

## Citizens of the city urged to give hospital hearty support

The Morning Call

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### Published In/Presented At

Citizens of the city urged to give hospital hearty support. (1914, June 4). *The Morning Call*, 5, 11.

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## CITIZENS OF THE CITY URGED TO GIVE HOSPITAL HEARTY SUPPORT

**Notable Addresses Feature Visit of Chamber of  
Commerce---Dr. C. D. Schaeffer Gives Graphic  
Review of the Institution---Dr. G. T. Etting-  
er Urges Unity in Fealty to Hospital**

Dr. C. D. Schaeffer, head surgeon at the Allentown Hospital, yesterday afternoon, after the members of the Chamber of Commerce had inspected the hospital and after Dr. G. T. Ettinger had delivered his address, delivered a very interesting address covering the history of the hospital and



DR. C. D. SCHAEFFER.

brought out a large amount of intensely valuable material, pointing out the wonders of modern surgery. The address follows:

### **Dr. Schaeffer's Address.**

The Board of Trustees and the faculty of this institution feel highly honored with your visit to this, your

If we go back a little more than half a century, we find that all surgical procedures were attended with lamentable horrors of pain and suffering, so much that during the five years preceding the introduction of anaesthesia only 187 operations were performed in the Mass. General Hospital,—an average of 37 operations per year of three per month. While this agony was later relieved by the introduction of ether and chloroform, yet the after suffering, even in my student days, was still the painful sight of every surgeon to behold. The parched lips of the poor sufferer, tossing uneasily during sleepless nights, wounds reeking in pus and patients dying by scores from blood poisoning from erysipelas, from lock jaw, from gangrene were the painful sights of every institution. They were constant attendants of every surgeon at all operations and when at that time a wound healed without pus, without pain and with but little suffering it was regarded as a marvelous achievement. To-day it is precisely the reverse. The surgeon who does not obtain union of a wound without pus, without pain and with but little suffering, groans with the consciousness of faulty technic and is only too liable to shift this responsibility upon the poor operating room nurse.

These results can now be obtained by the careful execution of the principles of Sir William Lester, the father of asepsis and antiseptis. When the British Medical Assoc. at Montreal and the Inter-National Association at Berlin arose en masse and greeted him with cheer after cheer, it was but a feeble expression of gratitude for services to humanity which no words can describe. These principles demand conditions such as we have shown you this afternoon: and when Drs. William Osler, Howard Kelley, John Murphy and Kocher pointed out the great danger in carrying the germs of diphtheria, scarlet fever and measles, this Board of Trustees enacted a resolution forbidding any of the staff to attend any of those diseases while in attendance or on duty at the hospital. No well informed physician will permit another to open his abdomen while in attendance of either one or other contagious disease, knowing that such an act would be a grave danger to life!

The conscientious surgeon "loves his neighbor as he loves himself," and if he fails to do this, he is bound to be a failure in his profession. In order that you may understand clearly the present management of this institution permit me to review its history.

To refresh your memories permit me to review briefly the history of the development of this institution:

This charity was conceived a little more than two decades ago, and its charter was granted Feb. 6th, 1893. The records show that the hospital project was dormant from Feb. 6th, 1893 to Oct. 23, 1895 on which date there was a public meeting, presided over by the late Hon. H. W. Allison. At that time two committees were appointed, one to visit other hospitals to obtain ideas and the other to consider and secure a site. On October 13, 1895 the first constitution and by laws were enacted. At this time the association had 226 subscribers en-

rolled as members. Then, as now, ten dollars was the fee required for membership, and five dollars as annual dues. This, then as now, entitled such persons to a vote at the annual election held the second Monday in January of each year. Fifteen members constitute a quorum and the trustees are to be elected by a majority of the members present at this meeting.

On Jan. 12, 1897, the Ladies' Auxiliary rendered their first report, having raised \$3750 through a fair and art loan exhibition, held in the Market Hall.

On March 26, 1897, the present site of the hospital was bought for the sum of \$5297.51 and on Sept. 28, 1897 the plans for the first building, the interior of which is much changed and improved, were prepared by Seymour Davies, of Philadelphia, who frequently conferred with the then building committee. On Jan. 12, 1899 by virtue of securing 219 members to the association that year, I was elected a member of the board of trustees and was appointed chairman of the finance committee. The building as designed by Seymour Davies was completed in Feb., 1899 and the furniture was purchased and the institution equipped and occupied on the 22nd day of May, 1899, fifteen years and twelve days ago.

