



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.

St. Mary's Hospital Camrose, Alberta

60th Anniversary Newspaper Supplement
The Camrose Canadian
September 25, 1984

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60th Anniversary Supplement

PUBLISHED FOR ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL BY THE CAMROSE CANADIAN

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

Sept. 25, 1984 - 1



Original Structure

In 1924 Camrose was proud to see the 50 bed hospital above dedicated to serving the community, a function it has per-

formed exceptionally well now for fully sixty years. Marking its sixtieth anniversary, St. Mary's has gone through two phases of additions and renovations, and in the next several months will see an entirely new structure constructed to carry on the work,

with the cost rising into many millions of dollars, a far cry from the original \$100,000 structure but also a far cry from the medical facilities of those days.

St. Mary's Hospital marks 60th birthday

A major milestone in Camrose's history will be recorded early next month (October) when St. Mary's Hospital celebrates its 60th anniversary of dedicated service to the community.

Unlike the Golden Jubilee anniversary of ten years ago, the hospital's 60th birthday will be celebrated in a much lower key.

The Ladies Auxiliary will host its annual Harvest Tea on Oct. 3rd, from 2 - 4 p.m. and this event is open to the public with the hospital's birthday being officially recognized on this occasion.

Operated by the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Mary's has an appropriate motto which has served well over the past sixty years. The motto reads "Cor Caritati Sacrum" and that, translated into English is "A heart dedicated to charity".

Camrose originally had a fourteen-bed hospital and sixty-five years ago, ratepayers of the town decided that this facility was less than adequate for the needs of the area and approached the Sisters of Providence to see if they would construct and operate a more suitable hospital.

At that point in time, the Sisters were already operating a hospital in Daysland as that center had been projected to be the dominant town in this part of the province and as a result, they rejected the suggestion put forth by Camrosians.

Despite the rejection, negotiations continued and when it became evident that Camrose was destined to become a major center, an agreement to build and operate a hospital in Camrose was reached in 1922.

Planning commenced immediately with land being

quickly obtained and plans drafted.

Actual construction by Poole Construction Company began in May of 1924 with the new health treatment center being officially opened on Oct. 23 by Archbishop O'Leary of Edmonton.

Just a month after the hospital opened, a public meeting was held and a Hospital Guild (later to become the Hospital Auxiliary) was organized and that group will celebrate its 60th anniversary in November.

One of the first projects for this group was to raise money for an x-ray machine which was installed early in 1925 and another highlight early in the same year was the opening of a minor operating room.

When St. Mary's opened its door, four doctors were on staff with the first chairman of the Medical Staff being Dr. W. V. Lamb. The other doctors using the hospital's facilities were Dr. P. F. Smith, Dr. F. A. Nordbye and Dr. W. H. Craig.

When she was admitted for an emergency operation, Mrs. Edward Kremin of Ohaton became the first patient in St. Mary's.

The St. Mary's Hospital Training School for Nurses opened late in 1924 under the direction of Sister Mary Alban with the first students being Marie and Emelia Gronberg, Kathleen Bosley, Edna Lyseng and Flossie Kellington.

A tradition that ended earlier this month began when the hospital opened and Joe Stasko was hired, at the age of seventeen years, to work as an orderly and in the maintenance department.

From that day on, a total of seven members of the Stasko family worked at St. Mary's hospital and this tradition of

having a Stasko on staff ended only on Sept. 7th of this year when Gladys Stasko retired after working in the hospital since 1937.

A proud moment took place in 1931 when St. Mary's received full accreditation from the College of Physicians and Surgeons and except for a short period of time during World War II when there was a shortage of doctors, St. Mary's has been able to maintain this high standard of care.

There has always been a Dr. Smith on staff in St. Mary's, starting with Dr. P. F. His son, Dr. Mac joined St. Mary's in 1936 and another son, Dr. Hamp came on staff in 1946 and a grandson, Dr. Allan joined St. Mary's in 1967.

The only setback of any consequence that has taken place at St. Mary's over the years occurred in 1935 when the nursing school was forced to close because the hospital's capacity did not meet the standards for nursing schools. Before the doors closed, a total of forty-three young women had graduated.

The cost of constructing St. Mary's Hospital was \$100,000 and this debt was finally paid off in 1935 and the Sisters were presented with the deed to the property early the following year.

With Camrose growing steadily, the demand for space increased and in the middle of 1943, the Sisters proposed a fifty-bed addition. At a cost of \$400,000 construction began in mid-1947 and the new addition was officially opened by Archbishop MacDonald of Edmonton on April 20, 1949. With the new addition in place, St. Mary's was able to utilize 102 patient beds and three modern operating rooms.

The next addition came in 1952 when a cottage was built as a retreat and a place for the

Sisters to relax. Shortly thereafter, the cottage was expanded to include a kitchenette and a small dining area.

When the existing laundry facilities began to present major problems, a new laundry was constructed at a cost of \$100,000 (same as original hospital) and it began operating early in 1962.

That same year, officials took note of the fact that space was once again presenting a problem and planning for a \$500,000 addition were undertaken with the eventual result that, on May 14, 1969, an official opening ceremony was conducted by Archbishop A. Jordan of Edmonton.

When the new addition went into use, upgrading and renovations followed in the older section with the result that fifteen patient beds were added and new kitchen and cafeteria were developed. Just ten years ago, the x-ray department was completely renovated and upgraded.

In 1954, the hospital entered a float for the first time in the annual Camrose Fair and each year, a Christmas scene is erected on the front grounds and this Nativity scene has drawn many favourable comments from the community and is viewed annually by a multitude of people.

A hospital disaster plan was established in 1955 with an objective of being fully prepared to handle whatever emergency situation might develop. Exercises are held regularly to test the plan.

The effectiveness of this program was illustrated in 1973 when a gas scare occurred in the New Norway area with ten people being admitted for emergency treatment.

A Lay Advisory Board was established on Oct. 29, 1959 and consisted of volunteers

from the community who were willing to act as advisors to the hospital's administration. This group changed its name to the Board of Governors of St. Mary's Hospital, in 1973.

A Junior Volunteer Group came into existence in 1964 to aid in various areas of patient care and their efforts were aided in 1970 when the Candy Strippers came into existence.

A pastoral committee was organized in 1975 to administer to the spiritual needs of patients and was formed with representatives coming from the Camrose Ministerial Association, St. Mary's Hospital, Bethany Nursing Home & Hospital and Rosehaven.

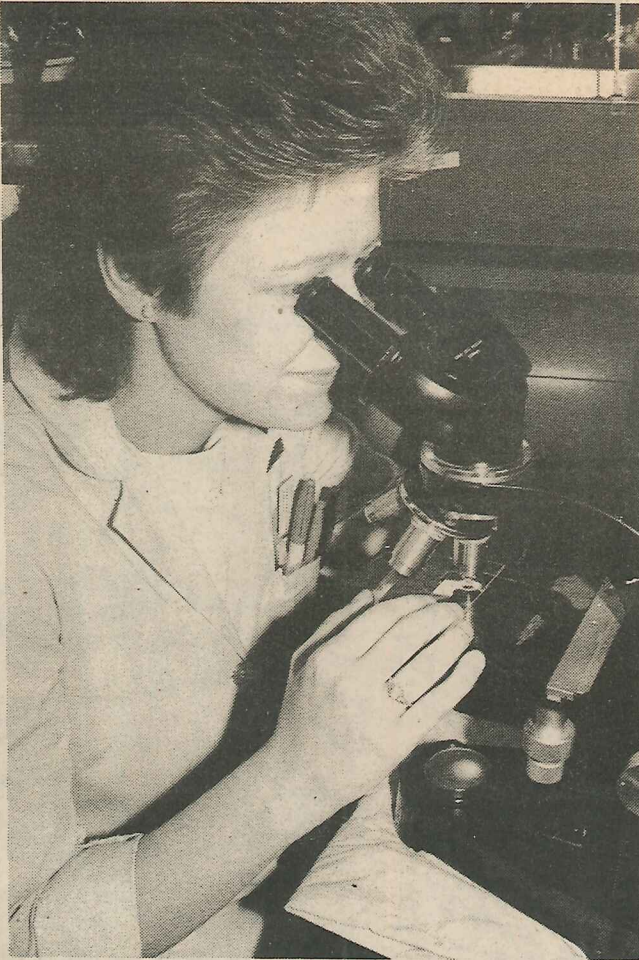
Despite new additions and a constant renovation and upgrading program, it has become increasingly evident, in recent years, that the existing hospital has outlived the constantly increasing demands placed on its facilities.

