate gifts to the Joint Hospitals Fund, Hotel Dieu set up a Donor Recognition Wall inside the main entrance in 1991. Sr. Rosalia Cobey (right), Sister Liaison, and Ms Elizabeth MacLennan, then Vice-Chair of the RHSJ Health Centre Board, did the honors. (Photo from Le Journal de Cornwall)



One of the most appealing features of the Janet Macdonell Pavilion is this park-like, skylit loggia on Level 1 near the rehabilitation facilities. (Architect's Photo)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, RHSJ HEALTH CENTRE OF CORNWALL, 1996. Left to right, seated: Dr. Dan Tombler, Sr. Annette Valade (Secretary Treasurer), Sr. Theresa Shannon and Mr. Charles Adams. STANDING: Mr. Franco Giovanelli, Sr. Sheila Boase, Dr. Robert Reddoch, Sr. Loretta Gaffney, Dr. Wilfred Chung, Ms Elizabeth MacLennan (Chair), Rev. Mr. Gordon Bryan, Ms Lucy Papineau, Mr. John Haslehurst (Executive Director), Mrs. Marian Haramis (Auxiliary President), Dr. Michael Cox and Mrs. Gwen Morris. Absent from photo: Mr. Michael Warden (Vice-Chair), Mrs. Ann Adams, Mr. Brian Lynch, Mr. Ken Dick and Ms Mary Burke-Cameron. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)

1996 MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE: L-to-R, seated: Jeanette Despatie, AEO St. Joseph's Villa; Sr. Annette Valade, Sister Liaison; Mary Thibault, AEO Patient Services; and Dr. Raymond Legault, AEO Medical Services. STANDING: George Dolejsi, AEO Support Services; Basile Marchand, Director of Human Resources; John Haslehurst, Executive Director; Bill Grant, Director of Finance; and Jacques Perrault, Director of Materiel Management. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



1996 MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. L-to-R, seated: Jean Pilon, RN, Dr. Dan Tombler and Dr. Wilfred Chung. STANDING: Drs. Michel Laurin, Dokiso Nchama, Robb Stidwill, David Bishop, Robert Reddoch, Lionel Morgan and Paul Irwin. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)



In Hotel Dieu's Janet Macdonell Memorial Garden, Bishop Eugene LaRocque officiated during the spring of 1995 at the blessing of a monument to the unborn—the millions of children lost to abortion. Such monuments are being erected across Canada by the Knights of Columbus. (Photo by Anne Vincelli)

A few days later, on June 14, Arbor Day was held to honour five retiring doctors: James Lewin, Charles Miller, Willie Renner, John Shannon and Michael Smelt.

A 'Plant a Patio' raffle and rummage sale provided the money for new garden benches, and a covered patio is the next project being considered.

There are now more than 100 trees and shrubs of all kinds in the Garden to serve as living memorials to friends and family members. Retiring physicians are recognized by the planting of a tree for each.

Thanks Be to God—These were the words on everyone's lips as the newly elected Progressive Conservative Party cancelled the introduction of Multiple Service Agencies (MSAs) that would have destroyed the rights of institutions to control their own volunteer services. MSAs would have forced volunteers to be the responsibility of governmental agencies. What would health care facilities do without the dedicated service and fund-raising activities of generous volunteers? With budget cuts, the worst in history, one could hardly imagine the results of such legislation.

Perhaps this is a good opportunity to thank, again, our volunteers, auxiliary members and the many service organizations who, through their efforts and financial assistance, helped to make 1995 an outstanding year for the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall.

Compliance Review—The Compliance advisor of the Ministry of Health conducted the annual Compliance Review in December at St. Joseph Villa. The Standards are reviewed under the headings of Resident Safeguards, Care and Services, Nursing, Staff Education, Recreation and Leisure, Spiritual and Religious Programs, Therapy, Volunteers, Dental Care, Food Care, and Medical, Environment, Diagnostic and Pharmacy Services, along with Organization and Administration. The government report stated that all standards and criteria had been met.

Significant Anniversaries—The Religious Hospitallers of Cornwall joined with their Sisters in Kingston to thank God for 150 years of dedicated service at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Kingston. Readers will recall that the first Sisters who came to Cornwall in 1897 came from Kingston. During the Cornwall Sisters' upcoming centennial year, 1997, there will be another special milestone to celebrate when RHSJ's all over the world mark the 400th

anniversary of the birth of their founder, Jerome Le Royer de la Dauversiere, on March 18.

The Five Rs

Rationalization, reduction, restructuring, regionalization and restriction became familiar words in health care in Ontario.

The RHSJ Health Centre was not to be found wanting.

The existing services of Physical Plant (HDH), Housekeeping (HDH) and Environmental Services were combined into one service called Environmental Services (Health Centre).

Although the Health Centre started its first recycling program in 1992, in three years it grew to include glass, fine paper, corrugated cardboard and newsprint. By the end of 1995, 11% of waste had been diverted from landfill. The goal is to reduce waste by 50% by the year 2000. New programs to reach this goal will include plastic and diaper recycling and composting of paper other than fine papers and newsprint.

The Health Centre also makes a real effort to purchase products that are environmentally friendly. These include IV sets, paper products, garbage bags and patient utensils.

The installation of an energy transfer station in co-operation with the Cornwall District Heating Corporation utilizes waste heat from the cogeneration station in the City of Cornwall. All domestic hot water and heat at Hotel Dieu Hospital is now produced by means of a hot water exchanger, which reduces operating costs and preserves the environment by substantially reducing emissions. Energy savings have also been realized through an Energy Performance Contract with Honeywell Limited, geared to the use of energy-efficient lighting and continuing electrical improvements at Hotel Dieu Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa.

