Beacon Light: November 1962

St. Cloud

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OFFICERS ELECTED AT FIRST MEETING OF PERSONNEL
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The newly organized St. Cloud Hospital Personnel Advisory Committee, in a
meeting on October 10, elected Miss Dorraine Tomczik, R. N., Chairman of the com-
mittee until 1964. "Tommy", as she is best known, is a staff nurse on 2 South. Mrs.
Eleanor Lampert, ward clerk, also on 2 South, was elected secretary.

Pictured below at the organization meeting of the committee are, left to right
around the table: Duane Beckstrom, George Courrier, Franklin Pallansch, Mrs.
Matha Bauer, Mrs. Mary Ann Athmann, Mrs. Marie Nelson, Darlene Silbernick,
Mary Schik, Jacqueline Wampach, Miss Tomczik and Mrs. Lampert.

With by-laws adopted and officers elected on October 10, committee members
turned their attention to activities and problems at their second meeting on October
23. The group invited Reverend Father Gervase Soukup, professor of economics,
St. John's University to meet with them and describe the activities of the St. John's
Abbey Employee's Guild, the St. John's counterpart of the hospital personnel
advisory committee.

Father Gervase is pictured at
the right listening intently to discussion
of a suggestion submitted to the com-
mittee by a hospital employee. Also in
the picture are Franklin Pallansch and
Dorraine Tomczik.
Forty Hours is a time of grace for all of us, especially significant in these perilous times.

THANKSGIVING

The spotlight this month shines through the center spot of an operating room light to become focused upon Rita Bloch, Surgical Aide. Courtesy is an expression of respect — and this, for Miss Bloch, seems to be a natural response.

Miss Bloch began working at the St. Cloud Hospital during the summer of 1955. She was employed as a Nurse Aide on 3 North under the supervision of Sister Leonarda who was then Head Nurse. A year later, when Sister became the O.R. Supervisor, she began to consider the possibility of initiating a new position in the operating room — that of Surgical Aide. This new position would require just the right person if it was to be accepted and successful. That RIGHT person seemed obviously to be Rita Bloch.

Maybe Miss Bloch was surprised to be called up to the operating room and asked if she would like to try something different, and maybe she was even a little scared — but she never let on. She just smiled and said, "I'll try."

Since this new position was somewhat experimental, Miss Bloch created her job for herself, receiving encouragement and instruction in the various tasks she assumed as Surgical Aide on 3 North. This new position would require just the right person to be accepted and successful. That RIGHT person seemed obviously to be Rita Bloch.

How did she do it? Competence, ability and interest are only part of the story. The greatest contribution toward her success has been her spirit of loyalty, her acceptance of everyone as a person to be respected and served, and her spontaneous helpfulness in any situation — and all of this graced with a teasing wit that wins smiles from all. Today Rita Bloch is one of three Surgical Aides in the operating rooms. She has created a success story not only for herself, but has opened up new opportunities for others to follow her way of giving service to the sick.

Rita Bloch was, and continues to be, the RIGHT person for the job — and her courteous manner served as the chief symptom that led to the choice.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTION

An important event every year for our hospital community is the celebration of Forty Hours. This is a time when everyone — Sisters, workers, students — makes special effort to rediscover the most precious of all possessions — the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

On November 17 a High Mass in honor of the Blessed Sacrament will begin the Forty Hours. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration until evening Benediction. The second day Mass will be celebrated at the side altar for the intention of peace. On the third day Sunday Mass will again be in honor of the Blessed Sacrament. Sunday evening at 7:30 the Solemn Closing will take place. Neighboring priests will be present and there will be a procession with the Blessed Sacrament through the Chapel.

Forty Hours is a time of grace for all of us, especially significant in these perilous times.

A SINCERE THANK YOU . . .

from the Beacon Light Staff to all who returned the questionnaires published in the last issue. Many suggestions were made and we will try to comply with your wishes when feasible.

