

St. Joseph Hospital
Centennial

ALBUM

1858-1958



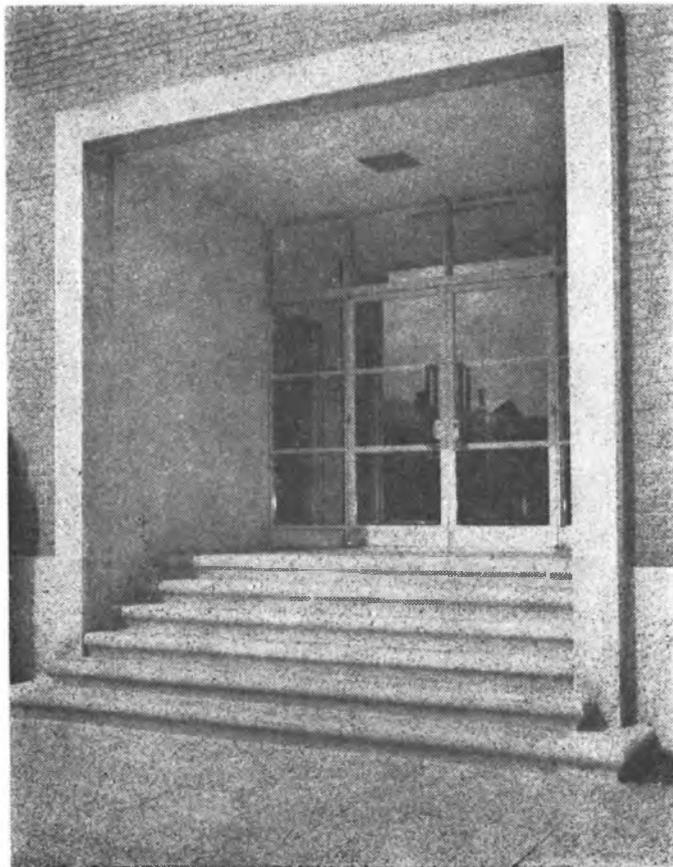
Welcome

For over 100 years everyone has been welcome at St. Joseph hospital. We wish to take this opportunity during our centenary to once again welcome everyone to this first hospital of the Northwest.

In reviewing the growth of our hospital in the past 100 years we can appreciate the privations, self-sacrifice and devotion of pioneer Sisters of Providence in meeting a serious community need in 1858.

St. Joseph hospital will continue, as in the past, to provide faithful service to the people of this community and a loving service to God based on our motto, "The Charity of Christ Urges Us."

Sister Francis Ignatius
Administrator





MOTHER JOSEPH OF THE SACRED HEART

In 1858, when St. Joseph hospital opened its doors, the care of the sick was primarily a work of mercy, with little assistance from medicine or surgery.

Had it not been for a valiant Order of Catholic Nuns and a group of determined Vancouver women, St. Joseph hospital would never have existed.

Two years earlier a group of five Nuns, from the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity of Providence, led by Sister Joseph of the Sacred Heart arrived at this wilderness outpost and served a community of about 500 whites and uncounted Indians.

However, in 1854 the first attempt to bring the order here failed, but the failure in itself discloses the courage of the order that for the past 100 years has operated the oldest permanent hospital in the Northwest.

It was in that year that a small group of Nuns made the 6000 mile boat trip from Montreal, Canada to Vancouver, only to arrive and find no facilities available, no one to meet them.

Their final decision was to return to Montreal, but that struggle ended after their ship was first becalmed, provisions gone and finally storm driven to the shores of Chile.

Those Sisters settled there and asked for further instructions from Montreal. The reply from the Mother House was that God willed that they establish a school in Chile and ever since Sisters of Charity of Providence have operated a school at Santiago, Chile.

But in 1858 the Sisters were in Vancouver and the Ladies of Charity, a group of 16 Protestant, Jewish and Catholic women, turned to the Sisters for a hospital.

Sister Joseph undertook the project and in a building designed as a bakery and laundry provided the first hospital.

Later to become Mother Joseph, she, for almost half a century, until her death in 1902, was a vital factor in the civilization of the Northwest.

In 1953, the American Institute of Architects designated her as the first architect of the Northwest.

The architecture of Providence Academy in Vancouver is that of Mother Joseph and it was she, who personally supervised its construction.

Mother Joseph was indeed a great physical force in the growth of the Northwest, but she was much more than that. She was the personification of a spiritual force, which has made St. Joseph hospital what it is today.