As one of four Ontario hospitals operated by the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph, the Health Centre is participating in a project using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) technology to transmit purchase orders, record received goods, and to pay invoices. The electronic network reduces errors, saves time, and allows the participants to benefit from early payment discounts. A data repository retains all product usage, information that allows negotiation of joint

contracts and increases purchasing power. The project is supported by the Health Economic Development Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Health with the goal of promoting Ontario manufacturers of medical products and to serve as a model throughout the health care industry.

Fulfilling a Need

Recognizing the need for a secure area outside of the Villa building for the cognitively impaired and wandering residents, the Centre provided a large area for the exercise and enjoyment of the residents, their families and other visitors. A contest to name the area was won by Jocelyn Begg, whose submission was 'Villa Courtyard'. Mrs. Olivia Sauvé, the most senior resident, cut the ribbon, and a blessing on the Courtyard was offered by Father Gordon Villeneuve. Live entertainment and refreshments completed the happy occasion.

Another need is to modernize the Villa to bring it up to the expectations of residents and their families. Towards the end of 1995, the Board of Directors hired Wolf Mohaupt, the same architect who transformed the old hospital into the Marie de la Ferre Apartments, to create a modernized Villa.

On November 8 the Health Centre participated in a province-wide initiative sponsored by the S.D. & G. School Board whereby parents could bring their Grade 9 children to work with them. It provided the students with an opportunity to see how their parents spend their days and thus to see them in different roles and responsibilities and understand what they do to support the family. The students' experience was also intended to develop a closer dialogue with their parents and enhance their understanding of individual jobs in the context of the working community.

Early in 1995, a competition was organized by the Canadian Tulip Festival, the International Flower Bulb Centre, *Canadian Living* magazine, the National Capital Commission (Ottawa), the Netherlands Board of Tourism and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Two hundred tulip gardens were to be awarded to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Holland. Anne Vincelli, Director of Public Relations, entered a short essay on how a planting of tulips would enhance the Janet Macdonell Memorial Garden and would celebrate the values of peace and friendship. She won! Four hundred white, red, yellow and purple

tulip bulbs were received and planted near the garden's entrance sign.

Accreditation News

In August, the Radiology Department received a full five-year accreditation award for its educational program in Radiological Technology.

The Health Centre began preparations for its 1996 accreditation survey according to the new client-centred standards of the Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation. This process is based on five principles: client focus, leadership, commitment to quality, empowerment and teamwork, plus process and results (outcome) management. These principles are intended to promote an integrated team approach to resident/patient care and treatment, service delivery and quality improvement.

No Fanfare for 40th Year

On September 14, Hotel Dieu Hospital quietly noted its 40th anniversary of service at the McConnell Avenue site. No special ceremonies were held.

Dietary Awards

The combined Dietary Departments of HDH and St. Joseph's Villa were designated one of the Versa Food Company's top three facilities for a 'Quality Circle Award of Excellence' in the category of Resident-Focused Care. The quality awards go to teams that make significant contributions to increasing the quality of service to clients. This is done through ongoing quality control and programs. Because it indicated that the Villa and Hotel Dieu were one of the top three facilities in Versa Food's Ontario group, it was a great honor.

Two Health Systems Collaborate

In mid-December, the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph Health System and the Providence Health System (Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul) entered into an Affiliation Agreement for the purpose of collaborating with one another in planning, evaluating and delivering health services to the communities they serve.

The two systems will collaborate in identifying unmet needs, addressing means to meet those needs, and sharing their resources in so doing. They intend

to share their expertise, as circumstances permit, to enhance the effectiveness of the services they currently provide, including educational, clinical, support and management services.

Both Religious Congregations were founded to attend to the previously unmet needs of the poor and sick, and they share a strong and long tradition of serving those in need, a common vision and culture, and a mission strongly rooted in the healing ministry of Jesus.

Together, the Sisters provide health services and operate health facilities in five provinces in Canada, in the United States, Mexico, Peru, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic. In this part of Ontario, the Providence Health System includes St. Vincent de Paul Hospital in Brockville and Providence Manor and St. Mary's of the Lake Hospital in Kingston. The RHSJ System's Ontario institutions include Hotel Dieu Hospitals in Kingston, St. Catharines and Cornwall, along with St. Joseph's Villa and the Janet Macdonell Pavilion, also in Cornwall.

From a Humble Beginning

In February of 1897, a small seed was planted in Cornwall. It was nurtured with love, dedication and caring by the Religious Hospitaliers of St. Joseph. Through the years it grew with the additional help of dedicated staff, professionals, volunteers and benefactors. Today, a century later, the RHSJ Health Centre remains dedicated to the service of the sick and elderly whom they serve in the Hotel Dieu Hospital, Janet Macdonell Pavilion and St. Joseph's Villa.

The Health Centre remains committed to the education of students choosing health care careers and supports them by providing teaching opportunities. The Health Centre's 1995 Annual Report gives 396 as the number of beds, of which 146 are for acute care, 100 for chronic care, and 150 for long-term care. Patient/resident days totalled 130,868, and newborn admissions were 942. Health Centre employees number 838. Volunteers contributed 18,000 hours of service.



1996: On the Eve of a New Century

Joint Centennial Plans

On January 25, 1996, members of the Cornwall General Hospital and the RHSJ Health Centre met as a Joint Celebrations Committee to discuss an agenda for marking a century of health care in the Cornwall and area community. The General Hospital was only the 49th hospital in Canada when it opened its door on December 27, 1897, only a few months after the Hotel Dieu Hospital went into service on February 9.