Government approval for a completely new hospital was announced in the fall of 1982 at a total cost of \$19,828,000 with construction scheduled to be started early in 1985 and it was expected that it would take three years to complete.

The new hospital is to be constructed on property directly to the south of the existing structure.

For sixty years, under the guidance of the Sisters of Providence, St. Mary's hospital has provided Camrose and the surrounding area with good health care.

The Board of Governors feel that, with the support of the Sisters and staff and the co-operation of the community, this good health care will be offered for many years into the future.



Lab technicians

Kathleen Thompson (left) and Karen Metcalfe (right), lab technicians, keep the hospital's laboratory running efficiently and smoothly.

Congratulations & Best Wishes
to
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL
60th ANNIVERSARY

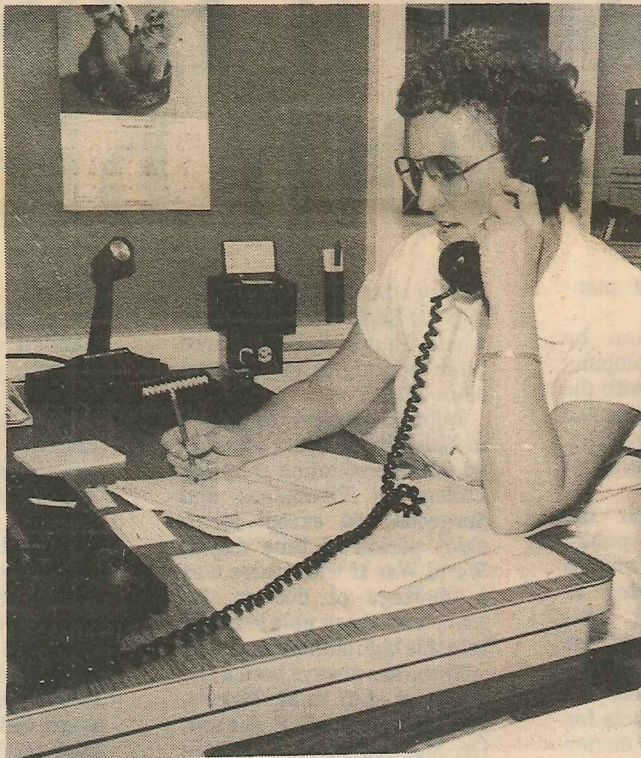
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Auxiliary executive

St. Mary's Hospital has a very active Ladies' Auxiliary that operates a popular tuckcart with free reading material for patients as well as candy and other goodies at cost. Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary Executive include— (from left) Helen Bailey, secretary, Laverne Nesvold, past-president, Anne Mikasko, President and Jean Mason, treasurer. The St. Mary's Hospital Ladies' Auxiliary will be holding the Hospital's 60th Anniversary Harvest Tea on Oct. 3 from 2 to 4 p.m.

St. Mary's accredited

Periodically, an announcement is made to the effect that a hospital has obtained or retained accreditation status.

People connected with health services are fully aware of the meaning and importance of accreditation, but to the general public, the term usually has little meaning.

Almost from the start, St. Mary's Hospital in Camrose has maintained its accreditation status.

Accreditation is a voluntary program which has the safety and well-being of the patient as its main objective.

Obtaining accreditation is a guarantee that a hospital measures up to a high stan-

dard of operation in every major respect.

The idea of accreditation was first conceived by the American College of Surgeons when they responded to a need in the United States, to improve the quality of surgical care and education in nursing hospitals.

This program became available to Canadian hospitals in the early 1920's with initial response being unfavorable as, by 1950, less than forty of the more than 2,000 hospitals in Canada had been

approved for accreditation status.

After being in operation for only three years, St. Mary's Hospital obtained provincial accreditation and just four years later, in 1931, received full accreditation.

Except for a period of time during World War II when there was a severe shortage of doctors all over the country, St. Mary's has been able to retain its full accreditation standing, a record which makes officials of the local hospital very proud.

St. Mary's wasn't first

Few people are aware of the fact that St. Mary's was not the first hospital to operate in Camrose.

Prior to the arrival of the Sisters of Providence, the Town of Camrose had a hospital which operated for fourteen years, having had been built in 1910.

In 1909, a Hospital Aid was organized in Camrose to raise funds and generate interest in building a hospital to serve the town.

Later that year they were so successful that a Hospital Board was established and early the next year, construction began on a new facility that opened its doors on Aug. 11, 1910.

Most of the money for this first hospital was raised locally, the land was donated by the town and citizens of the community were actively involved in supplying labour.

Later, the building had to be

enlarged and finally went out of service when St. Mary's opened its doors in 1924. Today, that structure is still in use as Gardner Bible College (formerly Alberta Bible Institute).

The first settlers arrived in Alberta in the late 1800's and Alberta became a province in 1905.

During those early years, people with medical problems were often treated in small hospitals that had been established by the Mounted Police in buildings that were little better than boarding houses, with instruments that consisted of a probe, pair of scissors and a forcep with carbolic acid as a cleansing agent.

Later, when doctors arrived on the scene, they set up offices in their own homes and were assisted by nurses that had little or no training except a desire to help their fellow man.

*May our best wishes
be with you forever*

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and Best Wishes**

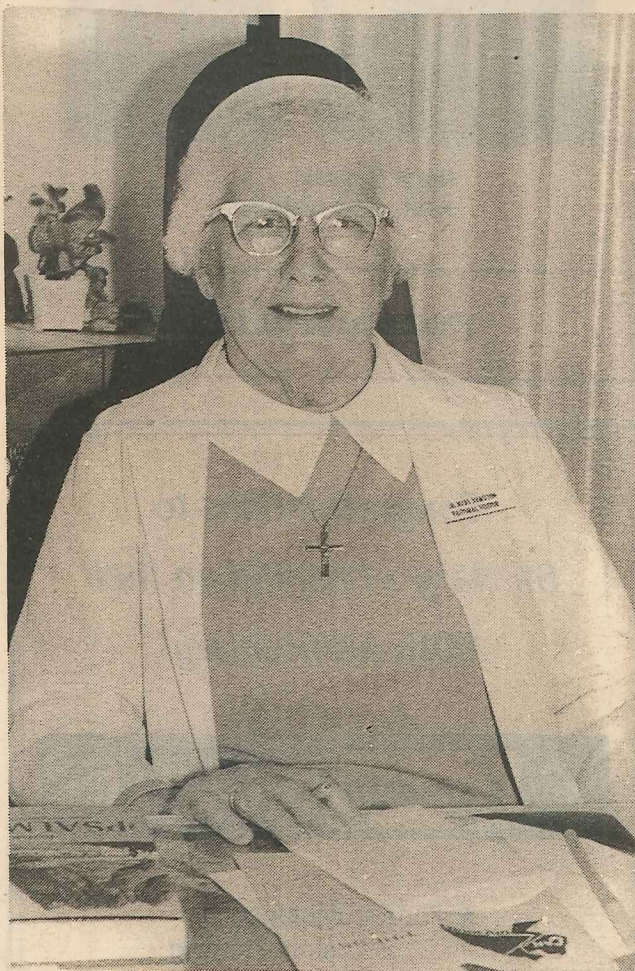
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Pastoral visitor

Sister Mary Hamilton is the pastoral visitor at St. Mary's Hospital and helps make a patient's stay at the hospital a bit more pleasant by providing compassionate caring to the patient and reassurance to the patient's family.

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What is accreditation?

