Beacon Light: January 1956

St. Cloud Hospital
Postlude

After the carols have faded,
   And the gifts have been tucked away,
And the candles are stubs of formless wax
   And the snow is a brownish gray--
After the holly withers,
   And the berries are rusted brown,
And the carpets sparkle with tinselled fir
   Where needles came tumbling down--
After the dream has ended,
   And the embers are burning low,
May the CHRIST, the Heart of Christmas,
   Still brighten the afterglow!

A.B.K.
As we begin a new year, we just naturally look back over the past year to see if we’re satisfied with ourselves. Most likely we are not completely satisfied -- we find that we have not done things as we had intended a year ago. We find that our good resolutions somehow got lost already many months back. As new problems face us, we forget about the things we had determined to do.

And why is this? Often, we promise ourselves to do a great many things without being very practical. If we would make just one resolution and make a firm resolve to carry out that one resolution, we might succeed much better. A practical resolution is much more apt to keep us working at it.

We would like to quote here the "Ten Commandments for Teen-Agers" as they were drawn up by more than 4,000 high school students in California in the Spring of 1955. Even though you are not a teen-ager, it won’t hurt you to read them. Chances are you’ll say they are pretty good -- and many of them can apply to you too, isn’t it?

1. Stop and think before you drink.
2. Don’t let your parents down; they brought you up.
3. Be humble enough to obey--you’ll be giving orders yourself some day.
4. At the first moment, turn away from unclean thinking—at the first moment.
5. Don’t show off when driving; if you want to race, go to Indianapolis.
6. Choose a date who would make a good mate.
7. Go to Church faithfully. The Creator gives us a week; give Him back an hour.
8. Avoid "following the crowd"—be an engine, not a caboose.
9. Choose your companions carefully; you are what they are.
10. OR EVEN BETTER --- keep the original Ten Commandments.

A New Year

It is believed that the Wise Men appeared to the Christ Child on January 6. We do not know how many there really were, nor their names, but common tradition names three, no doubt because of the 3 gifts. Melchior, King of Arabia, 60 years old, brought a casket of gold in the form of a shrine for he came from a country where the soil is ruddy. Caspar, King of Tarsus, land of merchants, is often represented as a beardless youth of 20; he is said to have brought myrrh in a gold-mounted horn. Balthasar, King of Ethiopia or Saba, land of spices, 40 years old, reputedly of the black race, brought frankincense in a censer or thurible-shaped jar.

Each of these gifts was considered symbolic or prophetic of what Jesus was to become — gold for a King, frankincense for a High Priest, and myrrh for Man. In return for their gold they are said to have received the gift of charity and spiritual wealth. For their frankincense they attained perfect faith. For their myrrh they enjoyed perfect truth and meekness.

Today we need not travel to Bethlehem to offer our gifts. As members of Christ’s Mystical Body, we see Christ in each other. Thus, a kind word spoken or a good deed done to our neighbor in a spirit of love can be a gift most pleasing to God.
It's Your Team!

You as a supervisor (one who directs others) have the responsibility of directing a team of people. Your team may consist of two or twenty, it matters not. This is a hospital. Your team is necessary because there are sick people that need care. Whether your team is in the engine room or in the laundry and never sees the patient, the members of your team must know the common objectives of the hospital. If every member of your band is playing a solo concert, you won't get music. Remember--you are the maestro! You must direct each member of the band toward a common goal. You must, as it were, tie the individuals together if you want to have a team.

Three steps to Teamwork:
1. Make sure your people know the objectives of the hospital.
2. Let them know how well their team is accomplishing these objectives.
3. Let them know how they as individuals are contributing toward these goals.

In explaining the meaning and importance of a particular job, as well as its relation to the over-all picture, you are giving the employee an incentive in the form of satisfying his basic desire for security. Such an employee isn't just punching a time clock; he is a vital communications link.