Vision Statement Goes into Effect

The Board of Directors of the RHSJ Health Centre, after long and caring deliberation, approved a Vision Statement that became effective on February 1. This detailed document opens with the following words:

The RHSJ Health Centre is committed to excellence in providing a continuum of care to the residents of Cornwall and area within our Mission, Culture and Values, for long term care, acute inpatient care, ambulatory and community care. The Health Centre is an active partner, collaborating with organizations in the area of assessing, planning and providing health, social, spiritual and educational services, along with housing to those in need within our capabilities.

The statement then develops the following four components: Commitment to Patients, Residents and Consumers; Commitment as a Community Institution; Commitment to Personnel; and Commitment to Medical and Dental Staff. *(The complete text of this Vision Statement follows as APPENDIX I.)*

Grant for Ecology Park

The City of Cornwall, home to so many ecological initiatives chronicled in this history, hopes to have a new ecology and education centre soon on 4.5 acres of waterfront land north of Marina 200 and east of the Civic Complex.

The project already has a \$30,000 grant from Health and Environment Canada. It is expected that volunteers and member groups of the Enviro-Health Committee will take an active role in creating and

maintaining the ecology park.

It will consist of several areas:

- * Central pond and pavilion;

- * Community Garden, in which people would have small pieces of land to grow their own vegetables;

- * Demonstration Gardens comprising a low-maintenance perennial garden, herb garden and fruit orchard;

- * Ecology Park where the Domtar Company would be able to show how its waste can be used as fertilizer, plus a compost demonstration area and an environmental awareness centre;

- * Forest Community Area, with a nut grove, maple grove and tree nursery;

- * Wildflower/meadow area.

Walkways will connect the various areas. No permanent buildings are involved, but the pavilion will include a covered area to protect visitors from sun and rain.

Plans called for a Spring 1996 beginning to physical work on the site, but the project will be under development for several years.

Order of Canada Honor

It was a winter bright spot for all his former colleagues when retired staff member Fred Cappuccino and his wife Bonnie were inducted into the Order of Canada by Governor-General Romeo LeBlanc at an Ottawa investiture ceremony on February 15. Fred worked for several years as Activities Director at Macdonell Memorial Hospital. He moved with the patients to the Janet Macdonell Pavilion, where he worked until his retirement. The Cappuccinos are the founders and directors of Child Haven International, set up in 1985 to operate three homes for destitute children and women in India and one in Nepal. Their Child Havens currently provide 24-hour care for 280 children.

Participants in Nursing Research

Early in March 1996, Miss Mary Thibeault, Assistant Director of Patient Services of the RHSJ Health Centre, received a letter from Jim Wilson, Ontario Minister of Health, stating that he was pleased to award her institution a contract as a "Participating Complex in Support of the Province-Wide Nursing Project."

This three-year project will make the latest

nursing research more readily to all nurses.

Both academic and non-teaching hospitals are taking part in the project. Participating agencies serve both urban and rural areas, as well as bilingual, multicultural and aboriginal communities. They are:

In Cornwall—Hotel Dieu Hospital, St. Joseph's Villa, and the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) for the Eastern Counties;

In the London Area—University Hospital, Victoria Hospital, Parkwood Hospital, Woodstock General Hospital, Dearness Services and the VON;

In Ottawa—Ottawa Civic Hospital, the Sisters of Charity Health Services, Ottawa-Carleton Health Department, Home Care Directorate, and the VON.

The research and data exchange system will allow nurses to compare results of a variety of procedures used to deal with similar patient conditions. By comparing results between the latest therapies and more traditional treatments, nurses will be able to determine which procedure generally should be employed.

The Ministry is providing a million dollars for the Province-Wide Nursing Project, which is a joint effort of the Ministry and nursing organizations, regulating bodies, health care providers, and education and research institutions. The database of nursing research will be housed at McMaster University's School of Nursing and will be available electronically.

Health Care Crisis Comes to Cornwall

On Friday, February 23, each hospital in Ontario received information on the specific reductions in its transfer payments from the Ministry of Health. Hotel Dieu Cornwall had its transfer reduced by 4.6 percent, or \$1,233,800. To this, the hospital had to add the continuing impact of the Social Contract (\$220,000) and a forecast deficit for 1996 of \$545,000—a burden totalling \$1,998,800.

The Cornwall General Hospital's funding was reduced by 4.7 percent, or \$996,200 for a total of \$1.2-million when shortfalls from the 1995 operating year were factored in. To balance its budget, the General will close beds, cut jobs, defer some maintenance projects, continue computerization, and economize on supplies.

At the Hotel Dieu Hospital, the Management Committee established the following principles to

guide its budget trimming:

1. Maintain safe and effective care;
2. Minimize bed and/or service reductions;
3. Increase revenues;
4. Minimize the number of lay-offs;
5. Reduce the expectations of the public.

To meet these goals and the shortfall, immediate steps were taken to implement Program Management on April 1, 1996.

This approach would organize the Health Centre activities around the patients or residents. As explained by Mr. Haslehurst, it is a natural outgrowth of patient-focused care and the new team approach to Accreditation. The design of the structure replaces the traditional approach that divided the organization into departments. There are now three basic patient programs: Long-Term Care, Acute Inpatient Care, and Ambulatory and Community Care. Each program

is headed up by a Program Director who establishes a multidisciplinary team which plans and provides care to all the patients or residents in that particular program. Also provided is a Professional Service Director. Some services, such as Finance and Information, Human Resources, Material Management, Diagnostic Imaging and Laboratory, remain centralized and will provide services across the organization.

Through the move to Program Management, supply cost reduction and revenue increases, the budget was brought into balance for this year.

In Ontario, the 1996 cut to hospitals was \$365-million; if there are any hospitals left, an additional reduction of \$507-million is planned for 1998-99.

As Mr. Haslehurst said, "Our work with the Cornwall General Hospital and the District Health Council becomes very important in the planning of the future hospital services in Cornwall."