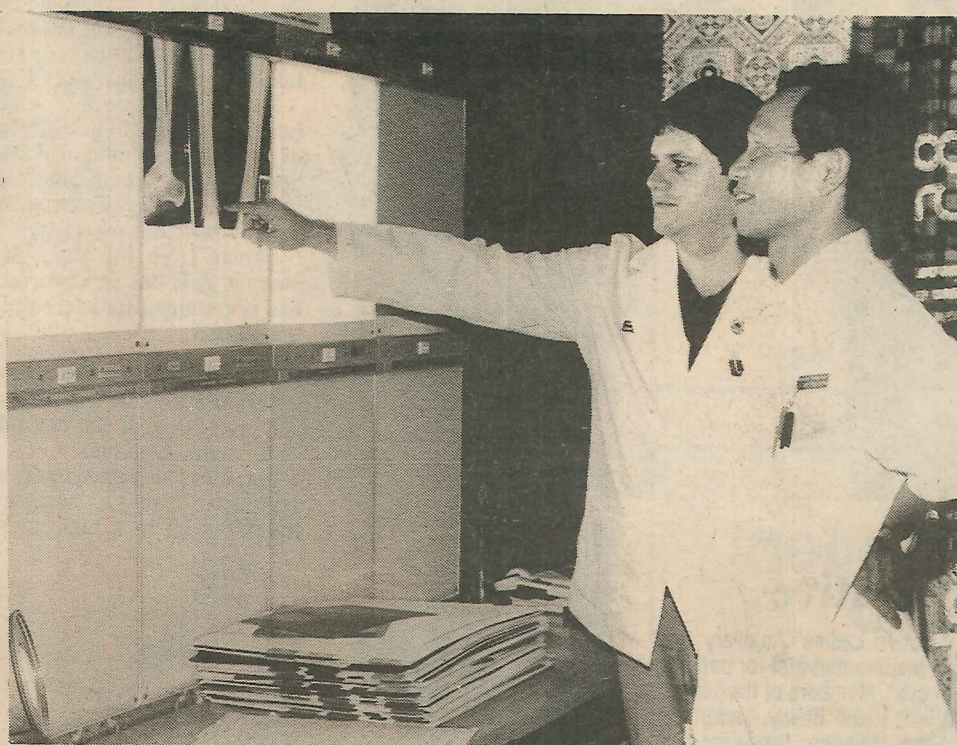
For most of its history, St. Mary's has proudly acclaimed the fact it has been an accredited hospital, which prompts many visitors to ask what is meant by the term.

Accreditation is a voluntary program, self imposed, which has the safety of the patient as its main objective. Having been attained, it is a symbol which guarantees that a hospital measures up to high standards of operation in every major respect.

The idea was first conceived by the American College of Surgeons and their standardization program was begun in 1918 as their answer to a very real need to improve the quality of surgical care and education in teaching hospitals.

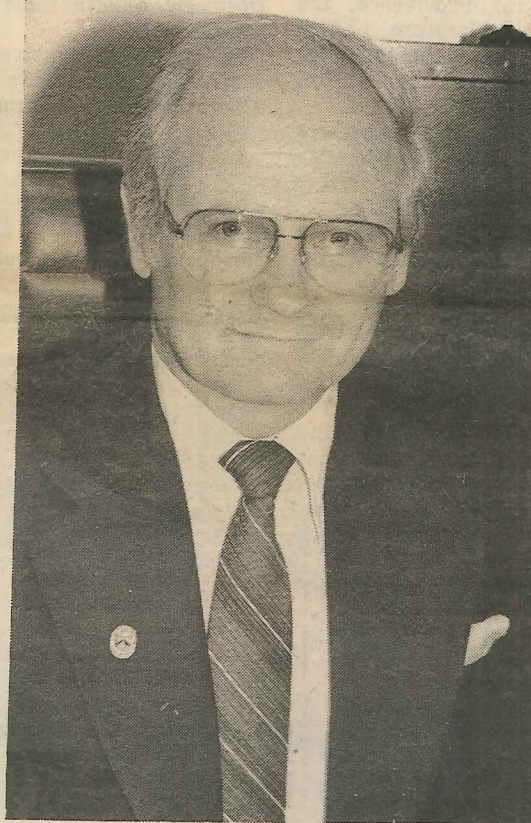
This program was made available to Canadian hospitals in the mid 1920's however, by 1950 fewer than 40 of the 2,000 Canadian hospitals had been approved.

St. Mary's Hospital had obtained provisional accreditation in 1927 and held full accreditation since 1931. Thus it is among the first 24 in Canada to do so.



Scanners

Grant Holtz, Director of St. Mary's Hospital X-Ray Department, and Siu Yee Fong, x-ray technician, scan recently taken x-rays.



Norm Hanoski
Asst. Administrator

Photos by Susan Lemay

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on the occasion of your
60th ANNIVERSARY
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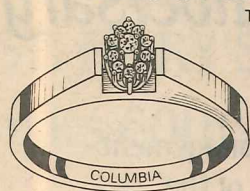
Congratulations
to St. Mary's Hospital
On your 60 Years
of Service to the Community

We are pleased to
work with you for
the betterment of our
community

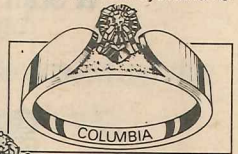
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Medical records personnell keep patients' records in check for the medical and nursing staff at St. Mary's hospital and are an important link in the health care chain.

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For 60 Years of Dedicated
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Carry on the good work!



and Jeaneraction

Auxiliary aids hospital

Like many volunteer organizations in Camrose, St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary has a long history of service to the community.

In 1924, the Camrose Hospital Guild was formed. They presented gifts to the hospital and provided entertainment. The founding Guild officers included Mrs. U. Cunningham — Chairman; Mrs. J. Lang — Secretary; Mrs. W.V. Lamb — Treasurer; Mrs. W.D. Dalzell and Mrs. R.J. Sanders.

Then in 1948 the Camrose Hospital Guild was reorganiz-

ed under the leadership of Mrs. R. Byers — President; Mrs. F.M. Smith 1st Vice-President; Mrs. R. Hugh 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. A. Schloss 3rd Vice-President; and Mrs. M. Johnstone as Secretary-Treasurer.

The present St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary was organized in 1961 under the leadership of Mrs. A. McInnis — President; Mrs. D. Ewen Vice-President; Mrs. A. Clarke — Recording Secretary; and Mrs. E. Rude — Treasurer.

In 1984, St. Mary's Hospital

Auxiliary has over 60 active members. Committees include: Social — Irene Byers; Program — Sister M. Gervase; Buying for Cart — Else Auerbach; Volunteer Help for Cart — Lavern Nesvold; Decorating — Edith Enright; Telephoning — Cleo Berger; Hairdressing — Lucille Siwak; Library for Stoney Creek — Lucille Siwak; Birthday Box — Mable Roose; Public Relations — Winnifred Barr; Nominating — Lavern Nesvold.

The purpose of the Auxiliary is the care of the patient, the raising of funds for equipment and projects, as well as the hosting of social events.

Probably "The Tuck Cart" managed three times a week by volunteers, is one of the most popular services furnished by the auxiliary. A visit from cheery ladies with a mobile cart stocked with free reading material, all kinds of sundries, candies and other goodies at cost is a welcome sight to patients not too seriously ill.

To add a little cheer to those unlucky enough to be confined to hospital on a holiday, several artistic members concoct little decorations to add a festive touch to dinner trays.

Another service is the fully equipped beauty parlour where dedicated members do

shampoos and style hair once a week.

At the monthly meetings, interesting, educational and sometimes just "fun" programs are given.

In addition, a close relationship with Rosehaven and in the earlier years, with Bethany, was revealed in the archives.

Rosehaven is now visited with the ever-popular bingo and with party treats, and bingo is also a constant entertainment at Stoney Creek Lodge. That institution also received regular visits with books from the library and a subscription to the large-type Reader's Digest.

A short time ago, the Auxiliary had teas, picnics, motor rides and a big annual dinner for the residents, a program now somewhat curtailed by the high cost of food.

The many projects undertaken by the Auxiliary could not be accomplished without the complete co-operation and friendly relations with the Sisters of St. Mary's.

The present executive consists of: President — Anne Mikasko; 1st Vice President — Frances Bowlan; 2nd Vice-President — Anne Schloss; Secretary — Helen Bailey; Treasurer — Jean Mason; and Past President — Laverne Nesvold.

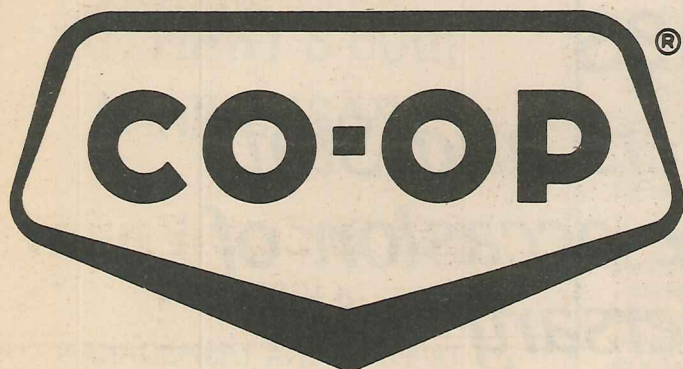
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60th Anniversary Celebration*

New hospital is planned

Construction on a new 117-bed hospital to serve the needs of the surrounding community is scheduled to get underway late next year.

