

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW GROUP  
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
*(South-West Metropolitan Region—Group No. 16)*

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW  
ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL  
PYRFORD, NR. WOKING, SURREY

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

Year  
April 1st, 1956 — March 31st, 1957

HERITAGE WALKS ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
*(as at 30th September, 1957)*

*Chairman:*  
†DR. V. GODSALVE WARD, M.D.(LOND.)

*Vice-Chairman*  
*and*  
*Chairman of Finance Committee:*  
G. H. H. COCKRAM, ESQ., M.A.(OXON).  
*Chairman of Medical Advisory Committee:*  
G. PERKINS, ESQ., F.R.C.S.

*Members:*  
H. F. BLANDFORD, ESQ.  
H. S. CAWSEY, ESQ., I.P., C.C.  
A. H. CLARKE, ESQ.  
\*R. J. FURLONG, ESQ., F.R.C.S.  
MRS. E. LEACH, M.B.E., I.P.  
C. A. G. MCLAGAN, ESQ.  
MRS. M. MITCHNER  
†MRS. F. ROWLEY BRISTOW  
†F. A. SIMMONDS, ESQ., F.R.C.S.  
†MRS. M. G. SYNGE  
†W. R. VAUGHAN, ESQ., O.B.E.  
One vacancy.

*Secretary and Finance Officer:*  
A. R. NEWTON  
*(also Secretary-Supt. of Hospital)*  
† Signifies Governor of Hospital Special School.  
\* " Member of Medical Advisory Committee.

*Consultant and Senior Medical and Surgical Staff:*  
G. PERKINS, ESQ., M.C., M.A., M.CH. (OXON), F.R.C.S. (HONORARY).  
R. J. FURLONG, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.  
F. A. SIMMONDS, M.B., B.CH.(CANTAB.), F.R.C.S.  
A. G. APLEY, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

*Consultant Anaesthetists:*  
J. GORDON, M.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.  
EILEEN MCC. GIBSON, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.

*Senior Registrar:*  
R. A. DENHAM, F.R.C.S.

*Registrar:*  
G. HADFIELD, F.R.C.S.

*Senior House Officers:*  
THREE RESIDENT.

*Medical Officer:*  
T. T. HARDY, B.M., B.CH. (OXON.)

*Dental Surgeon:*  
O. P. O. CROSS, L.D.S., R.C.S.(ENG.)

*Matron:*  
MISS E. M. GUY, S.R.N.

*Chaplain:*  
REV. R. T. INGRAM-JOHNSON

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW ORTHOPÆDIC  
HOSPITAL

FOREWORD BY CHAIRMAN

During the past year we have been increasingly busy. Among our innovations we have introduced a wireless staff location system. This has been much appreciated and is working well. It was provided from Amenity funds. We are now installing a syringe sterilising service and also a positive ventilation system in the operating theatre, both of which are safety measures.

As this is the last time I shall have the privilege of writing a foreword I should like to thank the Committee for making my job an easy one, and to say how much I appreciate the loyalty and work of the staff, one and all, during the past 13 years.

I should doubt if there is any hospital with as good a spirit and friendly atmosphere as this one has.

V. GODSALVE WARD,

Chairman.

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Senior Medical Staff

There were no changes in the senior medical staff during the year. Publications included a book on "Injuries of the hand" by R. J. Furlong, and an article entitled "Tunnel syndromes in the upper limb" by A. G. Apley, published in "The Practitioner" of December, 1956. A prize of £100 was won by R. A. Denham in the 1956 Regional Board competition for his research report on "The causes of success or failure in hip arthroplasty."

Nursing Staff

It was found to be still difficult to obtain staff nurses but the student nurse position was reasonably satisfactory.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Orthopædic Nursing Certificate: 26 entered, two of whom were trained nurses, and 19 passed. One student nurse, Miss D. Samuel-Gibbon, obtained Honours.

Preliminary State Examination: 11 entered and 10 passed.

