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HOSPITAL ASS'N HOLDS LARGEST MEETING SINCE ORGANIZATION

Unusual Interest in Re-election of Six Members of Board of Trustees, Who Then Re-elected Dr. C. D. Schaeffer Chief Surgeon

The Allentown Hospital Association last evening held the most largely attended meeting in its history, unusual interest being taken in the re-election of the six members of the board of trustees, whose terms expired last evening, namely: A. L. Reichenbach, James F. Hunsicker, Dr. A. H. Balliet, Peter J. Laubach, George Ormrod and Thomas E. Ritter.

Immediately at the close of the meeting the trustees organized by electing Mr. Hunsicker as president; Peter J. Laubach, vice president; A. Samuels secretary; E. H. Reninger, treasurer; surgeon-in-chief, Dr. Chas. D. Schaeffer; superintendent, Miss Alma Viehdorffer.

No chances were taken by the large number of friends of these six men among the membership of the associa-



DR. A. H. BALLIET.

tion with an insurgent movement such as that which occurred unexpectedly at the meeting just a year ago. It will be remembered that less than a dozen persons, opposed to the general management of the institution, turned up at the meeting but even with their small numbers almost had a controlling voice, to such a degree had interest in the annual meetings fallen and so small had attendances at the annual meeting come to be. Last night the friends of the management were out in force. They filled council chamber and overflowed into the halls. Standing room even was desirable and if there were any insurgents, nobody saw or heard them, for everything went through most smoothly and in phenomenally short time.

Features of Meeting.

Apart from the harmony of the meeting the report of President James F. Hunsicker, outlining the wonderful work of the hospital during the past year, and a graceful and elegant address by Hon. A. G. Dewalt in seconding the nomination of the old trustees, featured the evening.

Large Number of Ladies Present.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 8 o'clock by President James F. Hunsicker. About a hundred and twenty-five members were in attendance, including an unusually large number of ladies, most of them also members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the institution. There was rapt interest in the reading of the reports and the telling points were liberally applauded. It was an evening of enthusiastic work for the hospital. Old ties and interests were knitted the firmer. As one man put it: "Feeling has been running a little high but it has brought out more interest."

The report of President Hunsicker and Treasurer Edwin H. Reninger were read and ordered printed in the annual report. These reports are appended.

Reports by the Auxiliary.

Then the reports of the Ladies' Auxiliary were read, including the conduct of the annual meeting yesterday afternoon, when the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Ida Lawfer; first vice president, Mrs. Mary E. Hellman; second vice president, Mrs. John W. Mattern; recording secretary, Miss Laura V. Keck; corresponding secretary, Mrs. James I. Straub; treasurer, Mrs. Henry D. Hersh. These committees were named: Purchasing, Mrs. Mary E. Hellman, Mrs. A. L. Clauser, Mrs. John W. Mattern; cutting, Mrs. A. L. Clauser, Mrs. James D. Newhard, Mrs. Lorraine Anewalt, Mrs. A. E. Barber, Mrs. J. D. Wuchter; finished garments, Mrs. John C. Blank, Mrs. M. T. J. Ochs, Miss Laura A. Rath; resolutions, Mrs. J. M. Grimley, Mrs. James I. Straub; contingent fund, Mrs. M. E. Hellman; executive committee, the officers and the chairman of the standing committees.

A Year of Great Work.

The report of the treasurer of the auxiliary showed receipts during the year from various sources of \$2,732.58. The roof garden was built at a cost of \$2,260 and other expenditures amounted to \$311.05. There is a cash balance of \$325.94.

As a souvenir of the meeting pictures of the new roof garden, taken on January 8, were distributed, being a splendid illustration of the value of the work of the auxiliary.

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Tribute to Deceased Members.

The report of the secretary of the auxiliary told of the resignation of Mrs. Harry E. Ruhe as president through removal from the city. The membership during the year was 250. Nine regular monthly business meetings were held. One hundred and fifty garments were made. Tribute was paid to the memory of deceased members: Mrs. Osville DeLong, Mrs. Joseph P. Sieger, Miss Kate Gram and Mrs. Annie Schock, the latter the

vice president of the organization. These reports were then received and ordered printed in the annual report.

Election of the Trustees.

The only other matter of business was the election of the trustees. Hon. James L. Schaadt placed the six gentlemen before mentioned in nomination and E. M. Young took the chair and presided during the election proceedings, the president James F. Hunsicker being one of those voted for. Hon. A. G. Dewalt seconded the nomination and after a motion had carried to make the election unanimous the six men were elected for terms of three years, except Mr. Ritter whose term expires in 1916. The meeting adjourned.

