

Archive
Lakeshore Museum Center
Hackley Hospital Collection

Collection: Hackley Hospital Collection

Object ID Number: 2005.079.001

Location: LCM Archive, Room 204, Shelf P 3

Dates: 1902 to 1985

Quantity: 1 Document Box, 1 Oversize Box, .8 Linear Feet

Restrictions: No Restrictions

Abstract: This collection contains various archival materials that pertain to the organization, history, and development of Hackley Hospital and the Hackley Hospital School of Nursing. Hackley Hospital was a vital institution in the Muskegon community and it thrived as a medical center. The hospital was, and at present remains, the largest employer in Muskegon County and had a noticeable impact on the development of the community. The Hackley Hospital School of Nursing is well known in the community and provided the education for numerous nurses who worked and lived in the Muskegon area. This collection provides researchers with a better understanding of how Hackley Hospital and the Hackley Hospital School of Nursing served the Muskegon community and how both changed over time.

Historical Information: On May 28, 1902, Charles H. Hackley revealed his plans for a modern hospital for the residents of Muskegon. Hackley acquired the property between Forest and Larch Avenues, and deeded it to Reverend Archibald Hadden and F.A. Nims as trustees. Hackley requested that the First Congregational Church of Muskegon select a Board of Trustees to oversee the building and administration of the hospital. Hackley intended the hospital to be known as Mercy Hospital and he set up an endowment.

Hackley wrote a letter detailing his intentions for the hospital, and in it he stated, "It is my desire that it should be established and administered upon the broadest and most liberal lines of usefulness, and that it may be an institution not only for the best care of the sick and injured, but as well for the thorough training of nurses... While it is my purpose to establish an endowment towards the support of the Hospital, it will not be a large one, for I want the members of your society and the people of our city to feel that each has a personal interest in the maintenance of the Institution, in making it an efficient and ever ready agency for the relief of the sick and suffering."

The First Congregational Church named several trustees, including Thomas Hume, Dr. John VanderLaan, Harry Sawyer, H.N. Hovey, George Hume, F.E. Hammond, E.B. Dana, and W.W. Richards. The Board sent the articles of incorporation to the Secretary of State for approval, and

everything but the name of the hospital was approved. As there were already several "Mercy" Hospitals in the state, the name was changed to Hackley Hospital.

After reviewing the design of other hospitals, the Board decided to build a central administration building with one corridor on the right and one on the left. An architect firm was selected and the contract was completed in April, 1903, and the goal was to complete the hospital and spend \$160,000. The new hospital was built to provide 50 beds and support 50,000 people. The cornerstone was laid on June 30, 1903, and included a ceremony. The Board began looking for personnel to work at the hospital in January 1904, and by January 19, they appointed Clara W. Dyring as superintendant.

On November 11, 1904, Charles Hackley gave the Board of Trustees \$100,000 in bonds as an endowment. In a letter he stated, "No person admissible for treatment should be denied its privileges or benefits" and he reserved \$40,000 to be used as "free beds" for people who were unable to pay. After Hackley's death in February 1905, he left an additional endowment of \$200,000. After his wife Julia Hackley's death in August 1905, another \$300,000 was placed in an endowment for the hospital.

Hackley Hospital held a formal opening ceremony on November 17, 1904, and invited the entire Muskegon community. The public was invited to view the facilities after the program. The laboratory and hydro-therapy departments were considered state of the art when the hospital first opened, and in accordance with its mission, has continually tried to be as modern as possible. During the first year of operation, the hospital admitted 228 patients and 24 babies were born; in the second year, the hospital treated 421 patients and 45 babies were born.

In 1911, the hospital temporarily inspected the milk system for the city. In 1928, it purchased \$7,518.75 of radium to be used in treatments, and in 1933 the department of radiology was established. Mr. and Mrs. Milton C. Nellis donated funds for deep therapy equipment and it was installed in 1934. Several years later, in 1948, an isotope committee was formed and soon after the hospital was able to offer isotopic care. At that time, it was also approved for training in medical technology and X-ray.

As the population and usage increased, the hospital had to expand the building several times. The first expansion occurred in 1941 when a new wing was constructed, as well as an addition to the nurses' home. The hospital also renovated the pediatrics department. Several years later, in 1956, a south wing was added with 52 beds, a radiology department, dietary services, laundry, offices, and storage. A north wing was completed in 1970 which featured a maternity ward, medical and surgical floors, a pharmacy, central supply, and administration offices. The hospital continued to increase its services, and expanded again in 1981. An east wing was added and the hospital was renovated, with improvements in radiology and oncology, and a new entrance and main lobby. The Emergency Room, Intensive Care Unit, and the lab were also expanded. The original hospital building, all but the boiler building, was razed in 1982. The boiler building was replaced in 2000.