Epilogue: Facing an Unknown Future

Only a few months remain until the Sisters, physicians and staff of the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall launch their celebration of 100 years of service to the Cornwall and area community on February 9, 1997. This book has endeavored to tell the story of these 100 years. What will the next 100 years be like? We do not know.

Since their earliest beginnings in Cornwall, the Sisters have met many challenges. There were hardships caused by poverty, epidemics, fires, earthquakes, wars, recessions and depressions, to name a few. Filled with faith, hope, love, generosity and courage, they have remained steadfast in their determination to serve the sick and most needy in the city and surrounding area. In doing so, they have been absolutely true to the vision of their Order's 17th-Century French founder, Jérôme Le Royer de la Dauver-

sière, and they will celebrate the 400th anniversary of his birth on March 18 with particular thanks.

It is with this same century-tested determination and confidence in God and their Patron, St. Joseph, that the Sisters and their collaborators look forward to continuing their service in the unknown future.

They are committed to preserving the Gospel values which form the foundation of Catholic Health Ministry. These values include the healing presence of God, health care as ministry, Christian community, compassion, hope, social justice, stewardship and ethical reflection.

To the Sisters and to all who helped them in the past, to those presently involved, and to those who will help them in the future, we say, "*God bless you and thank you so very much. You have truly been and are 'Caring People, Helping People'.*"





ABOUT THE AUTHOR: For three reasons, Sister Dolores Kane, RHSJ, was the Centennial Book Committee's logical choice to undertake the months of diligent research and writing that have produced this 100-year record of the Religious Hospitallers in Cornwall. She administered Macdonell Memorial Hospital for 11-1/2 years and St. Joseph's Villa for eight. She was already a published author with 19 articles, 12 editorials and more than 200 book reviews to her credit. Third, she is a highly qualified health care professional and an astute observer of change in her field.

Born and raised in Chicago, she entered religious life in 1941. She graduated from St. Bernard School of Nursing (where she would later serve as instructor and Director), from Loyola University of Chicago (BSNEd magna cum laude and MEd) and St. Louis University in Missouri (certificate in hospital administration).

After holding various supervisory positions at St. Bernard Hospital, she came to Canada in May 1971 as CEO of the Hotel Dieu Hospital in St. Catharines. Her next assignment (1975) was to Cornwall, where she chose Canadian citizenship (1976) and made herself such a part of the community that Cornwall awarded her honorary citizenship.

Her long and successful career has been marked by Life Fellowship in the American College of Healthcare Executives, Fellowship in the American Academy of Medical Administrators, and membership in Sigma Theta Tau, the National Honor Society of Nursing, the Canadian Association for Quality in Health Care, and the National Association of Healthcare Quality.

Sister Kane wrote this book while in residence at St. Joseph Provincial House, Kingston, Ontario. Currently, despite formidable health problems, she is a valued volunteer at the Clinical Learning Centre, Queen's University and serves as Quality Consultant for the RHSJ Health System. (CMP)



ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR: This is the first time that a major account of the Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph has been published simultaneously in English and French editions. The translator, Sister Bertille Beaulieu, RHSJ, is Professor of French Language and Literature at the Université de Moncton (Edmundston Campus) and a specialist in Cajun and Acadian literature. Born in Drummond, New Brunswick, in 1939, she holds a doctorate in French Literature from the University of Ottawa. She previously translated into French the biography of the RHSJ founder written by Father Henri Béchard, SJ: Jérôme Le Royer de la Dauversière: His Friends and Enemies.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: Kathleen 'Teen' Dancause is a native Torontonion and graduate of the Ontario College of Art, but for some 45 years she has been the guardian, teacher and inspiration of artistic development in her adopted city of Cornwall. Her watercolours—landscapes, still-lives and figures—are popular in exhibitions and galleries in Eastern Ontario, Toronto and New York State. The painting for this book's cover is the latest of her many gifts of talent to Cornwall's Hotel Dieu Hospital, where she is a Life Member of the Auxiliary.

APPENDIX I

Vision Statement for the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall

— Effective February 1, 1996 —

The RHSJ Health Centre is committed to excellence in providing a continuum of care to the residents of Cornwall and area within our Mission, Culture and Values, for long-term care, acute inpatient care, ambulatory and community care. The Health Centre is an active partner, collaborating with organizations in the area in assessing, planning and providing health, social, spiritual and educational services, along with housing to those in need within our capabilities.

COMPONENTS OF THE VISION STATEMENT

Commitment to Patients, Residents and Consumers

The Health Centre will:

- (a) Embrace change to keep up to date in the health care field by using available standards, benchmarking, and best practice where possible;
- (b) Assess the overall needs of the organization to set priorities for programs and services within the Mission, Philosophy and Values of the Health Centre, while maintaining fiscal responsibility;
- (c) Provide the focus for developing services and programs within the Health Centre to provide patient/resident-focused care through a program management design;
- (d) Evaluate the outcomes of the care given to all persons arriving at the Health Centre, to assess the quality and the need for improvement;
- (e) Encourage and develop forums for information to be given and received—both on our specific Mission as well as on the medical care that we offer.

Commitment as a Community Institution

The Health Centre will:

- (a) Develop strategic alliances and/or partnerships with other organizations to facilitate the co-ordination of health care planning based on community needs, with services provided in the appropriate environment;

- (b) Maintain ongoing communication with the various levels of government and the community in general, to inform them of the services and innovative programs available through the Health Centre and to encourage public relations;
- (c) Evaluate the effect of the organization's activities on the health status of the community;
- (d) Assess health promotion needs and encourage programs through the Health Centre or community agencies that will improve the health of consumers in the community.