The new hospital, to be located just south of the present facility, has an estimated

total cost of \$19,828,500 (1982 dollars), including furniture, equipment and consultant fees.

Construction is expected to be completed at the hospital by late 1988 and Hospital patients and personnel are ex-

pected to occupy the new hospital by mid-1989.

Services offered in the new hospital will include facilities for pastoral care, ultrasound and expanded educational services for the staff and public.

The new facility will have 117 beds, 12 bassinets and two-day surgery beds.

The St. Mary's Hospital Governing Board made a proposal to the Minister of Hospitals showing the need for new facilities in January, 1981. Approval to proceed with planning came in September, 1982.

An architect for the project was selected earlier this summer when the Governing Board selected the firm of Wood and Gardner Architects from Edmonton.

The contract has yet to be signed with the firm, pending approval of the Department of Hospitals, which could possibly be granted this month.

The Wood and Gardner Architectural firm was responsible for renovation work at St. Mary's Hospital in 1978-79 in the hospital's laboratory. The firm has also been responsible for the planning of the Lac La Biche and Banff Mineral Springs hospitals.

Approval by the Minister of Hospitals must be obtained concerning the first rough copies of blue prints (block schematics), sketch drawings, final working drawings and the pretender report by the architect.

Planning and approval of this design stage may take one to two years and if this stage takes more than a year, the late 1985 construction start may be delayed, leaving the 1988 completion date questionable. Each step in the planning stage must go to the Department of Hospitals for approval and depending on the delay between each step, can take from one to two years of work and negotiations with the Department of Hospitals.

The tender call for the general contractor will occur during the design stage of the hospital and the approval of the contractor must be made by the Hospital Governing Board and the Department of Hospitals before being awarded.

The construction stage, expected to get underway in late 1985, will then follow with the hiring of a clerk of the works to oversee construction for the Board, the hiring of a cost consultant to control costs during construction, inspections of construction, acceptance of the building, commissioning (which includes equipping, moving, etc.) official opening and final release of general contractor and final financial report to the Department of Hospitals.

By 1989, the 1948 section of the old hospital will no longer be viable for patient occupation, Hospital Assistant Administrator Norm Hanoski told The Canadian.

The 1924 section has been used by the purchasing department and as the sisters' residence and classroom area. The 1967 section, which will be approximately 22 years old when the new hospital is completed, may need extensive renovations to meet ever-changing code standards, Hanoski said. At that time, a physical inventory of the old hospital will be taken and if the cost of renovating is too great, and if no community use can be found for the older sections, the building may be demolished, Hanoski said.

The cost of renovating may be equal or greater than the cost of constructing a new facility, he said.



Master mixer

Anne Gaffney, a member of the hospital's dietary staff, prepared some nutritious food for the patients' evening meal.



Sister Reinalda Kloosterman
Asst. Director of Nursing



Sister Sheila Brady
Administrator

To St. Mary's Hospital
For 60 Years
Dedicated Community Service,

Many Sincere Thanks

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to St. Mary's Hospital
on their sixtieth anniversary*

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ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL
on the occasion of their
60th Anniversary

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Best Wishes
to the Staff
of St. Mary's Hospital
on the occasion of the Hospital's
60th Anniversary

May your dedicated service continue
to benefit the community



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to St. Mary's Hospital
on the occasion of its
60th ANNIVERSARY

FROM STAFF OF THE



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5015 - 50 Ave., Camrose



Governing board

The Governing Board of St. Mary's Hospital makes many decisions concerning the operation of the facility. Governing

Board members include (back row from left)— Father Len Gartner, Doug Tien, Vice-Chairman Vic Laskosky, Malcolm Lyseng, James Hoveland, Dr. W. J. Siwak, Ron Blatz and Rene Cote.

Front row from left— Sister Mary Gervase, Sister Sandra Shannon, Chairman Norton Metcalfe, Sister Reinalda Kloosterman and Sister Sheila Brady, Hospital Administrator and Secretary of the Governing Board.

The Doctors and Staff of Smith Clinic

extend their
**Congratulations
and Best Wishes**

*to the Governing Board, Sisters and Staff
of St. Mary's Hospital on the occasion of
their 60th Anniversary*

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Dr. R. D. Reikie
Dr. W. R. Reikie
Dr. W. J. Siwak
Dr. J. R. Weir
Dr. A. D. Peterson
Dr. D. J. Murray
Dr. K. T. MacQuarrie

Dr. S. A. Smith
Dr. A. G. Smith
Dr. T. J. Burns
Dr. G. P. Tober
Dr. F. G. Co
Dr. E. D. Hilderman
Dr. J. J. Pfeifer
Dr. W. E. Hanley
Dr. T. M. Corrigan



Capacity of St. Mary's Hospital doubled in 1949, when a second wing was added to the hospital, making room for a total of 100 patients, double the capacity of 50 previously possible. Dedication day, April 20, 1949, was marked by strong spring breezes, (witness the flag) but it did not deter a large crowd from gathering to take part in the official dedication ceremony.

Pictured above is chairman Rees Hugh, immediate past president of the Board of Trade, describing to the audience the functions which the new wing would add to medical capabilities in the region surrounding Camrose. It was reported during the opening ceremonies the new hospital facilities in Camrose were "thought to be the finest between Calgary and Edmonton."

The ceremonies proved the opportunity to pay tribute to the man who turned the sod for the first hospital, and who was present for its expansion, the Very Rev. Dean Harrington. Officiating at the dedication of the new wing was the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Edmonton, the Most Reverend J. H. MacDonald. Others taking part in the official party were Dr. P. F. Smith, the only surviving original doctor on staff after whom a wing in the hospital was named, (he, too, also being present for the occasion) Mayor R. H. Hume, Reeve Russell Bowes, president of the Board of Trade Norman Umbach, Sister Superior Mary Alphonse, and Mrs. R. G. Byers, president of the Hospital Guild, and herself a graduate of the hospital's nursing school.

Congratulations
and
Best Wishes
to the Staff
at

St.
Mary's
Hospital

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FROM ALL OF US
AT THE
**Windsor
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Congratulations to
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New hospital is planned

Construction on a new 117-bed hospital to serve the needs of the surrounding community is scheduled to get underway late next year.

The new hospital, to be located just south of the present facility, has an estimated

total cost of \$19,828,500 (1982 dollars), including furniture, equipment and consultant fees.

Construction is expected to be completed at the hospital by late 1988 and Hospital patients and personnel are ex-

pected to occupy the new hospital by mid-1989.

Services offered in the new hospital will include facilities for pastoral care, ultrasound and expanded educational services for the staff and public.

The new facility will have 117 beds, 12 bassinets and two-day surgery beds.

The St. Mary's Hospital Governing Board made a proposal to the Minister of Hospitals showing the need for new facilities in January, 1981. Approval to proceed with planning came in September, 1982.

An architect for the project was selected earlier this summer when the Governing Board selected the firm of Wood and Gardner Architects from Edmonton.

The contract has yet to be signed with the firm, pending approval of the Department of Hospitals, which could possibly be granted this month.

The Wood and Gardner Architectural firm was responsible for renovation work at St. Mary's Hospital in 1978-79 in the hospital's laboratory. The firm has also been responsible for the planning of the Lac La Biche and Banff Mineral Springs hospitals.

Approval by the Minister of Hospitals must be obtained concerning the first rough copies of blue prints (block schematics), sketch drawings, final working drawings and the pretender report by the architect.

Planning and approval of this design stage may take one to two years and if this stage takes more than a year, the late 1985 construction start may be delayed, leaving the 1988 completion date questionable. Each step in the planning stage must go to the Department of Hospitals for approval and depending on the delay between each step, can take from one to two years of work and negotiations with the Department of Hospitals.

The tender call for the general contractor will occur during the design stage of the hospital and the approval of the contractor must be made by the Hospital Governing Board and the Department of Hospitals before being awarded.

The construction stage, expected to get underway in late 1985, will then follow with the hiring of a clerk of the works to oversee construction for the Board, the hiring of a cost consultant to control costs during construction, inspections of the building, commissioning (which includes equipping, moving, etc.) official opening and final release of general contractor and final financial report to the Department of Hospitals.

By 1989, the 1948 section of the old hospital will no longer be viable for patient occupation, Hospital Assistant Administrator Norm Hanoski told The Canadian.

The 1924 section has been used by the purchasing department and as the sisters' residence and classroom area. The 1967 section, which will be approximately 22 years old when the new hospital is completed, may need extensive renovations to meet ever-changing code standards, Hanoski said. At that time, a physical inventory of the old hospital will be taken and if the cost of renovating is too great, and if no community use can be found for the older sections, the building may be demolished, Hanoski said.