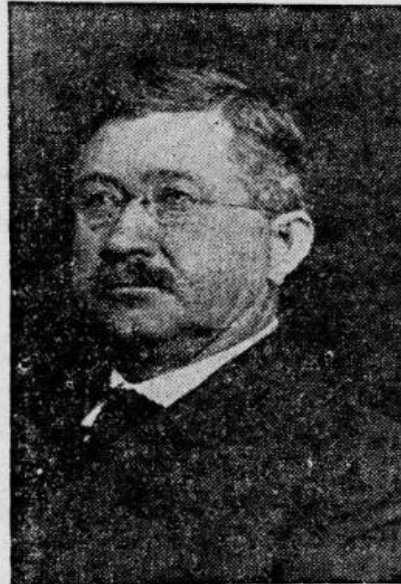
Mr. Dewalt's Fine Speech.

Mr. Dewalt in his address told of the high standing of the Allentown Hospital throughout the state, a fact that came to his attention during his eight years incumbency, while in the State Senate, of a position on the Appropriations Committee. As a result of the observations in all the institutions in the state that secure state aid, Mr. Dewalt said: "I can say that my visitations to hospitals supported by the state have convinced me beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Allentown Hospital is as well conducted as any institution in this broad commonwealth." (Applause).

"I do not say this through pride in an institution in my home town but because of my experience throughout the state and my experience in the institution itself. And further because it is a fact admitted by members of the appropriations committee of the legislature. Each time they have visited this institution this has been their verdict.

"At Ridgway last week I met Senator Kline who was on the appropriations committee for years and he asked about the hospital. I was glad to be able to say that it is progressing so finely that its plans are going ahead and that a nurses' home is now under way. He said to me: 'Of all the institutions in the state none is there that excels the Allentown Hospital in efficiency and completeness.'"

At his own expense Mr. Dewalt produced a lot of fun telling of his own experiences with the hospital, to which he was taken at the most critical moment in his life. "I feel that I am able to be here because of



PETER J. LAUBACH.

that efficiency in the hospital of which I have spoken" said the congressman.

"So hearing this excellent report by your president and hearing that these old trustees are to be nominated, I respectfully ask that you do not swap horses in mid-stream."

He paid a personal compliment to each of the six men, showing their qualifications moreover for the positions, the audience applauding the points that were made: The probity, business capacity and enthusiasm for the hospital of Mr. Hunsicker; the efficiency and interest of Dr. Balliet; the likable qualities of Mr. Laubach; the business ability of Messrs Reichenbach and Ritter recognized by the late Hon. Edward Harvey who made them the executors of his estate and therefore pretty good to manage the affairs of the hospital and then the determination of Mr. Ormrod to have everything that is good for the hospital, the zeal of a youth and always an earnestness of effort. "Why should we go farther when we have such men?" asked Mr. Dewalt, a sentiment the audience agreed in.

.....(Here add Remarks)

President Hunsicker's Report.

To the Members of the Allentown Hospital Association.

Gentlemen:—My report for 1914 may again chronicle the enlarged activity and efficiency of the hospital. And with the splendid addition to our institution to be realized during 1915, we are assured that the hospital will in equipment hardly rank second to the best in the state. And we feel that for its excellent service in the interest of medical science, and its far-reaching philanthropies the hospital has a right to the place of esteem and love it occupies in the hearts of our people. In 1914 there were 128 more patients admitted than in 1913; and it is a significant fact that of the large number of people admitted almost 70 per cent were charity patients. This shows that the aim is undeviatingly adhered to, to do the largest amount of good possible for the staff and assistance in the room available.

It is a pleasure to announce to our friends that the long-cherished addition to our hospital, the Harvey Memorial Home for Nurses, will be completed this year, possibly in September, ground having been broken last October for the new building on the splendid site opposite our present buildings; and that on the day of its opening and dedication a number of prominent persons will be present; so that it will be one of the notable days in the history of our institution. The rooms occupied by the 52 nurses in the James K. Mosser wing will then also be used to enlarge the capacity and likewise the income of the hospital. As the report shows there are now 195 beds available for patients. A special bequest of \$50,000 of the late Hon. Edward Harvey's munificent gift of \$100,000, is set apart for this Memorial Home for Nurses.

The Training School for Nurses has continued to grow and improve. With the large increase of patients following the completion of the East Wing, not only more nurses were required, but the school work was enlarged and its equipment improved. So that our School for Nurses now offers exceptional advantageous and opportunities to young women, who intend to devote themselves to this noble calling. In this connection it is a pleasure to state that the hospital never had so many applicants for the nurse's course as at present; and there can be no doubt that the completion of the beautiful and commodious Harvey Memorial Home for Nurses, will do much to popularize this important branch of our work. In his last report to your body the late Judge Harvey said very aptly: "You could not dispense with their services (i. e. of the young women in training) unless their places were filled with graduate nurses. This would entail a vast expenditure of money. It is the aim of the management to set and maintain a high standard of study for these young ladies. It is our boast that all of the graduates have reflected honor on the institution, and many of them

now occupy high positions in the charitable institutions of this and other states."

