

JANUARY 1960

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

THE ONLY PAPER SERVING THE LAND BEYOND THE PEACE AND THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRENCH

No. 36. VOL. XX

Thursday, January 7, 1960, Fort St. John, B.C. 10 PAGES

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MONTNEY BABY IS NEW YEAR'S FIRST HERE — First New Year's baby born at Providence Hospital Fort St. John, and his attractive young parents appear on this page today. The baby, Lorne Olaf, was a six pound 14½ ounce second son for Mr. and Mrs. Hans Espe of the Montney Store. The little fellow had been awaited with concern for long

weeks before he made his appearance at 5:32 in the afternoon, New Year's Day. Attending physician was Dr. Keith Dixon. Lorne Olaf also has two sets of grandparents to welcome him. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Doonan of Farmington are Kay Espe's mother and father; and Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Espe of Montney are his paternal grandparents.



CAROL SINGERS AT PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL — Choristers on Christmas Eve made those old walls at Providence Hospital simply lift with joyful song.

Girls of the Junior Red Cross, assisted by some of St. Luke's choir members, are pictured here.

ALASKA HIGHWAY

THE ONLY PAPER SERVING THE LAND BEYOND THE PEACE AND THE ROCK

No. 43, VOL. XX

Thursday, February 25, 1960, Fort St. John, B.C.

14 PAGES

VOTE RULED OUT IN HOSPITAL WAR

Mr. Justice T. G. Norris has ruled in Supreme Court at Prince George the controversial Fort St. John hospital plebiscite was invalid. But ruling will have no effect on construction of a hospital due to an amendment to B.C. Letters Patent which followed on the heels of the vote.

"The ruling, brought down Saturday at close of Supreme Court sittings here, amounts to purely a paper victory for the plaintiffs," says the Prince George Citizen.

Mr. Justice Norris upheld plaintiffs' claim both sections of the April 8, 1959 plebiscite needed a two-thirds majority to pass. First part of the vote, requesting authority to borrow more than \$1 million to build a hospital, got this majority. But the second part of the ballot was decided on only a simple majority. The question was whether the Sisters of Charity, running the hospital operating now in a condemned building, would operate the new hospital or if it should be a community institution.

BALLOT SPLIT

The ruling said the ballot should not have been split and that the entire ballot needed a two-thirds majority to be valid, which, on those terms, it did not. And it provided an injunction preventing trustees of North Peace Hospital Improvement District No. 13 from acting on a by-law arising from the plebiscite.

The judgment, awarding the plaintiffs their sought decla-

ration that the plebiscite was ultra vires, will have no effect. An amendment to Sec. 10 of the B.C. Letters Patent June 4, 1959 by order in council scrapped need for such a vote. It gave trustees power to act as they see fit.

Plaintiffs lost a plea for a declaration ruling the amendment invalid. Mr. Justice Norris ruled the provincial cabinet had power to pass the order.

BORROW MONEY

Now, trustees have power to borrow money, go ahead with construction and have the hospital run on whatever basis they feel right. The judgment said, "The trustees of the improvement district should realize that, in spite of the findings in favor of the plaintiffs, they are free to finance and generally to construct and operate, or to assist in the construction and operation of a hospital without restriction of any plebiscites and subject only to provisions of the Water Act and the letters patent thereunder . . ."

Plaintiffs represented a group pushing for a municipal hospital.

Mr. Justice Norris took a slap at the method improvement districts are established under the Water Act. He said districts are given power by the act which were never intended for such bodies.

WATER ACT

"The use of the Water Act and its improvement district sections to provide for what are, in effect, local government bodies in connection with the operation of hospitals is to say the least a strange one, particularly in view of the fact that hospitals generally are under the Minister

of Health and Welfare. And the comptroller of water rights who is under the minister of lands and forests, has wide powers under Section 56 of the Water Act to refuse by-laws or "take any other action he considers in the interest of the improvement district or of

(Continued on page seven)

Hospital war

(Continued from page one)
the province." FEB 25, 1960

By-laws become effective only upon registration with the comptroller.

"One can readily realize that this divided jurisdiction might have some curious results. Further, this improvement district No. 13 is, under the Water Act given powers under sections of the Water Act which were clearly never intended for a body concerned only with hospitals."

The hassle over the plebiscite has held up construction of a new hospital here for nearly a year. Meanwhile, the old hospital has been operating for two years in a condemned building.

Were it not for the amendment to the letters patent the Supreme Court ruling would have delayed a new hospital even longer. But with a plebiscite no longer needed, trustees, now cleared by the courts, can proceed on their own jurisdiction to build a new hospital here.

Charge B.C. Supreme Court with corruption

MAR 24, 1960

At a largely attended meeting of the trustees of Improvement District No. 13 held last Wednesday night, March 16, in the Frontier Inn banquet room, many persons did not even remain for the meeting, and the room was crowded to the halls.

The six trustees (one was ill in hospital) stood through attacks from the floor which included charges of bribery, collusion and intent to manipulate the government. These came from members of a new organization known as North Peace Ratepayers which appears to be an extension of the old Hospital Society.

The speech of the evening was made by Trustee Robert Malcolm Oakley of Cecil Lake, a man known for a long time to favor community management of a hospital. After listening to indignities heaped on the trustees (it was suggested they resign as a body), the provincial government and the supreme court of B.C., Mr. Oakley stood up and had his say:

"Every trustee on this board was elected to represent an unit of the community. He was chosen by you to act for you. With that directive, every one of the trustees has done his utmost to get a hospital for this community.

"Each trustee acts in the best way he knows how,

"If you people break up this board, you will at the same time break up any hope of a hospital for this community for years to come. And you know it. There will never be another board, and there won't be a hospital.

"Instead, one of these days, there'll be a headline in type three inches high—35 burned to Death in Local Hospital. How would you like to see such a headline? Well, I for one don't ever want to. And I intend to carry on doing as I see fit in the best interests of this com-

munity." Mr. Oakley's speech was greeted with loud applause. About 250 filled the banquet room. Supporters for the present hospital plan, and those against it, sounded about equal in numbers. Actually it was about 60-40, for and against.

Lawyers take over hospital fight; reserved decision

FEB 18, 1960

Mr. Justice T. G. Norris of the Supreme Court will withhold his decision on the hospital argument in Fort St. John until later in the week.

He announced this Tuesday at Prince George Court House, after a full day of evidence submitted by counsel for Mr. P. F. Tompkins, Harvey Freeman and associates, and the Hospital Trustees of District No. 13.

The argument concerns the legality of a ballot used at the last hospital plebiscite in Fort St. John, held last April. Charges of corrupt procedure on the part of voters were withdrawn at Prince George.

Mr. Justice Norris did point out to the court that the governor-in-council had every right to remove Clause 10 from the letters patent, which is the authority on which trustees can act, and by which they can cause to be built and financed a new hospital for the district. On this particular Clause 10, Messrs. Tompkins and Freeman, built their case.

Mr. Frank Perry was retained by Messrs. Tompkins and Freeman, and Mr. Hubert King was counsel for the trustees.

The hearing drew business for the CPA and Prince George hotels. Some local witnesses drove

their own cars to the court house, more than 350 miles each way. Lawyers were paid \$100 a day each and costs pyramided as the contest went on.

NOTICE

Hospital Improvement

District No. 13

will hold an

OPEN MEETING

Wednesday, March 16, 8 p.m.

in the

Frontier Inn

MAR 10, 1960

1960

Annual Report

NORTH PEACE HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT

DISTRICT NO. 13

APR 28, 1960

The year of hospital matters immediately past has been one of exceedingly trying circumstances for the trustees.

Shortly after the last plebiscite we found ourselves faced with many problems. A court action was to be the major obstacle in the way of providing hospital facilities. The trustees felt that all other action should cease until the court was heard. Unfortunately, because of the delays in getting the action cleared through court the year was one of no progress.

Finally on February 15th, 1960 the courts proceeded to clear the questions before it. The outcome of the court proceedings ruled in plain English that the trustees had the authority, as well as the duty and responsibility of deciding the best line of action to be taken in order to provide hospitalization for the district.

The statement of Judge T. C. Norris will form a part of this report. (To be read at this point.)

The trustees felt that the court findings were conclusive and that nothing was to be done except make a decision and act upon it.

Our decision was based, among other reasons, on the following important lines of thought:—

1. The court had ruled and stated in plain language that the trustees have the authority, duty and responsibility of deciding according to their best judgment what is in the best interest of the community.
2. The trustees are convinced that a vast majority of the people want them to get on with the job and would therefore support our decisions.
3. The hospital situation in the district is critical.
4. There is a growing demand for hospital facilities on the part of those who pay their 5% S.S. and M.A. tax for hospital care, but are not able to obtain it locally because of inadequate accommodation.
5. The trustees felt that they had a duty to the Rate-payers and public to assist in the provision of adequate hospital facilities without further delay.
6. The trustees felt they could not shirk this duty and therefore have accepted this responsibility. After full consideration of all factors, including the representations made by all interested parties, the trustees unanimously decided to support the proposed new Providence Hospital.
7. The trustees in making this decision felt that they could not accept the responsibility of depriving the community of adequate hospital accommodation any longer.
8. Any other course of action would mean further delay. To further procrastinate could have results, the seriousness of which would not be justifiable.
9. We urge everyone, regardless of how they have felt in the past, to support the trustees in the decision we have made in order that the project may proceed.
10. Anyone who is prepared to try to delay this matter any longer, should realize the grave responsibility

he is taking upon himself and should carefully consider all of the consequences.

Having in mind all of the above and notwithstanding a good deal of opposition to the contrary, the trustees have bound the Improvement District to a contract with the Sisters of Charity of Providence.

The terms of the contract are such that the Improvement District's interest in the **Land, Buildings and Equipment** are protected at all times. The Sisters agree to operate the hospital as a **Public General Hospital**. If for any reason the Sisters can no longer continue to operate, they agree to turn the hospital over for operation by the District, and will, upon being reimbursed for their equity in same, turn over the title of the land, buildings and equipment.

APRIL 1960

Apr 21, 1960

Annual General Meetings

OF NORTH PEACE
HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT NO. 13

WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS

**Zone 1: April 29, 1960, at 8:00
p.m., Cecil Lake Hall**

**Zone 2: April 25, 1960, at 8:00
p.m., Baldonnel School**

**Zone 3: April 27, 1960, at 8:00
p.m., Montney Hall**

Election of one trustee this zone

**Zone 4: April 28, 1960, at 8:00
p.m., Elks Hall**

Election of two trustees this zone

**Zone 5: April 26, 1960, at 8:00
p.m., Charlie Lake School**

Election of one trustee this zone

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1960 APRIL

FOR HOSPITAL W.A.'ers!

Dear Editor:

I have just read an interesting news item in a local paper telling about the activities of St. Joseph's Hospital Women's Auxiliary, Dawson Creek. The paragraph about councillors, however, needs a bit of explanation. Perhaps I can shed a little light on the subject, as I held the position of councillor, representing Fort St. John, Dawson Creek and Pouce Coupe for two years.

Here is the paragraph as printed in the paper: "Propose Convention of Councillors from various B.C. Hospital Districts. Discussion centred around a letter from Mrs. Tidy of Prince George Hospital Auxiliary with regard to a proposed yearly convention of councillors from the various B.C. Hospital Districts. A motion was passed to pay the registration fee of \$20, enabling St. Joseph's Hospital W.A. to send a councillor."

First, there is considerable confusion about the role of councillors, not only in our district, but also in many other centers of the province. A councillor is a go-between for auxiliaries and the provincial executive. Her term of office is a training period after which, if she shows interest and executive ability, she may become a candidate for senior office. Her term of office is from convention to convention, and she may remain in office for two years.

1. "Propose Convention of Councillors." This is an error: no new convention is being proposed. The convention mentioned in Mrs. Tidy's letter is the annual convention of B.C. Hospitals Association, Auxiliaries Division, held in Vancouver each autumn.