People have to know more than objectives. They want to know more than their relation to them. Information is so important to people that when they do not have the facts, they will invent them. If you leave a vacuum, you can be sure that rumors will move in. Just as your job of supervisor means passing along facts, you've got to counteract the "washroom fantasies." That means that your contact with people must be close enough so they come to you with a rumor. Rumors can be deadly.

Keep reminding the employees that they are on your team. Use words like we, us, our. Don't forget to ask them for their ideas. If you must criticize a member of your team, don't do it in the presence of his teammates. It will hurt his relationship with them. If someone does a good job, praise him in the presence of others.

As a supervisor, you have a job you never finish. To keep a team effective, you've got to keep on coaching. You can never relax in giving your team purpose, in keeping them posted on their accomplishments and in soliciting each individual on his own contribution to the team.

It was only after word came to us from radio and the press that we could believe that we were really to get a grant of $161,200.00. Of course we got a little excited about it. We immediately said a "Te Deum" for the Lord's goodness to us. Next we wired a Thank You to the Ford Foundation. As the press carried the details of these grants, we noted that the money could be used by each hospital for improving or extending its service to the community in any area of hospital service which the hospital's governing authority would determine, within the purposes, terms and conditions set forth in the "Terms of Grant".

We received a letter from N. Rowan Gaither, Jr., President of the Ford Foundation, on December 15th from which we quote:

"Grant funds may not be used to pay the recurring operating expenses of services presently being performed by the hospital or to liquidate existing indebtedness....

The amount of each grant will be established in relation to the patient days of service provided by the hospital and the number of births in the hospital.

Mr. Gaither goes on to explain that "This action has been taken because of the great importance of the voluntary hospital to the communities of the United States and the need which many of them face for funds with which to strengthen and expand their services to their communities.

It is not definite at this time as to what will be included in our program for the funds under this Grant, but a Recovery Room and a Central Supply are definitely being considered.

Patrons Say... A. G. family from St. Cloud (2 South) writes...

"We will always remember your staff with the highest regards. Your very obvious devotion to the sick let us rest secure in the knowledge that everything possible was being done for our "Mom". Your prayers are most sincerely appreciated."

Mrs. R. B. from Perham (3 South) writes...

"I am proud of the care I got while in the hospital. Everyone was so kind and the service was so grand. Thank you!"

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

A word of praise is certainly in order for the fine spirit that was displayed throughout the entire hospital in putting up Christmas decorations.

It takes many people to do a job as it was done. Yes, and it also takes cooperation. But we had that and therefore the result was wonderful.

All of you who in any way whatsoever helped in this endeavor are to be commended. Let's always keep this fine spirit of "working together"!
Pope Warns HOSPITAL PERSONNEL

Those caring for the sick in hospitals must guard against becoming indifferent toward individual suffering. They should help the sick to understand and accept Christ's message of salvation and redemption, and thus engage in a "magnificent apostolate" which furnishes lasting joy and deep satisfaction.

Pope Pius XII gave these counsels at an audience with several hundred staff members of the united hospitals of Naples.

"It cannot be denied," the Pope said, "that hospitals offer a danger that the patient may fall into a certain anonymity. Organizational needs large require the use of general rules which do not permit taking into account all particular aspects. Hospital services are governed by norms defining each individual's duties, and doctors and nurses may honestly believe they have met their obligations once these duties are fulfilled."

However, the Holy Father added, true charity goes much farther, is never fully satisfied, is unsparing in giving oneself, and anticipates the wishes of those to whom it is dedicated.

"Sharing others' troubles and showing pity for the afflicted require forgetting self and desisting from indifference and a certain insensitivity which slowly weaken personal reaction in the face of painful, but always similar, scenes," the Pope said.

This higher conception of hospital duties, the Pontiff continued, "will prevent the staff's work from becoming more or less mechanical—a repetition of routine acts," and will testify to a "fraternal presence at the side of a suffering human being."

