



Sister Mary Annunciata Quigley, RN, was one of the most vital forces in Mercy's early growth and development. After graduating from St. Mary's School of Nursing in Lewiston in 1918 and taking her vows as a Sister of Mercy in 1922, she became the hospital's first administrator in 1934, serving until her death in 1969.

At her funeral, Sister Annunciata was eulogized as a woman of insight, empathy and understanding, and for her contagious, high-pitched laugh and the twinkle in her eye, her unique walk with head slightly bent to one side, her warmth and humanity. She was remembered first and foremost as a friend and someone who saw Mercy Hospital as her home; the patients and personnel as her family.

But Sister Annunciata also was a consummate professional who was recognized in the health care industry. She was a Fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators (ACHA) and the Maine Regent of the ACHA's Council of Regents, and served as board chair of the Maine Hospital Association from 1951 to 1953.

Perhaps the most enduring legacy of her 35-year tenure as Mercy Hospital's administrator, however, is the glimpse she provides into her day-to-day life during three-and-a-half remarkable decades in the history of our hospital, our state and our nation. For Sister Annunciata kept a diary every year of her tenure, jotting down facts and observations that reveal what life at the hospital's helm was like.

The Early Years: 1934 – 1940

Leading Mercy Hospital into the Future

When Sister Annunciata steps into the leadership role at Queen's Hospital in 1934, it is a pivotal time in the history of our nation and the world. Americans struggle after the Great Depression and unemployment rises to 25%. President Franklin D. Roosevelt spearheads the Social Security Act of 1935, and the minimum wage is established. The American people gather around their radios to listen to the President's fireside chats and baseball games. Motion pictures are popular, and young people dance to the music of the "big bands."

On the world stage, Hitler is named Fuhrer, and World War II begins in 1939 when Germany invades Poland, and Britain and France declare war on Germany.

In Maine, Prohibition is repealed (1934), disastrous spring floods cause \$25 million in damage (1936) and, in 1938, the first hurricane to strike New England since 1869 makes it all the way to Maine.

In Portland, Sister Annunciata faces her own challenges. The greater Portland community's health care needs are exceeding the capabilities of the original Queen's Hospital facility. While Sister Annunciata's day-to-day focus is on the operational details of a busy hospital, she is also looking toward the future – and searching for support to build a bigger, better hospital to serve the community's needs.



August 25, 1938
The second day of the lawn party came to a close at 11 p.m. when the affair was pronounced a grand success. The net result something well over \$1,100.00.

March 12, 1939
Very busy day.
4 patients discharged,
4 patients admitted, 3 by ambulance.

November 11, 1938
A beautiful day! Everyone who could went to Deering to a movie, "Captains Courageous" and cried all afternoon.

Sunday Telegram March 12, 1939
Section D - Page Two
\$10,000 Charity Expenditure Shows On Queen's Hosp. Books Past Year
March 12, 1937
During the past year, the hospital has spent \$10,000 on charity work. This amount is the largest ever spent by the hospital for such purposes. The money was used for the purchase of books, the purchase of a new X-ray machine, the purchase of a new ambulance, and the purchase of a new ambulance. The hospital also spent \$10,000 on charity work. This amount is the largest ever spent by the hospital for such purposes. The money was used for the purchase of books, the purchase of a new X-ray machine, the purchase of a new ambulance, and the purchase of a new ambulance.

The War Years: 1940 – 1945

Meeting Wartime Challenges on the Home Front

The Japanese attack Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and the U.S. enters World War II, which dominates the American psyche for the next four years. The Manhattan Project begins in 1942 to coordinate American efforts to build the atomic bomb. The Allies invade Normandy on D-Day (June 6, 1944). Germany surrenders on May 7, 1945. The U.S. drops the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Japan surrenders on V-J Day (September 2, 1945).