2. "Registration fee of \$20." This is not a registration fee, but is an assessment to each of the eight auxiliaries in the north-east regional association of hospital auxiliaries, which was formed last September in Prince George. The reason for this assessment will appear later in my letter.

3. "Enabling St. Joseph's Hospital W.A. to send a councillor." No individual auxiliary in B.C. may send a councillor, as these have been appointed by the executive at a meeting immediately following the convention each year in Vancouver. However, St. Joseph's Hospital W.A. may send a delegate to convention, and also a delegate to the regional meeting in

iliaries Division of the B.C. Hospitals Association was formed in Prince George, the boundaries of the regional corresponding to the boundaries formed by the BCHA several years before. Delegates attended from each of the 8 hospitals in the region, namely, Williams Lake, Quesnel, McBride, Vanderhoof, Prince George, Fort St. John, Dawson Creek and Pouce Coupe.

At the time of the meeting there were three councillors in this area: Mrs. McKay of Williams Lake, Mrs. Knight of Prince George, and Mrs. Harper of Pouce Coupe. Mrs. McKay and Mrs. Harper had been appointed immediately following the convention of 1957, and Mrs. Knight a year later. As the province is now divided into eight regionals, each regional is to have one councillor; with possibly an extra for the lower mainland, and one for Vancouver Island. At the regional meeting in Prince George, Mrs. Knight was elected councillor for this year for the north-east region, and she represents the eight auxiliaries in the region. Auxiliaries should make use of her services, by writing to her when some problem comes up; by inviting her to their meetings, etc.

The guest speaker at the meeting in Prince George was Mrs. Stigings, president of the auxiliaries division, 1957 to 1959. On the subject of councillors, she said: "The executive has discussed fully at various times the subject of councillors, and are not happy about the situation. The only way we could point them was ask convention delegates if they would act. We did not know them; we saw them only briefly at the convention. Some were interested and did an excellent job. Others did not even attend the convention, even after accepting the appointment.

"While convention delegates have their expenses paid, councillors do not. Consequently at the mid-term executive meeting usually held in March or April, unless the councillor lived not too far from Vancouver, she could not attend. This year we are having the councillors chosen by the regionals. We would like a discussion in your own auxiliaries when you go home, about the expenses of the councillors. Could each auxiliary give \$20? This would amount to \$160 with eight auxiliaries, and

ter at home with her own auxiliary, has meant that nothing has been done about the matter until now. Those who were not at the regional meeting naturally were confused with Mrs. Tidy's letter, not knowing all the background.

The president of the auxiliaries division for 1960, Mrs. A. J. Tripp of Vancouver, has this to say:

"As we entered the '50's, we became a division of the B.C. Hospitals Association, but with only 13 auxiliaries as members. Now we have 111. We have gone from a two-day convention with less than 50 delegates, to a three-day convention with 150 attending. In this order, these advances have been made; a per capita fee was set up; councillors appointed; the life membership pin designed; a model constitution and an installation form prepared; we joined the national council of hospital auxiliaries; designed the dogwood pin and set up eight regionals.

I am attaching a list of councillors for the past four years, showing how representative they have been of the province as a whole.

—MRS. R. L. HARPER
Pouce Coupe, B.C.

SATURDAY AT ELKS HALL

Hospital Auxiliary bazaar

APR 14, 1960

The Ladies' Auxiliary to Providence Hospital will hold its regular Easter tea and sale of work Saturday afternoon, April 16, from two to five in the Elk's Hall.

To be fully aware of the wonderful work done by the auxiliary, read their monthly report in this issue. At Easter and Christmas the public is given the only two opportunities throughout the year to assist these devoted women.

There will be, besides tea, home sewing and baking, fresh flowers for Easter, house plant cuttings, fish pool for the small boy, tempting candy items and a white elephant booth. The nurses' association draw for the lovely nurse doll and wardrobe will take place during the tea.

Prince George, which will be held this year some time in June. Delegates to the regional meeting in Prince George do not get their expenses paid, but the members of the Prince George Hospital Auxiliary supply billets where requested.

The executive of the convention in Vancouver consists of a president, two vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, publicity officer and a number of councillors. Auxiliaries may send as many members as they wish to convention, but only one voting delegate. Voting delegates pay a registration fee of \$5; and at the regional meeting in Prince George the registration fee is to be \$1, beginning this year.

On September 15, 1959, the North-East Regional of the Aux-

1960

20 YRS AGO — JAN 2, 1960
MONTNEY BABY is New Year's First here. First New Year's baby born at Providence Hospital, Fort St John, and his attractive young parents appear on the front page today. The baby, Lorne Olaf, was a six pound, 14½ ounce second son of Mr and Mrs Hans Espe of the Montney store. The little fellow had been awaited with concern for long weeks before he made his appearance at 5:32 in the afternoon, New Year's Day. Attending physician was Dr Keith Dixon. Lorne Olaf also has two sets of grandparents to welcome him. Mr & Mrs Ed Doonan of Farmington are Kay Espe's mother and father; and Mr & Mrs Olaf Espe of Montney are his paternal grandparents.

5 years ago—Jan 14, 1960
FIRST NEW YEAR'S baby in the providence Hospital was Lorne Olaf, a son born to Mr and Mrs Hans Espe of Montney, weighing 6 lbs 14 and one-half oz.

10 YEARS AGO — JANUARY 14, 1960
FIRST NEW YEAR'S baby was Lorne Olaf, a son born to Mr and Mrs Hans Espe of Montney weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz.

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS FORT ST. JOHN, B.C., THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1960

Hospital W.A. prepare for tea

The March meeting of the Hospital W.A. was held at the hospital on March 21 with 23 members and Sister Superior present. The minutes were read and adopted. Thank you notes from Mrs. V. Powell, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Murray and letters from Mrs. Young re councillors' fund and Mrs. Gibson re Cancer Blitz, were read.

Mrs. Westover moved and Mrs. Gray seconded that \$20 be sent to Prince George towards councillors fund.

It was felt that since the W.A. Easter tea was to be held the same week as the Cancer Blitz, our members would be too busy

preparing for the tea to spend time for the blitz. However, if any member found later she could spare the time she was to be at the Frontier Inn by 6 p.m. on April 12.

The question of the washer and extractor again came up and we found we have paid \$1,825 on it so still have \$275 left to pay.

The W.A. at an earlier date had loaned the hospital \$500 toward payment on the boiler room. The loan was to be repaid to the W.A. when the community paid up its share on the boiler room. Since the commu-

nity did not pay up and the Sisters had written the debt off the books, Mrs. DeTonnancourt moved and Mrs. Gray seconded that the \$500 be left with the Sisters.

Mrs. Dixon reported that she had seen Mr. Schubert about a baby photo contest for our Christmas tea. She was asked to form a committee and make plans for this contest.

The Easter tea was the discussed. Mrs DeTonnancourt offered to make the tickets for the raffle \$50 for first prize and a folding metal table, stools, camp set as second prize. Mrs. Paynter offered to make the door prize. Committees were chosen for the various tables and activities at the tea.

As the next meeting date falls on Easter Monday, plans were made to hold the meeting on Friday night, April 15, at the home of Mrs. Gray. After the meeting, needlework will be priced and the sandwiches for the tea made.

After the adjournment of the meeting lunch was served by Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Kylo. Mrs. Pizzev won the tea prize.

PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

ALMOST A BABY A DAY AND 2,000 PATIENTS ADMITTED; 100 MAJOR AND 1,434 MINOR OPERATIONS DURING 1959

At the April meeting of Providence Hospital Board of Management, which was also the board's annual meeting, the existing board members were returned to serve another year.

Sister Marcellina, superior, gave her report on the concluding year's operations which is as follows:

"During the year 1959 our meetings have been regular and members of the Board are currently informed of developments within the hospital, our financial statements were presented recently. For these reasons, I felt, in preparing the report that an overall summary will complete the picture of hospital operations during the year. I shall endeavor to give an informal, brief report on

the objectives as outlined in our constitutions.

"Regarding the proposed new construction, this project has not progressed as we had wished, however, the work has been resumed and we hope to start working drawings very soon.

"Personnel policies have been developed to cover the nursing service and other categories of employment. Monthly meetings are held with the nurses and lay staff.

"Building and repairs: In an old building such as ours we constantly encounter repairs that are necessary in order to continue operation.

"Last April we were happy to accomplish the transfer of the patients from third floor

(Continued on page eight)

APR 22
1960 - ALMOST A baby a day, 2,000 patients admitted, 100 major and 1034 minor operations at Providence Hospital in 1959 says annual report.

CORRECTION IN HOSPITAL W.A. MINUTES
APR 21, 1960
The \$500 loan made to the hospital by the W.A. several years ago towards the boiler room has been left with the hospital and not with the Sisters of Providence as reported by the W.A. secretary in their report of the April meeting, carried in last week's News.

April 27, 1960
Hospital trustees announced the building of \$1 million hospital. The announcement was made after a heated election where trustees squared off with each other on the issue.

A group called the North Peace Ratepayers Association attempted to block the building of the hospital by trying to stop the election of trustees.

Howard Travis, secretary for the hospital board, said the Ratepayers Association represented only a small minority. He explained that the vast majority of people in the North Peace wanted a hospital built.

Travis cited the large voter turnout for the election of trustees as evidence of the wide spread support that existed.

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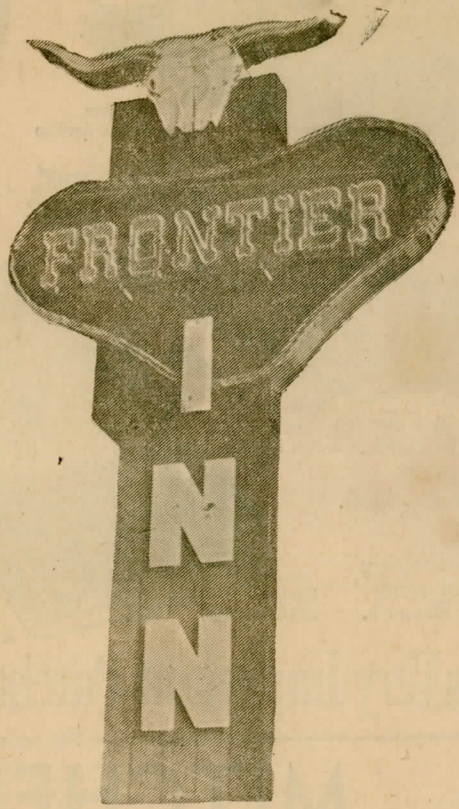
THE MOMENTOUS occasion marked by this photograph concerned the signing of the contract April 21, setting out the terms under which financial assistance is to be given the construction of the proposed new Providence Hospital. The six year battle over the hospital question was never hotter than this week when the documents were signed. Actually those concerned with the agreement were the

trustees of Hospital District No. 13, their legal representative H. B. King of Prince George and the architect's representative, Mr. Ted Mulford of Gardner Thornton & Gathe. In the picture, standing, left to right, Bob Oakley, Frank Gross, Percy Amondson, Keith Dixon, Frank Hunter, all trustees, and Mr. Mulford. Seated left to right, Howard Travis, W. D. Bowes and Mr. King, the lawyer.

1960

COMING EVENTS

MAY 1960



THURSDAY, MAY 5—Film at Legion Hall at 8 p.m. Laurel and Hardy comedy "The Big Noise."

FRIDAY, MAY 6—V.E. Day Social at the Legion Hall at 8:30 p.m.

Meeting of Fort St. John Graduate Nurses' Ass'n at 8 p.m. at the Health Unit. Film on Artificial Respiration. Everyone welcome. Bring your own tea cup.

SATURDAY, MAY 7—Annual Mother's Day tea at CWL Hall from 2 to 5 p.m. Home cooking, sale of goods, etc.

Square dancing at 8 p.m. in Large Recreation Hall. Everyone welcome.

MONDAY, MAY 16—Hospital W.A. membership tea in large community hall at 8 p.m. Everyone welcome. ✓

NOTE: ALL ITEMS FOR THIS COLUMN MUST BE HANDED IN TO THE NEWS OFFICE NO LATER THAN MONDAY NOON. THE SERVICE IS FREE.