Pope Pius explained that this higher conception requires the staff's being firm in Christian faith and hope. He said that passing this idealism on to the sick is the highest goal of hospital work.

"Shall I boil the missionary?" asked the cannibal cook.

"Boil him!" cried the chief. "Are you crazy? That's a friar."

January 8 -- FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph — the Holy Family — were united in love. It was the outstanding note of their family life. It governed all of their relations with one another. They worked for one another, supported one another in trial and prayed for one another. All families must imitate the Holy Family. The forces of evil today are determined upon the breakup of the Christian family. Nothing will bring that about more quickly than by members of families forgetting their duties toward one another or even working against one another in vicious hate. The Holy Family, as a working family, always has been an inspiration for all Christians everywhere. It is a model of godliness, of mutual love, industry and peacefulness. JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH! Pray for us!

The SAFETY COMMITTEE will meet Monday, January 9, at 7:15 p.m., in the Faculty Room in the Nurses' Home. Several engineers from our Insurance Company will be present to discuss with us the recommendations which were made after a complete Public Liability and Compensation Inspection. Be ready to discuss further 1) the storage of oxygen cylinders and 2) conductive flooring in the new Recovery Room.
DR. KIM...INTERN

Dr. Mark Kim comes to us from Korea, graduating from Medical School in Seoul. Having served a 6 months internship at a U. S. Army Hospital, he spent two years in Milwaukee, Wis., serving two one-year internships there. He then took a one year residency in Internal Medicine at the Missouri Pacific Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. After that, he completed a two year residency in Anesthesia at the University of Minn.

At this time, Dr. Kim decided he wanted to stay in Minnesota to practice. He had married a young lady from Sauk Centre and has two lovely children. Dr. Kim needed to serve an internship in Minnesota so as to qualify for licensure. Through the State Board of Medical Examiners, our hospital was suggested to Dr. Kim. It was very simple after that: The hospital was happy ---- the doctors were happy ---- Dr. Kim was happy. Within a very short time, necessary arrangements were completed and Dr. Kim began his internship at our hospital on December 22.

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BIRTHSTONES

For laundresses, the soapstone;
For architects, the cornerstone;
For cooks, the puddingstone;
For soldiers, the bloodstone;
For politicians, the blarneystone;
For borrowers, the touchstone;
For policemen, the pavingstone;
For stock brokers, the curbstone;
For shoemakers, the cobblestone;
For burglars, the keystone;
For tourists, the Yellowstone;
For beauties, the peachstone;
For editors, the grindstone;
For motorists, the milestone;
For pedestrians, the tombstone.

As of January 1, 1956, the nurses' aide uniform will consist of a yellow uniform with white piping trim, long tan stockings and white shoes. The cap will be given only on merit after a minimum of 6 months of employment. In order to qualify for this cap, the nurses' aide must be skilled in the various techniques that are taught as well as display qualities of dependability, neatness, courtesy and kindness.

Our new Nurses' Aide Program requires a week of basic training prior to employment. This is on the applicant's own time. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 40 who are interested in this type of work should contact Sister Keith, Director of Nursing Service.

DO YOU LIKE IT?