On April 28, 1899 the first rules for the management of the hospital were adopted. These were in effect for

nearly three years when they were found unsatisfactory especially to the executive committee. In Feb., 1904, this committee reported new rules and according to the minutes, on motion of James K. Mosser and Edward Harvey, the present rules were adopted which have been in force ever since with the results you inspected this afternoon. I will read the part which I believe interests you most:



DR. GEORGE T. ETTINGER.

**Admission of Patients.**

"All patients, injured by accident and brought to the hospital within twenty-four hours of its occurrence, must be admitted without question or permit. All other patients must apply for admission to the staff who shall make or shall have made a careful examination of such applicants, and admit the same provided he or she be a proper subject for treatment and will conform to the following requirements of the board:

That he or she pays to the supt. of the hospital the sum of one dollar per day for the use of a bed in the ward, but if financially unable, he or she must procure a certificate from a minister or a priest, and a sworn certificate from a layman, stating his or her indigency. In case of such absolute indigency or when patients are nominated to occupy endowed beds no charge shall be made.

Patients desiring private rooms can occupy a room in the private apartment of our institution at the rate of \$4.00 per day, such sum to be paid at the end of each week to the supt. of the hospital. Should the charctear of the case demand special nursing, an additional charge shall be made in proportion to the services required. Such additional charge shall not exceed \$4.00 per day. If additional nurses are required for the care of any private patients, such help shall be selected by the supt. of the hospital.

No contagious, incurable or venereal diseases, insane patients or cases of delerium tremens are to be admitted into the hospital as patients.

No free patient is allowed to remain in the hospital longer than three months without the approval of the attending physician and executive committee.

All patients in the wards or private rooms are to be attended by the staff, but may call in consultation any regular physician at his or her own expense."

On May 12, 1899 the following staff was elected; Dr. O. C. Fegely, chief surgeon with Drs. C. D. Schaeffer, Alfred J. Yost, Daniel Hiestand and R. E. Albright as assistants; Dr. W. H. Hartzell, chief physician with Drs. C. S. Martin, H. H. Herbst, C. J. Otto and L. J. Heubner as assistants; ophthalmologist, Dr. Geo. Seiberling; pathologist, Dr. Morris Cawley. Then we had no resident physicians and the work was most trying under existing conditions. And, as members resigned from the staff, others were elected who in turn again resigned. But through the influence of Rev. Singmaster, a few of us stuck to the work with the results which you have

# CITIZENS URGED TO SUPPORT THE HOSPITAL

(Continued from Page 5.)

seen here this afternoon. At this time the following constitutes the staff of physicians:

Drs. C. J. Otto, Edward Feldhoff, Joseph Weaver, R. L. Schaeffer, W. D. Kleppinger, and myself, and from June 15th the following physicians will be added, Drs. Washburn, Mason-Reimer, and Sharpe. The services of all the physicians have thus far been rendered without compensation from the treasurer of the association.

Since opening the institution to Jan. 1914, we treated 13,933 patients with a general mortality of 6.3 per cent. We did 8441 operations with a mortality of 2.1 per cent. Seventy-three per cent were treated without charge for board, nursing and professional services. From Jan. 1914 to May 1, 1914, we treated 874 patients with a mortality of 5.3 per cent at a cost of maintenance of 1.27 per patient per day, which according to Bromly Wharton, sec. of board of charities, is lower than any other institution in this Commonwealth. These results are obtained through the present management which con-

sists of a physician and surgeon in chief and director, assistant physicians and surgeons, X-Ray operator, pathologist, resident physicians, directresses of nurses, assistant directress of nurses, night directress, clinic nurse and dietitian. Each one of these have a department in charge for which they are held responsible. In addition we have 43 nurses and 19 servants.

The executive committee convenes once and twice a month and all reports of the internal management are submitted to them for consideration and approval, who in turn render a monthly report to the board of trustees.

The rules which I read to you a few moments ago are enforced as nearly as possible, whenever a patient is brought or seeks admission into the hospital. If the patient is poor and unable to pay, he or she or a layman only needs to swear to this fact before the directress of nurses, who through the influence of the board of trustees, was appointed a Notary Public. This certificate is kept and when such a patient is discharged, is filed away with the records of the case; so that when the auditor from Harrisburg examines our books, which is done every three months, we are able to account for every patient treated. If, however, a patient can pay, he or she should do so, because by gaining the board and nursing gratis, simply discourage those who give freely to charity, because they do not donate to the hospital for the keep of the wives of the husbands who are able to provide for their treatment. To apply the donated money to the keep of such individuals tends to chill charity and every institution thus supported must suffer.