MISS RITA BLOCH

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Medical Staff News

The folding walls and new decor in the dining room of the hospital were used for the first time on October 9 when Dr. Autrey was host to the Medical Staff at the annual "President's Dinner." The Annual Report for the year ending June 30, 1962, was distributed at the meeting of the Medical Staff which followed the dinner. Fifty-one doctors were present.

ST. LUKE'S DAY NOTED WITH MASS AND DINNER

At 5:30 P.M. on October 18, the chapel was filled with doctors, dentists, their wives and hospital personnel for the traditional White Mass in honor of St. Luke, patron of physicians. During the Mass Father Riley paid tribute to the doctors. He said, "The physician is set aside from the materialistic calculations of the market place. He has chosen a vocation which by nature and tradition is devoted to serving the personal needs of his fellowmen. A doctor has special God-given talents; he has had extensive education and developed particular skills which he uses for suffering humanity, especially the sick. This is what gives dignity and sacredness to the life and work of a truly Christian physician."

Father then went on with a reminder to pray for the deceased members of the group and for nurses and others who assist the doctors. He concluded his sermon by paying tribute to the wives of Christian physicians who share their burdens and their professional idealism.

After Mass dinner was served to members of the Catholic Physicians Guild, their wives and guests in the dining room of the hospital. Father Robert Leonard, Diocesan Director of PAVLA (Papal Volunteers for Latin America) and of Extension Volunteers, and Gerald Mische, Chairman of the Program on Lay Missions Association for International Development, spoke on political conditions in Latin America and the development of lay missionary work there.

Orchids were presented to Sister Cunegund and to Dr. Buscher, the Sister and the doctor with the longest record of active service. Dr. Kenneth Catton, D.D.S., received an orchid for being the newest member of the medical group. The orchids were raised by Dr. Loes in the greenhouse at his home.

Dr. Carl Thuringer, President of the St. Mary's Physician's Guild, presided at the supper. Dr. L. Loes was chairman of arrangements.

FROM THE DESK OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

The daily functions which are necessary for orderly and efficient operation of our hospital are numerous, and are all of vital importance. The housekeeping function, however, has far-reaching significance since it concerns the safety and welfare of the hospital staff, patients, and the general public who are constantly visiting here.

Spilled liquids and solids, cleaning materials and other equipment left unattended or not picked up, all are potential accident hazards to personnel, patients and visitors in addition to presenting an unfavorable appearance which is reflected in the hospital's public relations.

To help make our hospital a cleaner and safer place in which to work, or to visit, all personnel, including nursing, housekeeping, maintenance and all other personnel are urged to pick up spilled materials without delay and to store maintenance and other portable equipment in proper places when not in use. If polishers, carts, mops, etc. are being used, make certain they are set aside and free from contact by passers-by.

An appropriate rule to keep in mind which will greatly reduce accidents and present a more favorable appearance is, "A place for everything, and everything in its place."

ST. CLOUD HOSPITAL NURSES ATTEND PATIENT CARE WORKSHOP

Iowa State University, Iowa City, was "home" for a week in October for Mrs. Lidwina Kray, R.N., Head Nurse on 3 South, and Miss Phyllis Burgmeier, R.N., Assistant Head Nurse on 3 North. They were attending a traineeship workshop on supervision of direct patient care conducted at the University's Center for Continuation Study. The meeting was attended by fifty-five representatives of hospitals from six midwestern states.

The entire week's lectures and group discussions were centered around team nursing and its application to the care of patients. "They made us greatly aware of the 'we' feeling; that an organized group of people working together as a team can give more effective patient-centered care," Mrs. Kray and Miss Burgmeier said.

Both Miss Burgmeier and Mrs. Kray pointed out that the workshop was of great value in giving greater insight into solving patient's problems and recognizing their needs. "We really feel that the week was well spent," they stated.

A sidelight to the workshop was a tour through the 1000 bed Iowa University Hospital which both St. Cloud Hospital representatives took advantage of.
Because hospitals provide a personal service in the care of the sick, it isn’t often that machines can be called in to do work usually done manually. An exception to this is the new linen folder recently installed in the St. Cloud Hospital laundry.