One of the most important branches of the hospital is the Pathological department, in charge of Dr. Warren D. Kleppinger, whose entire time is occupied with blood tests, examinations of urine, feces, etc.

The X-ray department, in charge of Dr. Edw. Feldhoff, was also developed so that it is equal in equipment to those of the larger hospitals. The X-ray apparatus was furnished by the ladies of the Auxiliary at a cost of \$2400, and we are very grateful to them for supplying the hospital with this necessary equipment. Fractures are X-rayed before and after reduction, so that it is possible for the surgeons to do very accurate work. In many other cases, such as cancer, eruptions, etc., this apparatus is of inestimable value.

I may also mention the improved equipment for handling the milk supplied to the patients, by means of a "Dairy Outfit", which was installed during the past year. The milk as it comes to the hospital is first tested by the pathologist, so that the doctors may know the quality of the milk served to patients and babies. Then it is clarified and pasteurized in instruments of the most modern pattern, and from these apparatuses it is pumped into sterile bottles. There are about 28 children in the children's ward, and you can realize that this equipment is of great advantage to them, as well as to other patients.

It is my privilege to voice your and my appreciation of the assistance rendered by the ladies of the Hospital Auxiliary Society during the past year. Their special contribution during the year was the completion of the roof garden at a cost of \$2500. It is now occupied by the children; and, as a ward that may be opened to the air and sun on every side, will have wonderful possibilities of usefulness for the future of the hospital. The services of the auxiliary are becoming more valued and their contributions more liberal as the years go by. The unselfish devotion and personal work rendered by the active members of the society are beautiful indeed, and merit our sincere thanks.

The total cost of the new East wing which is deservedly admired by every visitor, was \$122,535.00. My report of last year stated that the debt remaining on it was \$52,900.00. The committee appointed last year to continue the gathering of subscriptions for this object, consists of Dr. C. D. Schaeffer, the surgeon-in-chief, and A. L. Reichenbach, a warm personal friend of the late Judge Harvey. They succeeded in reducing the debt to \$20,300, which amount they hope also to secure before the completion of the building. This shows remarkable success.

The average cost of maintenance for each patient was \$1.55 per day during the past year. From the treasurer's report for 1914 I select four items of provisions, the cost of which was as follows:

Meats, \$7226, average 142 lbs. per day; butter, \$686, average 14 lbs. per day; eggs, \$1861, average 17 doz. per day; milk, \$2902, average 34 gallons per day; total \$13,675.

There were 615 meals served each day for the following: Average number of patients per day, 120; nurses, 52; internes, 3; head nurses and assistants, 5; orderlies, 5; superintendent and help in kitchen and laundry, 20. A total of 205 persons to be provided with three meals per day, totaling 615 meals for each day. When our friends ponder over these figures they can realize the enormous and increasing cost of maintaining such an institution, and it should stir many of them to more benevolent co-operation.

I call your attention to the fact that the membership of our Hospital Association is comparatively small. Instead of several hundred there should be several thousand members. An initial contribution of \$10 and thereafter \$5 annually, gives the contributor the privilege of membership in the asso-

clation; and in a community like ours it is natural to suppose that many persons would be willing to avail themselves of this privilege. I believe, if more of our prosperous people could be personally challenged, by some of our workers and representatives, our list of members would be largely increased.

When I spoke of the splendid equipment of our hospital I did not mean to imply that there were no further needs. A growing institution constantly has new demands. An urgent need of the hospital is a special ward for isolated cases. If we had such a ward the door of the hospital would be open to patients suffering of measles, diphtheria, scarlet fever. At present there is no provision to receive such cases, and it stands to reason that patients stricken with contagious diseases cannot be received into the general ward of a hospital. I hope that some friend or friends of the institution will supply this important need, an isolating ward.

The endowment of the hospital amounts to \$23,585. With the large number of beds the opportunity is offered for endowed rooms and beds. A bed may be endowed for \$5000, and the donor will have the right of nominating the occupant of the bed, and his successors or appointed heirs after him. One of the large hospitals in New York City has about 300 endowed rooms and beds, the right to nominate the patient being vested with some of the bequests in the rector or pastor of a church; and one can imagine that the mutual advantage of such benefactions must be of great power. In this way not only individuals but churches, lodges, mercantile and manufacturing firms could endow a bed for the sake of their members or employes. All the beds in the Children's ward especially should be endowed. This is a beautiful and attractive form of benefaction and enduring memorial, which our liberal patrons may employ with great satisfaction. Our hospital should have much larger endowments, to be less restricted by annual deficits in the increasing cost of maintenance.