This institution is maintained through three district sources.

- 1.—By State appropriation.
- 2.—Through the income from pay and part pay patients.
- 3.—From the contribution of the charitably inclined.

From June 1, 1913 to June 1, 1915 the State appropriated towards maintenance the sum of \$35,000, or \$17,500 per year. It will cost us to maintain the institution during this same period the sum of \$124,000 or \$62,000 per year, leaving a balance of \$98,000 for the board to raise. Part of this amount the staff of physicians earn and the balance you contribute, and I hope that after seeing us exactly as we are, you can see fit to be still more liberal.

We not only maintained and treated 14,697 house patients but we erected and equipped this wing at a cost of \$13,640.38 and improved the interior of the old building. What institution is there within this city or community with a similar record? At hospital surrounded with sim-



ilar conditions and circumstances, is there in this Commonwealth that can boast of greater success in all its various phases. We invite you again, one and all to come and inspect us frequently from time to time.

By examining results you must acknowledge success. Results are the best advertisements and a positive proof.

You have done wonders, and the eyes of adjacent cities are on you. When it became evident that additional accommodations were needed, you enabled me to secure subscriptions amounting to almost \$70,000 towards the new wing within one month, and before its completion, some of you agreed to furnish the various wards, private rooms, dressing rooms, etc., the sum total of which amounted to a little over \$20,000; so that within one year you not only maintained the institution, but you also subscribed in that same year about \$90,000 for improvements; or in other words over \$100,000 was subscribed in one year for this charity alone, an amount which speaks volumes for our community.

During the year 1912, the income from pay and part pay patients was \$15,889.95. During the year 1913, it was \$31,006.76, and from miscellaneous sources—\$1193.76. This year, from January 1st to June 1st, five months the income from pay and part pay patients has been \$16,436.77, and from miscellaneous sources, \$209.86.

During the year 1913, we received the sum of \$9865.40 through Thanksgivng donations and miscellaneous sources.

Since Jan. 1914 we received cash contributions and subscriptions towards the debt in furnishings amounting to \$2851.63.

All this indicates a growth of which, I know, you all are proud. Results like these I invite you to compare with other institutions; in order to obtain the proper inspiration and encouragement; and, if the Lord will give the staff health and strength, they hope to show you still better results at your next visit.

When a patient is sent to the hospital for treatment with a letter from his family physician which is nearly always done unless that physician is possessed with prejudice, he will be invited by phone to attend the operation, to visit the patient while in the institution as frequently as he desires, permitting him to give suggestions in treatment, and to examine the records of the patient from day to day, an act not permitted in some of the most noted institutions in the land. If such a physician, however, is in attendance of a contagious disease, he

is not allowed to attend operations, if I know it, because he himself, would decline to be opened in the presence of a physician thus exposed.

When the patient is discharged, the clerk immediately notifies by letter the family physician that his patient was this day discharged, either as cured, improved, or unimproved, requesting him to take charge of the case henceforth. The admission slip, affidavit, physician's letter, history of the case, pathological chart, description of the operation, treatment sheet, record of the progress of the disease and a copy of the letter by the clerk to the family physician announcing his discharge, are filed, thus keeping a complete record of the case from the time of entrance to his or her discharge.

All pay patients are expected to pay at the end of the week, said sum to be paid to the clerk who renders a monthly statement to the executive committee for examination and approval.

As you passed through the institution, you may have noticed that we are using individual drinking cups; that each patient has his own thermometer and brush and comb boxes which was introduced by the directress of nurses.

We have in sight important improvements, such as a new operating room, the plans of which are now in my possession for approval, a nurses' home, and a roof garden which will be erected by the Ladies' Auxiliary, who have already done so much for us and therefore for the sick and poor.

The science of medicine has made wonderful strides during the last decade, so much so that the physician of fifteen years ago, if he has not kept pace with this progress, is today separated from the present and progressive doctor as though by a great gulf.

Great theologians, such as a Calvin and a Jonathan Edwards were they recalled to life, could discourse as learnedly as ever of Predestination and free Will.

Great preachers, such as a Spurgeon or Beecher could warm our hearts and stir our souls as of old; great jurists, such as a Marshall and Justinian could expound the same principles of law which hold good for all time. Great orators such as a Webster, or a Burke, could charm us with the same eloquence and arouse us with the same invectives which made our forefathers willing captives to their silvery tongues, but so great has been the progress in medical science that were an Agnew, Ashurst, Sir Astor Cooper, Erichson, or a Ferguson recalled to life, they could not teach modern surgical prin-

ciples nor could they do a modern surgical operation.