Before the folder was installed, every piece of laundered linen had to be hand folded as it came out of the huge, six-roll mangle. Every day, except Sunday, as many as 1,000 sheets, 700 pillow cases and 800 patient gowns, plus hundreds of hand towels, bath towels, wash clothes, and a thousand other linen items had to be hand folded by laundry personnel.

To do this required many employees, who had to work in pairs as a closely synchronized team, and at top speed. In fact, a team of two people could keep up the fast pace for only about twenty minutes at a time before having to be replaced, or the mangler turned off and other work assigned temporarily that was not so strenuous.

Now the linen folder does the lion’s share of this job automatically. Of course, there is still some folding to be done, but it is insignificant compared to the backbreaking job it used to be. For example, where a sheet had to be folded by hand six times by two people working together, now the folder makes the three biggest folds, and one person can easily make the final three folds and stack the sheets ready to be loaded on the linen carts.

The biggest advantage of the machine has been in making the folding work much less strenuous for the workers. In fact, it was primarily for this reason that purchase of the folder was authorized by the Governing Board last Spring.

In addition to this benefit, however, the installation has made it possible to employ one less person in the laundry. As a result, the saving in payroll will pay for the folder in about five years’ time.

Laundry supervisor, Sister Quidella, and her staff are enthusiastic about their new equipment addition. Not only will it make the work easier, but they feel it will make for better laundry service to patients and to the hospital as a whole.

Sister Jameen and Sister Leonarda installed as M. C. C. H. Officers

Sister Jameen, hospital administrator and Sister Leonarda, operating room supervisor were installed as president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Conference of Catholic Hospitals in St. Paul on October 25. Their terms run until October, 1964.

The conference also named Sister Generose, assistant administrator, St. Mary’s Hospital, Rochester as president-elect, and Sister Yvonne, administrator, St. Gabriel’s Hospital, Little Falls as vice president.


Pictured above with the new linen folder is the entire laundry staff, proud and pleased with the new $11,000 machine. Left to right are Mrs. Laura Nuernberg (behind Sister Quidella, laundry supervisor), Lois Wallack, Michael Klinkner, Annette Hartig, Chris Kilegan, Rose O’Rourke, Mary Leither, Anna Mae Froehle, Stanley Marek, Mrs. Mary Ann Atmam, Mrs. Geraldino Hogman, Herbert Bechtold, Louise Roske, Mrs. Mike Jaeger, Mrs. Josephine Stove, Mrs. Rose Schackmann, Mrs. Anna Schmitt and Mrs. Sarah Marek.

On October 26 the hospital Chaplain, Father Patrick Riley, blessed the new linen folder, witnessed by many hospital personalities. Among them were, left to right, Stanley Marek, Herbert Bechtold, Sister Virginia, Sister Quidella, Mary Leither, Sister Jameen, Mother Richarda, Father Riley, Mrs. Mike Jaeger and Mrs. Geraldine Gohman.
A team of five researchers from the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, were at the St. Cloud Hospital for a week in October conducting an organizational study. It was part of a national survey of fifty-one hospitals throughout the country.

Under the direction of John P. Kirscht, Ph. D., study director, the study was made to “identify and evaluate those aspects of the hospital situation that contribute significantly to effective hospital functioning.” The focus of the study was on problems and needs of the hospitals as a whole, and not on particular groups and individuals in it, according to Dr. Kirscht.

In the course of the study, ninety-five people were interviewed or asked to complete questionnaires. Patients, doctors, nurses, supervisors, employees and administrative people were all asked as many as 130 questions each, ranging from their age to how well their activities are coordinated with the work of others, how well the supervisor handles his job, etc. Patients were asked over thirty questions ranging from how promptly nursing personnel answered calls to how good the medical care was for them.

The University of Michigan Survey Research Center is conducting similar studies in fifty other hospitals throughout the country. Hospitals were picked from various geographical areas in the nation, including large and small, accredited and non-accredited institutions.