Of those student nurses who completed their training here:

5 continued general training at St. Thomas's Hospital;  
5 " " " " St. George's Hospital;  
4 " " " " West London Hospital;  
1 " " " " Charing Cross Hospital;  
1 " " " " Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford;  
1 " " " " Royal Victoria Hospital,  
Bournemouth;  
1 " " " " Mile End Mission Hospital;  
1 went to the Physiotherapy School at St. Thomas' Hospital;  
2 left to take the training for State Enrolled Asst. Nurse;  
1 " " be a matron in a Preparatory School;  
4 " " be married.

At the beginning of the year all nursing and physiotherapy staff resident in the hospital premises were provided with divan beds which are a great improvement on the old iron bedsteads and very much appreciated.

In the matter of sports and recreation friendly tennis and hockey matches were played against local clubs and neighbouring hospitals, and four dances, which are always popular with the student nurses and much enjoyed, were held during the year.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

1st APRIL, 1956 — 31st MARCH, 1957

PATIENTS

In-Patients

The average daily number was 146.5 or 77% occupancy allowing for the fact that Stoop Ward was closed for reconstruction for about 12 weeks. This compares with 145 daily average for the preceding year. The average length of stay per patient remained at 34 days.

Out-Patients

The attendances were 6,631 so that last year's high record (6,607) was slightly exceeded, and once again the inadequacy of the accommodation, particularly the waiting room, was emphasised and as yet there is no news of the Board being able to provide the capital money either for a new building or the enlargement of the existing department.

The usual detailed statistics relating to patients follow later in this report.

Committee Membership

Mr. J. Atkinson, whose term of office would have expired on March 31st, 1957, resigned in September. Mr. H. F. Blandford was appointed to the vacancy for the remaining period and later re-appointed for the succeeding 3-year period.

The following members completed their terms of office and all were re-appointed by the Board:—

Mr. H. S. Cawsey  
Mr. A. H. Clarke  
Mr. C. A. C. McLagga  
Mr. F. A. Simmonds

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Physiotherapy Department

The department has had another busy year with an increase in the number of recent injuries treated after being seen as casualties. The strength of the department staff remained at 8½ though there were several periods under strength due to staff changes. Finalist students from St. Thomas's Hospital continued to work as part of the team while learning something of orthopædic treatments.

In spite of having fewer patients with antero poliomyelitis the pool has been in almost constant use. Porters have given valuable help with heavy and incapacitated male patients; convalescent patients have helped with many department "chores" as part of their rehabilitation since there has been no orderly.

After Miss Roberts left Miss Wilson became senior assistant but at the end of the year she also left to work in South Africa, so the new year begins without a senior assistant.

Occupational Therapy

The most noticeable advance of the year has been the increase in the number of remedial out-patients and the department now has four pulley circuits in general use for muscle recovery of the lower limb, and various gadgets have been made to assist patients in daily living.

We are hoping to arrange for two students from Botley's Park Training School to come to us for practical experience in the summer, as the demand for craftwork on the wards always exceeds the staff capacity.

Almoner

During the year the range of work undertaken in the Almoner's Dept. has been increased owing to the appointment of a full time clerk. This clerk, in addition to the usual routine of indexing, filing and correspondence, now takes charge of in-patients' National Insurance Benefit and Pensions affairs and such other small services to patients as she is capable of giving, thus leaving the almoner more time to carry out personal case work. As a result of this, other categories of patients, chiefly sufferers from disc lesions, can usually be seen by the almoner and a short survey of the social findings in such cases, relating to the medical condition, work, injury and mode of life, has been completed. The proportion of patients seen by the almoner has therefore risen slightly.

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HERITAGE WALKS ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Other problems of education, rehabilitation, care at home and in Homes come into the department as before and surprisingly, in almost exactly the same numbers from year to year. Great difficulty has been found as before in obtaining suitable accommodation for the aged patient who needs more care than the County Welfare Homes, or relations, can give.

The severely handicapped adult is proving hard to place for training and possible living, in that nearly all residential workshops for them do needlework, and fine hand needlework is nowadays an unpopular trade with the young, nor do they find it easy to support themselves in it when they finish training.