HOSPITAL W.A.

MEMBERSHIP TEA

SUCCESSFUL, MONDAY

MAY 19, 1960

More than 50 ladies attended the Hospital W.A.'s evening membership tea, Monday, at the small community centre. Sister Marcellina, superior, Providence Hospital, and Sister Alphonse Cyprien presided at the urns for the first hour, and Mrs. Toolie Hamilton and Mrs. Evelyn Powell, took over from them. The tea table was centred with spring flowers in attractive arrangement, and silver on snowy linen winked in the candlelight of the table arrangements.

Many new memberships were received, including many from ladies unable to attend who sent their regrets.

IN, B.C., THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1960

THE NORTH'S FINEST 4WAY NEWS

Ross Henderson, Manager

/NA, BCWNA



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Editorials

Hospital problems resolved

IT WOULD APPEAR from the elections of trustees of Hospital Improvement District No. 13 last week that they have received an overwhelming mandate from the people to carry on and see the job completed. It has been a hard time for the trustees who have been vilified, insulted, taken to court and generally buffeted about by a group who fiercely fight for what they call their "democratic rights."

However, it is pretty obvious from where this observer sits that they are hiding behind the banner of "democratic rights" when all the time it is religious prejudice and bigotry which spurs them on. "None are so blind as those who will not see" and we certainly hope that they, those staunch exponents of democracy, see that the people of the North Peace are pleased with the stewardship of Messrs. Bowes, Travis, Dixon, Hunter, Oakley, Gross and want them to forge ahead with a new hospital.

Anyone who attended any of the

election meetings would observe that those against the splendid efforts of the trustees made the most noise. As a matter of fact, some of them were up and down like a pump handle.

However, when it comes to the vote, except for Montney, the picture was entirely different. At Cecil Lake, where only a non-confidence vote was taken in Mr. Robert Oakley, most of the time was taken up by lengthy diatribes on what a bunch of scounders the trustees really were. However, when the vote was taken, Mr. Oakley was vindicated by a vote of two and a half to one! Apparently "still waters run deep."

It is hoped that the North Peace Ratepayers Association, with its minority membership will concur with the rest of the Northsiders now that we have indicated our choice by fair democratic process and give the hospital trustees their support in the building of a modern hospital for the benefit of everyone.

—dgm

\$1 million hospital assured

TRUSTEES GET GREEN LIGHT

MAY 5, 1960

The people of the North Peace overwhelming backed up the trustees of Hospital Improvement District No. 13 in the election of three of four trustees up for election and a two-and-a-half to one defeat of a non-confidence vote on a fifth trustee.

The election was a climax to a bitter campaign headed by a minority group formerly called the Hospital Society and latterly the North Peace Ratepayers Association. In radio broadcasts, devotees of the NPRA claimed that the trustees were not acting according to the principals of democracy.

"Despite all that has gone on in the past," Howard Travis, secretary of the trustees' board told the News this week, "it is obvious that the majority of the people in the North Peace want us to carry on, want a hospital and want it as soon as possible. I only hope that those who were against us in the past will see that the wishes of the majority should be considered and acted upon in true democratic style."

Mr. Travis and co-trustee, Dr. Keith Dixon were returned to the board with large majorities in the election Thursday where each voter had to sign a written affidavit as to voting status.

Estimating the capacity of the Fort St. John High school auditorium at 550, a full house holding that many people greeted Hospital Trustees of Improvement District No. 13 at their Fort St. John annual meeting Thursday night, April 28, for zone 4 of the Improvement District.

Mr. W. D. Bowes, trustee, chaired the meeting, and relinquished to a chairman chosen from the floor, Mr. J. W. Baker, who effectively handled a difficult meeting, calling for clarification on points in the water act under which hospitals and

other public services in rural communities are set up.

Voting was complicated, but went off very smoothly considering the numbers, and the room available in even such a large auditorium as the high school's. Around 480 voted.

Frank Gross, incumbent trustee for the Charlie Lake district was returned with a large majority over P. F. Tompkins. Mr. Tompkins and Harvey Freeman were the plaintiffs in the court action at Prince George trying to restrain the board. They were unsuccessful in doing this.

Russell Burton, Montney farmer defeated Percy Amonson, the incumbent, at a lively meeting in Montney Wednesday last.

On Friday, a meeting was held at Cecil Lake but no election was involved. It was well attended and considerable criticism was levelled at Robert Oakley, the sitting trustee. A non-confidence vote motion was made, however, and after the ballots were counted, it was roundly defeated by eight to 20.

The trustees have recently signed a firm contract with the Sisters of Charity of Providence for the construction of a \$1 million hospital and work will be started as soon as possible.

Dress doesn't changes the pioneer

MAY 5, 1960

WELL, THE hospital fight is over, or anyway we trust that it is over. This newspaper feels that justice has been done. We feel that the Sisters of Providence deserve to be here, deserve to have a new and modern hospital to work in, and deserve the congratulations of the community, as well. This week we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the town's oldest business Everyone seems to have forgotten that it is also the 30th anniversary of the Providence Hospital.

Thirty years ago this spring, the first sisters came. They traveled around in a horse and buggy making house calls to nurse the sick. The Bowes' ran the hotel that year. Vera Bowes will tell you that the sick were brought into the hotel that summer, and the sisters came down to the big 10-room log building and nursed the very ill patients without benefit of electricity or running water.

When such a situation could not

possibly continue, the community got a head of steam on, and closed in the open framework at the rear of the hospital under construction, so that the sick could be handled with some degree of privacy and convenience. The pioneers of Fort St. John and the North Peace were the founders of the hospital as much as were the Sisters of Providence. Only the dress was different. The hearts were the same. This newspaper says it would be a sorry day for all we respect and hold dear if it had turned out any other way.

OFF WITH THEIR HEADS

Dear Editor: MAY 19, 1960

In a recent editorial re the hospital you stated that justice had been done. I do not agree that justice has been done but I do agree that opposition to the hospital should cease because it has been proven that the present administration at Victoria does not intend to see justice done.

People north of the Peace, every one who has a vote should make sure at the next provincial election that justice is done and put this government out of office.

Do you remember why the coalition government was defeated? It was because of the way they handled BCHIS. The present administration has certainly made a worse mess of it. We put them in to improve the hospital situation. Now it is time to put them out! Anyone with any sense of justice cannot vote Social Credit in the next provincial election. This is no criticism of those who voted Social Credit in the past. But the cabinet has betrayed that trust.

Had the hospital society been granted a charter when it was applied for, before the bitterness developed the hospital would have been under construction months ago. Perhaps it could have been in use by now. Place the blame where it rightfully belongs, on the heads of governments at Victoria and make sure that those heads fall in the next election.

It could be that the only way to make your vote count against the Socreds is to vote CCF. They certainly would not betray our trust as the Socreds have.

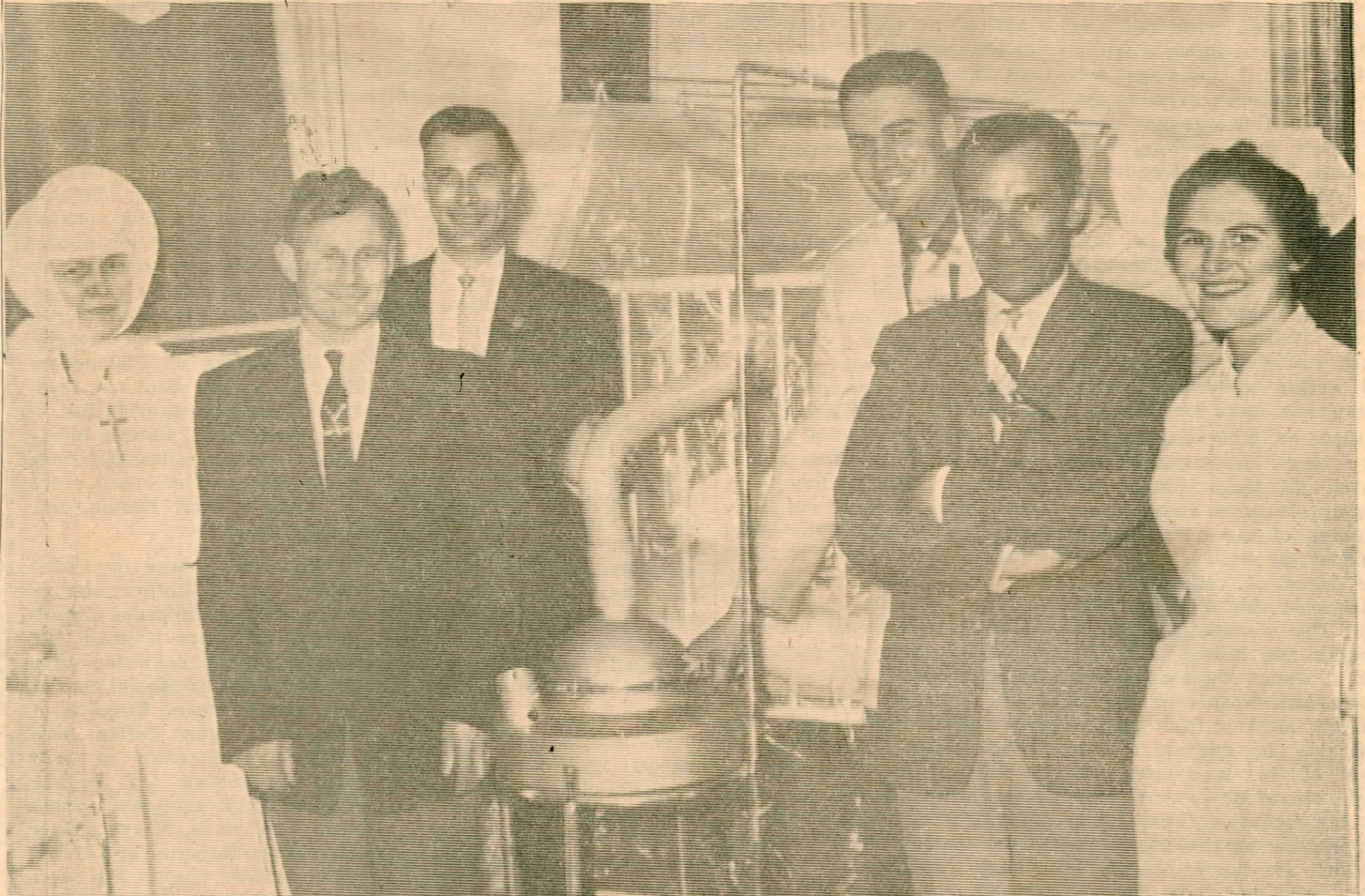
A lover of justice

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

PAGE NINE

No. 2, VOL. XXI

Thursday, May 12, 1960, Fort St. John, B.C.



LIONS' GIFT TO PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL — The Lions Club of Fort St John assisted by the local council Knights of Columbus formally presented their humidifier to the hospital last week. This affair consisting of the steam unit and the canopy and holder, is of invaluable

help in chest cases, heart conditions, and respiratory troubles generally. In the picture left to right, Sister Clarissa Marie of Providence Hospital, Messrs. Paul Odermatt and Len Inglis, Vern Ferris and Ed Osborne, and nurse Miss Alice J. Little.

Finds beauty on every hand

MLM smiles in the face of ill health; makes hospital ward gay as she writes from her window high above the Fraser River

While being prepared for surgery at St. Mary's Hospital, New Westminster, "MLM" penned a report for her many friends in the Peace River and elsewhere from her hospital bed. Because of inadequate facilities in her own home town hospital, Mrs. Murray like many another patient, has had to travel far from home, family and friends for attention. She expresses the hope that a fine modern institution like St. Mary's will soon be built in Fort St. John.

She is now recovering from her operation and looks forward to an early return north. —Ed.