In 1986, the hospital opened the area's first inpatient rehabilitation unit. This unit helped patients who were recovering from strokes, head injuries, hip fractures, joint replacements, and other traumas. A year later, Hackley Hospital opened the Cancer Center, the only comprehensive

community cancer center in the area at that time. It featured two radiation therapists, four medical oncologists, a social worker, dietician, and a general support group was available as needed.

The hospital became affiliated with Spectrum Health in 2001, in an effort to improve healthcare, the hospital's financial situation, and reduce costs. In 2004, the hospital continued to expand and relocated the main entrance drive to connect it with Laketon Avenue. The hospital began to develop expansion plans for the Hackley Professional Building, which is connected to the hospital. That same year, the emergency department underwent an \$11 million improvement to double the space and implement high-tech equipment to better serve patients.

In 2007, Hackley Hospital received the Governor's Award for Improving Patient Safety and Quality Care in the Hospital Setting. A year later, the hospital was named among the nation's top 100 hospitals. On April 2, 2008, Hackley Hospital merged with Mercy General Health Partners. In 2013, Mercy Health Partners began making plans to move the Hackley emergency and surgery departments to the Mercy campus, and convert the Hackley Hospital building into an urgent care center.

Hackley Hospital School of Nursing

In addition to his desire to provide Muskegon with a first-rate hospital, Charles Hackley also wanted to make sure that the hospital provided a "through training of nurses." Training for nurses began in February, 1905, and in September three students were enrolled in the school of nursing. Two of those students, Anna E. Ewig and S. Maude Erb, later became the first graduates of the Hackley Hospital School of Nursing (HHSN) in September of 1908. The nurses in training were housed in a building at the corner of Dale Avenue and Peck Street, and it opened in July of 1918. All enrolled students received room, board, and laundry services.

In the beginning, HHSN focused on practical bedside nursing and from 1907 to 1930, nurses in training were paid a small stipend for their services to the hospital. In 1912, the school received state accreditation. In order to be admitted to the school, candidates had to personally apply to the principal of the school and had to be between twenty and thirty-five years old. Until 1970, all nurses had to be single and if they married they had to leave the program. Applicants had to have at least two years of high school, and women with more schooling were preferred.

The Superintendent of the Hospital supervised HHSN, and the Board in turn supervised the Superintendent. Clara Dyring, R.N., was in charge of establishing the training of nurses when the school first opened, and she served as the hospital's Superintendent. Elizabeth Greener, R.N. served as Superintendent from 1907 to 1914. Grace McElderey later served in that position for ten years. In 1924, Amy Beers became Superintendent of the Hospital and she served until 1945. The school was inspected by state authorities on a regular basis and ranked high amongst Michigan schools of nursing.

In 1937, HHSN decided to move from practical training to a more modern approach, and began requiring nurses in training to attend classes at the Muskegon Community College. Students were expected to attend courses and lectures by doctors and trained instructors, as well as attend training in psychology and infectious diseases. The school required instruction in medical,

surgical, obstetrical and pediatric cases, as well as a rotation in the operating room, delivery room, dietary kitchen, and laboratory and X-Ray departments.

The courses lasted three years and in the first three months students were in preliminary training. Students were required to prove their skills to a supervisor, and demonstrate proficiency and acquired knowledge before they were allowed to treat patients. After passing the three months' probation period, students were formally admitted and given a uniform. Probationary students wore striped dresses with no cap, and advanced students wore a blue dress with a white apron, sleevelets and a white Normandy cap.

Upon graduation from the Hackley Nurses' Training School, a person was required to pass the State Board Examination. After a nurse was registered, she was eligible to become a member of the Alumnae Association, the Michigan State Association, and the American Nurses Association.

In order to encourage post-graduate work, HHSN established the Hadden Memorial Award in 1946. The award was given each year to a member of the graduating class who was chosen for superior scholarship and school spirit. In 1949, the school was recognized when it was ranked in the top 25% in the nation, and the school again received that honor in 1954. The first male student was admitted in 1954, and that same year the school also admitted several minority students. John Garton Nikkari became the first man to graduate from the program in 1957.

The Hackley Hospital School of Nursing closed in 1982 and the program moved to the Muskegon Community College.

Scope and Contents: This collection of archival materials contains various paper archival materials and is organized into the following five series: Publications, Correspondence, School of Nursing, Receipts, and Administration.

The Publications series includes annual reports, informational booklets, graduation booklets, a newsletter, invitations, special anniversary booklets, programs from special events, booklets about women who worked at the hospital, state reports on the hospital, a booklet on the Muskegon County medical history, and newsletters.