The cost of renovating may be equal or greater than the cost of constructing a new facility, he said.



Master mixer

Anne Gaffney, a member of the hospital's dietary staff, prepared some nutritious food for the patients' evening meal.



Sister Reinalda Kloosterman
Asst. Director of Nursing



Sister Sheila Brady
Administrator

To St. Mary's Hospital
For 60 Years
Dedicated Community Service,

Many Sincere Thanks

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of service
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ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL
on the occasion of their
60th Anniversary

We wish to extend
Our most sincere
Best Wishes
to the Staff
of St. Mary's Hospital
on the occasion of the Hospital's
60th Anniversary

May your dedicated service continue
to benefit the community



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CONGRATULATIONS
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on the occasion of its
60th ANNIVERSARY

FROM STAFF OF THE



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Hospital had nursing school

Nearly fifty years ago, a School of Nursing was operated in St. Mary's Hospital.

Within days after St. Mary's first opened, the first two student nurses enrolled and within a couple of weeks, two more registered for instruction.

Although students enrolled when St. Mary's first opened, approval for the school's operation was not actually received until three years later, despite strong recommendations in favour of the school being forwarded by the Provincial Department of Health.

The St. Mary's Hospital Training School For Nurses was forced to close its doors in 1935, after eleven years of operation.

The school was forced to close its doors when the patient beds capacity failed to meet the requirements set down by the Department of Health as one of the major standards for a school of nursing.

In the sixty-year history of St. Mary's, this was the only major setback ever recorded, but at the same time, hospital officials can point with pride, to the fact that, before the school closed its doors, a total of forty-three young ladies had earned the right to be known as registered nurses.

Amelia and Marie Gronberg of Camrose had the distinction of being the first nursing students when they registered on Nov. 20th, 1924 and were followed eleven days later by Kathleen Bosley of Camrose and less than two weeks' later, Flossie Kellington of Junor,

Sask. enrolled.

Other nursing students who enrolled in St. Mary's are listed by the year in which they registered.

1925 — Edna Lyseng of Armena, Rose Haspel of Camrose, Mary McLeod of Daysland, Inga Hendrickson of Hay Lakes.

1926 — Bertha Hutson of Tofield, Rehilda Asp of Wetaskiwin, Pauline Litva of Vernon, B.C., Audrey Coates of Compeer, Josephine Freeman of Wetaskiwin.

1927 — Marcella Lenhart of Daysland.

1928 — Clara Albers of Wetaskiwin, Albertina Fetzner of Camrose, Evelyn Arnold of Nanton, Leona Lenhart of Daysland, Nellie Hurley of Mirror, Anna Kehoe of Camrose, Diana Harsch of Provost.

1929 — Sister Mary Eugenia of Camrose, Margaret Raine of Daysland, Geneva Lindberg of Camrose, Margaret Morrell of Provost, Mabel Hladik of Wetaskiwin, Melva Tisdale of Bawlf.

1930 — Irene Lotzer of Cadogan, Lena Missal of Vernon, B.C., Jessie Montney of Cadogan.

1931 — Mabel Sutter of Islay, Lillian Hladik of Wetaskiwin, Mary Kinsman of Camrose, Mildred Hardy of Camrose, Margaret King of Rosalind, Mabel Heartberg of Sedgewick, Minnie Simonson of Tofield.

1932 — Bertha Heggerud of Wetaskiwin, Grace Bartsch of Mayerville, Mayme Brunham of Drumheller, Luella Graham of Bawlf, Margaret Shea of Camrose, Agnes Shea of Camrose.

*Our Sincere Best Wishes
to St. Mary's Hospital*

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MANAGEMENT & STAFF

CONGRATULATIONS TO:
THE SISTERS OF ST. MARY'S
THE PROFESSIONAL STAFF
THE OFFICE STAFF
THE ORDERLIES, AIDES, LAUNDRY,
KITCHEN & CLEANING STAFF
*who over the past 60 years have worked with
pride to develop and maintain the high stan-
dards of medical care at St. Mary's Hospital.*

Management & Staff

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New life

New mom Joanne Olson admires her son in the St. Mary's Hospital nursery.

**GROVES
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**Congratulations and
Best Wishes**
MANAGEMENT & STAFF

**OUR HEARTIEST
CONGRATULATIONS**
on the occasion of
**ST. MARY'S 60th
ANNIVERSARY**

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF AT



**BARNES
FURNITURE**

First winter was hard

The first winter of operation for St. Mary's Hospital was a severe test on the staff.

In addition to all the things that can go wrong when a new facility is put into operation, Camrose experienced one of its worst winters in its history, weather-wise.

Temperatures dropped to extreme lows, there were excessively high winds and lots of snow fell.

Getting to and from work that first winter often proved to be a real ordeal that severely tested everyone's patience and temperament.

November and December were the worst.

According to records maintained by the Sisters of Providence, trains were stranded, streets were impassable, pipes burst, buildings were cold because of high and chilly winds, temperatures dropped alarmingly and doctors showed great perseverance in getting from one place to another to treat their patients.

The Sisters' annals note that, on Dec. 13th, the snow was so deep and the weather was so cold that Dr. Lamb took more than four hours to get a maternity case to the hospital.

In December, the temperatures dropped so far that on six days, low records were established that still exist today, with the worst day being on Dec. 17th when it got

to forty-nine below (minus 56 the old way).

That was just one degree away from the record lows for this area which took place on Feb. 15 and 16, 1936, when it dropped to fifty degrees below zero.

Priest promoted hospital



Helping hands

Physiotherapist Lisa Gilfallan and aide Karen Wilson help patient Bennie Rude with his physiotherapy program.

A priest is credited with making the first moves to have the Sisters of Providence establish and operate a hospital in Camrose.

Rev. M.J. Schnitzler was the first parish priest (1914-1924) in Camrose and it was he who strongly promoted the idea that the Sisters should build and operate a hospital in the Town of Camrose.

His promotional efforts were favorably received by the citizens of the community with the result that town officials contacted the Sisters with a definite proposal which was, at first, rejected.

However, when it became evident that Camrose was go-

ing to become a major center in this part of the province and it was certain that a large well-run hospital was going to be needed, the Sisters reversed their earlier decision and agreed to come to Camrose.

Rev. P.F. Harrington succeeded Father Schnitzler as parish priest in Camrose and he was accorded the honour of turning the first sod for the \$100,000 building with that event taking place in April of 1923.

Most Reverend Henry J. O'Leary of Edmonton laid the cornerstone of the new hospital at the official opening ceremonies on Oct. 24, 1924 and solemnly blessed the fifty-

bed structure which was constructed of brick, modern in design and which was equipped with the newest medical equipment that was available.

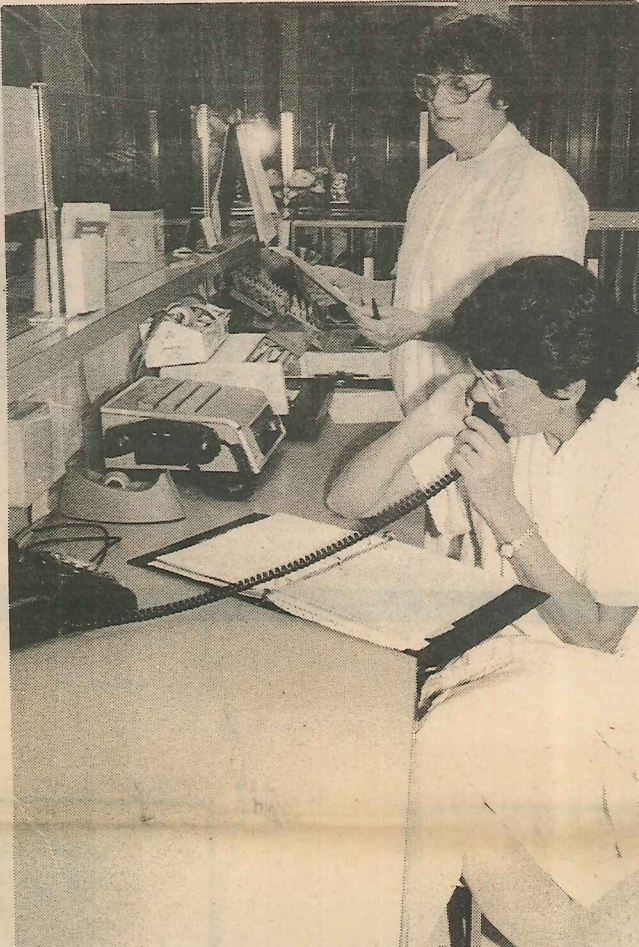
Other major participants in the opening ceremonies were Dr. Nordbye, J.K. Burgess, Mayor Lowry, Father Beillevaire and Dr. P.F. Smith.