The need has been felt many times for a wider range of training facilities for the severely handicapped and also for residential hostels where girls can live, but go out to work, on the lines of the I.S.F. Home, Silverwood, Cobham.

#### **Ancillary Staff**

Shortage of domestic and other staff has remained a problem but has not been quite so acute as in the past, the vacancies being filled to some extent by more part-time workers.

#### **Special School**

During the year the hospital school provided education for 6 children unable to attend any other type of school. It endeavoured to carry on the particular type of education of each of 33 children who were in hospital upwards of three months; it tried to keep profitably occupied and happy some 120 other children who were in hospital for shorter periods, and it gave 45 children under school age a substitute for the normal process of growing up at home. It also encouraged three patients who had recently left school to continue their education in hospital.

#### **Chapel**

Extract from the Chaplain's report: "A part-time chaplain is very conscious of his limitations and the year has shown that there is scope for more work by the chaplain. Regular services have been held in the chapel and the weekly children's service has been continued on Beatrix Ward. Thanks are due to the few helpers who regularly push patients in their beds to the services and to the volunteers from the staff who assist in the care of the chapel."

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#### **Men's Ward dressing room**

This was done similarly as above.

#### **Roberts Ward windows**

These were re-designed, and replaced with louvered panels at high level for ventilation.

#### **Theatre corridor**

The floor which was badly worn has been re-covered with poly-vinyl tiling.

#### **Roofs: St. Nicholas and Rehabilitation Hut**

Very substantial repair work was carried out over a large area of roofs for which an amount of £1,450 was granted by the Regional Board as "special maintenance."

#### **Laundry: Callender room**

The floor was re-laid with quarry tiles replacing the wooden floor boards which had rotted badly.

#### **St. Nicholas kitchen**

This was re-decorated throughout.

#### **St. Nicholas domestic staff sitting room**

This was re-decorated.

#### **St. Nicholas dining room pantry**

This was re-decorated and ceilings lined.

In addition many smaller jobs were carried out and the result of all this has meant that maintenance, etc., work has been going on almost throughout the year, but in spite of this ordinary routine was carried on in all departments except Stoop Ward, which was closed for the reconstruction. Much praise and thanks are again due to patients and staff alike in the various departments for their forbearance in carrying on in spite of inconveniences caused.

#### **Conversion of boilers to oil firing**

Last year's report included the information of the satisfactory result of the change-over from coke to oil firing for the boilers pro-

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#### **Other Religious Activities**

The Rev. L. H. Fraser, of Horsell, was appointed for the spiritual care of the Free Church denominations and took up duties at the beginning of May, 1956.

Father Sullivan, with the assistance of Father Burke, continues to look after the spiritual needs of the Roman Catholics.

#### **BUILDINGS: Adaptations and Maintenance**

Among the numerous useful and desired schemes or work carried out during the year have been:

#### **Stoop Ward**

The remaining half open ward has been closed in, this being the second ward to be completed in this way. Closing in was the prime objective but the opportunity was taken of re-planning the domestic offices and sanitary annex entirely and included widening its corridor. This was only possible by taking into the area the sister's office and a new office was constructed for her on the forecourt. The cost of the new work involved was provided by the Regional Board as capital but additionally the Committee arranged that complete internal redecoration should be carried out simultaneously. The result has been extremely satisfactory.

There now remain two wards which require the open half closed in. These are Beatrix and Men's.

#### **Beatrix Ward**

This ward has also had complete internal decoration, including lining the walls with a proprietary brand of panelling having a plastic surface on hardboard. In appearance it is most pleasing, especially the pale blue colour scheme. The increase over the cost of ordinary painting was provided from the Revillon legacy.

#### **Leila Ward**

The composition floor which had deteriorated was relaid with poly-vinyl tiles.

#### **Top Hut Ward dressing room**

This was re-decorated and the walls and ceiling lined with the plastic surface hardboard as also used later in Beatrix Ward. This was the first use of this special material and it was upon this most satisfactory result that a decision was reached to continue the experiment on Beatrix Ward and elsewhere.