The board of trustees have reason to feel encouraged by the success, enlargement and splendid service of the hospital. Individuals, churches and firms will contribute, I am persuaded, in larger measure as they see the capacity of the institution growing for greater service, impressed by the fact that its doors are always open to all who may be in need, and that its work is of unmeasured blessing. I recommend the following forms of bequests and devises:

I give and bequeath to the Allentown Hospital Association the sum of _____ Dollars, the interest on said sum to be used annually for maintenance, and the principal to be invested by the trustees in securities, and at such rates of interest as they may obtain.

I give and bequeath the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5000) to the Allentown Hospital Association, to be invested in interest-bearing securities, and the interest thereon to be annually applied to the maintenance of a free or endowed bed in said institution.

I append the following statistics:

Number of beds for patients 195.

Number of patients admitted in 1914 1854.

Number of patients remaining Jan. 1, 1914, 107. Total for the year 1914.

Increase of patients over number admitted in 1913, 128.

Total number of patients admitted since opening day, May 22, 1899, 15,776.

Average number of patients per day, 120.

Total number of days for patients, 43,441. Average 22 days per patient.

Number of births 45. Number of deaths 131.

Number of private patients admitted 185.

Number of pay-patients, 544. Part-pay patients 9.

Number of charity patients 1310; being 69 per cent of the total.

Number of surgical operations performed in 1914, 1136.

Average cost of maintenance per patient \$1.62.

Thanksgiving donations, Nov. 1,
Dec. 31, 1914, \$6497.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES F. HUNSICKER.

Treasurer Reninger's Report.

Treasurer E. H. Reninger's annual report was read and showed the following financial condition of the institution:

Cash contributions, \$2387.50; cash payments for patients, \$36,507.61; state appropriation, \$17,500; interest, \$971.42; annual dues, \$555.00; surcharge, \$310.40; loans, \$17,000; miscellaneous sources, \$857.88; total, \$76,089.81; with a deficit December 31, of \$7,795.02; (as against deficit of \$9,747.86 on December 31, 1913).

There was expended the following amounts: Beds, bedding, brooms and brushes, \$765.47; conveyance, \$1,163.26; dry goods, \$565.07; fuel, \$3,510.75; furniture, \$707.80; insurance, \$91.45; interest, \$2,843.40; lighting, \$1,497.27; painting, \$142.80; printing, stationery, etc., \$1,595.61; plumbing, \$29.67; provisions, groceries, fruit, meat, etc., \$23,555.09; repairs, \$3,251.44; laundry supplies, \$1,094.38; medical supplies, \$2,199.52; surgical supplies, \$4,678.66; utensils, \$294.34; salaries, \$8,741.41; wages, \$9,461.95; educational supplies, \$582.02; telephone and telegraph, \$189.07; loan paid, \$6,000; miscellaneous, \$176.54.

There are bills payable amounting to \$15,950 and there is due from the state \$4,375.

The special account had a balance at the beginning of the year of \$4,148.32, to which was added Thanksgiving donations of \$6,497.79; donations during the year, \$4,100.23; loans, \$2,170.00; deficit, December 31, 1914, \$547.37. One of the loans were paid, amounting to \$13,368.28; repairs, street paving, curbing and gutter, \$3,785.03; surcharge, \$310.40. Bills payable amount to \$6,900.00.

In the building fund donations totaling \$6,350.00 were added to a balance of \$109.43. Amounts expended were: On loans, \$6,450.00. Balance, \$9.43. Bills payable amount to \$48,450.

In the nurses' home account, receipts were: Edward Harvey, legacy, \$15,000; interest, \$225; balance of Edward Harvey legacy, \$32,500; total, \$47,725. Amount expended on Nurses'

Home, \$7,363.90; balance December 31, 1914, \$40,361.10.

In the general endowment fund are amounts totalling \$23,585.30, as follows: Balance Schaadt fund, \$2,073.96; Tilghman Kline, \$476.25; Sarah Kemmerer, \$100; J. E. Lentz, \$1000; Hugh E. Crilly, \$363.91; Alavesta Schaeffer, Mrs. C. F. Wolfertz, Louisa Becker, and Mary Lentz Little, \$100 each; William S. Lentz, \$802.06; Schaadt-Hartzell, \$26.98; W. F. Mosser, Father Nerz and Louis Sourwine, \$500 each; Mary J. Clader, \$250; Circle of Seven, \$50.50; M. H. Boyer, \$12,000; Lewis J. Helfrich, \$2,541.64; Kate S. Grim, \$2000.