The Correspondence series contains a letter sent by Charles H. Hackley concerning the endowment for free beds at Hackley Hospital, two letters regarding two doctors' outstanding service, and a letter about staff recommendations for the medical departments at the hospital.

The School of Nursing series includes numerous commencement programs for graduating nurses from different years, the Constitution and By-Laws for the Alumnae Association, graduation invitations, annual reports, programs and booklets from the 50th anniversary celebration of the school, and a recruitment booklet.

The Receipts series contains seven receipts from 1917 regarding the purchase of a baby grand piano for the nurses' home.

The Administration series includes two ledgers containing board meeting minutes, general notes, and loose papers regarding staff and staff attendance to meetings.

Arrangement: The Hackley Hospital donated these materials to the Lakeshore Museum Center in 2005. The original order was unknown as the collection arrived to LMC in one box. The collection was arranged into logical series that best provided access. The collection is divided into folders based on series and the two ledgers are stored in an oversized box. This collection is cataloged on PastPerfect.

General Contents:

Series 1: Publications

Quantity-19 Total

Dates- 1904 to 1985

Series 2: Correspondence

Quantity- 4 Letters

Dates- 1904, 1906, 1913, Undated

Series 3: School of Nursing

Quantity-33 Total Invitations/ Programs

Dates- 1908 to 1967

Series 4: Receipts

Quantity- 7 Receipts

Dates-1917

Series 5: Administration

Quantity- 2 Ledgers, 1 Folder

Dates- 1902 to 1916

Detailed Container List:

Folder 1- Publications

"The Gift of a Lifetime 75 Years" - Booklet with floor plans and history of hospital.

"Report of Board of Trustees Hackley Hospital of the use of funds entrusted to its care for the enlargement and remodeling of Hackley Hospital." - photos, floor plans, financial figures.

"A New Beginning For An Old Friend" - floorplans, campaign information.

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon Michigan Pictorial Presentation of Hackley Hospital and Muskegon Community for Presentation to Prospective Interns"

"Hackley Hi-Lites" - 75th anniversary history booklet on Hackley Hospital (photos)

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon Michigan" - Floor plans, general history and description of original hospital and grounds (published in or around 1904)

"Your Presence is requested at the Dedication and Opening of the Hackley Hospital 80 Years Ago At Hackley Hospital" - History on Hackley Hospital.

"50th Anniversary Hackley Hospital Muskegon Michigan 1904-1954" - List of Board of Trustees, program for evening, general history.

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon Michigan" - List of Executive Committee members, pictures, charts, floor plans, fund raising information.

"Hackley Hospital Women at Hackley" - Biographical sketches of past women employees of Hackley Hospital.

"Hackley Hospital An Invitation" - promotional / information booklet about Hackley Hospital at time of booklet's publication, career opportunities, services offered, treatment centers located inside hospital, etc.

Folder 2- Publications

"1942's Contribution to 1888's Vision" - The 1942 Addition to Hackley Hospital, lists L.C. Walker as General Chairman, also lists Building Committee and Board of Trustees.

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Michigan Report April 30, 1911"

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Michigan Report From November 17, 1904 to April 30, 1907"

"Order of Exercises for the Dedication and Opening of Hackley Hospital Thursday November 17 1904 Muskegon, Michigan" - 2 copies of this, one with a newspaper clipping of "Michigan, My Michigan" written by Archibald Hadden.

"Hackley Hospital Homecoming Thursday and Friday June 29 and 30, 1950" - Alumni Banquet program featuring list of senior class, menu.

"Medical History of Muskegon County Second Edition" - Has sticker on front reading "H. Clay Tellman 708 Mapleway Dr Muskegon, MI 49441-6500; printed in 1985.

"Muskegon County Medical Society Bulletin 1960" - Has sticker on front reading "H. Clay Tellman 708 Mapleway Dr Muskegon, MI 49441-6500.

"Muskegon County Medical Society Bulletin 1964" - Has sticker on front reading "H. Clay Tellman 708 Mapleway Dr Muskegon, MI 49441-6500.

Folder 3- Correspondence

Two page letter sent by Charles H. Hackley to Michigan Trust Company relating his wish to "set apart" \$40,000 as an endowment for 4 free beds at Hackley Hospital and in whose names those beds should be dedicated. Dated November 10, 1904. Not signed by Hackley, only a checkmark is placed where signature should be.

Letter from committee to the "Chairman and members of the Medical and Surgical Staff of Hackley Hospital" - regarding Dr. LaRay Marvin memorial resolution.

Information on Dr. Benjamin D. King who passed away on March 6, 1913. Written in letter format.