You didn't hear about it? Really?
Well, there wasn't any formal ceremony about it but it was very real and impressive. Eleven young ladies in crisp yellow uniforms were "capped" with the new nurses' aide cap just before Christmas. The following were in the first group to be thus recognized. You will want to congratulate them:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss Joyce Billadeau</td>
<td>5 North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Leona Barnes</td>
<td>4 South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Mary Brandley</td>
<td>2 South</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Mary Eller</td>
<td>6 North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Rose Mary Hunsche</td>
<td>2 North</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Audrey Johnson</td>
<td>5 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Margaret Kiekow</td>
<td>4 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Shirley Levy</td>
<td>5 North</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Marie Nelson</td>
<td>4 South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Rose Wanner</td>
<td>1 South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Cecilia Winkler</td>
<td>4 South</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mrs. Rosemary Bliss Nurse 5 North
Mary Brandley Nurses' Aid 2 South
Hildgard Doll Hospital Aide Main Kitchen
Rita Bich Hospital Aide Main Kitchen
Leora Gertken Hospital Aide Laundry
Mrs. Lena Hagen Assistant Director of Nursing Service
Mike Jaeger Machine Operator Laundry
Christine Rausch Hospital Aide 5 North
Darlene Schaefer Hospital Aide Bakery
Mary Ann Stumpf Hospital Aide Cafeteria
Irene Terwey Hospital Aide 4 North
Dorraine Tomczik Nurse 2 South
Arlene Welnand Hospital Aide 2 North
Mrs. Evelyn Walikowski Hospital Aide Dishwashing Room
Jeanette Schneider Hospital Aide 3 South
Jeanette Storms Hospital Aide Laundry
Colleen Fencis Clerk Business Office
Mrs. Collette Gnilkowski Dietician's Aide Dist Kitchen
Kathleen Pesch Hospital Aide 5 North
Alice Gross X-Ray Technician X-Ray
Gwendolyn Vampuch Nurse 3 South
Patricia Bengel Nurses' Aid 3 North
Dorene Thomas Hospital Aide 1 South
Mrs. Mary Luzius Nurse 2 South
Janet Cole Laboratory Technician Laboratory
Mrs. Alice Bocek Nurse 5 North
Mrs. Irene Stawarski Nurse 1 South
Mariolla Bernick Practical Nurse 4 North
Mrs. Joan McCormick Nurse 3 South
COMMON
COLD

Did you know that we spend in the neighborhood of $400 million annually for drugs and medical care in the treatment of colds? In "cold" cash, the damaging virus costs the average family about $10.00 a year.

But the expense doesn't stop there. According to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, the average person suffers two colds a year, and even a simple cold hangs on for about five days.

The common cold is responsible for more lost time at work than any other single cause of disability. And that too costs money!

Besides the expense, any kind of cold, even a "little one", brings discomfort and may lead to more serious illness.

Right now people are bustling about on "after Christmas" shopping tours, gathering in crowds at holiday parties, eating irregularly, and perhaps getting too little rest. This really gives cold germs a chance. It is estimated that 20 million or more suffer periods of poor mental health.

Remember, there are busy months ahead in this New Year of 1956. Tune up your system with adequate rest, a well-balanced diet, moderate exercise and fresh air. Wear clothing suitable to the temperature and avoid chilling.

Most important: If you do get a cold, even "just a little cold" ----- protect other people from your coughs and sneezes!

Tears of GY!

The students in their second year of Nursing who were selected for the Grace Weiss Helenbeck Tuition Scholarships were indeed thrilled! Five scholarships, each in the amount of $200.00, were provided by Dr. P.L. Helenbeck in memory of his deceased wife. To be eligible for the scholarships, students must possess qualities of character and personality essential to the professional nurse, such as abilities and professional skills, attitudes and interests that are indicative of development into a truly Christian woman and professional nurse. Financial need is also a requisite for eligibility.

The young ladies who received the scholarships are:

Corrine Hessing
Mary Cheshire
Carol Reisderfer
Janet Kirscht
Katherine Rahn

Three scholarships, each in the amount of $200.00, have been received in 1957 at which time these scholarships were established.

TWO MARIAN TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS, each in the amount of $100.00, were presented to Renee Lansing and Mary Lou Schludt just prior to the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. These scholarships were established in the Marian Year (1954) by the St. Cloud Hospital and offered to two students at the School of Nursing at the beginning of their third year. To be eligible for the scholarships, students must possess marked qualities of Christian character, professional knowledge, nursing skills, leadership ability and a personality which exemplifies those womanly qualities so necessary to the true Christian nurse.

WONDERS NEVER CEASE!