Commitment to Personnel

The Health Centre will:

- (a) Provide opportunities, using responsible financial stewardship, to educate and cross-train personnel, to maintain quality services, minimize layoffs and maximize staff marketability;
- (b) Encourage multidisciplinary quality teams and self-directed work teams to identify areas for improvement and make necessary changes;
- (c) Empower all personnel to be responsible to make decisions based on current information within their capabilities.

Commitment to Medical and Dental Staff

The Health Centre will:

- (a) Encourage utilization review, benchmarking, best practices and evaluation of the quality of care provided by medical and dental staff;
- (b) Encourage the multidisciplinary approach in the day-to-day provision of patient/resident care;
- (c) Emphasize the role and services of the medical and dental staff within the Health Centre Mission and Values;
- (d) Provide equipment, resources and support, within our fiscal capabilities, for the medical and dental staff in the care of patients/residents in the Health Centre;
- (e) Provide ongoing support to the medical and dental staff to enable them to carry out their clinical and administrative roles.

APPENDIX II

Deceased Sisters of the Cornwall Foundation: *MAY THEY REST IN PEACE*



1904

August 22

Sister Margaret Mary
Margaret McDonald

1914

January 28

Sister Catherine
Adeline Carriere

1920

January 20
November 11

Sister Anna Bishop
Mrs. Katherine Macdonell Purcell
(Benefactress)

December 23

Sister Mary Joseph
Mary Ann McDougall

1923

November 13

Sister Lydia O'Connell

1928

November 18

Sister Jeanne Mance
Emma McDougall

1929

November 2

Sister Mary Malone

1930

September 8

Sister Julia Twomey

1937

May 3

Sister Janet Macdonell

1941

November 13

Sister S. Alexander
Margaret Charlebois

1943

May 14
October 4

Sister Catherine McGillis
Sister Isabella
Margaret McDonald

1944

February 20

Sister St. Gabriel
Elizabeth Pilon

November 11

Sister Mary Augustine
Mary McCaffrey

1950

January 16
April 2

Sister Mary Agnes McMahon
Sister Mary Thompson

1951

June 19

Sister Mary Chisholm

1953

April 2

Sister St. Patrick
Catherine O'Shea

1954

August 7
November 8

Sister Mary Margaret Campbell
Sister St. George
Margaret Ann McDonald

1956

January 26
November 10

Sister Anastasia O'Shea
Sister Helen Ryan

1957

January 15

Sister Laura Abrams

1960		1976	
March 17	Sister Anne Gallagher	May 7	Sister St. Raphael ** <i>Mary Ann McDougall</i>
April 15	Sister Elizabeth Conlon		Sister Margaret Ann MacDonald
June 19	Sister St. Felix <i>Elizabeth McDonell</i>	July 6	Sister St. Margaret Mary
1961		1982	
January 13	Sister Kathleen Cameron	June 19	Sister St. Catherine ** <i>Catherine Hunt</i>
August 31	Sister Mary Agnes <i>Florida Poirier</i>	1983	
1962		October 12	Sister Jeannette Currier <i>Sister Mary of the Angels</i>
January 24	Sister Kathleen Duffy	1984	
February 16	Sister Helen MacDougall	October 20	Sister St. Jeanne <i>Arthemise Maranda</i>
1963		1986	
October 30	Sister St. Monica <i>Mary Barrow</i>	February 7	Sister Edna Flanagan **
1965		1987	
June 7	Sister Janet Daniels	April 22	Sister Margaret McGarrity **
August 7	Sister St. Joseph <i>Alice Huot</i>	September 23	Sister Isabel Cuthbert **
August 10	Sister St. Gerard <i>Isabella Macdonell</i>	October 5	Sister Elizabeth Cleary **
1966		1988	
December 28	Sister Mary Lewis	May 10	Sister St. Emily <i>Mary Catherine McDonald</i>
1968		September 29	Sister Marie de la Ferre ** <i>Jeanne Villeneuve</i>
January 26	Sister Christine Carbray	December 20	Sister St. Ignatius <i>Emma Macdonald</i>
November 29	Sister Germain Dionne	1989	
1970		July 19	Sister Margaret Mooney **
July 15	Sister Catherine Jordan **	1990	
1971		May 14	Sister St. Cecelia ** <i>Catherine Ann McDonald</i>
April 14	Sister St. Mary Theresa <i>Katherine MacDonald</i>	1994	
1973		February 26	Sister Ruby Wood **
June 25	Sister Theresa Kennedy **	1995	
1974		October 27	Sister Ada MacMillan **
January 31	Sister Mary Andrew <i>Mary McDonald</i>		
April 24	Sister St. Benedict <i>Isabella Macdonell</i>		
1975			
July 15	Sister St. Anthony <i>Eldphonse McDonald</i>		

* Buried in Chatham, New Brunswick

** Buried in Kingston, Ontario

APPENDIX III

SUPERIORS/ADMINISTRATORS OF HOTEL DIEU AND MACDONELL HOSPITALS

Sister Anne Donnelly 1897
Sister Anne Hopkins 1897-1898
Sister St. Joseph (Mary Agnes Leahy) 1898-1904
Sister Margaret Doran 1904-1907
Sister Mary Chisholm 1907-1910
Sister St. George (Margaret McDonald) 1910-1916
Sister Mary Chisholm 1916-1922
Sister St. Patrick (Catherine Ann O'Shea) 1922-1928
Sister St. George McDonald 1928-1930
Sister St. Patrick O'Shea 1930-1936
Sister Mary Chisholm 1936-1939
Sister Marie de la Ferre (Jeanne Villeneuve) 1939-1945
Sister St. Patrick O'Shea 1945-1948
Sister Marie de la Ferre Villeneuve 1948-1949
Sister St. Patrick O'Shea 1949-1952
Sister St. Joseph (Alice Huot) 1952-1955
Sister Anne Burns (Donovan) 1955-1961
Sister St. Anne (Anne-Marie Albert) 1961-1967
Sister Evelyn Quinn 1967-1968

In 1968 the offices of Superior and Administrator were separated.