Results of the over-all study will probably not be available for two or three years, according to Dr. Kirscht. He pointed out that after all the information has been gathered, probably by the end of this year, it will have to be recorded on data processing machines. These machines will sort the data and aid in interpretation of the answers. Then a team of psychologists will study the results from which certain conclusions can be drawn regarding the operation of hospitals.

The St. Cloud Hospital and Chisholm Memorial Hospital, Chisholm were chosen as typical hospitals in Minnesota.

Dr. Kirscht said that a special report for each individual hospital participating in the study may be prepared. The report on the St. Cloud Hospital could be available as soon as the end of 1962, Dr. Kirscht stated, if it is decided that time and funds will permit the preparation of individual reports for each hospital.

The study is being made under a research grant from the National Institute of Health, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.
I. SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS INSTRUCT NEW PERSONNEL IN CORRECT USE OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

One of the more than one hundred participants in the seven demonstrations, "extinguishes" an oil fire.

II. EMPLOYEES VIEW DISASTER PLAN MOVIE

This short movie, shown during break times on Friday, October 19, was, to quote an employee, "a refresher for all."

DRY RUN DISASTER PLANS UNDERWAY!!

Do YOU know your assignment in this plan? Ask your SUPERVISORS!!

III. NEW RAMP IN RECEIVING AREA

The completion of the new ramp by safety committee member, Mr. Frank Karn and his able helpers will speed the admission of casualties in case of disaster.

Receiving Station Heads, Mr. Shaughnessy, Mr. Knevel, and Sister Cassian test new ramp in "trial run" with Mr. Karn as the healthy "casualty."

Beauty sought is beauty found

Agates, petrified wood, quartz, agatized wood, cuff links, necklaces - these are all familiar words in the vocabulary of Henry Pasch who has been an engineer in the hospital boiler room for over twenty years. Before becoming employed at the hospital he worked in the stone sheds in Sauk Rapids and St. Cloud, but his interest in stones as a hobby took shape about nine years ago. It was at this time that he made a tumbler for polishing his already vast collection of stones. To make the tumbler he used a small washing machine motor and two car brake drums.

After the stone is cut with an electric diamond saw, the pieces are put into the tumbler. It requires fourteen days of continuous tumbling of the stones to polish them to the beauty of the finished product. Henry doubles this time by running the tumbler only in the daytime as he does not appreciate the noise it makes during the night! Fifteen pounds of stone make up one load for the tumbler. Carborundum #80 is used for the first polishing. Then finer carborundum #220 is used for a few days to complete the polishing. For the final shine Henry uses tin oxide and cut felt which gives the stone its smooth luster. The stone is now ready to be used as jewelry, paper weights, and many other decorative items.

Henry's travels to the west and south, and his family contacts in many parts of the United States, furnish him with a variety of stone. He has about forty different kinds of stone including rare collections from Africa, Mexico and South America. The majority of his rocks are Minnesota agates, but others include bright orange and black volcanic rock, petrified wood, soapstone from California, rock from the iron mines, agatized wood and Montana agates. Clear pink and blue quartz from the crystal caves look like melted glass with their clear beauty. Mexican lace rock typifies its name perfectly - the formations are a mixture of white, pink and gray color in an irregular lace pattern. Cutting this rock gives a cross section pattern of rare design. A silver-black rock, Psilomeline, is a very rare stone from Mexico which costs $7.00 per pound - a contrast to the ordinary types of stone which cost about 50¢ per pound.

Henry's hobby is a creative one - requiring first of all the recognition of possible beauty in stones which most of us just pass by, or perhaps kick aimlessly along the road side; then demanding the labor of cutting and polishing; next challenging the worker to determine an artistic purpose for the polished stone; and finally permitting the hobbyist to present his product for the enjoyment of others.

It is with no little pride that Henry displays a very beautiful medallion made for his wife! This is only one of the many stone wonders worked by Henry Pasch!
Talent and activity punctuated life in the School of Nursing this past month as the Junior class performed for a talent show for the Sisters and student body -- and a group of very capable little waitresses served the doctors at the Physicians Guild dinner.

