

Best year for the hospital

The Morning Call

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BEST YEAR FOR THE HOSPITAL

Splendid Record Made by Allentown's Fine Institution---Only \$400 Short This Year---Institution Did More Work, and More Economically, Than Last Year---The Old Officers Were Re-Elected---Reports of the Officials.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Allentown Hospital meeting was held last evening in council chambers and very encouraging reports were read.

These officers were re-elected: President, Hon. Edward Harvey; vice president, James Hunsicker; secretary, Dr. C. S. Martin; treasurer, E. H. Reninger; trustees for three years, James K. Mosser, Edward M. Young, Reuben S. Leisenring, Nathan A. Haas and Frank W. Koch. The following were the various reports:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Following is the report of Hon. Edward Harvey, President of the Board of Trustees:

Members of the Allentown Hospital Association:—

In submitting the ninth annual report the trustees regard the continued favor and support of the patrons and friends of the hospital as an assurance that work so well begun will be firmly upheld. Realizing that the maintenance of the institution must depend largely on voluntary contributions and donations, we have experienced no difficulty in interesting the public in adopting means for the supply of funds. There is now in the general account a cash balance of \$1,199.50 as against \$138.24 on December 31, 1903.

Although there was a large increase in the patients admitted during the year, the total expenditures were \$25,291.39, or \$3,248.91 less than during the preceding year. Discipline and economy enabled us to decrease expenses.

Since the hospital was ready to receive and treat patients on May 22, 1899, the admissions aggregate 2,922. At our last annual meeting the total number was 2,119, showing that during the year just closed there were admitted 803, the largest number ever admitted during any one year of the institution. As there were in the hospital on January 1, 1904, under treatment 48 patients, this, added to the admissions during the year, make the number of cases treated 853. Of these cases 364 were male surgical, 201 female surgical, children surgical 84, children medical 12, male medical 118, female medical 74. The increase of total number of cases treated is 203 or 31.3 per cent, over the number treated in 1903. The average number of cases per diem is 53.54. The average stay of patients was 24.18 days.

As showing the extent of the accommodations, I will say that there are 75 available beds for patients, and the average number in daily use was 71.4. From the crowded condition in the wards it is evident that at some time in the near future extensions and improvements must be made to carry on effectively the proper treatment of patients. A hospital must keep pace with the conditions surrounding it. It must be made larger as demands are made upon it.

The total number of deaths during the year was 59, or 6.92 per cent. This percentage of mortality is reduced to 4.59 if we eliminate the 20 cases that were admitted in a hopeless and dying condition, death in those cases occurring within twenty-four hours after the patients were admitted. The total number of operations was 418, and the mortality in the surgical cases was 5.5 per cent. Of these cases there were 15 where operations were made as a last resort, and the mortality, after eliminating the 15, was 2.1 (two and one-tenth) per cent.

Since the opening of the children's ward, many children have been received for treatment. The institution is now able to receive and treat children, and the many admissions are a demonstration that this branch of the

hospital is one of the most important and valuable in the institution.

Our last commencement in May was the most attractive and satisfactory of the series. We graduated from the Nurses' Training School eight young ladies. Their averages were very high, and the management felt convinced that these young ladies had attained a high standard of efficiency. Two addresses were delivered, one by Miss Marie L. Smith, superintendent of the University Hospital of Philadelphia, and the other by Rev. Russell C. Conwell, D. D., of the same city. Both of these addresses were of a highly instructive character. It is the intention of the trustees to make each commencement an improvement on the preceding one.

Two improvements are imperatively needed. They should be made with as little delay as possible. They should not be made if the association must create a large debt to make them. Hospitals, such as ours, should be kept out of debt. Supported, as we are, by voluntary contributions and State aid, we should pursue the policy that we have constantly observed up to this time, of depending for extension and improvements upon the generosity and liberality of our friends. The two improvements needed are a Nurses' Home and a Solarium. We have acquired title to the lots of ground opposite the Hospital on Chew street. Those lots are paid for. The trustees are convinced that for efficient work and service the nurses should not be confined to the wards and rooms in the main building, but should have home comforts separate and apart from the hospital proper. This matter is of such transcendent importance that it should receive the endorsement of the community. These good women, who are devoting their energies to the noble work of alleviating human suffering, should be treated and cared for on the principles of sanitation and needed rest. When not on duty they should have healthful relaxation and comfort away from the harrowing and disgusting scene so constantly and inseparably associated with work within the hospital. Their pecuniary compensation is small, and they deserve and should have pure air, good rooms, and the many incidents of home life. At no distant day the hospital will be crowded with patients. To make room for them the rooms set apart for the nurses will be required. The nurses must have a home, or we will be unable to accept all those who apply for treatment. Can we hope that some kind and generous friends will, with munificent contributions, aid us?

BEST YEAR FOR THE HOSPITAL.

(Continued from First Page.)

THE LADIES' AUXILIARY.

To the Board of Trustees of the Allentown Hospital Association, and Ladies' Auxiliary:

The other improvement is not an expensive one. We need a solarium for convalescing patients. It can be built as an annex to the Mosser addition. As patients are in stages of recovery, they should not be required to sit in the wards with the sick and afflicted, but should have access to a sun-porch or parlor, where separated from the afflicted around them, they can exercise in bright sunlight. We regard this suggestion as important, and hope that kind friends may enable us to build it.

The Ladies' Auxiliary has been unremitting in its work and attention to the needs of the hospital. Its services have been in the past so valuable that it is no exaggeration to say they are indispensable.

