



THE PROBE

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Campaign '76

DIRECTORS NOMINATE SLATE

At Allentown Hospital's Open House in April, a visitor strode through the new, second floor operating room complex.

"I'm impressed," the visitor kept repeating, walking up the gleaming corridor, past newly completed instrument rooms, the recovery room, the anesthesiologists' office and the operating rooms themselves.

A former Allentown Hospital employee, the visitor reflected how hospital employees feel about almost \$6 million in renovations at the 77 year old institution. By the time additional improvements are completed, the cost of renovations will be more than \$6.5 million.

The men who take credit for these improvements and others still on the drawing boards, are the 19 members of the Allentown Hospital Association Board of Directors, five of whom are running for re-election. A sixth member of the slate is a newcomer, Mrs. Anne Harrity, a long time Allentonian and a community leader.

The five incumbent members of the board running for re-election share 32 years experience as directors. They include Henry H. Dent, who joined the board 12 years ago; Charles A. Raab, 1967; I. Cyrus Gutman, 1970; Donald G. Vollmer, 1971 and Dr. Walter Dex, the hospital's Chief of Radiology elected in March 1976.

This year, as last, the board's candidates are in a contested election that will ultimately be resolved at 8 p.m. June 23 in Memorial Hall, Muhlenberg College. That is the night of the Allentown Hospital Association annual meeting where board members are elected to office.

Also this year, as last, the opposition slate of candidates is led by Allentown Hospital cardiologists, Doctors Frank Boyer and Theodore Donmoyer.

At a meeting of hospital employees last Wednesday, Vollmer, president and Chairman of the Board of Zollinger Harned in Allentown, urged

Continued on Page Two

The Candidates



HENRY H. DENT
Elected 1964



CHARLES A. RAAB
Elected 1967



I. CYRUS GUTMAN
Elected 1970



DONALD G. VOLLMER
Elected 1971



WALTER DEX, MD
Elected 1976

ANNE HARRITY
New Candidate



Campaign '76

Continued from Page One

those present to vote for the slate which they believed would best serve Allentown Hospital.

However, Vollmer stressed the devotion, the experience and the knowledge the board's slate would continue to bring to the administration of the hospital.

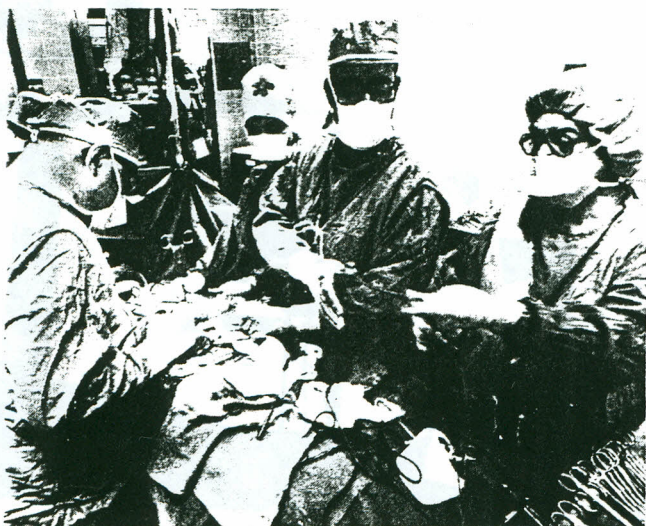
Answering questions with Dent, Vollmer acknowledged that the board had made some mistakes as any group might do in a venture of this size. He said many of these had been corrected and added that the board's track record in the past year was excellent.

Vollmer said that Allentown Hospital never needed saving. He called the slogan "Save Allentown Hospital" a catch phrase without meaning and asked employees to look at the facts.

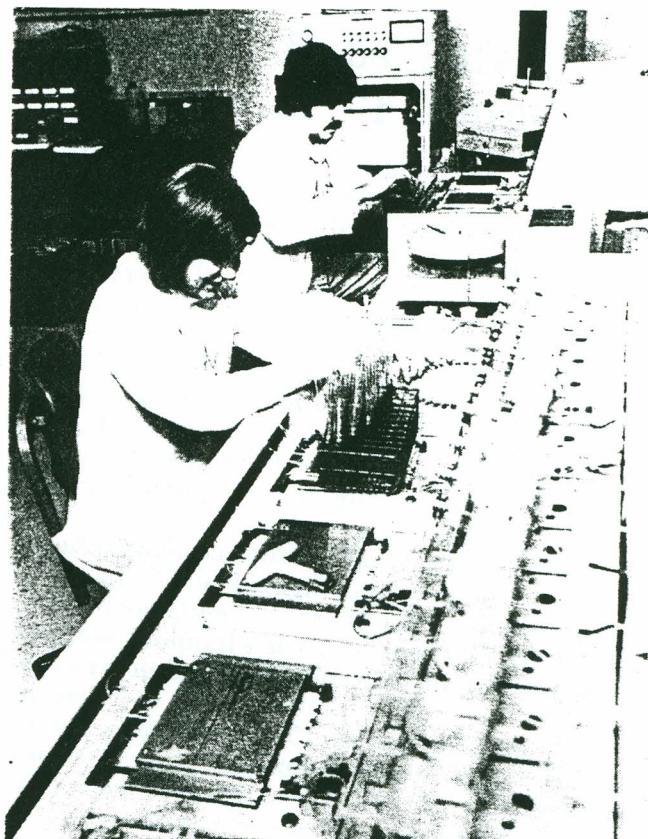
- The hospital is on sound financial footing, ahead of projections made several years ago.
- The hospital's occupancy rate is holding consistently at 83 percent.
- The number of outpatients using the clinics continues to increase.
- The number of operations performed in the six new operating rooms also continues to rise.