Superiors

Sister Theresa Kennedy 1968-1969
Sister Marie de la Ferre Villeneuve 1969-1972
Sister Margaret Mooney 1972-1977
Sister Kathleen Hendrick 1977-1979
Sister Elinor McDonald 1979-1985
Sister Anne-Marie Albert 1985-1989

The York Street Convent closed in 1989.

Administrators, Macdonell Memorial Hospital

Sister Evelyn Quinn 1968-1971
Sister Audrey Mantle 1971-1975
Sister Dolores Kane 1975-1986

ADMINISTRATORS, ST. JOSEPH'S VILLA

Sister Anne Marie Albert 1969-1971
Sister Audrey Mantle 1971-1975
Sister Margaret McNeil 1975-1978
Mr. Marc Ainslie 1978-1979
Sister Dolores Kane 1979-1986
Mrs. Jeanette Despatie 1986-1987

The RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall took over the operation of Macdonell Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa in 1987.

Executive Directors

RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall

Mr. A.J. Jack' Fry 1987-1989
Mr. John Haslehurst 1989-

HOTEL DIEU HOSPITAL, MCCONNELL AVENUE

Superiors/Administrators

Sister Elinor McDonald 1954-1960
Sister Veronica Callaghan 1960-1962
Sister Aileen Byrnes 1962-1965
Sister Mary Murphy 1965-1968

The Offices of Superior and Administrator separated in 1967.

Superiors

Sister Mary Coderre 1968-1972
Sister Rena Doucette 1972-1976
Sister Kathleen Hendrick 1976-1977
Sister Rosalia Cobey 1977-1983
Sister Theresa Shannon 1983-1985
Sister Elinor McDonald 1985-1988
Sister Patricia Cuddihy 1988-1990
Sister Rosalia Cobey 1990-1992
Sister Annette Valade 1992-

Administrators

Sister Mary Murphy 1968-1976
Sister Audrey Mantle 1976-1978
Mr. A.J. Fry 1978-1989
Mr. John Haslehurst 1989-

With the appointment of lay Chief Executive Officers, a Sister Liaison was appointed by the RHSJ Health System to support these lay persons and to assist them in matters of corporate and canonical responsibilities.

Sister Liaisons

Sister Rosalia Cobey 1978-1983
Sister Theresa Shannon 1983-1989
Sister Patricia Cuddihy 1989-1990
Sister Rosalia Cobey 1990-1992
Sister Annette Valade 1992-

APPENDIX IV

CHRONOLOGY

1897	February 9	Five RHSJ Sisters arrive in Cornwall.
	June 17	Formal opening and blessing of 30-bed Hotel Dieu Hospital, Cornwall
	September 8	First postulant admitted
1898	February 9	Renovation of stable as St. Paul's Home for the Aged
1899	July 16	Cornerstone laid for new Hotel Dieu Hospital on Water Street
1901	July 24	New 75-bed Hotel Dieu Hospital blessed by Bishop Macdonell
1906	January 15	Residents move to new St. Paul's Home.
1909		250th Anniversary of arrival in Montreal of the first Hospitallers from France
	January 16	Nazareth Orphanage opens in former Greenwood House on York Street.
1913		An explosion and fire cause great damage to the hospital.
1914	June	Duke and Duchess of Connaught visit Sisters.
	August	Fire destroys part of old Stanfield House (Convent).
1915	May	Sisters' Convent on York Street is completed.
		Maternity Department opens.
	June	Duke and Duchess of Devonshire visit Hospital and Home.
1917	August 18	Sisters Thompson and Mary Agnes leave Cornwall to assist RHSJ House in Polson, Montana.
1918	May	Sisters called to heroic efforts to fight Spanish Flu.
1919		Nazareth Orphanage moves to the Highland Manor, former home of Mrs. John McMartin.
1922	June 13-15	25th Anniversary celebrations for Hotel Dieu Hospital
1927		Religious Hospitallers of St. Joseph of Cornwall incorporate
1929	February 2	Opening of St. Joseph School of Nursing in McTiernan House
	March 28	Opening of \$80,000 East Wing of Hospital
		First Sister buried in new St. Joseph's Cemetery
1933	May 12	Hospital Day observed for first time at Hotel Dieu
1934	December 5	Diamond Jubilee for Sr. Janet Macdonell, a Cornwall foundress
1935		Hotel Dieu receives full accreditation from American College of Surgeons.
		First Canadian Medical Record Librarians course instituted at Hotel Dieu, Kingston.
1936		Tercentenary of RHSJ Congregation's founding in LaFleche, France
	May 22	Official opening of 50-bed West Wing
1939		Opening of new St. Joseph School of Nursing on York Street
	May 15	McTiernan House moves to First Street as accommodation for housekeeping maids.
	September 10	Canada declares war on Germany.
1941		Sisters buy respite site, Holy Family Cottage.
1944	March 30	Legault House, York Street, blessed as Novitiate
	September 4	Area's worst earthquake does extensive damage to Cornwall and the 1901 Hospital.
1946	October 6	Hotel Dieu Ladies Auxiliary founded
1947	June 24-26	Golden Jubilee of the Hotel Dieu Hospital
1950	May 4	Fire destroys the Nazareth Orphanage.
1952	October 23	Ceremonial sod-turning for new Hotel Dieu on McConnell Avenue
1954	June 16	Cornerstone laid for new Hotel Dieu Hospital
	August 17	First patient admitted to new Hotel Dieu Hospital
	September 14	Official Opening of new Hotel Dieu Hospital
1956	February	New hospital "Fully Approved" by Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation.
	May 14	Silver Jubilee of School of Nursing celebrated
1957		Hospital Services Commission of Ontario Act passed, laying groundwork for modern medical care in Ontario