There's a bright future ahead of us—a machine that will cook, sort, clean, iron and fold the laundry. Or how would you like just dialing your telephone number in case of rain and your windows at home will close themselves? ...And how would you go for automatically washed and dried kitchen floors?

Wishful thinking? These are just a few of the electronic marvels recently predicted by General Motors.

SPECIAL BLESSING

The children on 4 South received a special blessing on Holy Innocents Day, December 28th. Sisters and nurses gathered in the hall near the Crib by the Christmas Tree. Children who were well enough were brought close to the Crib, either in their own beds or they were held by the nurses. Father very solemnly intoned the blessing and the group answered the responses. Then as Father blessed each child, the group sang "O Dear Little Children," It was a short but impressive ceremony, again emphasizing the beauty of the blessings of the Church.

The class composition was about "Kings". One boy wrote this:

"The most powerful king on earth is Working; the laziest, Shir-king; the wisest, Jo-king; the quietest, Thin-king; the thriest, Drin-king; the shyest, Win-king; and the noisiest, Tal-king.

Feeling SORRY For Yourself?

Doctors now recognize that minor forms of mental and emotional illness are as commonplace as head colds. Almost all of us --- though not seriously ill --- suffer periods of poor mental health. With some, the condition is chronic.

Chronic "complainers" will not get well because they refuse to give their pains a decent burial. They enjoy complaining because it gives them a chance to be heard.

It isn't hard to get to feeling sorry for yourself. Complaining is an easy way to get attention but persistence in the art soon drives away friends! Facing the fact that your complaining is a symptom of insecurity in yourself comes hard sometimes; yet, often it is the only open road to conquering the trouble.

When you have a disappointment or frustration, you are not necessarily carrying all the world's problems on your shoulders! You are not heading for mental, physical or spiritual degeneration and decay. Not necessarily, unless you persist in running away from your trouble by complaining.

Accept yourself as a rather normal human being. The idea that everyone of us is a little queer at times comes as a great comfort. When you get to feeling rather discouraged, laugh at yourself -- it solves a lot of problems!

Dieter's Grace

Now I sit me down to eat, I pray Thee Lord, I will not cheat. If I should reach for cake or bread, Please guide my hand to meat instead.
**BLUE CROSS - BLUE SHIELD WEEK**

January 9 - 15

The week of January 9 to 15 has been designated as Blue Cross-Blue Shield Week in St. Cloud and surrounding communities. An entirely new kind of hospital care contract will be introduced -- the Blue Cross Optional Series $5 to $20 contracts. These are completely flexible contracts enabling subscribers to choose the coverage they want...at the cost they want to pay. The new Optional Series Contracts do not employ the deductible feature.

Blue Cross-Blue Shield representatives will be at the St. Cloud Hospital during the entire week of January 9 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Some of you are not Blue Cross subscribers, why not take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about Blue Cross!

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**Proud Parents**

Did you notice the "proud parents" looks on Dr. Hoehn and Dr. Andrew's faces? If so, it's because Dr. and Mrs. Hoehn have adopted two new children. They are Ruth and Ronald, about 3 years old and both are little Korean children. Ruth had the mishap of breaking her leg by slipping on the floor. A plaster cast may have slowed her up a bit, but her spirits are very good --- she's not missing out on much.

According to Dr. Hoehn, both children seem to adjust to American life very well -- no trouble eating either!

Dr. F. J. Schatz and Dr. Louis Loes attended the meeting of the American Academy of Obstetrics and Gynecology. The meetings were held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago from December 12 - 14. Dr. Schatz is a charter member of the academy.

