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No. 10 May 20, 1974

STAFF NOTES . . .

Update

HAVE YOU READ the proposed Medical Staff Bylaws that were distributed for your review during the past week? If you have, you recognized that many hours of careful deliberation by concerned and experienced physicians went into their preparation and development. The copy to be presented at the May 22 meeting of the staff represents the sixth draft. Every attempt was made to assure that the Bylaws for the Hospital Center staff are compatible with those of the parent hospitals, meet certain legal requirements and are also within the standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation.

Thanks are definitely in order to the following men for their valuable contributions of time and effort: Dr. Howard Silverman (Chairman), Dr. Dominic Donio, Dr. Harry Kaupp and Dr. Robert Brennen. Also to Dr. Clifford Vernick and Dr. W. Richard Covert who served as ex-officio members of the Committee.

We are confident that the Bylaws as they are to be presented represent a good working structure for the organization of our Medical Staff. At the same time, we recognize that amendments will be required from time to time as the Hospital Center becomes operative.

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APPLICATIONS for staff membership total 187 at this writing. Credentials are currently being assembled for these applicants, all of whom are eligible to vote at the May 22 meeting in the Cedar Crest College Center Theater.

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COURTESY STAFF - who and what? Normally, physicians apply for either active or courtesy staff membership. "Active" implies full participation in committee work and educational activities, while "courtesy" applies to those physicians who are fully qualified but only occasionally admit patients to the hospital or act as consultants ... i.e. those physicians who maintain active status at the hospital where they plan to do most of their work, but may wish to admit patients to the Hospital Center or be available for consultation here. Since many specialty and sub-specialty services will not have an organized bed service at the Center, it is anticipated that much consulting at the Hospital Center will be done by physicians with courtesy staff membership.

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PERSONNEL . . .

WHAT'S GOING ON? Is it desertion, defection, transfer of longstanding loyalties? Not at all! What's happening is that Allentown's hospital facilities are being expanded and modernized as long desired, planned and worked for. And what's making it possible is a Joint Venture that was formed in the interest of the total community. In the creation of a third hospital, it is inevitable that there will be personnel transfers. At the Hospital Center, we are particularly mindful of the concern these transfers are causing at the parent hospitals. And we would ask everyone to please be charitable toward those who opt for a change. They are not deserting anyone or any institution. They will still be serving patients of the parent hospital at this new facility which the parent hospitals chose to erect to meet the community's health care needs.

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STATUS OF THE PROJECT . . .

EQUIPMENT BUDGET was reported 95% complete as of May 1 and physical construction 91% complete. Some furniture has already been placed in patient rooms and Director of Nursing Services Florence Brown, R.N., has occupied her office on the First Floor of the new structure. Chief Engineer Robert Ewing has vacated his trailer in favor of an office in the new building.

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THE WATER TOWER rising rapidly at the northwest corner of the Hospital Center site will serve a dual purpose. Erected by the Hospital Center, it will be turned over to Salisbury Township on completion. The tower will provide a reserve supply for firefighting throughout the western portion of the Township and serve as a pressure regulator for the Township's water system as well.

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DEDICATION CEREMONIES for the Hospital Center have been scheduled to take place September 3 through September 8. Formal rites on Sunday, September 8, will climax the planned series of events.

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FROM THE AUXILIARY . . .

BIG TOP BALL COMMITTEE reports it has expanded its originally planned facilities to accommodate "an overwhelming response" to invitations. Since further expansion is not possible, the maximum number of guests will remain at the newly established limit of 800. We're all delighted there is so much interest and enthusiasm!