Letter "Respectfully Submitted" by Secretary to "President and Board of Trustees, Hackley Hospital" - describes a meeting held June 19, 1906; includes lists of recommended staff officers and lists of staff in each medical department.

Folder 4- School of Nursing

"First Annual Commencement of the Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Muskegon, Mich." - program, lists graduating class members and underclassmen names.

"Constitution and By-Laws of the Hackley Hospital Alumnae Association of the Muskegon District Association Michigan State Nurses' Association Organized April 18, 1911 As Amended April 3, 1967"

Invitation to "Commencement Exercises of the Training School for Nurses September 17, 1912" - list of graduation class members with tissue inside.

"Fourth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses September 17, 1912" - program listing officers names, graduating members names.

Invitation to "Commencement Exercises of the Training School for Nurses September 15, 1911" - list of graduation class member with tissue inside.

"Third Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses September 15, 1911" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

Invitation to "Commencement of the Class of 1908 School of Nursing Woman's Club September 16" - Anna Allworth Ewing Lansing Michigan and Sylvia Maude Erb North Branch Michigan listed inside.

"Seventh Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 10, 1915" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Eight Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 14, 1916" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Ninth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 7, 1917" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Tenth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 20, 1918" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Twelfth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 14, 1920" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Seventeenth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Woman's Club House September 18, 1925" - program listing officers and graduating class names; edits done on program in pencil.

"Nineteenth Annual Commencement Hackley Hospital Training School for Nurses Central Campus Auditorium September 8, 1927" - program listing officers and graduating class names.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Thirty-Seventh Annual Commencement First Congregational Church November 9, 1945" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Thirty-Eighth Annual Commencement First Congregational Church November 6, 1946" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Thirty-Seventh Annual Commencement First Congregational Church November 9, 1945" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge (two copies).

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Fortieth Annual Commencement First Congregational Church September 24, 1948" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Forty-first Annual Commencement First Congregational Church June 10, 1949" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Forty-second Annual Commencement First Congregational Church January 13, 1950" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Forty-fifth Annual Commencement First Congregational Church August 17, 1951" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Fiftieth Annual Commencement First Congregational Church August 26, 1955" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Sixtieth Annual Commencement First Congregational Church September 3, 1965" - program listing graduate class names and featuring The Florence Nightingale Pledge.

"Bethany Christian Reformed Church Muskegon Michigan November 3, 1946" - features listing for "Baccalaureate - Hackley Hospital School of Nursing - 7:00 P.M."

"Hackley Hospital 1904-1943 Services of Dedication and 35th Commencement Exercises November 17, 1943" - list of Board of Trustee members, program for exercises, and "Act of Dedication." (2 copies)

"Hackley Hospital Hackley Nurses' Training School Muskegon, Michigan Annual Report 1921" - 2 copies

"Hackley Hospital School of Nursing 1905-1955 Fiftieth Anniversary August 24-25-26, 1955" - List of graduating seniors, menu (Masonic Temple), history, list of committee chairmen.

"Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Michigan School of Nursing Thirty Month Diploma Program" - student recruitment booklet.

"School of Nursing Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Michigan 1905 - Golden Anniversary - 1955" - School of Nursing program information.

"School of Nursing Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Michigan" - same as above but not designated as "Golden Anniversary" booklet.

"Fiftieth Anniversary 1905 1955 Hackley Hospital School of Nursing Muskegon, Michigan" - gold colored book with lists of present staff members, general history, and photos.

Folder 5- Receipts

Seven receipts:

"Secy. of Staff, Hackley Hospital, I promise to pay to the **FUND TO PURCHASE A BABY GRAND PIANO** for the new Nurses Home the sum of _____ & to same _____."

Blanks filled in differently depending on donor. Names of donor include G.J Hartman, E. Thornton, D. J. Dinlean (?), (?) Hotvedt (?), H.B. Poppen, H. B. Marshall, and J. VauderLaau.

Folder 6- Administration

Short biographical sketches of deceased doctors, list of staff per department, meeting attendance sheets, loose leaf meeting minutes from 1915 to 1916, notations of "Surgical Cases March," correspondence to the Board 1906, and Board resolutions from 1914.

Oversized Box- Administration

Ledger Book, leather bound, bottom of spine reads "400 The Richmond and Backus Co Manufacturers, Detroit"; upper spine reads "RECORD Hackley Hospital Muskegon, Mich." - Original Board and meeting minutes dated 1902-1914. Handwritten records, include meeting minutes in which name of hospital is changed from Mercy to Hackley.

Ledger Book, leather bound, with sheet of paper glued to inside of front cover entitled "Rules Governing the Hackley Hospital Staff." Meeting entries, some "Staff" some "General" dated from 1904 through 1915. Some entries are signed with names of recorder.