The first Sisters of Providence to staff St. Mary's Hospital were Sister Mary Clotilda, Sister Mary Matilda, Sister Mary Cleophas, Sister Mary Emerita, Sister Mary Gerald and Sister Mary Alban.

Sister Mary Clotilda moved

to Camrose from Daysland and was the first Superior in St. Mary's Hospital.

Other Sisters who have assumed this important position down through the years were: Sister Mary Pulcheria in 1931; Sister Mary Alban in 1936; Sister Mary Geraldine in 1942; Sister Mary Alphonse in 1945; Sister Bonaventure in 1951; with others including Sister Mary Edna (Kathleen Maguire), Sister Mary Clare (Doran), Sister Mary Dolorosa (Bekar), Sister Josephine O'Neill, Sister Rose Bekar, Sister Mary Alma and today's Superior, Sister Sheila Brady.



Nursing staff

The nursing staff at St. Mary's Hospital is responsible for patient care and is dedicated to the physical and emotional well-being of the patient. The nursing staff works closely with the medical staff and carefully monitors the patient's progress.

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MANAGEMENT & STAFF

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on
their 60th Anniversary

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FOR 60 YEARS
OF DEDICATED SERVICE
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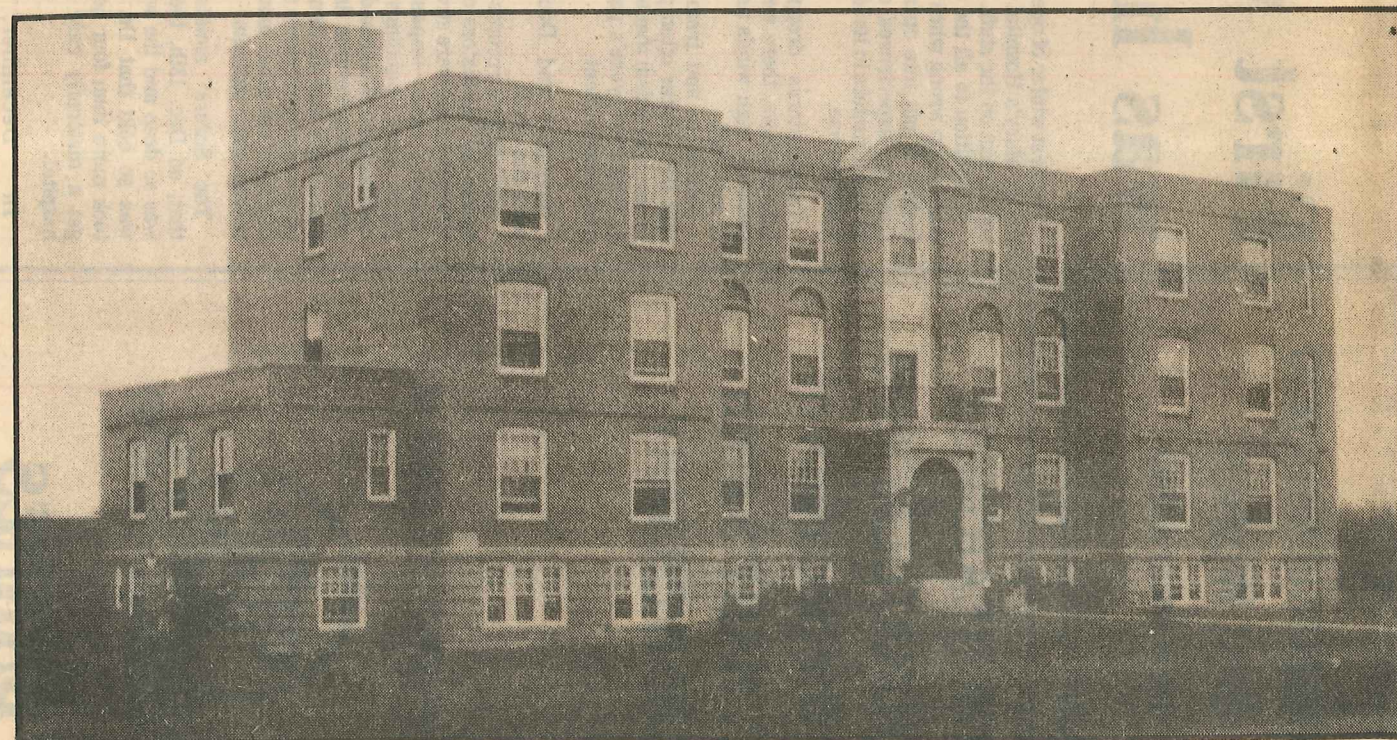
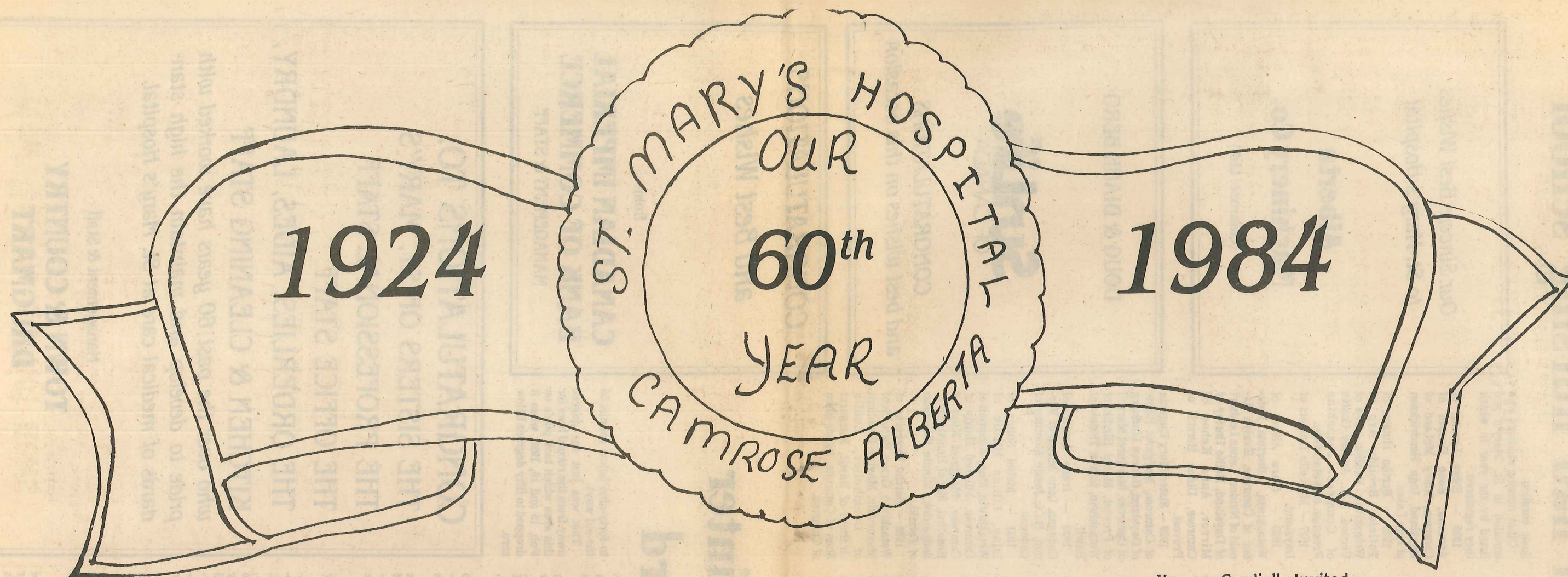
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to

St. Mary's Hospital

for

*60 years of exemplary
and dedicated service*



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to attend
St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary Annual