By MARGARET L. MURRAY

St. Mary's Hospital, New Westminster—Because in Fort St. John we are hoping to get a new hospital, not before it is

but not until this new one was ready, so St. Mary's hospital has given continuous hospitalization here, overlooking the Fraser, (to be sure a noble river) for over 90 years. The

and as this is written, it is full to the doors. To get in under a month for a ward bed, one must wait. If one can afford to pay for a private room \$7, a day, one has a pretty good chance of getting in, in a week's time. If one's case is fairly mild and of short duration, it is worth the extra to have a room such as this scribe writes this par from, even at the cost.

NEVER NEARER TO HEAVEN

From our right, we look up and down the river, and no one-eyed boy at a three ring circus has anything on us; trying to lo-

HOSPITAL W.A. TAG DAY MAY 14

A Hospital W.A. executive meeting was held on May 2 at the home of Mrs. Kylo with six members present. Plans were made for "Hospital Week".

The annual Hospital W.A. tag day will be held on Saturday, May 14, with the school children kindly assisting. The May meeting of the W.A. will take the form of a membership tea and will be held in the community Hall at 8 p.m., Monday May 16. Mrs. Clark will prepare leaflets portraying the activities of the organization since incorporation to be given people attending the tea. Everyone will be welcome to attend the tea

MLM smiles . . .

(Continued from page nine) shop, have supper at the Fraser Cafe, go to a picture show. The present publisher of the AHN dearly loved the sight of counters laden with red and yellow desserts. Being a frugal mother, bread puddings was our own specialty. Jello, to our way of thinking was only wasting space in a growing kid's anatomy. The present editor of the AHN succumbed to the "red beans". That was in the early '20's, and in those lean post war days, poor folks took their beans seriously. Soaked them over night, flavored with bacon rinds. Georgie knew beans was good food, and the red catsup colored different from home, were her choice.

However, time marches on, duty and circumstances removed all these simple and homely pleasures. Here we are thinking of the happy days gone by, as we try to sort out the lanes of commerce that move past this 5th floor window. This window is 9 feet in breadth and 8 feet in height, and it seems we are as near heaven as we can ever hope to get. The airplane from the east and also the interior pass in front of this window. Last night, almost dusk, we watched six big planes in formation of 3's, heading for Sea Island. We couldn't see the whites of the pilot's eyes, but golly, it wasn't hard to imagine them being glued to the horizon. The big new jet plane shot past earlier in the day, on its flight to Montreal, and CPA, winging up to Fort St. John cuts the sky with a silver gash, every day about supper time.

Every patient, the same as us, has a beautiful view of the river. Where a farming community used to be on the outer side, now a solid block of houses, business places etc. spread out on the far bank of the Fraser River. Over the Pattullo Bridge, now paid for, and free of tolls, is a constant stream of traffic night and day, while the Deas Tunnel is almost empty, practically! 50c is the toll on Deas, 25c used to be the toll for Pattullo. Built in 1936-7 it paid for itself in 20 years. The Alexander Bridge built in 1927 lifted a \$1 toll and was paid for about the same time the Pattullo Bridge was opened. The Deas shorter route cuts through the prolific Delta country for miles, and once under the river it speeds to Oak Street and Vancouver city centre in minutes. All this lovely rich land, where 30 years ago, the milk, butter and poultry, also berries, vegetables, etc., came from, are now practically sold for small holdings, and dairying etc., is fading out of the Lower Mainland picture.

Sub divisions are now appearing along the Deas road, and the beautiful deep alluvial soil which made John Oliver a rich farmer, and brought a wealth of agriculture, will be cut up into city lots. Oliver, and early settlers like him, built their own dikes and developed one of the lucrative districts in Canada.

So, aside from having the best care, the most pleasant surroundings we are moved back in the past and put forward into the great expanding future from our vantage point here on the sixth floor, where we can turn our gaze in a half circle, and unravel a generation of living and progressing. Especially a cause for nostalgia is the old St. Ann's School, on whose roof we could almost land if we jump from where we write. Pages of living are turned back to those old days, when the editor of the AHN fluttered out to meet us when we used to visit her at the school. St. Ann's is an old fashioned four storey building, added onto with old parts still under one roof. It has 50 students, boarders, all girls in blue serge tunics, and they flutter in and out of the school yard for all the world like the girls did then. Sometimes right assuring about this picture out of our window, where so much change and expansion all around. Set right below our eyes, that one order hasn't changed.

THE BED'S COST BY AND LARGE

What we really wanted to tell was the hospital story. We need a new one like this in Fort St. John, also in Fort Nelson. What is planned for Mile 49 is similar, but smaller than St. Mary's. This cost of nearly two million was largely due to the equipment and the instruments that St. Mary's has to offer. The operating theater, where the very last word in surgery can be done, is beautifully lighted, and immaculately sanitary, but no one takes time to see the beauty. The patients are all either going into comas, coming out of comas, or beforehand too scared to appreciate the beauty and effi-

ciency. A battery of nurses and doctors grind through their commitments with probably half a dozen MD's working on or preparing for their patients, at the same time.

If we are going to build in Fort St. John, we must expect to pay for it. The future of the Peace River country warrants we look ahead. We shrink from a million dollars for a 100 bed hospital, but it is easy to see where the money goes when it is a good one, modern and new! This bed we are stretched out on, cost \$490 wholesale! Of course it has everything a modern invention can put on it. Sister Ursiline, the nurse demonstrates, and she can practically make me turn somersaults with my carcass, and yet, not jar or shake a digit. Add to the frame the cast of mattress, the foot stool, the cabinet, chairs etc., "the bare furnishings" would be nearly \$1,000. Add to that nursing staff, the ward and nurses aides, the food, the building operation, lights, heat, upkeep etc., whew! Sister Superior Rose Wilfreda is administrator, and works hard with a large group of board members to keep the big job going.

St. Mary's has no nursing schools. Staff is made up of graduate nurses, male and female. Hundreds of staff are to be paid. Twenty ward and nurses aides are on this floor. The meals are very good. Three of them for everyone who can eat them, and three breaks with liquid refreshments. Patients have transistor radios and one has a TV plugged in. Roaring laughter comes from a semi-private room across the hall so there is never a dull moment. A communication system keeps us in touch with the desk, and at all times, paging, calling and directing comes through the tiny mike above our head. It would not be wise to try to pull off anything. In the wee small hours last night we opened our door, and looked down the long smooth corridor. We ventured out to see what we heard from all day and get our bearings. No sooner had we peeped into the first nook, where the fire hose is, that an apparition in white, crisply asked, "What are you looking for?" Without any

words we were ushered back to our own door, we didn't even argue, there was no use to explain. This cool efficient nurse likely thought we were balmy. There is no room in this ultra, ultra for gandering, or curiosity. Besides Hollywood Sanitarium is not far from here.

A ROSL OF ANY OTHER NAME

If Fort St. John can get a miniature of St. Mary's, it should lose no time in bickering as to who will operate. With a hospital unit a portion of all the wonderful inventions and improvements revealed at St. Mary's a hospital could be run by any organization. It could probably be run cheaper by the Sisters of Providence, than by a civil body, as time and results have proved. But, a community with sincere intentions could run a hospital such as St. Mary's if it was in Fort St. John, or Fort Nelson, and couldn't miss.

With the Sisters of Providence, or any other similar order, largely the same procedure of operations is in all the hospitals under dedicated care. We had a week's special care at the Sacred Heart Hospital at McLennan under Sister Rose Wilfreda's sistership in 1956 and the service and routine was equal, if even less ornate than here at St. Mary's. Sister Marcelline, Superior at Fort St. John follows exactly the same pattern with a much reduced and trying facility. However, nothing stumps The Providence Order, and they are always in demand. No wonder, when out of the old rickety edifice, they had the ambition and foresight to acquire this beautiful hospital, resting down as it is under a colossal mortgage. St. Mary's however is raising high up above the Fraser River, and lifting its sights to a bright future with the growing mainland, and the next 90 odd years of service.

FORT ST. JOHN, B.C., THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1960



IT IS ENTIRELY fitting that little Roseanne Daigle who won the nurse doll at the Hospital W.A. tea Easter Saturday should have her picture taken with Mrs. Jimmy Young, a pioneer nurse of the North Peace, and with Mrs. Toolie

(her real name is Louise) Hamilton, who for many years has been a staunch supporter and hard worker for the Hospital Auxiliary. Roseanne was absolutely thrilled with the doll, who came completely outfitted with a large hand-made wardrobe.

Raffle winners at W.A. tea

APR 21 1960
Mrs. L. E. Jones won the \$50 raffle prize, camp table and chairs were won by Mrs. Jean Leahy and the decorated cake by Mrs. R. Stuby. Roseanne Daigle won the Nurses' Association dressed doll raffle.

The W.A. wishes to thank all those who helped in any way to make this tea a success and enabled the W.A. to make the final instalment on the washing equipment at the hospital.

1960
APRIL

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

1960
JUN.

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THE ONLY PAPER SERVING THE LAND BEYOND THE PEACE & THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRENCH

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Thursday, June 23, 1960, Fort St. John, B.C.

16 PAGES

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Yesterday's 'Doc Kearney' picnic



GARNET H. KEARNEY, FORT ST. JOHN'S beloved pioneer doctor, taken shortly before he was presented with a purse of \$4,839—in grateful appreciation for 25 years of service to patients of this community. The presentation took place Wednesday afternoon at a huge picnic—some say 1,500 attended—at the Henry Vogel farm on the banks of the Peace at South Taylor. Henry is at the left of this picture, talking to “Doc”. In back-

ground are the Newton Thompsons, talking to “Van”, Dr. Kearney’s wife. Bottom pictures are the Kearneys stopping for a cool sip beneath the poplars, the picnic tables and some of the crowd, and Doctor Kearney inspecting the presentation booklet, containing the names of his 1,030 North Peace babies. In the book was tucked the bankbook, showing the money deposited to his account. More pictures and story next week.

'Who, me?' asks 'doc' at picnic tribute

'What did they have to do that for?'

"Now what did they have to go and do that for?"

These were the quiet words spoken by Fort St. John's beloved country doctor, Garnet H. Kearney, when the fact got through to him that he had just been presented with \$4,839, a gift of appreciation from the North Peace.

The occasion was the 25th anniversary of "Doc's" arrival in Fort St. John, and over 1,000 people took advantage of the first hot day of summer to gather on the banks of the Peace River at Taylor for a "Doc Kearney Picnic."

"Doc" is known around Fort St. John for his complete selflessness. In 25 years, he has seldom sent a bill. He lives humbly to fit this economy and his little grey office next to the Alaska Highway News on Fort St. John's main street, is

a humble abode indeed, and a rented one at that. But in everything else, Garnet Kearney is rich beyond the dreams of Midas. He enjoys good health for his 77 years. He has a devoted wife and grandchildren to love him. He hasn't an enemy in the entire country. His professional ability is respected in the length and breadth of the community and he still looks after his practice.

"Doc" has lived through good times and bad with the people he's cared for. He has swapped many an obstetrical bill for a few sacks of vegetables, or a quarter of beef. Countless babies were delivered without charge. Many of them were among those attending Wednesday's picnic. Ribbons were given out for first and second generation Kearney babies, which number in all 1,030.

Doug Wiles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hart Wiles of Taylor, one



of his first babies, did the presentation Wednesday on behalf of the community. Written on the bank book were these words: "A love token from the people of the North Peace."

Garnet Kearney was born in Renfrew, Ont., March 3, 1884, the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kearney. The father was a watchmaker. There were four boys and one girl in that family. Graham, the eldest, was an electrical engineer; Harold or "Tom" as he was known here, was a watchmaker and optometrist; Edwin a lawyer; and Marion, the only girl, worked for the Ontario provincial government until her retirement a few years ago. She lives in Toronto. The three brothers gone.

After graduation from McGill Dr. Kearney came west and served with the Canadian National Railway and the old Grand Trunk Pacific on construction projects around Kamloops, and between Hazelton and Prince George.

When the First World War broke out, Dr. Kearney signed on as ship's surgeon with the CPR, transporting troops, horses, supplies to Britain, and in 1915, he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps and served for the remaining three years of the war in France.