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**WELCOME**

The following new employees have come to join our hospital "family". We hope they will enjoy their days of employment here:

- Mary Martin
- Ruth Lind
- Mrs. Josephine Stowe
- Renee Thais
- Rita Doll
- Doris Kuenzepke
- Mrs. Helen Knuchten
- Arlene Mann
- Mrs. Belle Clepper
- Edward Loehrer
- Virginia Surma
- Lois Lange

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**Fifty-two employees were eligible for a cash reward this month because they had not missed any time since January 5, 1955. Some of them remembered our promise; some had forgotten --- but all seemed quite pleased!**

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**The Chair of Unity Octave**

January 18 - 25

The Chair of Unity Octave is an eight-day period of prayer for the conversion of unbelievers and the reunion of Christendom. It was begun by Father Paul Francis of Graymoor, New York, and is observed in nearly all parts of the world.

PRAY especially during this octave "that all may be one".

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**New arrivals during the month of December**

The following former employees and alumni members are happy:

- Mrs. Jerome Hollenhoist (Mary Ann Kost)
- Mrs. Clifford Kaler (Theresa Erommen)
- Mrs. Roy Maslonkowski (Irene Tamble)
- Mrs. Josephine Stowe
- Mrs. Helen Kruchten
- Mrs. James Justin
- Mrs. John Schnettler (Dolores Reardon)
- Mrs. Robert Mullaly (Mary Ann Thurk)
- Mrs. John Schnettler (Dolorus Beaudon)
- Mrs. Clifford Kaler (Theresa Erommen)

Former employees:

- Beverly Farrington to Duane Chirhart
- Arlene Schaubach to Richard Rinkel
- Elizabeth Berency to Donald Grelach
- Virginia Surma to Ronald, about 3 years old

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**Three "New" Officers**

Betty Schott, part-time clerical worker, was recently elected secretary of the Toch Chapter of the Minnesota Diversified Vocations Club. As secretary, Miss Schott has the responsibility of editing and publishing "The Commentator", the publication for the club. By the looks of the first edition, great things are in store for the members!

And two more hospital personnel were elected to offices: at the annual meeting of the Minnesota-Dakota unit of the Catholic Library Association held at the College of St. Theresa in Winona on November 11, Sister Myron was elected Chairman of the group. One of the projects under way is the promotion of a procedure manual for hospital libraries.

Sister Michael was elected Secretary-Treasurer for the newly formed Minn. Association of Blood Banks. This association was formed at a business meeting held at the Curtis Hotel in Minneapolis on December 3.

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**The amount of sleep required by the average adult person is about five minutes more.**

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**The BEACON LIGHT is the monthly publication for employees of the St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, Minnesota.**
Dear Employees,

Words just don't tell the story! And on paper, words seem even more inadequate. I hope to tell you personally what I'm trying to put down on paper, but for those of you who may not be at the Employee Christmas Party, here is my message:

Your Christmas gift to the Sisters was a complete surprise to me as it was to nearly all of the Sisters. It was, of course, a very wonderful surprise! As the Sisters can vouch, I was speechless --- I couldn't find any words to express my feelings of joy. It is a gift that all the Sisters can enjoy, and that means a great deal to me.

But there is more than that. I know what it means to contact 400 employees to get their cooperation on a particular endeavor. It takes a great deal of work and of course is possible only if the majority of those people are united in one spirit, in one purpose. The result proves that we really have a "hospital family" here as we like to think we have.

Please accept our sincere thanks for your wonderful gift, most especially for the spirit in which it was given. Thank you also for the many other nice things you did for us at Christmas time. We sincerely appreciate the many prayers and Holy Masses offered for our intentions.

God bless you!

Sister Francis Xavier

MEDICAL STAFF

The following are the officers of the Medical Staff of the St. Cloud Hospital for the year 1956:

Dr. J. B. Gaida, Chief of Staff
Dr. L. A. Veranth, Vice-President
Dr. R. J. Salk, Secretary
Dr. L. M. Evans, President-Elect

The doctors listed above together with the Past-President, Dr. E. M. Anderson, and Dr. J. P. O'Keefe and Dr. C. F. Brigham constitute the Executive Committee, the liaison group between the medical staff and the administration of the hospital.