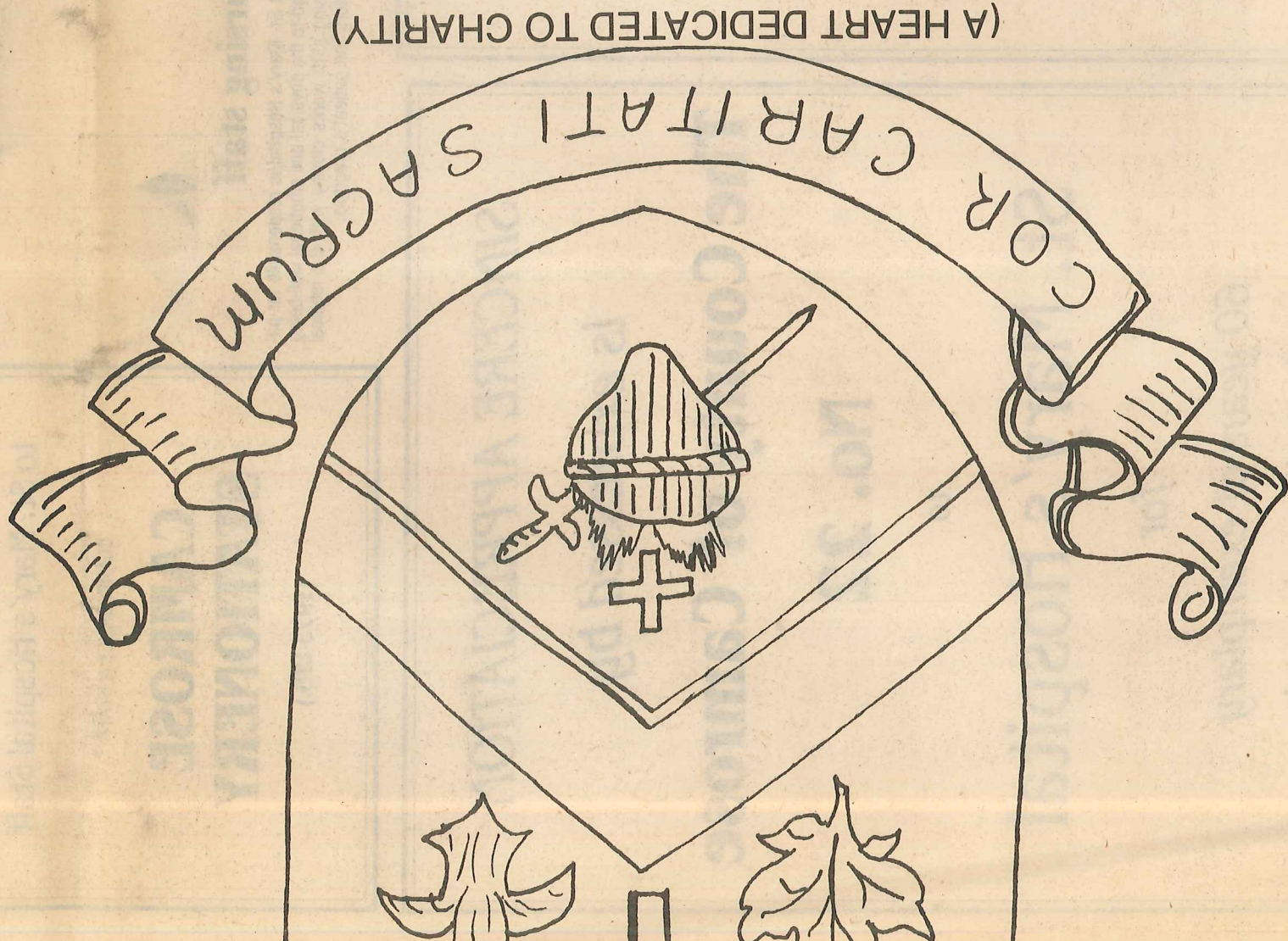
HARVEST TEA
in conjunction
with
OUR 60th ANNIVERSARY

October 3rd, 1984

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The past 60 years have seen many advancements and the most notable among these have been:

— St. Mary's in the late 1920's was a School of Nursing which ultimately graduated



(A HEART DEDICATED TO CHARITY)



— In 1931 the Hospital achieved a feat which is still proudly remembered and maintained to this day. St. Mary's was one of 24 Hospitals in Canada to attain accreditation, which was then carried out by the American College of Physicians and Surgeons. This makes St. Mary's one of the oldest accredited Hospitals in the country, and established a standard that the succeeding generations of Hospital personnel have continued to meet. A true tribute to all of those who have been associated with our Hospital.

— In 1949 St. Mary's underwent its first major expansion, doubling in size. 1958 - 1984. St. Mary's Hospital has been awarded Accreditation every three years from the Canadian Council of Hospital Accreditation for its provision of a high standard of care.

— In 1959, an Advisory Board was set up to provide the Community with information and input into the day to day operation of St. Mary's.

— March 1962 the opening of a new laundry, which has now been renovated and is being used as a Physiotherapy Department.

— November 23, 1961 St. Mary's Hospital Auxillary was formed, taking the place of the Women's Guild.

— May 1963 The Statue of Our Lady was placed and blessed on the front lawn of the Hospital grounds and a spotlight was installed in front of this Statue.

— May 1969 once again a new wing was added to St. Mary's increasing Hospital bed accommodation to 117 patients, plus a kitchen, cafeteria and Administration facilities.

— September, 1973 Mr. Norman Hanoski joined our staff as a valuable member of the administration team in the capacity of Assistant Administrator. Mr. Hanoski is now deeply involved in our present building programme, of a new free-standing facility of 117 beds.

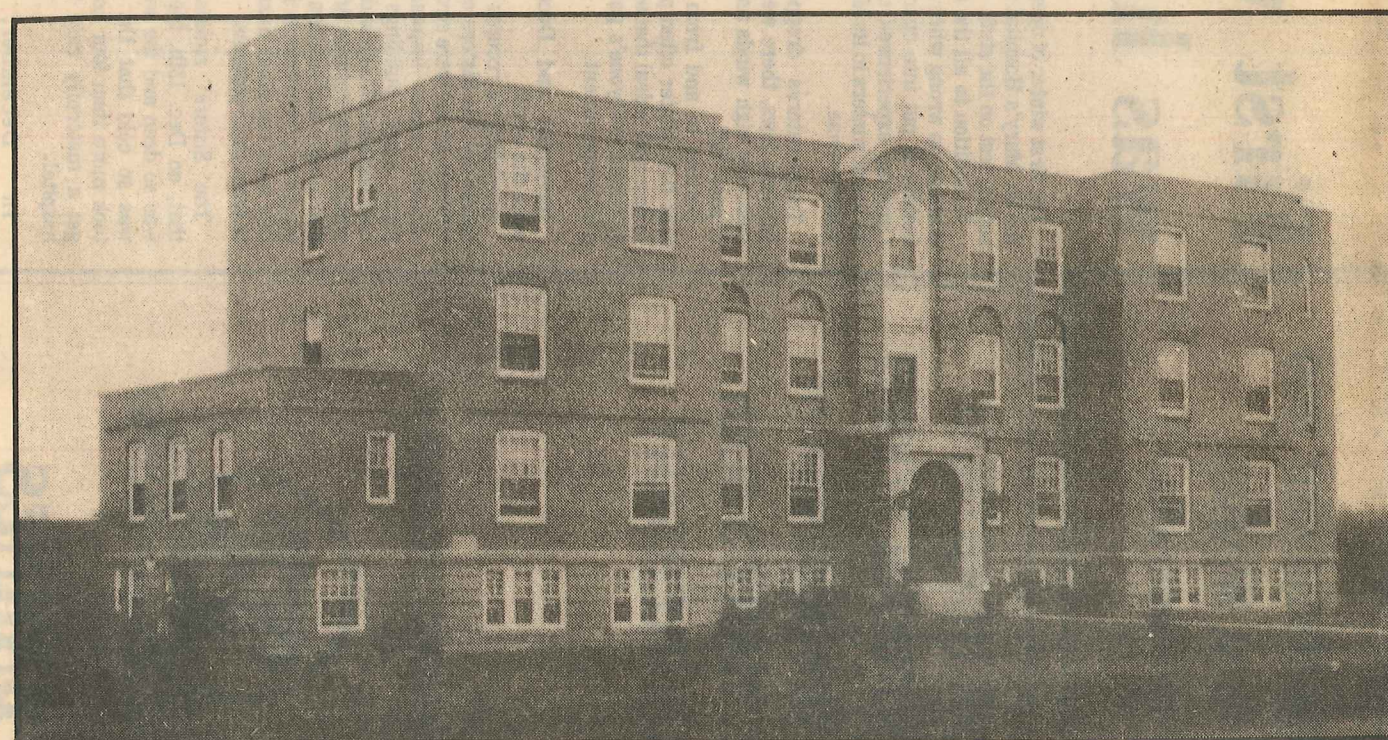
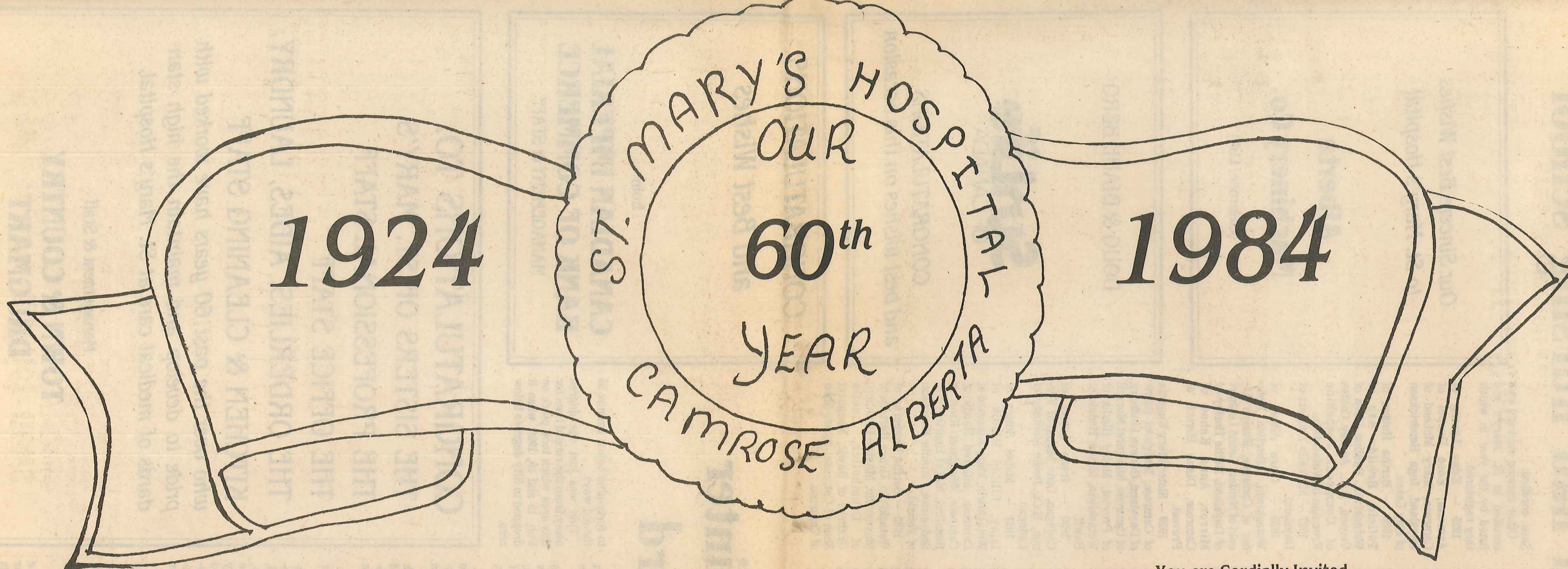
— September, 1973 also saw the formation of a Governing Board to replace the Advisory Board. This Board has the legal and moral responsibility for the conduct of the Hospital. Mr. R.D. Thirsk was elected Chairman.