You can measure the progress of the world as you may. Materially in the greater advancement in steam, electricity and other mechanical appliances; socially, in the greater improvements in the conditions in life; Intellectually in the greater diffusion in education; Morally in possibly a higher standard in ethics, there is no one measure that can compare with the decrease in the physical ills in man, woman, and child when inflicted by disease or stricken by accident. This is the one fact of supreme import to all of us.

This is the Promethian gift of the nineteenth century to mankind.

Dr. G. T. Ettinger, dean of Muhlenberg College, made a strong plea for loyalty in his address before the Chamber of Commerce at the Allentown Hospital. He emphasized the necessity of standing by all of the city's institutions and did not mince matters in urging loyalty to the Allentown Hospital.

A Harvard professor defined loyalty as willing and practical and thoroughgoing devotion of a person to a cause. He pointed out that the 200 members of the Chamber of Commerce could do wonders for the city if they all worked in harmony to build. "I am a citizen of no mean city," said St. Paul. He said a community blessed like ours deserves the loyalty of all. He said when some people reach a certain eminence others want to put on the brakes. Instead of trying to obstruct such men should be encouraged.

With a hospital comparing with the finest in the United States it cannot do its best with half-hearted support.

There is no place where we can gather so much on common grounds as at the Allentown Hospital. Here is something that pertains to every man, woman and child. Let us go away and feel that it deserves all the support we are capable of giving. The business interests all can care for themselves but this institution and those of the intellectual, moral and spiritual interests, our colleges, Y. M. C. A., public schools, all deserve our support.

With all the men and women who have made the Allentown Hospital possible there is none deserving more credit than Dr. C. D. Schaeffer. Can you point to any establishment that has been doing more good than the Allentown Hospital? Shall we now largely for personal reasons refuse to give it the support it deserves? Is not jealousy the underlying motive in the opposition? Did you ever feel jealous of the fellow beneath you? I never did and the fellow above me don't bother me much. If the medical profession wants to live up to the high ideals it advertises then it is their duty to support the hospital. If the method of running it is not right it is time to change it but the system seems to be a workable one. If it is wrong it is the duty of the board of trustees to rectify it and if it is not wrong it is the duty of some to keep quiet.

He told the story of the gunless hunter meeting a bear and praying the Lord that as he hadn't ever bothered him much he should not take sides against him.

The majority settles things in American life and our submission to the majority is a magnificent tribute. If our candidate for president is defeated we come up smiling and call the successful one our president. We are proud of our country and the American principle holds good here. If the authorities find the present way is the proper one to conduct the hospital each one of us should support it and not all try to be captains, majors and generals. Too many of us instead of giving service are looking out for ourselves. The splendid leadership we have here has developed the institution while it developed itself. You cannot develop an institution without a man. After going through the hospital you will readily agree that this community does not know what it has in our hospital and as we go hence I hope we may all have a deeper interest than before. Let us all become still more Allentonians interested in every good cause within the borders of our city.

#### President Lumley's Remarks.

President Lumley pointed out that since 1899 nearly 1000 cases a year had been treated and in all between 14,000 and 15,000 of which 73 per cent. were treated free.

The hospital plant is valued at \$300,000 and, he added, the management and institution owes this man a debt this community cannot pay. Dr. Schaeffer has served as the head almost all the time and without salary and has contributed \$11,000. We all know that slander loves a shining mark and this has reached a personal note.

#### The Dinner.

About a hundred members of the Chamber of Commerce enjoyed the noon-day luncheon at the Elks' home, where they had fine service. After that automobiles carried them to the Allentown Hospital where they were received by Dr. C. D. Schaeffer and his assistants and the visitors were conducted in groups and carefully inspected the institution of which the city may justly be proud.

After the inspection the members gathered in the corridor and held a brief business session.

Secretary Koch reported the resolutions adopted on the train service between this city and Reading, complaint having been made to the Pennsylvania Public Service Committee that the company discriminates in favor of Reading especially in the middle afternoon and late evening.

The purchase of an addressograph was approved.

Treasurer Bohner reported a balance of \$1527.09 and bills payable for \$421.

The question as to holding a picnic for the summer was left in the hands of the executive committee.

Herman Freuff was elected a member.

Joe H. Hart extended the invitation to attend the 137th anniversary exercises of the American flag at West Park on June 15 at 8 p. m. A parade will leave Fifth and Hamilton at 5 p. m.

Chairman Lumley again urged a house sewerage system and said he hoped it would not require an epidemic to bring the citizens to realize that a house sewer system is necessary.