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viding hot water and central heating at St. Martin's and the further information that the Board were providing for the similar conversion of the steam raising plant at St. Nicholas. This work was carried out in October last, when a fully automatic plant was installed. In operation it has been completely successful and most efficient. Few troubles have been experienced and all have been

very minor. There was no difficulty in maintaining supplies of oil during the "Suez crisis" and except during that period of high prices the cost compared favourably with the present-day price and cost of the steam coal used formerly. Moreover, the staff of four stokers has been reduced to three and these three are almost wholly employed on maintenance duties which otherwise would have had to wait or if more urgent would have had to be done by outside contractor.

Coincident with the new installation Mr. W. Greening, electrician-in-charge, was appointed senior engineer and took over the plant from Mr. A. Ellis who had passed retiring age. Mr. Greening continues to be in charge of the electrical services.

#### **St. Martin's boilers**

An additional storage tank was provided and installed and there is now adequate storage. The cost was met by the Regional Board as capital.

#### **Pig sties**

A range of three prefabricated sties was erected to house the pigs. We fatten about 12 at a time very profitably and there has been a surplus of over £230 p.a. regularly for a number of years.

Other work included an emergency fire escape for Stoop Ward and pointing to the gables at St. Martin's main building.

#### **Furniture and equipment**

Among the principal items of furniture and equipment renewed during the year were:—

- Refrigerator for Leila Ward;
- Stainless steel sinks for ward kitchens;
- Gas ovens for ward kitchens;

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Easy chairs in chrome and leather for wards, including chairs of special height for the elderly patients;  
 Two "Gravity" meat slicers, one for each kitchen;  
 The mobile X-ray apparatus which had been in use since 1939 became unserviceable and was replaced at a cost of £968.

**Splint Shops**

During the year an experimental start was made in making moulded splints, etc., of plastic material for which purpose an electrically heated oven was constructed on the premises at a cost of about £50. The experiment has been very successful and next year's report will contain news of its expansion.

The shoe-finishing machine was replaced with another and more efficient re-conditioned one, and a new grinding machine and new bench drilling machine were bought to replace the originals which, however, have been transferred to the engineer's workshops where further use can be found for them.

**Radio call system**

The problem of locating surgeons and other members of the staff about the hospital was always a difficulty and a task for the telephone operators, and consideration was being given to a system of flashing signals possibly combined with synchronised clocks which was preferred to a loud speaker system, when we were informed of a new style apparatus then being installed at St. Thomas's Hospital where, on our enquiry, we were given all information and facilities to inspect the scheme then under test. It consists of a central transmitting station with personal receivers which operate in a closed circuit provided by a single wire loop enclosing the hospital premises. Each of the personal receivers is numbered and is carried in the pocket. When the member of the staff is wanted the number of his receiver is pressed at the central transmitting apparatus and his receiver then gives off a series of high-pitched buzzing notes just audible to himself and on receiving this signal he uses the nearest telephone to receive a message. The Committee were convinced of the value of this new apparatus and especially the advantages of it over the flashing signals or loud-speaker system where patients' comfort was concerned and authorised the installation of the apparatus here, the cost to be defrayed from the Amenity Fund.

This was done and the system installed with great advantage to all. Ours was only the second hospital to be so equipped we

believe. Since then many other hospitals have adopted it or a similar system. The central transmitter station in our case is about the size of a large radio set and is kept in and worked from the telephone office. The cost including 14 personal receivers was approximately £550. It has been money well spent indeed, especially in time saving.

**Guillebaud Report**

The Committee noted the implications of this report insofar as it affected this hospital with some concern, particularly in para. 238 which contained the suggestion that Boards should review the hospital groupings and one particular point for consideration should be the merging of single hospital management committees in the interest of economical management with the overall indication that a "satellite" type of hospital group was preferred. The Committee were emphatic in the opinion that this hospital would not benefit in any way by integration but rather the contrary, and on the score of economical management comparisons were welcomed. This view was expressed to the Chairman of the Regional Board in a letter following a Chairmen's meeting at which the Report was discussed. The Regional Board stated that there would be consultation before any proposals were made and nothing further has transpired within the period of this report.