— October 23 - 25, 1974 St. Mary's Hospital celebrated its 50th Anniversary serving the needs of the sick in Camrose and area.

— April, 1975 — A Pastoral Care Committee was formed consisting of representatives from St. Mary's Hospital, Rosehaven Care Centre, Bethany Hospital and the Ministerial Association, to plan spiritual care and education programs for those ministering to the sick. Sisters have served as official Pastoral Visitors since that time.

— 1978 Dr. C. Hamp Smith and Dr. F. Mac Smith who gave faithful, long and dedicated years of their time and medical expertise to St. Mary's, retired. September, 1982 approval was received from the Department of Hospital's and Medical Care to build a new facility to replace our present 117-bed Acute Care Hospital.

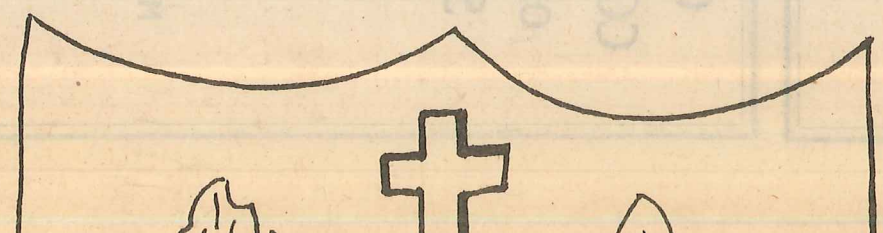
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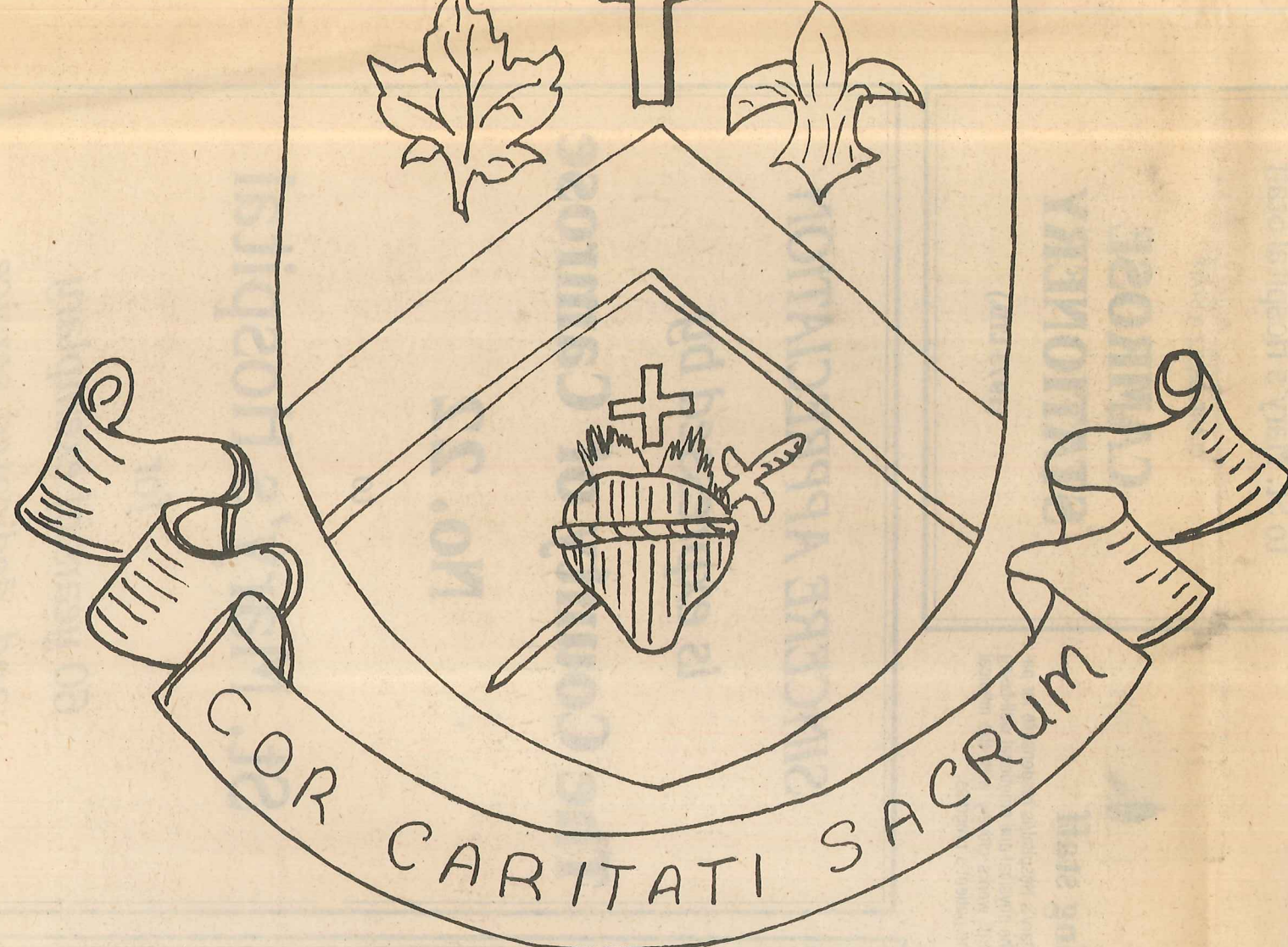
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(A HEART DEDICATED TO CHARITY)



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