Chiefs of Services

Dr. Harvey Sisk, Chief of Medicine
Dr. Otto Phares, Chief of Surgery
Dr. R. N. Jones, Chief of Anesthesia
Dr. Louis Loes, Chief of Obstetrics
Dr. P. L. Halenbeck, Chief of Pediatrics
Dr. E. N. Milhaupt, Chief of ENT
Dr. J. B. Beuning, Chief of Orthopedics
Dr. C. B. Thuringer, Chief of Radiology
Dr. Wayne Chadbourn, Chief of Laboratories

Credentials Committee
Dr. N. F. Musachio
Dr. David Hoehn

Tissue Committee
Dr. K. Walfred
Dr. C. S. Donaldson
Dr. H. B. Clark
Dr. J. B. Beuning
Dr. L. A. Veranth
Dr. R. N. Jones
Dr. E. N. Milhaupt
Dr. C. B. Thuringer
Dr. C. F. Brigham

Surgical Privileges Committee

Dr. K. Walfred
Dr. C. S. Donaldson
Dr. H. B. Clark
Dr. J. B. Beuning
Dr. L. A. Veranth
Dr. R. N. Jones
Dr. E. N. Milhaupt
Dr. C. B. Thuringer
Dr. C. F. Brigham

Pharmacy Committee

Dr. K. Walfred
Dr. J. P. O'Keefe
Dr. R. N. Jones
Dr. C. B. Thuringer
Dr. V. E. Nelis
ST. NICHOLAS VISITS THE CHILDREN!

On the Eve of St. Nicholas, the children on 4 South ate their supper a little earlier, and possibly also a bit hurriedly because they knew that very soon St. Nicholas would come. Oh yes, he would bring their dessert— they did not get it with their supper. Children that were well enough were gathered in the Play Room. Others were in the hall in chairs, beds or nurses’ arms. Still others were in their rooms.

Bells tinkled! Music was heard coming down the hall! And there he was! St. Nicholas himself. With him were an angel and "Ruprecht". Saint Nicholas, in full bishop’s attire complete with mitre and staff, visited each child and asked him if he had been good. He was assisted by the angel in distributing his gifts. Meanwhile, Ruprecht, in the customary black attire, instead of displaying switches and chains, entertained the children by dancing for them and giving them balloons. Many of the parents were present for the occasion and probably were as pleased as the children.

The part of St. Nicholas was played by Dr. R. T. Petersen, Chief of Pediatrics for the year 1955, Ruprecht by Dr. C. B. Thuringer, and the angel by Mary Lou Schreiner, Head Nurse on the Pediatric Ward.

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LIFE

Life is not a goblet to be emptied, but a measure to be filled. -- Anon

CHRISTMAS CAROLERS

Since so many of you have asked who the various groups were who came to our hospital to sing Christmas carols, we will list them here in the order that we think they came. It is just possible that we may have mixed the dates for one or the other — if so, excuse us, carolers!

Dec.11 - Pre-Divinity students from St. John's under Father Odo's direction.
Dec.12 - Student Nurses under Sister Gemma's direction. This group sang Advent Hymns.
Dec.17 - Children's Group from the Church of Christ, Ronneby, under the direction of Rev. Ralph Christman.
Dec.19 - Pre-Divinity students from St. John's under Father Odo's direction.
Dec.21 - School Choir from Holy Spirit Parish under the direction of the Franciscan Sisters.
Dec.22 - Junior Red Cross group from Tech High School.
Dec.24 - Christmas Eve - Student Nurses.
Dec.25 - Sisters from the Hospital.
Dec.27 - Chorus from Holy Angel's (5, 6 and 7th grades) under the direction of Sister Meredith.

We owe all these people a sincere "Thank You". If any of you have an opportunity to comment on this wonderful gesture, be sure to do so. This will encourage other groups to do likewise next Christmas or throughout the year as for Easter, Mother's Day, and so on.