**Voluntary help**

Sincere tribute is given to the voluntary helpers and particularly to those carrying out the hospital trolley service to wards for the sale of stationery, toilet articles, postage stamps, etc., and which is now done four times weekly, to those doing the mobile hospital library service, and to those conducting the refreshment buffet for out-patients and visitors. Thanks are also due to members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society for help given regularly and on special occasions.

**Entertainments**

The regular cinema show during the winter months continues to be most popular. An up-to-date film programme is exhibited once weekly in the wards with the hospital's portable apparatus commencing in October and continuing until the end of March.

The ever-popular Patients' Request programme is carried out each Wednesday when records as requested are broadcast over the hospital's radio under the management of Mr. R. Smith, electrician, who has taken over from Mr. W. Greening.



Another weekly programme of gramophone records over the hospital's radio apparatus is arranged each Thursday by Mr. Hunt, of Addlestone, which has as its basis the "Top Ten" records of the week.

Additionally, there are visits by choirs, entertainers, etc., from time to time.

The patients are truly appreciative of all this and sincerely thanks are due to those concerned for their successful efforts.

**Gifts, donations, etc.**

Among the numerous gifts and donations received during the year were:

- 3 electric razors for the male wards
  - 3 hair dryers for the women's wards
  - 5 easy chairs for the patients
  - £25 donation to the Samaritan Fund
- } all given from the Hospital Trolley Fund.

A modern and up-to-date slide projector for teaching purposes was provided, the cost of which was met by a private gift.

**MEDICAL STATISTICS**

	1956/7	1955/6
<b>IN-PATIENTS</b>		
No. of patients admitted in the period	1,596	1,606
No. of discharges	1,568	1,572
No. of deaths	10	14
Average daily occupancy	146.5	145
Average length of stay per patient	34 days	34 days
<b>OUT-PATIENTS</b>		
Attendances (including 1,227 new patients) totalled	6,631	6,603
<b>X-RAY DEPT.</b>		
Total No. of in-patients X-rayed, 1,449 (1,705)	4,681	4,287
Total No. of out-patients X-rayed, 3,232 (2,582)		
<b>PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPT.</b>		
Units of in-patient treatment 51,690 (48,549)	63,226	60,187
Units of out-patient treatment 11,536 (11,638)		

**OPERATIONS FROM 1/4/56 to 31/3/57**

	Total	Previous Year
<b>Amputations</b>		
Fingers (inc. tip of finger)	4	
Leg (b/k)	2	
Toes	23	17
<b>Arthrodesis</b>		
Shoulder	1	
Thumb	3	
Finger	2	
Spine	17	
Hip	13	
Knee	2	
Substragaloid-mid tarsal joint	7	37
<b>Arthroplasty</b>		
Hip	23	11
Biopsies	22	18
<b>Operations for Congenital Deformities</b>		
For C.D.H.	5	
For T.E.V.	3	9
<b>Exploration of Joint</b>		
Elbow	1	
Wrist	2	
Finger	1	
Sacro-iliac	1	
Hip	1	
Knee (including operations on semi-lunar cartilages)	38	
<b>Removal of Loose Bodies</b>		
Knee	12	
Elbow	5	60
Laminectomy	20	23
<b>Operations on Nerves</b>		
Decompression median nerve	27	
Antero-lateral decompression	2	
Exploration lateral cutaneous nerve	2	
Exploration ulna nerve	1	
Transposition ulna nerve	3	
Excision neuroma	2	
Exc. pre-ptellar nerve	1	47
<b>Miscellaneous Procedures under anaesthetic</b>		
(Removal clamps, wires, screws, pins, sutures, plaster, etc., minor wound sutures)	162	162