Both Vollmer and Dent pointed with pride to the modernized facilities in the hospital and stressed this is not the end of renovations at Allentown Hospital. They noted that this summer a new ICU unit will open on WIN. The clinics will also move to new quarters near the emergency room.

The Board of Directors has also expressed pride in the Long Range Planning Committee which is programming future growth and modernization at the hospital. It also noted that members recently changed the Allentown Hospital Association By-laws to include 4 doctors on the board, raising the



NEW OPERATING ROOMS



MODERNIZED LABORATORIES

number of directors to 19. The new faces are expected to add an extra dimension to the direction of the hospital.

Fielding pointed questions from the floor during the session with three groups of employees, both Dent and Vollmer said they believed the experience of the board's slate made them ideal candidates for re-election. Vollmer said he had been on the board five years and noted it takes nearly that long to understand the intricate business of running a major hospital.

Vollmer also asserted that the board's candidates choose to run because of a devotion to community service. For example, he said he often spends hours in hospital service as he did last week. "and the pay is great," he noted, alluding to the fact that the directors serve without pay.

This raised the issue of why the opposition chose to challenge the board's slate and engage it and hospital funds in a lengthy lawsuit.

Many board members believe there are unspoken motives in Doctors Boyer's and Donmoyer's desire to run for the expiring board seats. They also believe the board was vindicated with the settlement of the lawsuit brought by Dr. Boyer and others.

The suit claimed the board failed to protect the interests of Allentown Hospital. However, the board refutes this contention. Members point out that Dr. Boyer agreed to settle the suit "with prejudice," meaning he may never bring the claim

Continued on Page Three

Campaign '76

Continued from Page Two

against the board again. The board also noted that the settlement came even before the board mounted a defense. Board members believe Dr. Boyer was forced to settle when he realized he didn't have a case.

In prepared statements, the board also rebutted other statements made by Dr. Boyer and the opposition slate.

- The board did give Allentown Hospital's share of AHEAD funds to the center. Under the nonprofit corporation law of Pennsylvania, this is permitted.

- The board did not direct surgery away from Allentown Hospital. Surgical procedures declined while old operating rooms were replaced. The number of operations is now steadily increasing.

- The board did not "concede" to the election of new directors on the ASHHC board. It agreed, in the court settlement, to "consider" the election.

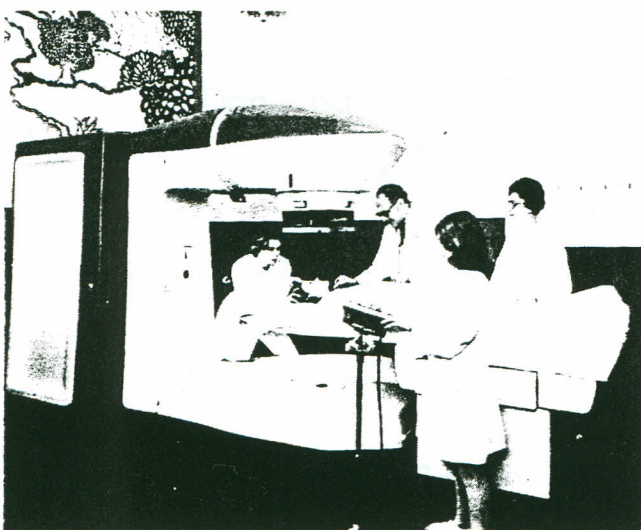
- The board did not arbitrarily close Allentown Hospital's emergency room. This was part of the original allocation of services. It listened to the public, however, and agreed to reopen it.

Speaking recently to "Friends" of Allentown Hospital, Vollmer summed up the position of the board's slate of candidates.

"We are committed to good community health care at the lowest possible cost to the patient. We will be, and have always been, loyal to the total community needs in health care, not just a building.

"We ask you to join the Association, and to support us on June 23 at Muhlenberg College at 8 p.m."

To be eligible to vote, hospital employees must join the Allentown Hospital Association on or before June 11. Applications may be picked up in the administrator's office.



RADIATION ONCOLOGY

Board Raps Latest Charge of "Faithful"

"We are not confused and we do not try to confuse you," was the headline in an ad placed last Friday by the so-called "Faithful Friends of Allentown Hospital." The group is represented by Doctors Frank Boyer and Theodore Donmoyer.