Slightly smaller than a double garage, and built to be a bakery and laundry, this wooden structure was the first hospital in the Northwest.

Mother Joseph decorated the interior with muslin and wallpaper and laid the preparations for the four beds, four bedside tables and two chairs given by the forerunner of modern day hospital auxiliaries, the Ladies of Charity.

In 1858 when this hospital was established Louis Pasteur had begun the science of bacteriology and Florence Nightingale was only commencing her work in England for nursing and hospital improvements.

John Lloyd was the first patient; the first to die. The third death was of non-Catholic Mrs. William Rodgers, President of the Ladies of Charity.

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Pane of glass..... .75

To the account of Frank V. Melvin

62 days attendance.....\$ 62.00
extras..... 2.50
3 bottles brandy..... 3.25

Paid by 2 pr. blankets @
\$7.00 pr.....\$ 14.00

To the account of William Kennedy

6 months attendance....\$183.00
Coffin..... 20.00
grave..... 3.50
Funeral service..... 16.50
hearse..... 5.00

630 patients admitted 1858-1874

490 were free of all charges

Excerpts from the first ledgers are shown on page 6. While the early ledgers were scrupulously complete, they were not often involved. There was not much to be written in the frequent case of the patient who spent 34 days in the hospital at a total of \$34, when nothing was paid. In later years when rubber stamps were available two forms were used, "PAID" or "CHARITY."

Hospital charges were \$1 a day and a year in the hospital was not unusual. Bills frequently were paid in chickens, labor, ducks, blankets and other goods available.

But at a dollar a day, the hospital of a century ago was no bargain, for what took St. Joseph hospital 60 days to do in 1858 is often done in three days in 1958.

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ON YOUR
100th ANNIVERSARY

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Vancouver, Washington

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Vancouver Branch
714 Main Street
Vancouver, Washington



As Vancouver grew, so did St. Joseph hospital. By 1879 a new building on the Mission grounds was established and served as St. Joseph hospital until 1911. It then became Blanchet house, which operated until 1925.

The demand for hospital services long exceeded the space available. In 1861 St. Joseph hospital had become the State's first mental institution, for which the Territory of Washington paid \$8 a week for each patient, which included lodging, board, laundry and medical attention.

The hospital also advanced cash to patients and tobacco, which eventually wound up on the bill.

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St. Joseph Hospital

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This is the "Power House" of St. Joseph hospital, from which the Sisters seek and derive their strength.

Faith has built the hospital for the Sisters of Charity of Providence and they feel their hospital is a place for the whole person, where the spirit as well as the body is taken into account.

The Chapel is open to everyone and the Chaplain is always ready to offer his services.

St. Joseph hospital also provides for pastors of other faiths, who are called at the desires of the patient.

In recent years more than three fourths of all patients admitted have been non-Catholic.

Though it is a chapel, it is also part of a modern hospital and thus it is a chapel with a clock on the wall.

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WE JOIN WITH YOU IN LOOKING FORWARD TO
CONTINUED GROWTH AND PROGRESS.



In 1911 this building became the third to serve as St. Joseph hospital. Essentially it is the hospital as it is known today. Balconies along the east and west wings have since been enclosed to provide more space and in 1945 the new south wing was added.

Until 1929 St. Joseph was the only voluntary hospital in Vancouver. It was in September of that year that Vancouver Memorial hospital opened its doors to further serve the needs of the growing community.

As a further example of the ever progressing St. Joseph hospital, a new parking lot west of the building is being provided for through the efforts of the Employees Association.

CONGRATULATIONS

Sisters of Charity of Providence
on Achieving 100 Years of
Dedicated
Community Service



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This modern nursery's primary function is that of attending the newly born until the mother is ready to go home.

Incubators, special formulas, specially trained nurses and dozens of other specific features are on hand at St. Joseph hospital's nursery to provide a solid and healthy foundation for the first few days of the new baby's life.

Here particular care is given the new father. Visiting hours are scheduled from 3 to 3:30 and from 8 to 8:30 p.m., daily.

Jumbo sized picture windows surround the nursery, offering a superior view for the new father's most superior contribution.



Though steeped in historical tradition, St. Joseph Hospital has progressed with the times. Today every modern development is used for the care and comfort of its patients. As its supplier of the energy of the universe — electricity — we salute hospital staff and trustees.

Clark County Public Utility District

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The hospital is the physician's workshop and the operating room the most dramatic phase of the surgeon's work.