1959	January 25	Pope John XXIII convenes the Second Vatican Council.
	June	Presentation Brothers end 46 years of teaching in Cornwall.
	June 27	Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip visit for opening of St. Lawrence Seaway.
	November 11	Macdonell Memorial Hospital (old HDH) opens as a Chronic Care Hospital.
1962	November 28	Opening of Convent at new Hotel Dieu Hospital
1963		Dr. Patricia Irwin becomes Cornwall's first woman physician.
1964		St. Paul's Home demolished
1966		Federal Medical Care Act passed
1967		First six-bed Intensive Care Unit opens at Hotel Dieu.
		Dental Clinic opens to provide emergency services.
	August 31	Closing of St. Joseph School of Nursing building
	September 11	First class registers at Regional School of Nursing.
	October 14	Macdonell Memorial Hospital achieves accreditation as a chronic-care hospital.
1968	June 3	Regional Laundry organized by three Cornwall hospitals
	August 27	First five residents admitted to St. Joseph Villa
	October 20	Official opening of St. Joseph Villa
1969	September 15	Seaway Valley District Hospital Planning Council receives charter
1972	February 9	75th Anniversary celebrated of RHSJ Sisters' arrival in Cornwall
		Opening of renovated Rehabilitation Unit on 1st floor, Macdonell Memorial Hospital, and a newly constructed building for the Physical Medicine Department
1974	June 22	Diamond Jubilee of Sister Marie de la Ferre
1975	September 8	Diamond Jubilee of Sister St. Emily
1976		Hotel Dieu becomes first hospital to meet new federal safety codes.
	July	Obstetrics and Pediatrics amalgamated at Hotel Dieu
1979	October 20	Week of celebration begins for Villa's 10th anniversary
1980		25th Anniversary of new Hotel Dieu Hospital
1981	January 5	Final payment on Hotel Dieu Hospital's debt
	September 8	Celebrations begin for 'new' Hotel Dieu's 25th anniversary.
1982	May	Sister Dolores Kane represents RHSJ St. Joseph Province at beatification of Brother André at the Vatican.
	October 6	St. Joseph Villa receives coveted three-year accreditation.
1983		Palliative Care Committee formed at Hotel Dieu
1984		Bicentenary of Cornwall's founding by United Empire Loyalists
	January	Formation of RHSJ Health System, with corporate offices in Kingston and Sister Rosalia Cobey as first President
	November 11	25th Anniversary of Macdonell Memorial Hospital
1985	November 9	Beginning of year-long celebration of RHSJs' 350th anniversary.
1986	June 17	Physicians in Cornwall hospitals begin rotating 'strikes' to protest Ontario's Bill 94.
	October 6	40th anniversary of Hotel Dieu Hospital Auxiliary
	October 17	All RHSJ Sisters given choice of family or chosen name
1987		Amalgamation of Hotel Dieu Hospital, Macdonell Memorial Hospital and St. Joseph's Villa to become the RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall
1988		Deaths of two RHSJ pioneers: Sr. St. Emily, 99 (May 10) and Sr. Marie de la Ferre, 97 (Sept. 29)
1989	January 12	Opening of new entrance and Critical Care Unit, Hotel Dieu
	September 14	Official opening of 100-bed Janet Macdonell Pavillion (Chronic Care)
	September 27	York Street Convent (Macdonell Memorial) closes
		50th anniversary, Catholic Health Association of Canada
1990		Hotel Dieu forges links with Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

1991	January 23 January	First Air Ambulance arrives at Hotel Dieu helipad. Sisters announce non-profit Cornwall Day Care Centre, Free to Become/Libre de Choiser' Preschool for the former York Street Convent.
1992	May 30 June 11	60th anniversary celebrations, St. Joseph School of Nursing Opening of non-profit Marie de la Ferre Apartments in the former Macdonell Memorial Hospital
	September	First Annual Arbor Day, Janet Macdonell Memorial Gardens Elizabeth MacLennan, Cornwall's first woman lawyer, becomes first laywoman to Chair RHSJ Health Centre Board.
1993	November 20	Health Minister announces CAT Scanner for Hotel Dieu. Board of Directors opens meetings to the public.
1994	March 23 October 20	Day Surgery Unit opens in Pediatric Wing. 25th Anniversary of St. Joseph Villa
1995		Cornwall Sisters join Kingston RHSJs to mark the 150th anniversary of the Hotel Dieu Hospital there. HDH and St. Joseph's Villa win one of only three 'Quality Circle Awards of Excellence' from the Versa Food Co. in category of Resident-Focused Care. RHSJ Health System and Providence Health System enter into an Affiliation Agreement.
1996	February 1 March	Vision Statement for the RHSJ Health Centre goes into effect. Ontario Minister of Health awards RHSJ Health Centre a contract to participate in a province-wide Nursing Research Project.
	April 1	To cope with reduction of \$1.23-million in Ontario transfer payments, RHSJ Health Centre implements Program Management.
	October 6	50th Anniversary of Auxiliary to RHSJ Health Centre of Cornwall
1997	December February 9 March 18	Official launching of the centennial book <i>Caring People, Helping People</i> Centennial of the arrival of RHSJ Sisters in Cornwall 400th Anniversary of the birth of Jerome Le Royer de La Dauversière, French co-founder of the Religious Hospitaliers of St. Joseph

