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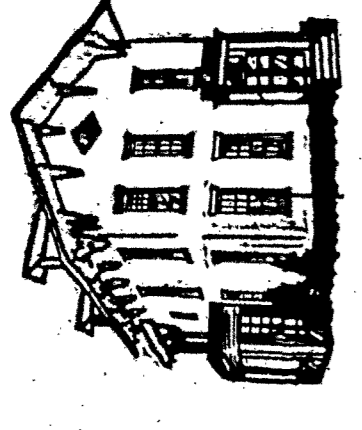


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### History

(Continued from page 17)

construction was not started on the former until the following Spring. To make way for the expansion, the academy building and adjacent convent on the corner of Market and High Streets were razed.

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL** celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in 1933. A simple but impressive religious ceremony commemorated the event.

Mass was celebrated by Rev. George J. Toole, hospital chaplain and a Mass was offered by Rev. Thomas J. Toole. In St. Joseph's Chapel at 1:30 a.m. Both speakers spoke at the respective ceremonies, noting the significance of this silver jubilee in the history of the hospital.

The silver jubilee year of St. Joseph's Hospital saw an important addition to the hospital facilities. On November 8, 1933, St. Joseph's Hospital Tumor Clinic was opened in the east basement. In 1942 the Clinic was renamed in memory of its founder, Dr. Joseph M. Lewis.

On May 1, 1939, approximately five years after the silver jubilee of the hospital, Sister Rose Alice who for thirty-one years had guided the growth and development of St. Joseph's Hospital was called to her eternal reward. Her life, dedicated to God as it was, exemplified a true religious through the spiritual and material help she gave to her fellow men. Despite the difficulties which surrounded her in her early years, Sister Rose Alice attained a deep faith and confidence in God which resulted in magnificent achievements.

In memory of Sister Rose Alice, the medical staff presented a large oil painting of Sister to the hospital. The portrait, painted by a famed Boston artist, Winsor Mack Nowes, was hung in the entrance hall of the hospital.

Sister Rose Marie Smith, who had been acting administrator during the latter months of Sister Rose Alice's illness, succeeded to the office of administrator and superior; and when a few months later, she was elected Reverend Mother of the whole order of sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester, Sister Rose Marie was succeeded by Sister Rose Alice as administrator and superior of St. Joseph's Hospital.

In August, 1942, it was deemed advisable to separate the office of reverend superior of the nuns' community from that of administrator and thus the responsibilities of administrator were placed upon Sister Margaret Adelaide O'Connell, who was appointed superior of St. Joseph's Hospital.

Mother Sylvester, who in 1942 was appointed superior of the hospital, served in this office until 1948. She was reappointed in 1949 and was relieved of the responsibility in 1958 because of failing health.

**SISTER MARGARET ADELAIDE** continued to administer the hospital in the same fine tradition as her predecessors. Her tenure was marked by a tragedy unknown to many of those who preceded her. On the morning of May 23, 1946, the waters of the Chemung River flooded the surrounding area of Elmira, leaving a scene of pallor in its wake. The story of its destruction is told on page 128.

The present administrator has seen the development of the hospital into its present state of modern efficiency. It is an institution equipped with the most up-to-date facilities available and fully accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

In 1948 the Coffee Shoppe was opened in the Surgical Basement. This new facility provided a pleasant area for employees and guests to purchase meals and refreshments. Among the significant improvements in the Physical Therapy Department which was expanded in 1949. Along with the diathermy and hydrotherapy rooms, a fully equip-



### Sister Margaret Adelaide

**THIS YEAR** MARKS a double anniversary at St. Joseph's Hospital, Elmira.

Not only is the hospital marking its golden jubilee, but Sister Margaret Adelaide, hospital administrator, entered the St. Joseph Order just 25 years ago.

The daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Nelson E. Owen, Sister Margaret Adelaide comes from Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish, Rochester, attended Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart Academy.

After graduating from the academy, she entered St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester, School of Nursing and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph a year after receiving her R.N. degree.

Sister came to St. Joseph's Hospital in 1935 and was appointed assistant administrator in 1939 and in 1942 assumed her present post.

Administering a hospital that has 22 beds and which saw 3,063 admissions last year, requires a tremendous amount of talent.

That Sister Margaret Adelaide fills this position with the highest possible success can be attested to by both staff members and patients.

### Hospital Expansion Plans

**ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL** plans to construct a new two-story wing on High Street, between the Market and Academy Buildings. The new building will accommodate 200 patients, admit visitors and patients to the admitting and Administrative Departments. Waiting rooms, interview rooms, and offices will be provided. This move will release space on the first floor of the Main Building for alterations and improvements.

An ambulance entrance on Market Street will admit to the new Emergency Department, which will have surgery room, examination rooms, nurses' station, utility room, stretcher and cart storage space, waiting room, and two private rooms.

The first floor of the new wing will be a continuation of the Medical Building, providing nine private and two semi-private beds on each floor.

A new Dietary Wing will be joined to the Surgical Wing to relieve the congested kitchen and dining area, now serving 80% more meals than it did when originally installed. This wing will have a special diet kitchen and dining room, the special diet laboratory, and permit a more efficient arrangement of boiler and refrigerating equipment. New equipment will reduce many laborious manual jobs and accelerate kitchen service.

The first floor of the main building will be utilized for the Medical Records Department and the Medical Library. There will be a doctors' lounge, reception room, stack room and dictation room.

The fifth floor of the main building will contain new labor and delivery rooms, three nurseries, a nurse's station, nurses' station, work rooms, lockers for nurses, doctor's lounge and bedroom, class room and father's room. It will have a total of 32 beds.

The sixth floor of the hospital will be enlarged by closing in the existing promenade and reorganizing the floor for an Operating Suite and Surgical Nursing Unit.

The present Maternity Annex will be converted into a new Geriatrics Wing to accommodate the increasing number of elderly patients, afflicted with the diseases associated with increasing age.

In compliance with recommendations of the Accrediting Association, a Medical Library was developed in 1952. Located on the sixth floor of the Surgical Building, the library has constantly expanded and at present contains a wealth of material. Every effort will be made to keep the library completely usable.

A new boiler, designed to replace two forty-year-old boilers and to increase the efficiency and capacity of the steam system, was installed in January, 1954.

During the same year, a new elevator was installed in the center of the Annex to replace the one which had been in operation since 1915.

Reaching the tremendous advance of voluntary workers, Sister Margaret Adelaide took the initiative in 1954 toward the formation of a Women's Auxiliary. The Auxiliary's initial project was a reception for the nursing school graduating class (Continued on page 138)

**SCHOOL OF X-RAY TECHNOLOGY** is conducted by the department.

**THE PATHOLOGY** department was transferred in May, 1952, from the second floor of the Main Building where it had been located since 1922 to the fifth floor west of the Medical Building, which has been newly renovated. This completely modern department is fully approved by the New York State Department of Health and the Council of Medical Education of the American Medical Association for the training of medical technologists.

In October, 1952, a new parking lot was opened at the corner of East Market and High Street to reduce congestion in that area. This spacious parking lot which has a 68 car capacity is one of the city's best off-street parking lots.

A recovery room, adjacent to the Operating Room, was opened on May 18, 1953. Staffed by qualified personnel, this service enables the surgical patients to receive more intensive care and supervision during the time they are reacting from anesthesia. A major responsibility is likewise re-