At St. Joseph hospital there are five operating rooms plus an around the clock emergency room on the first floor.

Only the most modern facilities are used here. This operating room on the fifth floor, shown in actual operation, requires hours of preparation for each use.

To keep it in order a staff of six registered nurses and two licensed practical nurses are on the job daily. In addition to surgeons, two anesthetists and a medical anesthesiologist are on call.

Preparation of instruments, sutures, sterile dressings and cleaning far exceed operating time.

Cleanliness is next to Godliness here.

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CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY



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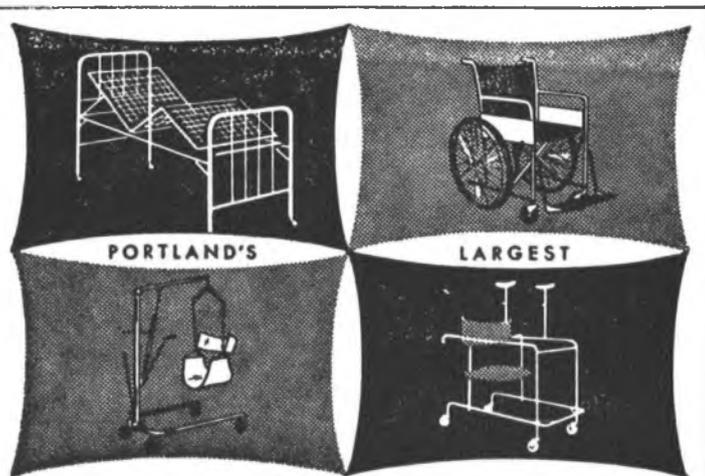


Hypodermic needles ARE sharpened.

At St. Joseph hospital this operation is carried on at central supply, one of the most vital adjuncts to the hospital. Here on an around the clock basis seven registered nurses, six licensed practical nurses and three aides perform the vital duties of preparing needles, sutures, syringes and other equipment that must be surgically clean.

Special sterilizing equipment is used along with thousands of dollars worth of ever improving equipment for the physician and nurse.

The hospital laboratory is another area of hospital use where doctors and technicians carry on their lifesaving work. Like central supply, the laboratory operates 24 hours a day. It is supervised by a medical pathologist.



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Hospital work reaches far beyond nursing care and physicians service.

The grounds and building must be kept, food prepared, laundry done, purchasing, accounting and technical services accomplished.

In addition to the ten Sisters and a full time Chaplain, 210 persons are employed at St. Joseph hospital. They include: 39 registered nurses, 45 licensed practical nurses, 4 aides, 7 orderlies, 21 office employees and 88 general employees, including a full time painter and full time carpenter.

At St. Joseph these employees are more than just employees. Their Employee's Association is making possible a new parking lot west of the building, for the convenience of doctors, patients and visitors.



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We are happy and honored to have the opportunity to join with the Sisters of Charity of Providence and all their many friends to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of St. Joseph Hospital.



A full scale pharmacy is kept in operation 24 hours a day at St. Joseph hospital, dispensing any of 1500 already compounded drugs and medicines, including aspirin, to thousands of compounds including the most modern antibiotics and combiotics at the disposal of the registered pharmacist, in this case Sister Mary Janvier.

The inventory, like other special inventories of the hospital, adds to the hundreds of thousands of dollars of investment needed to maintain hospital operation.

Here Sister Mary Janvier prepares a compound that later will soothe a patient at St. Joseph hospital.

All of us living in the
Northwest States
are proud of our First Hospital

SAINT JOSEPH

in Vancouver
which has been operated by
THE SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF PROVIDENCE
for One Hundred Years



FRANZ BAKERY



Physical therapy is another specialized phase of hospital care today. At St. Joseph hospital massages, diathermy machines, wax baths, heat devices and other common physical therapy instruments are augmented by one of the most advanced devices known, the ultra sonic-sound machine.

St. Joseph hospital is one of the few in the Northwest possessing such modern equipment.

The sound machine, technically known as medcosonator, is at the left in the picture. A complete roster of its curative powers would alone fill this pamphlet.

A century ago tender loving care was about all that a hospital could provide and St. Joseph hospital provided it with devotion. Today St. Joseph hospital is known for that same care, and in addition, for its strides in keeping abreast of modern medicine.

