

Municipal Hall.

Blowerdale, N.S.B.

30th November, 1942.

Council met at 7.30 p.m. in Special Meeting, called for the purpose of meeting representatives of the Victorian Order of Nurses to discuss and deal with questions affecting the health of the Municipality, all the members, except Councillor Binnie, being present.

Dr. Sinclair M. H. D., the Executive of the Victorian Order of Nurses, representatives of the Civilian Protection Committee and others were present.

The Reeve explained that a serious situation had arisen by reason of the impossibility of obtaining accommodation in the new Westminster and Vancouver Hospitals for patients requiring medical and surgical attention - He paid tribute to the work of Dr. Sinclair and nurse Boden of the V. O. N., who have now reached the limit of endurance in meeting the needs of a Municipality of upwards of 15,000 population. The Reeve stated that neither the Provincial Government nor the Municipalities were doing anything to meet the emergency arising from the lack of hospital accommodation and the accompanying shortage of doctors and nurses caused by the war, and he pointed ^{out} that in the event of an epidemic such as was experienced at the close of the last great war a very serious crisis would be upon us. One way of meeting the present situation would be the provision, if possible, of more home nursing, which could not be undertaken by the already overworked doctor and nurse.

Dr. Sinclair confirmed the position as outlined by the Reeve, stating that it is only possible to obtain admission of an occasional extremely urgent case to the City hospitals, and that he had recently had to use the Emergency Hospital of the C. P. P. for an urgent case in which the patient would probably have died had she been left in the conditions under which she was living.

This action had raised the whole matter for discussion as the C. P. P. hospital, together with similar institutions in town have been provided and are reserved for any emergency which may arise from the war and not for general hospital cases.

Miss Martin, President of the Victorian Order of Nurses, reported that the relief nurse is leaving and it is absolutely necessary to get extra help, even on the present set up. A second permanent nurse would double the present cost of V. O. N. service, which is approximately \$2500 per annum, while revenue from auxiliary bodies could not be expected to increase. The Provincial Government is contributing \$40.00 per month towards the service and head-quarters at Ottawa has been written to ascertain whether or not some financial assistance can be obtained in the event of another nurse being engaged.

The matter was discussed at considerable length, and among the suggestions offered were the building of a cottage hospital and the provision of a home for the care of indigent residents in need of care and attention other than hospitalization.

Moved by councillor Johnston.
Seconded by Councillor Frank.

That the Reeve and Miss Martin be authorised to proceed to Victoria with a view to obtaining a grant towards the cost of maintaining another V. O. N. nurse in this Municipality, and that their expenses be paid -
- Carried -

The Relief Officer was instructed to report as to the present cost of maintaining indigent persons in private homes and the feasibility of setting up a municipal home for their care and maintenance.

The meeting then adjourned.

John G. Farmer
Clerk.

Joe T. Brown
Chairman.