During this period, FDR freezes prices, salaries and wages to prevent inflation. The GI Bill of Rights is passed, and the United Nations is established. The nation's first HMO (Kaiser) begins in California. Selman Waksman discovers streptomycin and coins the term "antibiotic." Doctors begin to use the pap test to detect cervical cancer, and oral penicillin is developed.

In Maine, FDR comes ashore in Rockland in 1941 after signing the Atlantic Charter with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Harry S. Truman becomes President. In 1944, a prisoner of war camp is established in Houlton to house German POWs. Mainers mourn along with the rest of the nation when FDR dies on April 12, 1945.

And in the midst of it all, Sister Annunciata oversees the launch of a \$300,000 fundraising campaign for a new Mercy Hospital and construction of the new 150-bed facility, which opens on March 18, 1943.



April 12, 1942
Air raid practice for Portland.
Doctors, nurses, aides, first aid all present...should have been some casualties. Nonc. however.

AIR RAID INSTRUCTIONS

ISSUED TO.....
The man who hands you this card is an
AIR RAID WARDEN
BE CALM:- LIE FLAT ON YOUR BACK.
IMPORTANT: Do whatever the warden tells you.

December 8, 1941
War declared between U.S. and Japan.

DESKAIDE * THE SILENT SECRETARY * 1941

NOVEMBER 1941	DECEMBER 1941	JANUARY 1942
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

MONDAY 8
To DAY is the Birthday of *Sister Annunciata*
8:00 *Conception*
8:30 *War declared between U.S. and Japan*
9:00
9:30
10:00
10:30
11:00
11:30
12:00
12:30

Blessing and Dedication
of the
Mercy Hospital
Thursday Afternoon, March Eighteenth
Nineteen Hundred Forty-three, at three o'clock
by
His Excellency
Reverend Joseph E. McCarthy, D. D.
Bishop of Portland

... PROGRAM ...
al "March from Athalie" Mendelssohn
Cornerstone and Blessing of Building
Bishop McCarthy
"Bless This House" Brahe Miss Helen Ward
Bishop McCarthy
Blessing of Chapel
Discourse - Rev. Alphonse M. Schwitalla, S. J.
President, Catholic Hospital Association
United States and Canada
Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament

March 16, 1943
Preparation for dedication—are
we tired? But of course happy.

Attacks on Hawaii Open Jap War On U.S.

Formal Declaration Made After Sea And Air Blows

Tokyo, Monday, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Japan went to war against the United States and Great Britain today with air and sea attacks against Hawaii followed by a formal declaration of hostilities.
Japanese imperial headquarters announced at 6 a. m. (4 p. m. Sunday, EST) that a state of war existed among these nations in the Western Pacific, as of dawn.
Shortly afterwards Domei announced that "naval operations are progressing off Hawaii, with at least one Japanese aircraft carrier in action against Pearl Harbor," the American naval base in the islands.

The Post-War Period: 1946 – 1949

The Faith to Move Forward

The Marshall Plan is implemented and the first meeting of the U.N. takes place. President Truman ends racial segregation in the U.S. military in 1948, and South Africa institutionalizes apartheid in 1949. The Communist People's Republic of China is formally proclaimed and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) is established under Soviet rule (1949).

In the U.S., Benjamin Spock's childcare classic is published (1946), the Hollywood "Black List" is created by the House Un-American Activities Committee (1947), "Meet the Press" debuts on NBC (1947), and Milton Berle hosts the first telethon, which benefits cancer research, in 1949.

Closer to home, the Maine Turnpike opens from Kittery to South Portland in 1947.

Major forest fires sweep the state, destroying 200,000-plus acres, and more than 1,200 homes and cottages. In 1948, Margaret Chase Smith is elected U.S. Senator from Maine, becoming the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress.