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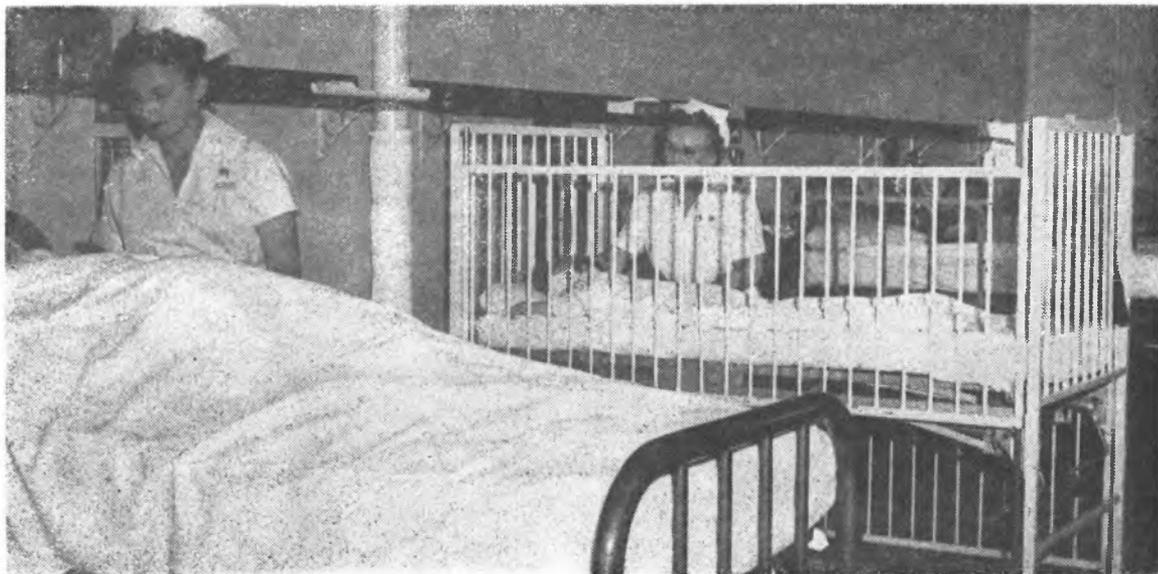
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CONGRATULATIONS

for a Century of Progress
and Best Wishes for
your success in the years ahead



This is the new recovery room, known as the post anesthesia room, at the hospital. St. Joseph hospital is one of few hospitals boasting this ultra-modern facility.

Here patients recovering from operations are brought and remain until ready to take their place with ordinary patients in rooms and wards. Specially trained personnel are never more than a few steps from the bedside. Doctors are constantly available and post operative care is administered at its best.

As in other parts of the hospital, interior decoration plays a vital part.

Situated with southern exposure, the recovery room is restfully painted and has the added attraction of soothing music available to gently persuade the patient's recovery from the influence of anesthesia.

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We are proud of our association with
the Northwest's First Hospital.

We extend our sincere congratulations
to the Sisters, Staff and Personnel of
St. Joseph Hospital, Vancouver
for a century of progressive
community health service.





These delightful children are patients in the pediatrics section of St. Joseph hospital. Gay colors and cheerful walls surround the youngsters who must be away from the care of the home while undergoing medical treatment.

Constant supervision is most fully represented in these rooms, but is typical of care given all patients at St. Joseph hospital.

The days of drab colors and spartan interiors are past history at this hospital where restfulness of background and brightness of decoration have taken their place with the hospital's modern ever improving facilities.

The inspiring smile of youth has its place at St. Joseph hospital.

Sisters of Charity of Providence
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY
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The nursing station is one of the busiest phases of hospital activity.

Each floor is equipped with such a clearing house, where the patients' records are kept, doctors' orders carried out; information disseminated.

This one on the second floor is directed by Sister Therese Eugenie, assistant administrator.

This vital nerve center is devoted to the alert care of the patient.

Nurses are the backbone of the hospital.

In addition to its regularly employed nurses, St. Joseph hospital affiliates with Clark college to give practical nursing training to the students and to receive valuable assistance from the trainee during in service training and after graduation.

Sisters of Charity of Providence

We want to extend our sincere

CONGRATULATIONS

*to your organization for the
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The advisory board of St. Joseph hospital, formed two years ago, exists for the sole purpose of determining how better the hospital can fill community needs.

The members, men of all phases of life and of many faiths, meet monthly.

They are: sitting, from the left, Mayor H. L. Schumacher, Dr. Glenn E. Lemberg, Al Lechtenberg, vice chairman; George Goodrich, chairman; and Carl Ibach, office manager.

