

Halifax, N. S.,

March 2nd, 1918.

To his Worship the Mayor *and City Council*:-

We the undersigned members of the City Health Board enter our strongest protest against reconstructing the old Infectious Disease Hospital at Rockhead prison for the following amongst other reasons:-

(1) The location is inconvenient for Patients and their friends and also for attending Physicians. At times in winter it is almost impossible to get to or from the hospital because of conditions of the roads from Duffus Street. This is especially true at night in ambulance or emergency calls.

(2) The I. D. Hospital was condemned in the Spring of 1916 by the Board of Health after careful and thorough examination of the building with the help of an architect. It was decided then that it was not worth while to spend money on such an old dilapidated building - the wings were only shells - towards remodelling and making additions to it. ~~The~~ location was not suitable for such an institution. The same objections hold true today with even greater force no matter whose money is used to reconstruct this building. The Health Board then decided to build a new hospital in the near future in a more convenient and desirable location.

(3) It is impossible to obtain trained nurses to take positions in a Hospital at Rockhead. This is especially true now, and the Hospital must have some graduate nurses on the staff to make it efficient.

(4) We are irreconcilably opposed to have a hospital for Infectious Diseases within 200 yards of a Public Abattoir where all the cattle, sheep and pigs for the City are to be slaughtered. The smell emanating from the offal would

- 2 -

in summer be unbearable, and the presence of hordes of infected flies would not help patients to get better and might poison them. Besides the noise of cattle, the bleating of sheep and the squealing of pigs would be unbearable to the sick. The institution would never be patronized by paying patients.

(5) That a more substantial and durable a hospital could be constructed on the old site than on city Home ground for the same money is to say the least misleading.

A. E. Mackay, Chairman
J. C. Craig
W. J. Birney