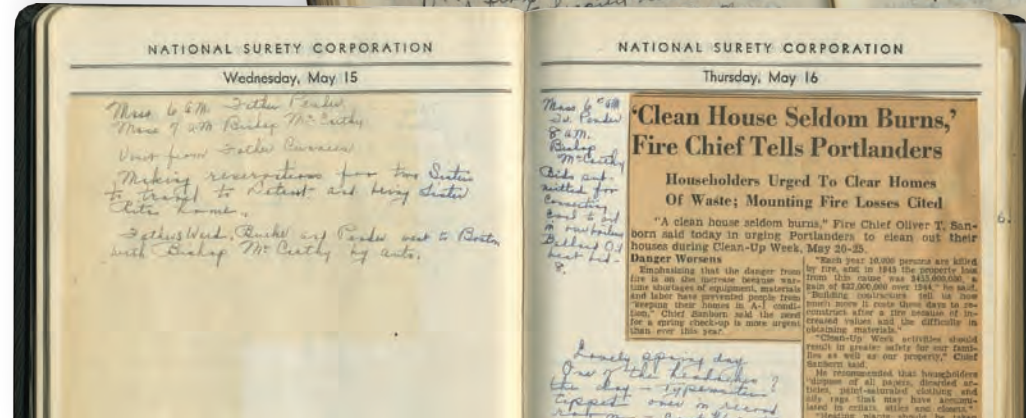
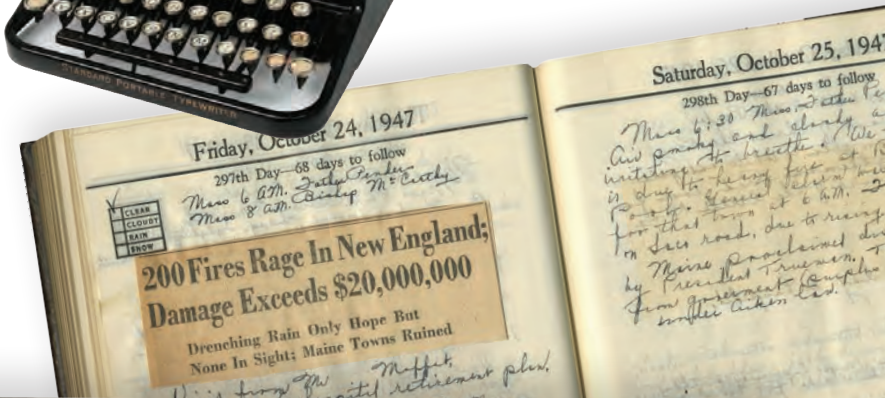


January 3, 1948
Scare on oil scarcity.
Randall & McAllister
suggesting that we convert
one boiler to coal.
Mr. Tyler tells us not to
worry - they will take
care of us.

May 16, 1946
Bids submitted for converting
coal to oil in our boilers...
Lovely spring day...One of
the headaches of the day -
typewriters tipped over in
record room - cost \$60
to repair. ✓



October 25, 1947
Air smoky and cloudy and irritating to
breathe. We think it is due to heavy fire
at Biddeford Pool. General alarm was
sounded for that town at 6 a.m. Fire
re-kindled on Saco road, due to rising
wind. Maine proclaimed disaster unit
by President Truman. ✓



NATIONAL SURETY CORPORATION

Wednesday, May 15

Mass 6:40 Father Parker
Mass 7:40 Bishop McCreedy
Visit from Sacco Business
Making reservations for two Sisters
to travel to Detroit and being checked
into rooms.
Father Wood, Rankel and Parker went to Boston
with Bishop McCreedy by auto.

NATIONAL SURETY CORPORATION

Thursday, May 16

'Clean House Seldom Burns,' Fire Chief Tells Portlanders

Householders Urged To Clear Homes
Of Waste; Mounting Fire Losses Cited

"A clean house seldom burns." Fire Chief Oliver T. Sanborn said today in urging Portlanders to clean out their houses during Clean-Up Week, May 20-25.
"Each year 18,000 persons are killed by fire, and in 1945 the property loss from this cause was \$415,000,000, a gain of \$22,000,000 over 1944," he said.
"Building contractors tell us these fires occur in more than 90 per cent of the structures after a fire because of increased value and the difficulty in obtaining materials."
"Clean-Up Week activities should result in greater safety for our families as well as our property," Chief Sanborn said.
He recommended that householders "dispose of all broken, discarded articles, paper-strewn clothing and table tops that may have accumulated in certain attic and closets."
"Structure maintenance by industry