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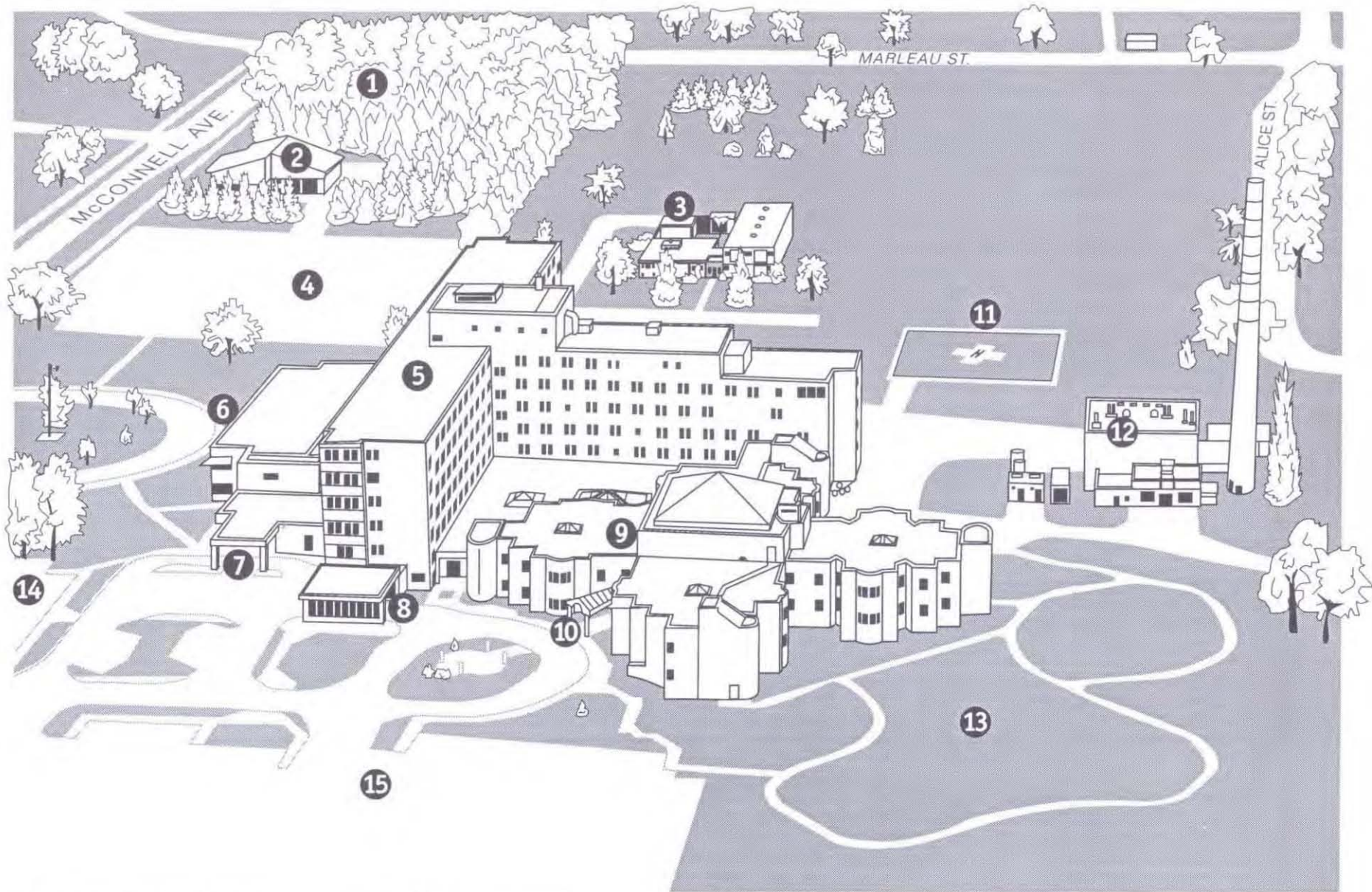
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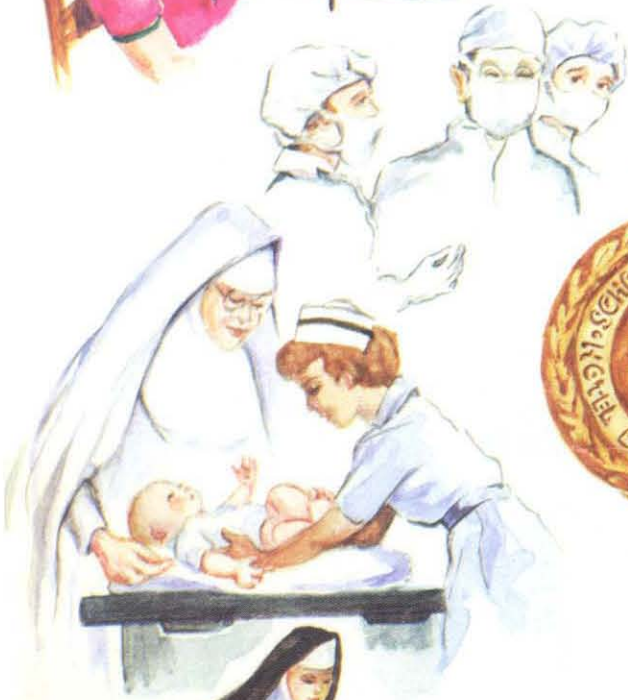
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Hotel Dieu Hospital Cornwall

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| 3 HDH Convent | 8 Ambulance Entrance | 13 Janet Macdonell Memorial Garden |
| 4 North Parking Lot (Visitors and Staff) | 9 Janet Macdonell Pavilion (Chronic Unit) | 14 Doctors' Parking |
| 5 Hotel Dieu Hospital | 10 Pavilion Main Entrance | 15 South Parking Lot (Visitors and Staff) |



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