

10-1-1950

Beacon Light: October 1, 1950

St. Cloud Hospital

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Recommended Citation

St. Cloud Hospital, "Beacon Light: October 1, 1950" (1950). *Beacon Light*. 49.
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BEACON LIGHTS

Volume 1 Number 1

October 1, 1950

Dear Employees,

This is the first issue of a monthly paper which we plan to have for all our employees. This is to be YOUR paper--- we want to keep you informed of pertinent material. Since we are more than 500 people here, not including our patients, it has been impossible to convey to each one all we would want. All of you can help us make our hospital a better hospital. We know that.

In this monthly paper we will try to give you such information as we think you want to know. Also, we would appreciate hearing from you just what things you would like explained. Often there are misunderstandings about hospital rules and hospital procedures. Very likely the public-at-large questions the same things that you question. By your asking us, we get a better picture of what the people of our community want to know.

THE ADMINISTRATION

OBJECTIVES

The St. Cloud Hospital was established to provide hospital care to all sick and injured who come to seek relief. Specifically the objectives of this hospital are:

1. To treat all who are sick with sympathy, kindness, and understanding, keeping in mind that sickness and hospitalization may be a new and trying experience for them.
2. To exemplify to its fullest extent Christ's charity to all regardless of race, color, creed or economic status.
3. To provide adequate care to the patients and to provide the necessary facilities for this care.
4. To provide the medical staff with adequate facilities for the care of their patients.
5. To improve, by educational activity, the practice of medicine and nursing service.

This hospital was founded by the Sisters of the Order of St. Benedict to carry out these objectives towards the sick of the city of St. Cloud and vicinity. The Sisters welcome you to the

institution as co-workers in the great Christian work of helping the sick. Because it is definitely a service institution for the benefit of the citizens of this community and vicinity, it must be ready to assist those who come for help at any hour of the day or night.

A hospital is not, therefore, an ordinary institution which can set its own pattern of activity, but it must operate night and day because people need care night and day. Hospital employees cannot be ordinary employees, but must understand the responsibility of a hospital, be sympathetic to its work, and share in the dedicated work of the religious women, doctors, and nurses, whose lives are given over to caring for others.

The hospital expects from its employees conscientious service in keeping with the nature of the institution's work, a spirit of cooperation, and a serious sense of responsibility.

THE CHAPLAIN SPEAKS....

The work of caring for the sick, unlike any other work, is perpetual. It must go on unceasingly day and night, without let-up, week after week, month after month. The hospital may not close for a day, or hang a sign "Bring no more sick". Once a hospital begins its work of caring for the sick, it has begun a perpetual work.

The work of caring for the sick is made possible through cooperation--the joining of hands of all who staff the hospital. Each group in the hospital has its function, each makes its contribution. And as each worker, nurse, or technician leaves to take a few hours of rest and relaxation, there is the knowledge that another takes over and the work will be continued.

So it is fitting that accompanying the care of the sick, which is a work of Christ, there be a "Perpetual Prayer" to Christ. As the work of caring for the sick goes on night and day, week after week, so there also continues the never-ending adoration of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. This too takes cooperation--a joining of hands. There is the realization that when you leave your

hour of prayer another is taking over and continuing your adoration.

So think about that as you go through your daily duties. Whether you labor in the day or night there is someone in the chapel consecrating your work to Jesus Christ. There will be joy in your heart, then, in the knowledge that you also will take your turn in chapel, and in your turn offer to Jesus Christ the work and labor of other caring for the sick.

Work and prayer go hand in hand at the St. Cloud Hospital through the busy rushing days and the long night vigils--Perpetual Work and Perpetual Prayer.

F A C T S

This year hospital costs are even higher than in 1949 and almost twice as high as in 1944. Why? Well, here are the main reasons:

The bulk of our expenses are made up of salaries, raw food and supplies. Salaries are our largest single item of expense. In August our payroll amounted to \$42,197.25. It is not surprising, then, that our payroll should be so large. Our patients must be served 24 hours a day.

The cost of food has gone up, as any homemaker knows. And our hospital uses only the highest quality of food, for our guests are patients and they need it. Our food bill in

1944 was ----- \$ 66,151.47

Today it is ----- 124,579.83

All this talk about money would be unpleasant, but there is a bright spot in the picture - our patients today are immeasurably better off than patients 20 or 30 years ago. Numerous services have been added, dozens of new drugs and treatments have come into existence, and today's patient has a much better chance of leaving the hospital completely cured. Also, there is a good possibility that his hospital stay won't cost him any more than it did some years ago:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS - Appendectomy

Date	Service	Date
Dec. 26, '41 -		Aug. 22, '50..
Jan. 5, '42		Aug. 26, '50
11 days @ 3.00..		4 days @ 7.00..
33.00	Room & Care	28.00
4.00	Laboratory Exam.	10.00
8.00	Anesthetic	15.00
12.00	Operating Room	13.00
.70	Dressings	.30
9.75	Medicine	1.30
67.45		72.60

"The worker loses less time from his job; his income loss is less; his total out-of-pocket expense is often no more."

FACTS ABOUT ST. CLOUD HOSPITAL

(Established in 1926)

Bed capacity 330
(of this number, 54 are bassinets)

Doctors on our staff 57

Number of employees:

Hospital Aides	
Floor	46
Dictary	29
Laundry	13
Nurses Aides	36
Graduate Nurses	75
Clerical & Technicians	44
Icon	34
Doctors	3

TOTAL 280

Sisters	87
Students	144
Chaplains	2

233

School of Nursing
(3 yr. course)

No. of Freshmen	51
No. of Juniors	49
No. of Seniors	44

School of X-ray Technology
(2 yr. course)

No. of 1st year students	7
No. of 2nd year students	4

School of Medical Technology
(12 to 18 months depending on pre-requisites)

No. of students	7
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R E M E M B E R

October is the month of the Rosary.

QUEEN OF THE HOLY ROSARY

PRAY FOR US!