Lovely spring day
One of the best days?
typewriter - 1000
repaired - 1000
repaired - 1000

(Baker 20)

The Fifties: 1950 – 1959

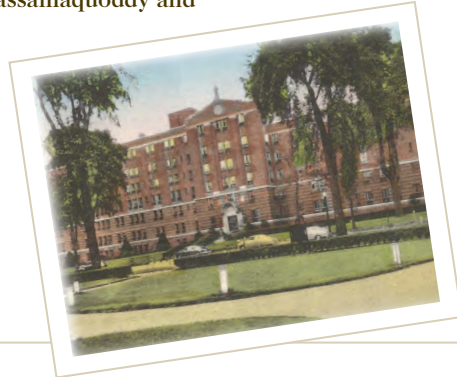
A Decade of Growth

This decade began with the Korean War, Charles Schulz's first "Peanuts" comic strip, and the first successful kidney transplant. Other notable events on the world stage: Edmund Hilary reaches the summit of Mt. Everest (1953), Egypt takes control of the Suez Canal (1956), General Charles de Gaulle becomes French premier and Nikita Khrushchev becomes premier of the Soviet Union (1958).

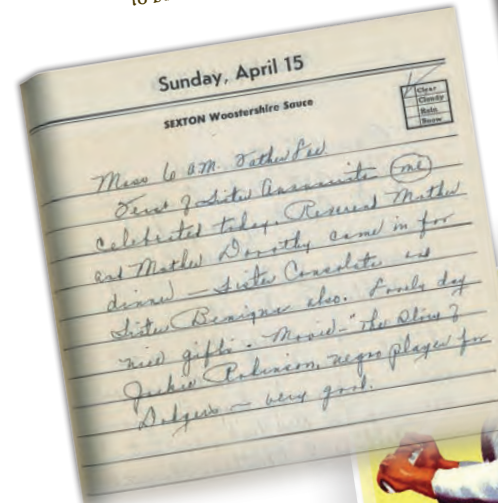
In the U.S., color television is introduced (1951), Dwight D. Eisenhower is inaugurated President (1953), the Supreme Court bans racial segregation in public schools (1954), Rosa Parks refuses to sit at the back of the bus (1955), and Alaska and Hawaii become states (1959).

In Maine, Senator Margaret Chase Smith denounces the tactics of the House Un-American Activities Committee (1950), Edmund S. Muskie is elected as the state's first Democratic governor in more than 20 years (1954), and the Maine Legislature passes a bill giving Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Indians the right to vote in state elections (1959).

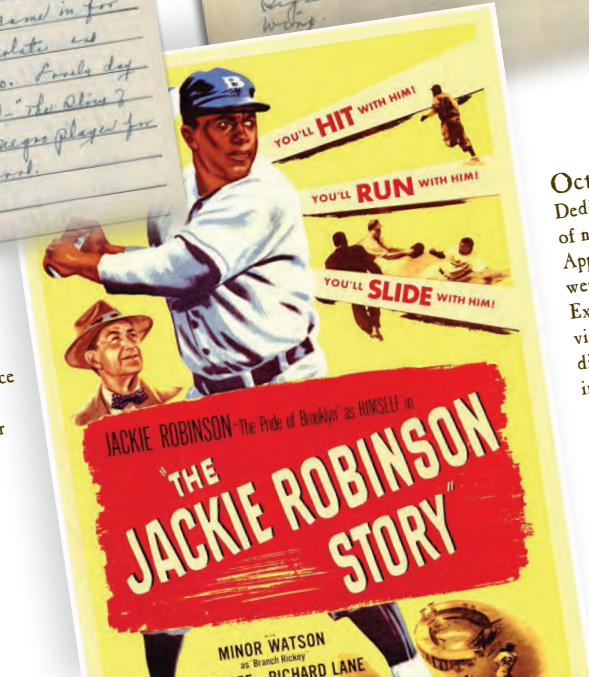
Sister Annunciata, meanwhile, oversees the opening of a new wing in 1952 – in addition to the countless other details of running a busy hospital.



