

World War 2 and Cheltenham Hospital

Minutes of Cheltenham General Hospital, RefNo HO3/1/5-7

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

30th August 1939. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

Patients in hospital on 20th August, 1939. General: 107. East Block: 17

Discharged since last statement: General: Cured: 11. Relieved: 16. Unrelieved 1.

The Chairman reported that Dr Howell, Dr Grassie and Mr Harvey had seen him with regard to their position on the Honorary Medical Staff as, in the event of hostilities they anticipated being called up for active service. He, the Chairman, had assured them that their position would remain as at present, and that any extra appointment necessary to carry on the work of the Hospital would be temporary. Also he had told them that the time they were absent would be added to their period of service. The Chairman's action was unanimously approved.

Meeting of the Board of Management

30th August 1939. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

Mr Thompson presented a report of the A.R.P. Sub- Committee which contained the following proposals:-

1. Blinds and curtains – say - £250 to £275
2. Shutters - say - £100 to £120
3. Shelter for Staff - say £80 to £100
4. Emergency lighting, not yet known, but if restricted to duplicating present installation - say £50 to £100

(In addition there will be the cost of filling sand-bags)

Also further recommendations were submitted for the safeguarding of the Hospital during Air Raids. Recommendations approved.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

15th November 1939. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

The arrangements for Christmas were considered when it was decided: -

1. To allow 10/- each for the decorations of the wards.
2. To allow visitors to the patients on Christmas Day, but that no tea to be provided as hitherto.

It was also agreed that a Dance for the Nurses should be provided if conditions permitted.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

22nd November 1939. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

The Chairman reported that Mr Evans, the Senior House Surgeon, had been called up for service in the Army and was leaving the following day. It was agreed to try and fill the vacancy by appealing to the British Medical Association.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

13th March 1940. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

It was agreed to plant part of the ground between the Nurses' Home and the East Block with potatoes, and part of the field if found suitable.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

17th April 1940. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

	General	East Block
Patients in Hospital on 7 th April 1940:	118	13
Admitted since – Casualties	-	1
Urgent Cases	36	15
Total admissions for the week	36	16
	154	29
Discharged since last Statement:		
Cured	14	16
Relieved	26	-
Dead	3	-
Total discharges for the week	43	16
In Hospital on 14 th April 1940	111	13
Out-Patient Department:		
New Cases admitted during the week:	100	70
Attendance of old Cases during the week:	700	242
Casualties:	51	12
	851	324

Hon Treasurer's Report.

Patients' Payments

General	East Block	
£3.1.6	£1.3. 0	from Out Patients Dept
£5.7.0	16.0	from In-patients
£10.10.0	---	from Private Patients
£1.1.0	---	from Theatre Fees
£1.1.0	---	from X-ray Examinations
£1.17.0	---	from Path Lab Fees
£5.0.0	---	from X-ray Treatments

Donations

Cheltenham Post Office Fines & Gains Fund. £5.0.0	
Mrs P	10/-

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

17th July 1940. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

The Chairman reported that although the Hospital had sixty extra beds for Air-raid Casualties it would not be possible to maintain that number for long owing to the inadequate sanitary arrangements and cooking facilities for so large a number. He proposed that sanction be asked for the Hospital Officer to decant these extra numbers to Standish House and the Children's Hospital as soon as practicable after the actual raids. This was approved.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

24th July 1940. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

Dr Lidderdale raised the question of accommodation should it be found necessary immediately to evacuate the Hospital through fire or other cause. It was agreed to apply to the Cheltenham College authorities for permission to move the patients into the building at the end of Sandford Road, and to the Ladies College for the use of the Sanitorium, should such a situation arise.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

11th December 1940. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

With regard to the wife of a member of the staff of the Russian Embassy who is a patient in ward 9 – it was decided to charge her the full rate of 9/- a day.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

15th January 1941. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

The Chairman reported that Dr Anderson had approached him with a view to the Board allowing Medical Students to attend at this Hospital, under his supervision, in order to complete their Medical training. It was decided to grant permission to Dr Anderson on condition that the Hospital would in no way be responsible for the conduct of the Students.

Meeting of the Committee of the Board of Management

9th April 1941. Chairman – Rev. R.H.M.Bouth, M.A., J.P. presiding.

With reference to the Minute of the 26th March re shortage of Domestic Staff, a letter was read for the British Hospital Association War Emergency Committee stating that this Committee had represented to the Ministry that Voluntary Hospitals be scheduled as an "Essential Service" under the Essential Work (General Provisions) Order, by which means restrictions will be placed on the right

of employees to leave Hospitals, and also of employers to dismiss members of the staff. In addition the Committee had represented that under the proposed "call up" of women, female staffs of Hospitals should be exempt from calling up from their present occupation, and that Voluntary Hospitals as a service should be entitled to draw upon the conscripted pool of women where necessary to maintain adequate staffs.