Each department is under careful and considerate management. We can boast of having one of the best and completest hospitals in the State. It was begun and carried on through philanthropic agencies, and we feel sure that nothing will be omitted or denied us that will insure the permanency and progress of the institution in all that pertains to thorough efficiency.

(Continued on Eighth Page).

We take pleasure in calling attention to the notable progress made by the Allentown Hospital during the year of 1904, and as president of the Ladies' Auxiliary, in reviewing the work accomplished during the year just ended, and in submitting in detail some of our special operations to your Board and our members, am pleased to be able to say we have contributed some little assistance toward that end.

There have been one hundred and thirty-five garments made by the Sewing Society of the Auxiliary, which met weekly except during the months of July and August, assisted by the Ladies' Guild of the Episcopal Church, Bethany Church Sewing Society, also by certain members of the Auxiliary who were not able to attend the weekly meetings, but cheerfully did the work at their homes.

Three hundred articles of clothing, bedding, &c., were given by the Allentown Branch of the Needleworld Guild of America, which society assisted very materially towards supplying the wants of the hospital.

Through the personal solicitations of our Honorary President, Mrs. G. H. Kleppinger, and her son, Master Samuel, the citizens of Slegfried generously donated three hundred jars of preserved fruit for the use of the institution.

The Ever Ready Circle of the Kings Daughters kindly placed the decorations for the Easter and Christmas seasons, the materials having been paid for out of our contingent fund.

As there was an evident need of a noiseless floor covering for the halls of the buildings, the Auxillary decided to hold a strawberry festival to secure funds for its purchase. The Elks Lodge kindly allowed us the use of their property on South Eighth street for the purpose. We are indebted as well to the Allentown Gas Co., Allentown Electric Light and Power Co., our merchants, friends, neighbors and the several societies which helped us by their liberal assistance and donations, showing that they had the cause of the hospital at heart, to all of whom we wish to extend our sincere thanks.

The net receipts of the festival amounted to \$186.03. We bought and paid for 152 square yards of cork carpet, the sterilizer, furnished the servant's dining room and supplied many other articles needed by the institution.

Our secretary called twelve monthly and two special meetings. The corresponding secretary has written twenty-two letters, quite a number being addressed to friends, acknowledging the receipt of material used in making garments.

It is our sad duty to announce the loss of five members of our organization by death during the year.

Think for a moment what a great privilege women have to thus lift a little of the weight of suffering borne by so many. Indeed we, the Ladies' Auxillary, should be grateful for the opportunity to supply some of the needs of this worthy institution. Let us never consider it a task.

We beg to thank and commend our members for their efficient work and hearty support, and request their continued interest during the coming year 1905. Respectfully submitted,

MRS. R. S. LEISENRING,
President Ladies' Auxillary.

Allentown, Pa., January 2, 1905.

CONTRIBUTIONS SINCE NOVEMBER.

The following contributions have been received since November for the Allentown Hospital:

Previously acknowledged, \$4,453.74; citizens of Slatington, additional, \$50; George Cavanaugh, \$2; Bondy & Lederer, \$25; employes of Bondy & Lederer, \$64.14; Swift & Co., \$10; Coplay Cement Co. and employes, \$400; T. J. Butz, \$5; Lotte Bros. & Co., \$25; Allentown Lodge, No. 130, P. B. O. E., \$75; H. L. Reichenbach, \$5; H. E. Peters, \$10; W. H. Taylor & Co., \$25; St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Allentown, \$25; St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Allentown, \$11.16; several members, Salem's Reformed Sunday-school, \$11.45; total, \$5,197.49.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The report of Edward H. Reninger, treasurer Allentown Hospital Association, for the year ending December 31, 1904:

DR.

Said accountant charges himself with monies received from various sources:

To Balance, Dec. 31, 1903.....	\$ 138.24
To Cash—	
Special donations	7747.33
Contributions	243.51
Annual dues	620.00
Treatment of patients	6466.30
Account State appropriation for maintenance	9704.58
Interest	39.59
Miscellaneous sources	331.84
Total	\$25,291.39

CR.

Said accountant craves credit for the following disbursements made as per orders drawn on him:

By cash—	
Brooms and brushes	\$ 52.03
Conveyance	274.48
Dry goods	877.29
Fruits and vegetables	405.56
Fixtures	988.52
Fuel	1373.33
Furniture and furnishings....	504.80
Groceries	873.23
Ice	365.40
Insurance	114.00
Lighting	290.98
Painting	1450.52
Printing and stationery	393.20
Plumbing	315.00
Provisions	2722.02
Repairs	444.03
Educational supplies	104.11
Farm supplies (butter, eggs, milk)	2393.74
Medical supplies	1245.04
Surgical supplies	955.56
Salaries (supt. and nurses) ..	2482.56
Wages	3317.98
Sundries	45.20
Special account (non maintenance)	2102.71
Balance in hand on general account	1199.50
	<hr/>
	\$25,291.39
Outstanding accounts payable,	\$1690.

Report of the treasurer of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Allentown Hospital Association for the year ending December 31, 1904:

DR.

Balance on hand, Jan. 1, 1904..	\$490.65
Membership dues	257.00
Ice cream festival	229.60
Donations	6.00

\$983.25

CR.

Supplies for hospital	\$286.22
Rent of room	60.00
Expenses of festival	48.37
Flowers	5.00
Receipt book	3.50
Balance	\$983.25

Total

983.25
Respectfully submitted,
MRS. HENRY D. HERSH,
Treasurer.