January 25, 1950
Meeting Board of Trustees and Hospital Board. Votes to build hospital wing, 6 stories, also to re-finance our mortgage in order to pay off present loan and acquire more funds for building. Signed contract to build new wing. >



April 15, 1956 ^
Feast of Sister Annunciata (me) celebrated today...lovely day, nice gifts. Movie – "The Story of Jackie Robinson," Negro player for Dodgers – very good.



October 21, 1951
Dedication and Blessing of new wing at 3 p.m. Approximately 2,200 people went through building. Ex-Governor Baxter also visited. About 30 men... did a fine piece of work in controlling crowd.

The 1960's: 1960 – 1969

A Turbulent Time

This decade began with 900 U.S. military advisors in South Vietnam, the election of John F. Kennedy as our first Catholic President, the erection of the Berlin Wall, and Alan B. Shepard, Jr. becoming the first American in space.

By the end of the decade, President Kennedy and his brother Robert have been assassinated, along with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; racial violence explodes in Watts (Los Angeles), Detroit and other U.S. cities; the Tet offensive marks a turning point in the Vietnam war and the My Lai massacre makes headlines; and Apollo II astronauts take man's first walk on the moon.

In the medical world, the first liver transplant is performed; the U.S. Surgeon General affirms that cigarette smoking causes cancer; the first human heart transplant is performed; amniocentesis is developed; and the first in vitro fertilization of a human egg is performed in England.

Rachel Carson publishes "Silent Spring," the Beatles appear on the Ed Sullivan Show, and "60 Minutes" debuts on CBS.

Maine's Edmund S. Muskie is the 1968 Democratic nominee for vice president on a ticket headed by Hubert Humphrey. And Sister Annunciata enters the final decade of her tenure as Mercy Hospital's administrator. She passes away on July 28, 1969.



October 2, 1965
Report on Survey for Med. Ed. Program for Mercy. Looks very fine and also promising. It will cost something but will be well worth it. Today we should be going forward - if we stand still we shall slip. >

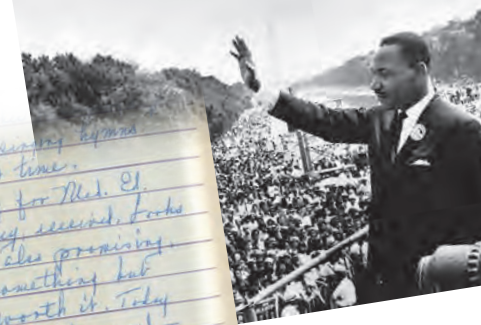
Mr. William who is
Baw factor for
much his sister
returned this P.M.
House full of patients - almost
had to put L.R. in the Bishop's
room, but finally 2 semi-private
patients moved together, liberating
420.
TO-DAY'S SPECIAL
Clear Cloudy Rain Snow
V

July 1, 1965 ^
House full of patients - almost had to put L.R. in the Bishop's room, but finally 2 semi-private patients moved together, liberating 420.

T.V. busy with events of Robert F. Kennedy funeral details - everybody watching and feeling deeply grieved. Requiem Mass - St. Patrick's Cathedral, N.Y. - buried late this evening beside his brother, the President.



June 8, 1968
T.V. busy with events of Robert F. Kennedy funeral details - everybody watching and feeling deeply grieved. Requiem Mass - St. Patrick's Cathedral, NY - buried late this evening beside his brother, the President, in Arlington Cemetery. V





July 28, 1969

Sister Annunciata died at 9:15 a.m. today.
Sister Johnette with her at time of death.
All meetings canceled.