However, the text of the ad couldn't have been more misleading or confusing. The "Faithful Friends" made erroneous statements:

The Lehigh County Court decreed "The Board of Trustees *shall request* AHEAD to disburse all funds to the Allentown Hospital that were specifically designated as gifts to the Allentown Hospital."

The request has already been made.

The ad: "The Lehigh County Court *directed* the Board of Directors to demand the return of Allentown Hospital's share of the AHEAD fund. The board agreed to this in order to have the suit dismissed."

The Lehigh County Court decree stated: "The Trustees have recognized the value of, and *will consider*, an election to the Allentown class of ASHHC Board of Directors of qualified individuals who are not trustees of the Allentown Hospital Association."

The ad: "The Board of Directors agreed to the principle of separation of the two hospital boards—Allentown Hospital and Allentown Sacred Heart Hospital Center. Again, the Board agreed to this in order to have the suit dismissed."

The Lehigh County Court decreed: "The trustees *shall continue their efforts to encourage* the performance of uncomplicated surgery at Allentown Hospital and to obtain round-the-clock rotating residents in surgery at Allentown Hospital."

The ad: "The Board of Directors were *directed* to return surgery to Allentown Hospital. Again, the Board agreed to this in order to have the suit dismissed."

The Lehigh County Court decree: "The plaintiffs consent to having this action dismissed by the court *with prejudice*."

The ad: "The Board of Directors offered no defense," at the trial.

The board has asserted that Dr. Boyer and the other plaintiffs agreed to settle before the board was called on to defend itself.

In a related development, Dr. David Praeger, president of the Allentown Hospital Medical staff, charged that Dr. Boyer made false and misleading statements when he called the quality of open heart surgery in the Allentown community "substandard."

"I was amazed to read the quote made by Dr. Frank Boyer concerning 'substandard' open heart surgery in our community. As President of the Medical Staff of the Allentown Hospital, I am obliged to evaluate any allegations of substandard medical care in the Allentown Hospital. I spoke with Dr. Frank Boyer and he stated to me that this was 'his personal opinion' and that his statement

The Candidates

(Continued from Page One)

HENRY H. DENT, President of Dent Manufacturing Co., has served on the Board since 1964 and is currently Board Vice President. He is a graduate of Allentown High School and Lehigh University. He is past president of the former Lehigh County Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

CHARLES A. RAAB was elected to the Board in 1967 and is retired Group Manager for Sears, Roebuck and Co. He is a past president of the Lehigh County United Way and a past member of the Board of Governors of the Allentown-Lehigh County Chamber of Commerce.

I. CYRUS GUTMAN, elected to the Board in 1970, serves on many industrial boards and authorities. Formerly an executive with Modern Transfer Co., he is President of the Industrial Development Corporation of Lehigh County. He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University.

DONALD G. VOLLMER, elected in 1971, is President and Chairman of the Board of Zollinger-Harned and a past president of the Chamber of Commerce. A graduate of Boston University, he serves on the Advisory Board for the Allentown Campus of Pennsylvania State University.

WALTER DEX, M.D., elected to the Board in March 1976, is Chief of Radiology at Allentown Hospital and has been on the staff since 1962. A graduate of Allentown High School, he received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

MRS. ANNE HARRITY will be the first woman ever nominated to serve as a Director of Allentown Hospital. A sociology graduate of Cedar Crest College, she has been active in many community projects over the past 15 years. She has been President of the Y.W.C.A. and Metropolitan Director of the United Way.

Don't Bury Your
Head In The Sand:

JOIN THE ASSOCIATION

AND

VOTE JUNE 23RD



Administrator's Corner

by Orlando M. Bowen

Each of you knows that we are in the midst of a hotly contested election for membership on the Board of Directors of our hospital. It is extremely necessary that each of you takes a stand in this issue and becomes involved. No one of you can afford to be neutral in this election. It is vital that everyone stands for something or, truly, you will stand for nothing. I have had the privilege of working with this Board of Directors longer than anyone of them has been a member of the Board. I know the dedication that each one offers as a member of this Board and the amount of time and effort that this group has spent in furthering the physical plant and the benefits for personnel of this hospital. The benefits which you enjoy as an employee from basic sick time to life insurance and pension and everything in between has been provided only because this Board has been foresighted enough to know that satisfied personnel are the backbone of any service organization. I sincerely hope that each one of you will become a member of The Allentown Hospital Association and that you will realize the strength and potential of the incumbent Directors as compared with those nominees suggested by the opposition.

Board Raps

(Continued from Page Three)

was "taken out of context."

I have never received any complaints about the open heart surgery program nor is there any documented evidence of any inadequacy in that program. It seems odd to me that Dr. Frank Boyer would be in a position to criticize the open heart program since he has not participated in the program nor has he reviewed the program. Furthermore, Dr. Boyer's open criticisms have to be viewed with skepticism since he was recently placed on a probationary status by the Medical Board and the Board of Trustees of the Allentown Hospital for documented, substandard level of medical participation at the Allentown Hospital."