NEW ARRIVALS

Dr. and Mrs. R. J. Salk
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Koenig
Mrs. Dennis Keltemes (Kay Klinkner)
Mrs. Elmer Glemscheid (Marilyn Buck)
Mrs. Richard Kloempner (Marian Kieke)
Mrs. Michael Goggins (Mary Corrigan)
Mrs. Richard Gower (Mary Ann Serleh)
Mrs. Robert Albers (Marlene Prom)
Mrs. James Thompson (Mary Rengel)
Mrs. Herbert Bechtold

Somehow we reduced Mrs. Schultenover's family in 'Night Lights' last month. She has five girls AND FIVE BOYS -- and is proud of them all!

The BEACON LIGHT is the monthly publication for the personnel of the St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

NEW EMPLOYEES, WELCOME!

Mrs. Jean Anderson  Medical Technologist
Marlys Vavrika  Practical Nurse
Mark Dunlon  Orderly
Mrs. Maxine Strang  Department Aide
Mrs. Marie Sjogren  Staff Nurse
Mrs. Theresa Roeter  Receptionist
Mrs. Mary Lou Braun  Staff Nurse
Mrs. Gwen Wallisog  Medical Secretary
Mrs. Margaret O'Hotto  Medical Secretary
Mrs. Shirley Roth  Staff Nurse
Mrs. Betty Skenler  Staff Nurse
William Turek  Orderly
Martha Kim  Nurse Anesthetist
Mrs. Irene Stawarski  Staff Nurse

William Turck  Medical Secretary
Martha Kim  Medical Secretary
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The over-all theme for the current year's regular bi-weekly meetings is

CHRISTLIKE COURTESY

Through this series of planned lectures, demonstrations, and discussions we hope to review and strengthen the old, and learn those new skills and techniques that will help us fill our special role in establishing good public relations, proper patient contacts and care -- and thus fulfill the objective: CHRISTLIKE COURTESY.
As you all know, Mrs. Margaret Peschl has resigned as Puppet Chairman. She will still work on the project, but cannot continue in her present role as chairman. Mrs. Peschl has done a truly magnificent job, just as Mrs. Grant (who preceded her) did. As yet we do not have anyone to head this committee, but work on Pedi will continue. This is our Number One Project. We cannot let our little patients down!

The following is an excerpt from Mrs. Peschl’s annual report:

I want to express my thanks to all the ladies who have helped in any way in the production of our Pedi Puppet Project. The Mission Groups in Kimball, Holy Spirit, St. Peter’s and St. Paul’s Parishes and all the ladies of all the various groups who have been so faithful in the sewing. To Fandels and Petters stores who have been so generous in giving quantities of very lovely materials, we express our thanks. To the ladies who have collected material, we are most grateful. Please continue to donate pretty cotton materials, pressed and clean.

Since June of 1961 when I took over, 2821 dresses, complete with collars, caps, faces and cotton have gone out to dressmakers. Of these, 2338 have been completed to date. At present I have 800 dresses ready to go out to anyone who wishes to take them. We must have a surplus on hand by next spring in order to carry over the summer.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Peschl for her untiring effort and for her devotion to Pedi. I am sure that many a little child’s life was made happier through her work and the work of her wonderful committee.

A total of 303 hours was given to the hospital by volunteers during the month of September. The following is a breakdown according to departments:

- **Administration**: 42 hours 15 minutes
- **Portfolios**: 42 hours 15 minutes
- **Little Beacon**: 14 hours 15 minutes
- **Beacon Light**: 32 hours 45 minutes
- **Sunday Visitor**: 7 hours
- **Central Service**: 23 hours

(continued on next page)
Bless us O Lord for these gifts

MR. POSTMAN: PLEASE DELIVER TO ONE OF THE NICEST PEOPLE WE KNOW.

SAINT CLOUD HOSPITAL
Saint Cloud, Minnesota

Your Guiding Light To Health