Upon demobilization, he settled in Oliver and practised there from 1922, moving later

GREAT WORKERS, 25 years ago, for anything to benefit the community are these five matrons, and still going strong today. If you want anything done, ask Della. Ask Marie, or Evelyn, or Mrs. Jimmie Young (somehow you never hear "Ann" for Mrs. Young). And Mary Soman though she now lives in Armstrong, is sure to be

the capable, kindly neighbor she was here. "Doc's" picnic was quite a reunion for Della Cuthill, left, and Mary Soman and Evelyn Powell, right. All three are long-time residents of the Charlie Lake area. Mrs. Bougie is an oldtimer of the Baldonnel district and Mrs. Jimmie Young is of the North Pine district.

to New Denver.

The depression was on the country, and as little towns like New Denver were emptied, the services of professional people were not needed, and Dr. Kearney moved on to the department of health, and was in charge of the relief camp hospital at DaRoche for several years.

From DaRoche, he learned of the need for a doctor in Fort St. John. The Indian agent and medical officer here at the time, Dr. H. A. W. Brown was threatened with loss of hearing. The community was growing and he felt no longer able to carry on and had asked for a replacement.

There was no money in the country. People at the coast

were contributing to funds to supply Peace River families with sugar and flour and shoes.

But Garnet Kearney came just the same. And he's been here ever since.

A modest sort, the doctor can't pick any particular highlights out of those 25 years. Everything from mass drownings to grisly murders and ghastly accidents have occurred in the Peace during those years but although you recall the talk at the time, and you were here to observe the surgery lights burning late at the hospital, to recount some of the miraculous deliveries from death through those years, would be just gossip.

The only thing Doctor Kearney will discuss is the fact that

he couldn't stand being coroner for the district, because every single case was an old friend. Eventually, he was forced to ask the government to put through the formality which is required for a coroner's retirement — evidently coroners don't usually resign! The last case he handled was that of the late Bill Pickell.

And there we leave Doctor Kearney. He is not retiring. He is not moving away. He intends to stay right where he is, with his little fish pool in the back, his office in the front, the hospital a few yards away, and the people he loves all around him.

Be satisfied—try classified!



HART WILES yelled "Okay—all the Kearney babies come up here and get your ribbons!" And this is part of the crowd that surged up to him. The

Henry Vogel farm was a great place for a picnic. Lots of trees, the quiet old Peace River just over the bank, and plenty of grassy spots to lay out a picnic lunch.



THE NEWS HAS been waiting a long time to get a good picture of these two couples, who have been more or less neighbors for more than a quarter of a century. Left to right, the inimitable Ed Thomas (if you haven't heard Ed cry a sale, you haven't lived)

Sadie Howe (one of the prettiest girls in the country when she married returned soldier Gilbert), Alice Thomas (nee Parsons — another attractive post-war bride circa 1920), and Gilbert Howe. A pretty fine looking foursome of pioneers, eh?

Y'all come!

DOCTOR GARNET KEARNEY, Fort St. John's beloved country doctor, is to be honored at a function he personally enjoys the most—a great big family picnic — to be held at the Henry Vogel farm on the banks of the Peace River at Taylor, next Wednesday afternoon, June 22, from 3 p.m. The affair will undoubtedly rival in size the bridge opening a week later.

The occasion is the 25th anniversary of "Doc's" arrival in the country in June 1935. If ever there was a wonderful, devoted, and kindly man, it's Doctor Kearney. It may be safely said that he wasn't an enemy in the world. He has lived through good times and bad with the people he cared for. He has swapped many an obstetrical bill for a few sacks of onions, or a quarter of beef, and the same with broken bones, medical cases and surgery. He has delivered more than a thousand babies!

JUN 16, 1960

The neighbors especially know the kindness of the old doctor. They know the people who call at the back door at all hours of the day or night. They have heard the old jeep running in 40 below weather, as "Doc" kept it warmed up for some impending stork, or for a check call on a very ill patient. They know of the cuts he's bandaged, the festers he's treated, the medicine he gives out, and the kindly reassurance he gives to everyone—Indians, down-and-outers, queer simple folk—who call around at odd hours.

The don't know how old Garnet Kearney is, nor do they care particularly. They do know that he was a gold medallist when he graduated from McGill, that he has done wonderful work among the people of Fort St. John and district, and that it was a wonderful day when he came to the North Peace

We, at the Alaska Highway News, are the neighbors!

JUNE 1960

TO BE A PICNIC

**Doc Kearney
anniversary**

Wed., June 22

JUN 16, 1960

The entire community is invited to pack a picnic lunch, gather up children, and be at the Henry Vogel property on the banks of the Peace River at Taylor at three o'clock next Wednesday afternoon June 22.

The occasion is the 25th anniversary celebration of the arrival of Dr. Garnet Kearney in the North Peace. The committee has put Mr. A. E. Tucker in charge of ribbons for the "Kearney babies", who now number over 1,000, and many are themselves mothers and fathers of the growing generation.

Those attending are advised to bring their own cream and sugar, along with the picnic, and black coffee will be provided. Vogel's is reached by turning off the highway at the other end of the bridge to the South Taylor school. Signs will mark the way.

If the weather man does not co-operate, the picnic will be postponed. Listen to CJDC Wednesday morning, advises the committee, for further advice.

And above all, plan now to come. And bring the children.

Mabel Gray chosen councillor for district hospitals' W.A.

JUN 23, 1960

The Hospital W.A. will hold a bake sale this Saturday at the Co-op store and all friends of the auxiliary are asked to donate baking. Funds raised from bake sales arranged for the last Saturday in every month during the summer will go toward the purchase of a new case room table, urgently needed at the hospital, to replace one donated years ago by this same women's auxiliary. So remember Saturday afternoon to pick up a weekend home baking treat at the W.A.'s Co-op booth.

Twenty members of the Hospital W.A. welcomed two new members to their ranks at the meeting held at the hospital on the evening of June 20.

After the reading and adoption of the minutes of the various meetings and executive meetings, the reading of the financial report, Mrs. Gray gave a report on the district convention held in Prince George this month.

This was attended by both Mrs. Gray and Mrs. I. Hamilton. The report proved very interesting as we heard of the many varied activities of other groups of this northern district. Prince George is a particularly active group and is carrying on projects in their beautiful new hospital.

We were honored at the convention by having Mrs. Gray elected as the new councillor for this district which includes 10 W.A.'s. extending from Lillooet to Fort Nelson and McBride to Vanderhoof. She will take office in September and hold it for two years.

Various resolutions to be presented at the annual convention in Vancouver in September were read and voted on and our delegate, Mrs. Hamilton will vote accordingly at the convention.

One resolution dealt with legalizing lotteries to raise funds for hospitals, one to urge the government to provide training for physiotherapists at the University of B.C. since the province is very short of people trained in this work; another dealt with fees and other changes with the constitution.

Since some travellers are coming to the hospital this week, Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Gray were asked to meet them at the hospital, look over their catalogues and order a baby scale which is to be placed in the hospital in memory of Mrs. Hellum, a former member who passed away while president of our group.

We are now starting to raise funds to the extent of a little over \$600 for our third share of the cost of a new case room table to replace one purchased by the W.A. many years ago. The doctors are most anxious to have this table procured right away as the need is very great.

Bake sales will be held at the Co-op the last Saturday of June, July, August and September to aid in raising funds for this project.

Donations to this end will be most thankfully received.

Tickets will be made and will be soon available for the raffle of a beautiful crocheted bedspread and platform rocker

Oblate missionary marks 25th anniversary with full day of celebrations Wednesday

The sunshine broke out over the rain-washed Peace River country in glorious warm rays Wednesday last for two gentlemen of the community who were celebrating quarter century marks.

It shone on Doctor Kearney's picnic at Taylor.

It shone on Father Jean Donze's silver jubilee, marking his 25th year of ordination in the priesthood. Father is an Oblate in charge of Indian missions in this area. He lives in St. John's rectory in Fort St. John but for years he has resided with the Indians on their own reservations throughout the northern part of the province.

Father's day started early Wednesday when Bishop Fergus O'Grady arrived, enroute to Whitehorse. At 11 o'clock, the bishop, Father Donze and Father deKeyser, an old friend and fellow countryman of the guest of honor, attended a program arranged by the children of Immaculata School, a sort of "This is your life" enactment of father's life.

The children acted and sang to fit the commentator's pattern and it was all good fun.

Father was especially thrilled to hear his French class do a very beautiful bit of French choral speech in his honor, nicely accented and a credit to much older students. The half hour program concluded with some lovely choral unison selections and the presentation of a purse from the children.

During the afternoon, father received friends and enjoyed a mid-day dinner party in his honor in the rectory.

Solemn High Mass at 7 o'clock at which officiated friends of the celebrant, with Knights of Columbus in their colorful

and proved to be an eloquent tribute indeed. The clergy entered the church to joyful organ music and left in procession again to the strains of La Marseillaise, Father Donze's special request. In fact Wednesday was a great day for old France!

A reception at the CWL Hall at which the knights who sponsored it must be commended for a very lively and entertaining evening, started at 8 o'clock. Father Donze presided at a long head table, seated in front of a lovely low bouquet of lilac, flanked by white tapers in silver sconces. The soft sheen of sterling on white linen caught and reflected the candlelight.

The reception hall was transformed by the ingenuity of the CWL ladies who used silver widely in the motif of their decoration. Silver spheres hung from the ceiling and the rich wine of the stage hangings were a perfection foil for the very professional silver lettering which extended in French congratulations to Father Donze on this important day. The decorations were largely the work of Mesdames Bill Blais and Peter Hlushko.

Mrs. Stu Cranston and Mrs. Manny Scheck convened the reception itself.

Seated with him were representatives of the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League, along with his fellow priest guests.

They were:

Fathers Odil De Keyser, OMI, Giscombe, B.C.; N. Roue, Surgeon Lake Indian School, Alta.; F. A. Gendre, Valleyview, Alta.; E. Jungbluth, OMI, Chetwynd.

Bishop Fergus O'Grady could not stay for the evening cere-

regalia forming a guard of honor and the altar beautifully dressed in white linen, with red roses in crystal vases.

Father deKeyser preached the sermon which came straight from his latin heart

momies because he was forced to leave for Whitehorse on the evening plane, there to be present for the dedication of the cathedral.

The speeches were short and witty. The reception refresh-

Wednesday

ments were bounteous and in the usual CWL tasty style. The program which followed was hilarious to say the least with vignettes in father's life since leaving France re-enacted by 'Father' Rollie DeTonnancourt and 'Bishop' Dan Spicer. One of the funniest concerned father's shipboard experiences with the English language. And another which delighted the hostesses for the evening, was his experience in Fort St. John, in which he was depicted driving his pick-up around at various kitchens to pick up hams for CWL banquets. Incidentally, the 'hams' on the stage Wednesday night should certainly be picked up themselves — by a talent scout. For all three (the cast included Sylvia Cranston) are talented people.

Father Donze was presented with a purse to cover expenses of a forthcoming holiday to his native land to visit his family. The purse was from St. John's parish and the collection was under the auspices of the Knights of Columbus. A spiritual bouquet was offered the guest of honor by the CWL ladies.