	Total	Total Previous Year
<b>Manipulations</b>		
Shoulder	13	
Wrist	5	
Thumb	2	
Spine	9	
Hip	26	
Knee	43	
Ankle	19	
Elbow	1	
Feet	13	131 93
<b>Operations on Dupuytren's Contraction</b>	3	3 6
<b>Excision of Bursae, Gangliae</b>	24	24 25
<b>Excision of Bone</b>		
Exostosis	21	
Patella	19	
Rib	2	
Head of radius	5	
Olecranon	1	
Coccygectomy	2	
Osteoma ulna	1	
2nd M.T. head	5	56 40
<b>Operations on Toes</b>		
Spikeshave	26	
Keller	26	
Mayo	25	
Reconstruction of hallux	6	
Straightening of toes	40	
Ingrowing toe nails	6	
Peabody	1	130 154
<b>Operations on Tendons</b>		
Exploration	1	
Tendon sutures	2	
Incision of tendon sheath	25	
Tendon transplants	10	
Elongation of tendo-achilles	4	
Tenotomies (other than toes)	2	
Division of Hamstrings	1	
Rupture supraspinatus lesion	1	
For Torticollis	1	47 47
<b>Open Reductions on Recurrent Dislocations</b>		
Shoulder	4	
Elbow	3	7 6
<b>Closed Reduction of Dislocation</b>		
Shoulder	5	
Elbow	6	
Thumb	4	15 7

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	Total	Total Previous Year
<b>Open Operations on Fractures</b>		
Cervical vertebra	1	
Radius	1	
Ulna	9	
Finger	2	
Femur (neck)	49	
Femur (shaft)	26	
Tibia and fibula	13	
Tibia	6	
Fibula	1	
Metacarpal	6	114 110
<b>Closed Operations on Fractures</b>		
Humerus	3	
Radius	16	
Radius and Ulna	29	
Radius and Ulna (Colles)	35	
Tibia and Fibula	10	
Tibia	5	
Supracondylar	7	
Os calcis	3	
Scaphoid	1	
Nose	1	110 91
<b>Operations for Upper Femoral Slipped Epiphysis</b>	7	7
<b>Osteotomy</b>	7	7 10
<b>Others</b>		
Extraction Teeth	9	
Skin Grafts	8	
Excision sinus	2	
Splenectomy	1	
Stripping V.V.s	1	
Repair of hernia	1	
Exploration of sterno-mastoid	1	
Sequestrectomy	4	

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**Finance costs, etc.**

(The figures in italics refer to the previous year and are given for comparison) ~~£143,548~~

The total nett cost of running the hospital was ~~(£120,428)~~ ~~(£120,428)~~ This was equivalent to £17 10s. 6d. per patient per week (15 70s. 0d.) after adjustment allowing for the cost of out-patients).

The average cost of each in-patient was £83 3s. 3d. (77 10s. 9d.) The average weekly cost per head for food was £1 9s. 3d. (1 9s. 3d.)

The average number of patients and staff fed daily was ~~(266)~~ 247

Principal elements of the expenditure, etc., were:-

	1956/7	1955/6
Salaries and wages	94,018	90,144
Provisions	20,124	20,016
Drugs, dressings, instruments, appliances, including X-ray	43,041	43,041
Fuel, light, power, water	10,359	10,359
Maintenance of buildings, plant and grounds	7,579	7,579
Domestic repairs and renewals	5,678	5,678
Rates, etc.	2,624	2,624
Printing, stationery, postage, telephones	2,011	2,011
<b>INCOME AND CREDIT</b>		
Amount recovered (mostly from staff board and lodging charges)	14,502	14,502
From private patients	2,453	2,453

Costs will be noted to have again been on a rising plane generally. The increase in Salaries and Wages was partly offset by an increased charge and amount received for board and lodging which is coincident.

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The sharp increase in the cost of drugs, dressings, instruments and appliances was occasioned chiefly by the inclusion since July of patients' appliances which had previously been paid for by the Ministry directly and which cost £1,745, and also the purchase of a new portable X-ray apparatus (renewal) costing £988.

The large and increased maintenance costs resulted from the heavy repairs and re-decorations programme but this was offset considerably by a reduction in the expenditure on domestic renewals, etc.

The impact of the revised rating valuation will be noted to have resulted in an extra cost of £1,219.

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