Standing: Harold Whitefield, Fred Neth, Superior Court Judge J. Guthrie Langsdorf, Tony Bacon, John Wilkinson, Al Noble and Al Koplan.

Not present: Horace Daniels, Dick Lawton and Harold Smith.

Thanks, Sisters,
for your great service to
this community

•
**HOLLAND
ICE CREAM**

CONGRATULATIONS

Sisters of Charity of Providence
on your
100 Years of Progress

•
Bureau of Medical Economics

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ST. JAMES PARISH

is proud of and rejoices in
the CENTENARY of

ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

and congratulates the good
SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF PROVIDENCE
on this
HAPPY and MEMORABLE
OCCASION



SISTER FRANCIS IGNATIUS
Administrator



SISTER MARIA OF ASSISI
Administrator 1952-1958

St. Joseph hospital at 500 E. 12th street, Vancouver, Washington, is a general hospital, fully accredited by the Joint Committee on Accreditation of Hospitals, is licensed by the State of Washington, and is a member of the American Hospital Association, the Catholic Hospital Association, Association of Western Hospitals and Washington State Hospital Association.

It is a 109-bed 25-bassinet hospital, available for a staff of 68 doctors, four associates, six junior staff doctors, five dental staff members and 20 consulting staff members.

St. Joseph Hospital is Your Hospital, with its doors always open to those in need.

CONGRATULATIONS for
ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF PROGRESSIVE
HEALTH SERVICE
for Our Vancouver Community



**COLUMBIA
MACHINE WORKS**

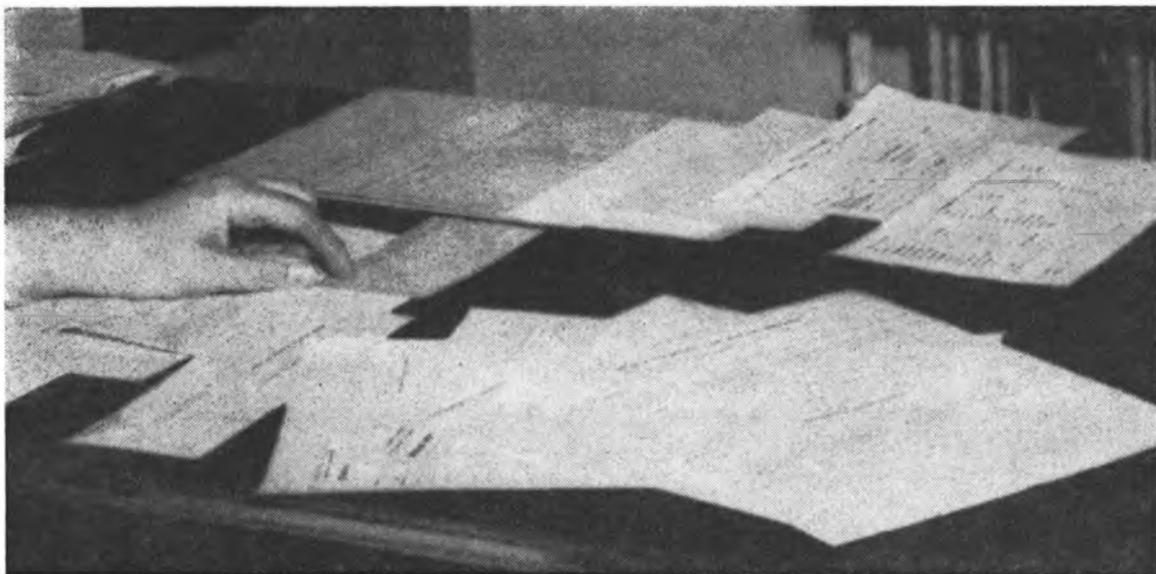
Fred Neth, *President*

CONGRATULATIONS

on Achieving 100 Years of Faithful Service
and Best Wishes for the Future



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As could be expected, the vast services of St. Joseph hospital are recorded by vast records.

The pages shown at the admission office are the initial forms undertaken, which eventually become permanent patient records, involve billing, future admission and provide basis for the scores of medical functions given by the hospital.

In spite of the volume of forms and blanks, the patient at St. Joseph hospital can be admitted with no red tape through the use of the hospital's unique Hospital Courtesy card or by pre-registration.

Courtesy cards are available through the office manager.

CONGRATULATIONS

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF PROVIDENCE

ON YOUR

One Hundredth Anniversary

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Superior Court Judge No. 2 Eugene G. Cushing
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