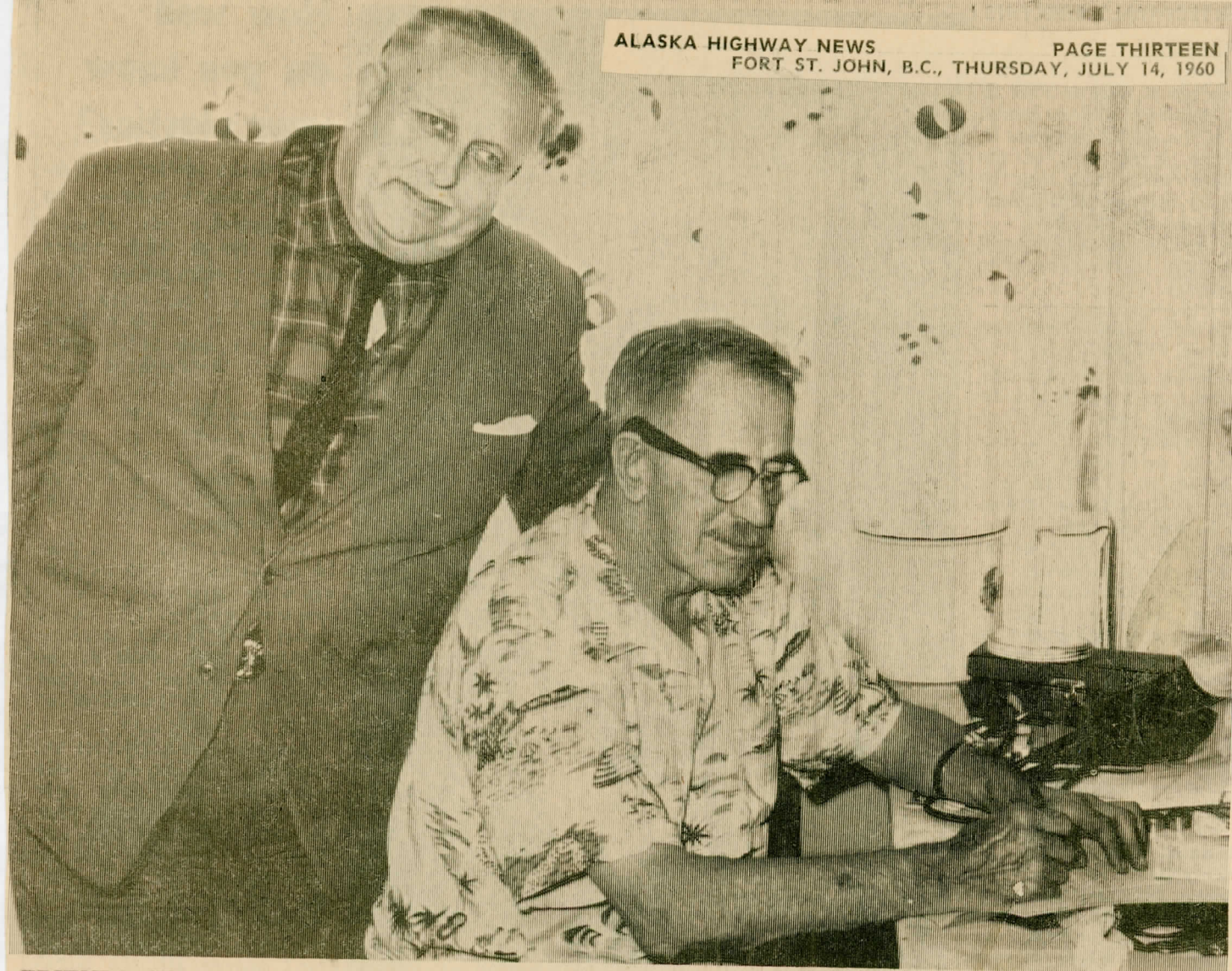
The Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Providence were not present but their contribution was noted. A four tier jubilee cake made by Sister Laura of the hospital was a creation of artistic beauty, fashioned of fleur de lis interspersed with the most intricate sugar lace and topped with a miniature chalice and host. Sister is very talented. The Sisters of St. Joseph had arranged the morning program at the school. Father thanked them all.



SISTER ST. JULIAN, superior of Immaculata school, receives guests of honor at a program and presentation by the pupils of Fort St. John's only parochial school, marking the 25th anniversary of ordination of Father Jean Donze, Indian missionary in this area. Receiving with Sister Superior, is Sister Marcellina, superior of Prov-

idence Hospital. An unexpected surprise was the arrival of the Bishop Prince Rupert Vicariate, His Excellency, Bishop Fergus O'Grady, in for the children's program. In right, Father Donze, His Excellency, Sister Marcellina, and Sister St. Julian. For further news of O'Grady see another column on issue.

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1960
JULY

FRIENDS SINCE THE THIRTIES—"Doc" Szilagyí called on his old friend Garnet Kearney while visiting Fort St. John over the July 1 weekend to congratulate the doctor on the presentation made to him recently. Szilagyí and Kearney have a lot in common. On the same day in May 25 years ago, they started up practice side by side above Mark's Cafe, and the North Peace population of that day welcomed both with open arms. At that time Szilagyí had been in Canada a few years from his native Hungary, where he studied dentistry. We have told Doctor Kearney's story, but never the story of his colleague of those days.

Szilagyí took up land at Fort St. John and homesteaded. At the same time, he cared for the teeth of the settlers hereabouts, and their children, visiting

public health clinics in the country, making dentures, repairing, extracting, and generally administering to the needs of the day. There was very little money around, but with the homestead producing a little food, Doc got by!

Before the second world war he returned to Europe and brought out his two brothers, Julius and Albert Bottyan.

Dentists in B.C. have always been a commodity in short supply. In the hungry thirties, in districts like the Peace River, they were unknown. It is not for this writer to delve into Doc's credentials, but merely to point out the contribution he made in those early days. He still practices at Fort Nelson and up the highway, having special permission to do so.

SO-CRED CONVENTION

Thursday, August 4, 1960, Fort St. John, B.C.

ANTI-HOSPITAL FACTION WINS WITH JACK F. HUHNS

The press was not welcome at the SoCred nominating convention, July 27, on the grounds that only people holding memberships in good standing could be admitted as spectators.

"We'll give you a statement after the meeting," said one prominent delegate, later chosen candidate. "And then we'll know it's the way we want it in the paper."

Jack Huhn, farmer and contractor, defeated H. E. Roche, MLA, pharmacy operator, both of Fort St. John at the SoCred nomination in the Elks Hall.

What went on at this meeting to defeat the sitting member and the government's choice is the SoCred people's business. One can only guess that the Charlie Lake organization was better than Fort St. John's. The score: Huhn 51, Roche 38, Topp (Fort Nelson) 6 and Secret (Fort Nelson) 21.

However, no statement, beyond the actual poll of votes, has been handed to the Alaska Highway News.

At the Conservative nominating meeting, however, a reporter was invited to be present.

Stan Carnell, MLA of Peace River South chaired the meeting, which moved along briskly, according to the Fort Nelson News which carries two columns on the Topp-Secret argument, and indicates a healthy interest in public affairs from that point. Messrs. Topp and Secret were candidates for nomination from Fort Nelson.

There was general chagrin around town Thursday, however, at the election of Mr. Jack Huhn as standard bearer for the SoCred. This was not because of his ability or lack of it, but because people knew well that the anti-hospital interests had put him where he was, and that the hospital, and the government's stand regarding it, would be a major issue in the election campaign.

As the Fort Nelson News observed,

"What went on at Fort St. John last Wednesday night might well be the beginning of the end of SoCred in this riding."

Two parties name candidates to contest coming election



MR. BERT BOWES
Conservative

Wilbert Daniel Bowes was named Conservative candidate for the next provincial election at a nominating meeting held Friday, July 29.

A resident of Fort St. John for the past 30 years, Mr. Bowes has been active in every phase of community affairs during that time. He has been on the school board from 1944—with interruptions — to the present time, including 10 years of service in all. He served two terms on the village council from 1949, was fire chief from the year his firm built the first fire truck (out of an old Bedeaux Citroen) in 1944 until 1948.

Many times, Bert has been president of the board of trade, since the very early days, he has also been president of the Canadian Legion, and was chairman of the North Peace Arena Association which built the big skating forum a couple of years ago. DDGM of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia, Mr. Bowes has a busy life with his many activities and the demands of his firm to which he lends his name, Bowes & Herron, Automotive Dealers.

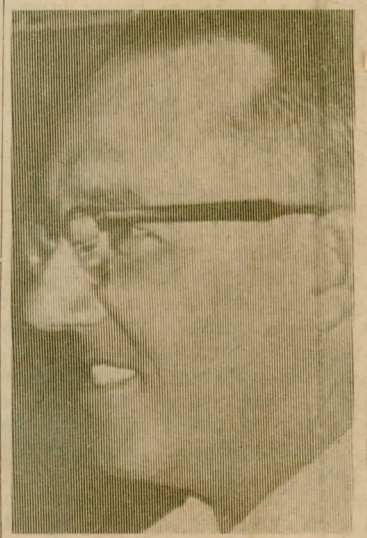
He was married in 1926 to the former Vera Herron, and they have two teenage children.

Mr. Derrick Meyer's name was also before the convention.

Jack Francis Huhn who has been named by the SoCreds in this riding to contest the forthcoming provincial election is a native of Saskatchewan, born 40 years ago at Bruno.

Jack is one of a family of nine children of whom two brothers, Greg and Art, live in Fort St. John. Jack came to the district a veteran in 1948 and acquired seven quarters of land on the veterans' reserve and later adjacent to it. He has been active in the Canadian Legion, the Jaycees, the board of trade and the B.C. Farmers' Union. Perhaps best known is his work for the last named organization, he has served as first vice president of the provincial group, as well as director for district 8, which is the Peace River district, a position which he still holds.

In addition to his farm interests, Huhn carries on an active trucking business in Fort St. John. Jack is a bachelor.



MR. JACK HUHNS
Social Credit

Flash! Election called Sept. 12

Premier W. A. C. Bennett announced last night at his nominating convention in Kelowna that there would be a provincial election on Monday, September, 12.

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR 'BOOSTER'?

Have you got your copy of the Fort St. John Business Booster? It is published every Monday and delivered free to your door. If you haven't got yours phone 374.

GOLD BAR FIRE UNDER CONTROL

Fire which was touched off by lightning, 12 miles from Gold Bar, beyond Hudson's Hope, is the first forest fire reported this season in the immediate district

According to C. Laboucane of the Forestry department, no manpower has yet been put to work on this area, as it is believed the fire will burn itself out. It is being watched carefully, however, for any change in condition, and a standby crew from another area will attend when needed.

ION
BARS
PRESS

Hospital progress reported to trustees

The following report was prepared by the board of management of the Providence Hospital for the Trustees of Hospital Improvement District No. 13, and delivered recently to them.

For the information of all the public, it is here reproduced.

The following brief, informal report deals with the activities at Fort St. John Providence Hospital for the period from April 1959 to April 1960. Any opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this report are those of the writer and are not a statement of hospital policy.

In April 1959, immediately following the money by-law plebiscite, the board of management of Providence Hospital requested permission from Deputy Minister D. Cox, Commissioner of BCHIS to proceed with working plans for new construction. During April the transfer of patients was made from the third floor to somewhat safer accommodation on the first and second floor. This was made possible by converting the chapel to a ward along with other remodelling. The same number of beds were made available as before the transfer. This transfer of patients completed the Fire Marshall's orders except for installation of larger water pipes. A separate water line was installed to the Doctor's scrub sink in surgery. There were no funds for the installation of other lines.

During the early Spring and summer the management board proceeded with plans for new construction. Several meetings with the architects, Mr. Pitkethley, manager new hospital construction for BCHIS and consultants, were held. A soil survey was asked for by the architects. At the suggestion of BCHIS plans for enlarged facilities were studied. The board became concerned with the possibility of delay and extra expense if we agreed on larger facilities. However, it was found that at least an 80 bed capacity could be completed with 20 partially completed for the funds available from by-laws, sisters contributions and grants from federal and provincial governments.

By late summer all was ready

to proceed with working plans when the board of management was advised by the Improvement District Trustees that they must suspend all activities in regard to new construction since a court action was to be held to settle the outcome of tax by-laws passed to supply funds for the new hospital.

The courts cleared the way for work to proceed again February, 1960. Thus a whole year was lost in getting construction under way. It is evident now that new construction cannot begin until May of 1961.

Some statistics of interest are presented at this point:—

1. Rated capacity of Providence Hospital is 32 beds and cots and six bassinets. Actual number used on yearly average was 43 beds and 10 bassinets.
2. 362 babies born during year—for a total 1,863 newborn days.
3. 1,991 adults and children were admitted for a total 12,141 patient days.
4. There were 100 major and 1,434 minor operations performed.
5. Hospital operated at a loss of \$8,685.83 for the year ending December 1959.
6. 51-53 employees were on the hospital payroll during the year. BCHIS advised that this number must be reduced by at least three for the current year.

It was necessary throughout the year to continue to repair and mend many parts of the hospital. Notwithstanding the fact that the facilities are very inadequate, a high standard of patient care was maintained throughout the year. It is interesting to note that this hospital has been able to keep free of staph diseases isolated to a degree often not accomplished in more modern and up-to-date hospitals.

Excellent co-operation among staff and doctors was the main contributing factor in the smooth operation of the hospital throughout the year. Better personnel policies and rates of pay are being currently introduced. Monthly staff meetings are held to help maintain better staff relations.

In concluding, I would like to point out that the North Peace

River area is experiencing a period of unparalleled expansion both in population and economy. The present hospital facilities are totally inadequate to serve the people. Therefore, every effort must be maintained to see that a hospital is begun as early as is humanly possible. It appears that funds are available, therefore, once all necessary approval is obtained from Victoria, plans will proceed. The building committee of Providence Hospital is very diligent. They have put a lot of work and study into the plans this far and are at the present time awaiting further action from BCHIS Working plans must commence not later than July 15, 1960 in order to assure a commencement of construction by May 1, 1961.

HOSPITAL

S * O * C * I * A * L * S

SEPT 22, 1960

SISTER JEAN Aurele, secretary at Providence Hospital for the past two years, has left for McLennan, and in her place is Sister Miriam, whose last 'tour of duty' in Fort St. John was in 1948. She has since spent six years in Cranbrook and six years at High Prairie.

REV. WM. Ryans and his wife were called to the bedside of Mrs. Ryans Sr. who is critically ill at Rutherford N.J., the family home.

A CNIB canvasser will call at your residence sometime after Monday. A donation to this worthy work in aid of our blind will be greatly appreciated by the committee here, for a fair number of our children and adults each year take advantage of the facilities offered by the institute.

A FOOD shower for the Sisters of St. Joseph was accompanied by a lovely afternoon tea at the CWL hall Sunday afternoon when the mothers and friends of Immaculata School gathered to meet the new teaching staff. There are three new sisters from Hamilton on the staff this year, with Sister St. Albert, replacing Sister St. Julian, as their superior. A bountiful harvest of food gifts weighed down a long table in the hall, while a tea table laid in white linen and centered by a giant vase of gladiolas was presided over by Mrs. Pollyanna Kilgour and Mrs. Rose DeTonancourt, who poured. CWL president Mrs. Lorraine Mueller and secretary Mrs. Isabel Talbot introduced the sisters to the mothers. Convening the affair was Mrs. Betty Osborne.

* GIFTS OF clothing to Mrs. Marie Gladue of the hospital staff whose wardrobe was consumed by fire which was first noticed at 5:30 a.m. Sept. 12, was led off by a generous gift of merchandise from Faye's Fashions. Her daughter was off to boarding school, and her clothes with her, but Mrs. Gladue was forced to leave her burning house in her night attire, and every other stitch was burnt.

MRS. JOSEPHINE Mason, widow of the late Harry Mason, was in town briefly, on business.

MR. FRED Wacker, all the way from Zurich, Switzerland, a field and service man of the Elgrama Corporation, who make engraving machines like that in use at the Alaska Highway News plant, spent the week-end in Fort St. John, servicing the machine and briefing John Quelle who operates it.

MR. DENNIS Davis of the Liverpool, England, an executive of the Liverpool Post and

John conferring with directors of the Alaska Highway News.

JOHN ANDERSON, RCMP constable, is studying at UBC this term, taking a non-degree course which will assist him in his police career. John was an able young constable, and his friends will be delighted to learn of his opportunity, which is provided by the force to its likely young officers.

CORPORAL RON Wynn became a father by ownership Monday this week, when the Peter Wokins announced a fine litter of German Shepherd pups, of which the Wynn dog is the sire. Ron was even smoking a cigar Tuesday morning, and preparing to visit the distaff side of the kennel to look the young ones over

* MR. ED Osborne, delegate for the Hospital Building Committee spent a few days in Vancouver attending the hospital convention for western Canada, driving down with Mr. Osborne were Sister Marcellina, Sister John of the Providence Hospital, Fort St. John and Sister Margaret of Dawson Creek, B.C. all were present at the convention.

MRS. TERRY Morrow of Edmonton spent a day recently with Muriel and James Bell.

JOHN SCULTHORPE entertained 14 young friends at a jive party—his first at his home on 105th last Friday evening. Hamburgers, honey-dip doughnuts and soft drinks wound up a wonderful evening.

MR. AND MRS. Dean McKay from Buck Creek, Alta., spent a week recently visiting Claire Rice, sister of Mrs. McKay. Claire had a farewell party for them a week ago Tuesday. A houseful of friends gathered for an evening of merrymaking.

THE PARENTS of Mr. Harry Boyle, publisher of the Whitehorse Star, stopped briefly in Fort St. John, having flown up here from their home in the Okanagan. While in Dawson Creek, they were entertained by Mr. George Killick, the architect, who was "the boy next door" when he and Harry were youngsters. They flew back south on Monday.

* THE NURSES Association held a picnic the other day at the ranch home of Mrs. Charlotte Artemenko, and heartily enjoyed the occasion. The awarding of a nail polish inscribed coffee mug was made to Diane Edgelow as tree climbing champion of 1960, with Phillis Wright, runner-up.

AN INFORMAL tea was held on Sunday afternoon, September 17, at the home of Mrs. Frank Webb who entertained a group of babysitters. Games and refreshments were enjoy-

MR. Tom Rice presided over the tea urn."

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 14th a surprise baby shower was held at the home of Mrs. Les Hunter Sr., to honor Mrs. Max Ockey. Mrs. Bob Hamilton was co-hostess. Fifteen of the airport ladies attended. The evening got off to a hilarious beginning when a letter, which had been prepared by Mrs. Millie Freeman was read. This letter had many blanks which were filled in with an adjective by each member of the party. The final results were really amusing. Other games helped make an enjoyable evening.

Mrs. Ockey was presented with a piggy bank, containing a sum of money to spend on new baby girl "Martha Jane."

The party also bade farewell to Mrs. Mary Freeman and Mrs. Millie Freeman who will be leaving next week to live in Edmonton. We wish them every happiness in their new home. A delicious lunch was served to climax a very enjoyable evening.

ERNIE AND RITA Carriere arrived back home Sunday after a very happy holiday visiting relatives and friends in Winnipeg, Man.

MR. AND MRS. L. C. Reynolds and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hendricks of Dunsmuir, Calif. dropped into the News' office. Monday morning, were thrilled with our north country, travelling all the way from the sunny state by train, Southern Pacific, Great Northern then our own Pacific Great Eastern. The husbands were both retired railroad men.

THIRTY YOUNG people held a surprise party for Beverly Carriere and Karen Parker on Friday, Sept. 16, as they were packing for their trip to Mexico City. A gay evening, dancing, singing and feasting on fried chicken from The Sandy Ranch, was enjoyed. The girls left Saturday morning, arriving in Mexico City Sunday in time to attend a bull fight that afternoon, they will spend two weeks there and a week in Vancouver. Further news of these gay gals on their return.

MRS. MABEL Gray newly appointed councillor for North east area of hospital auxiliaries and Mrs. Toulie Hamilton delegate for the Providence Hos-

pital W.A. returned home after spending a few days at the 16th Annual Hospital Convention held in Vancouver the first week of September. The four days were planned for the comfort and enjoyment of the visitors, with very informative talks from the speakers. Mr. Eric Martin, Minister of Health, spoke on the wonderful work the womens' auxiliaries are doing through the province.

The White Rock Players staged a play, 'The Hasty Heart' in which Tom Kerr, from Dawson Creek played a leading part.

Mabel also met Mr. and Mrs. Bill Milligan in the Vancouver Hotel, Bill was an the staff of the Providence Hospital here, leaving last year for Garden Bay on the Island.

MRS. GARY Westover entertained at the tea hour Saturday, Sept. 17th in honor of Mrs. J. W. Stokes wife of the Anglican minister and Mrs. K. Walmsley whose husband is the new game warden. Twenty ladies were present to welcome these charming newcomers to Fort St. John.

MISSES HELEN and Janie Rattray from Victoria stayed overnight to visit with Mrs. Violet Woodward, who is on the staff at Providence Hospital. Helen was Mrs. Woodward's teacher in Estevan, Sask.

They travelled PGE from Vancouver and will return home by bus to Prince Rupert, boarding the boat there for Victoria.

CYRIL POMEROY, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Pomeroy spent a few days with his family, before returning to his studies at UBC.

DR. J. D. McGann, the retarded child expert, made time to call around and visit the various offices with which this new Fort St. John association will be arranging its affairs for the school. He also spent some time at the schools, and was impressed with the high average enjoyed by graduates in this area. An engaging young chap, who doesn't look like he's lived enough years to collect all the degrees which follow his name, he has forsaken Connecticut for the province of British Columbia because in his field, he sees such a challenge here, and because he just plain likes the people and the advantages that go with living in a smaller and less populated city. He makes his home at Vancouver.

HOSPITAL

1960

THE NURSES' ASSOCIATION will show two films on the new technique, mouth-to-mouth resuscitation that has been widely acclaimed since it was introduced last year.

THE PEOPLE OF THE North Peace overwhelmingly backed the trustees of the Hospital Improvement Board. This endorsement brought to a climax the bitter campaign headed by a minority group called the Hospital Society.

MAY 12, 1960

A HUMIDIFIER WAS PRESENTED to the Providence Hospital by Paul Odermatt, Len Inglis, Vern Ferris and Ed Osborne. It was a combined effort of the Lions Club and the Knights of Columbus.

HOSPITAL WA
ASK FOR BAKING

The last of this series of Hospital W.A. bake sales will be held at the Co-op store on Saturday, September 24 from 1 to 5 p.m. Proceeds from these sales aid the purchase of a new caseroom table at the hospital, so everyone is asked to remember and make this one a big success.

SEPT 22, 1960

HOSPITAL

1960
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 — Last Hospital W.A. bake sale of the season at the Co-op Store, from 1 to 5 p.m. Let's make this a success. Anyone wishing to donate baking, phone Mrs. Gray, 468R and she will pick it up.

Social Evening and dance at the Canadian Legion Hall.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 — Red Cross Blood Bank at the Elks Hall from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. Remember, they need the blood from everyone.

JUN 18, 1960

DR GARNET KEARNEY celebrated his 25th anniversary of his arrival in the Peace Country.

The entire community was invited to pack a picnic lunch, gather up their children and congregate at the property of Henry Vogel to celebrate the occasion.

Mr A E Tucker was in charge of ribbons for the "Kearney babies" who, at that time, numbered over 1,000 and many were "grown up mothers and fathers of the future generation."

20 YRS AGO — JUN 19, 1960
GARNET H KEARNEY, Fort St John's beloved pioneer doctor is photographed shortly before he was presented with a purse of \$4,839 - in grateful appreciation for 25 yrs of service to patients of this community. The presentation took place at a huge picnic - some say 15400 attended - at the Henry Vogel farm on the banks of the Peace at South Taylor. Another picture shows Doctor Kearney inspecting the presentation booklet, containing the names of his 1,030 North Peace babies. In the book was tucked the bankbook, showing the money deposited to his account.

DR GARNET Kearney, FSJ beloved Pioneer doctor was guest of honor at a huge picnic on the Henry Vogel farm on the banks of the Peace River. A presentation booklet was given containing the names of his 1,030 North Peace babies. JUN 23, 1960

New medical bldg. tops permits list

Building permits for the month of September for the town of Fort St. John amounted to \$156,542 which indicate the steady growth that the gas capital is enjoying.

Topping the list is the fine new medical building now being rushed to completion opposite the old medical building on 101 avenue. It is being built for Drs. Gary Westover and Keith Dixon and amounts to \$65,000.

Other building going on:

Beaver Lumber Co. house, new, \$6,912; J. K. Kinneburg, house addition, \$1,000; R. J. Construction, house new, \$9,000; Bowes & Herron, new floor addition, \$500; J. Holland, garage, new, \$500.

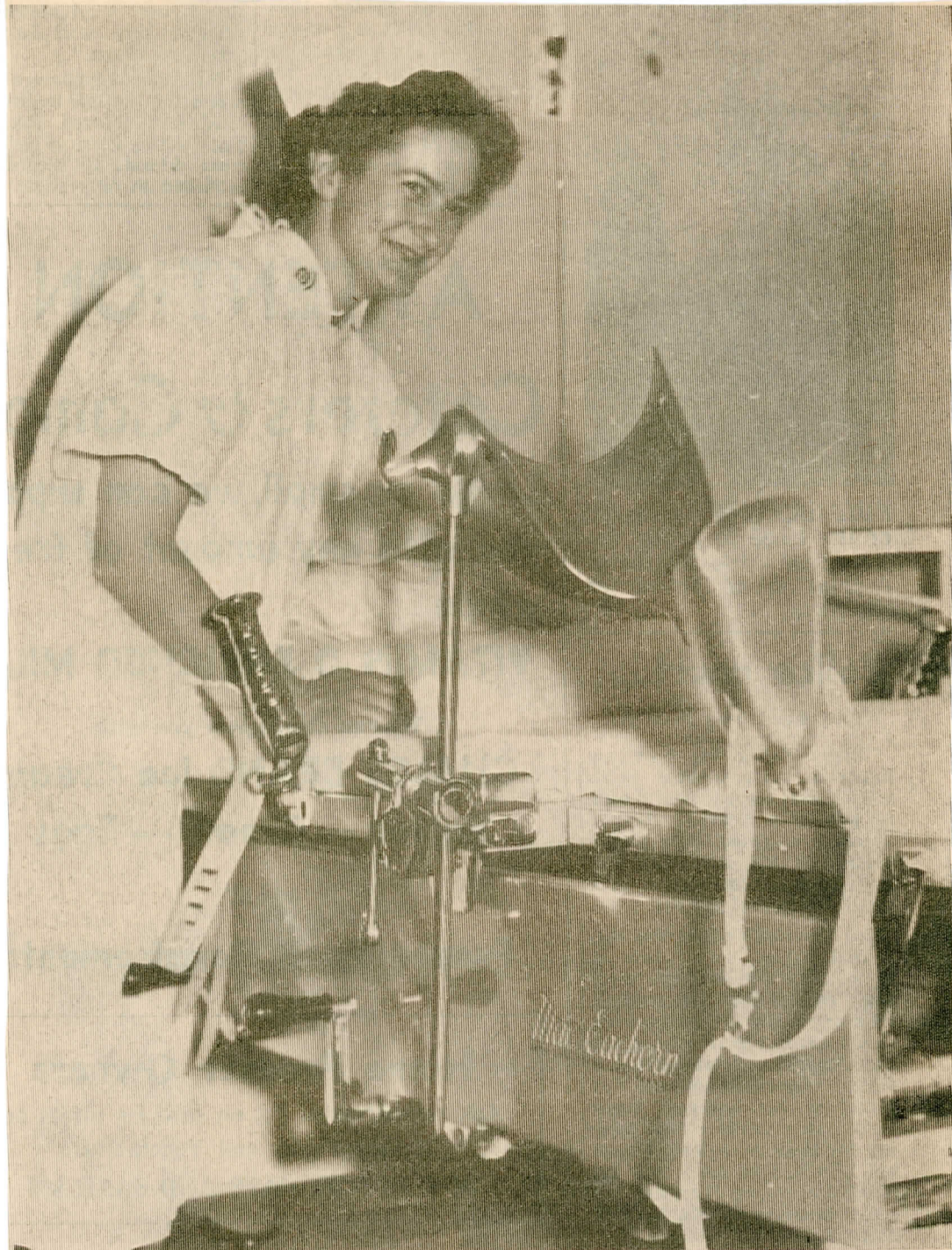
N. Thompson, retaining wall addition, \$800; F. Sarenchuk, house, new, \$10,200; Mrs. S. Olsen, storage building, new \$500.

R. J. Construction, new garage \$1,000; T. Batchelor, remodelling house, \$630; E. Dederly, house addition \$1,000; W. Weldon, store addition, \$7,000; Bartell Bros. new house, \$11,000; R. J. Construction, new house \$13,000; Bartell Bros., store addition \$3,000; C.C. Brandt, new house, \$6,500; C. Giebelhaus, new house, \$19,000.

EIGHT PERCENT FOR THE HOSPITAL W.A.

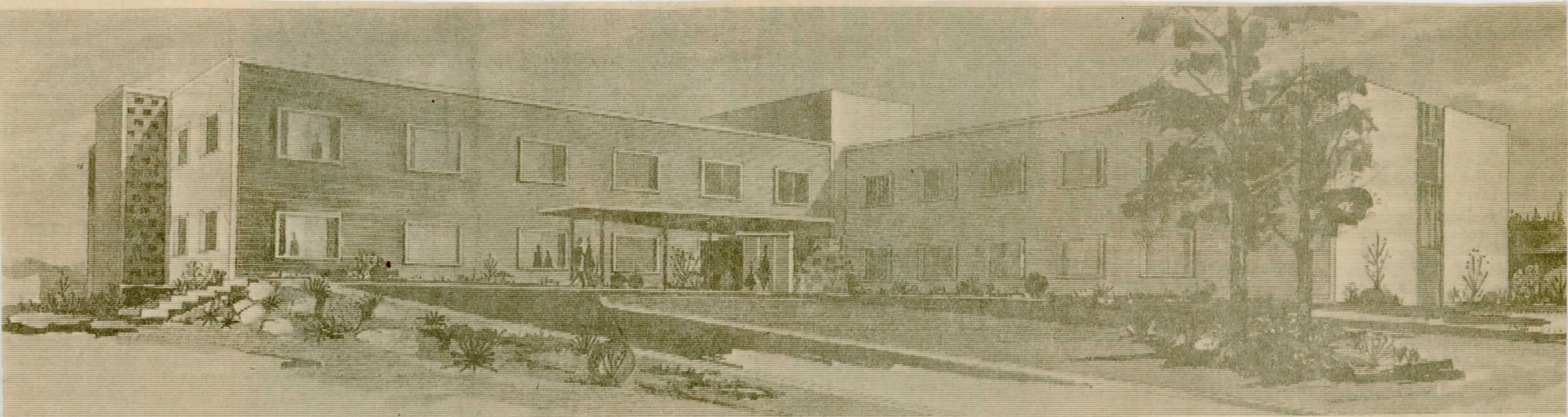
1960
The W.A. of the Providence Hospital would like it known that they are getting only eight percent of the money from the sale of magazines presently being offered by a group of sales persons from Alberta.

A NEW CASEROOM table the latest project of the Hospital WA was presented this week. OCT 13, 1960



NEW CASE ROOM table is the latest donation to Providence Hospital by the Hospital W.A. of Fort St. John. Here Nurse Jean Chapman works at

the table. It is worth about \$1,800 of which the B.C. government pays a third, the W.A. a third and the Hospital Fund a third. *Oct 13, 1960*



TO BE BUILT IN THE SPRING—The new Providence Hospital will look like this a year from now. Plans are rapidly being finalized and tenders will be called the latter part of February. Work will start by May 1. Orig-

inal plans call for an 80-bed hospital but enough space will be available for another 20 beds. The hospital can be enlarged by adding another storey or extending either of the four wings.

ALASKA HIGHWAY NEWS

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COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18—Annual Firemen's Ball at the Elks Hall at 9:30 p.m. Advance tickets from any fireman. No tickets sold at door.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19—Social Evening at the Canadian Legion Branch 102. Lunch served. All members welcome.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21 — The Hospital W.A. will meet at the hospital at 7:30.

North Peace Cancer Society will hold a meeting at the Health Unit at 8 p.m. Mr. King will be guest speaker. All please attend this important meeting.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22—Board of Trade dinner meeting. Cocktails 6:30, dinner 7:30. Ladies are welcome. Frontier Inn banquet room

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25 — North Pine W.A. Bazaar and Tea in the North Pine Church from 2 to 5 p.m.

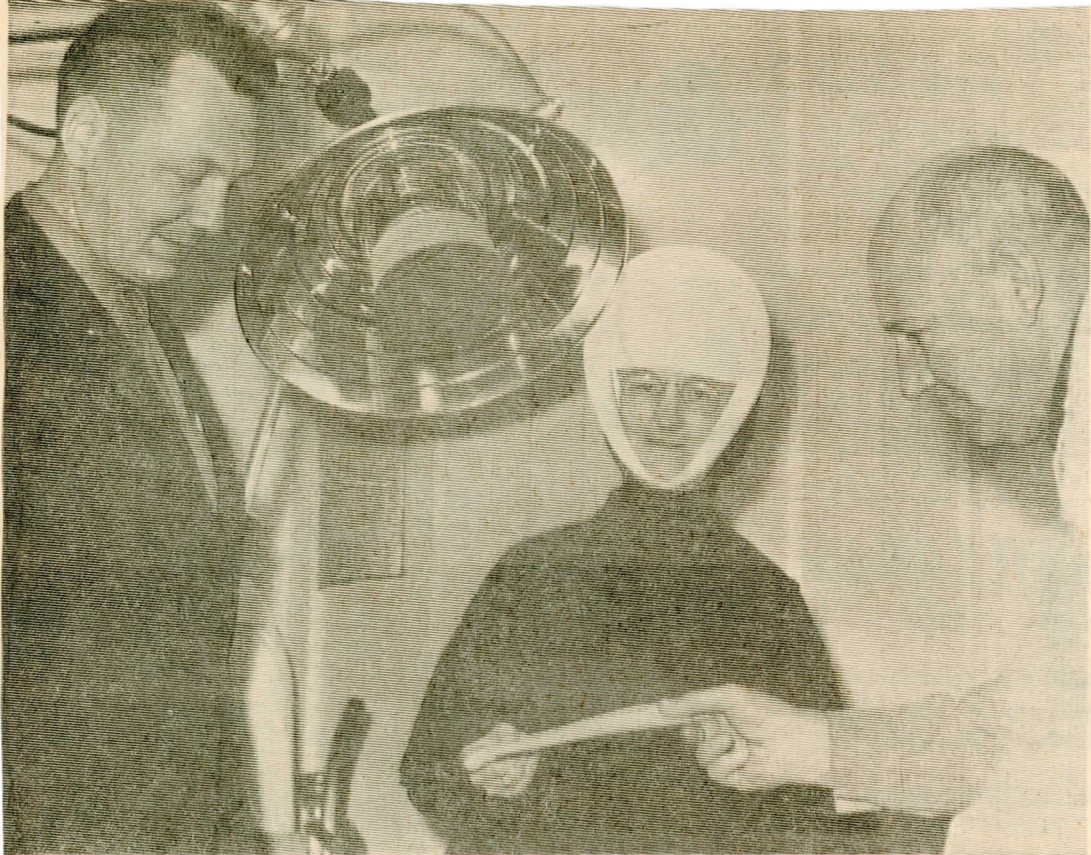
Amateur Hour at the Canadian Legion Hall at 8:30 p.m. Phone entries to 501 or 278.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26—The Hospital W.A. will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar and Tea in the Elks Hall from 2 to 5 p.m.

*
Nov 17, 1960

5 years ago—Nov 10, 1960

JOE BOWDEN, president of the FSJ Petroleum Club presented Sr Marcellina, superior of the Providence Hospital with a cheque to cover the cost of a new operating room light.



LET THERE BE LIGHT!—Joe Bowden, president of the Fort St. John Petroleum Assn. hands a cheque to Sister Mary Marcellina, superior of the Providence Hospital to cover the

Nov 10, 1960
cost of a new operating room light. On the left is Hal Johnson, president-elect of the association. Next to Hal is the new light.