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Boston University Medical Center

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Boston University
Only color could do justice to this photograph of the buffet table spread for Medical Center guests in the gracious dining room of the MediCenter. Occasion was an Open House, held on the evening of May 10th just prior to the scheduled inauguration of service at the MediCenter, left to right: Unidentified guest; Robert N. Jordan, Business Office; Sabra Carl, Personnel, and a glimpse of Dr. John Mannick and Mrs. Mannick.

MediCenter Makes Its Bow

In a series of special showings to the press, to leaders in the medical and health insurance fields, to our own Medical Center personnel and to the general public, MediCenter Boston made an impressive mid-May debut. To the lay and professional visitor alike, this beautiful 160 bed facility, which embodies a new concept of extended care, offered immediate and convincing visual evidence of its many advantages in providing luxurious yet low cost care for the recuperating patient.

Although the atmosphere created by the tasteful decor of each spacious private and semi-private room, the relaxing effect of thickly-carpeted corridors and soft "background" music, the motel-like charm of the lounges and the dining room is not at all reminiscent of the usual hospital setting, each patient and his doctor knows that he is only moments away from the main hospital and its facilities for more intensive care should these be necessary. The MediCenter patient, as he convalesces, is offered a variety of treatments, including physical therapy, diagnostic X-ray, pharmacy and laboratory services. For his or her morale there is a barber shop, a beauty shop; and recreation programs brighten the business of getting well.

MediCenter beds are available to patients over the age of 15 who are recovering from surgery or have passed through the critical stages of illness. Urgently needed hospital beds are thus released for the seriously ill, and the MediCenter patient proceeds to complete recovery at about a third of the cost. Double-occupancy rooms are $20 per day, and private rooms are $27.

This remarkable financial advantage to the patient is the result of the innovative approach of the MediCenter which represents a mutually helpful collaboration between the Center's University Hospital and MediCenters of America, Inc., a private enterprise.

"LA DERNIERE CLASSE"; BUILDING B TO GO

In a delightful ceremony combining the lighthearted with the nostalgic, the symbolic first blow was struck in the demolition of Building B. Dr. Franklin G. Ebaugh, Jr., Dean of the School of Medicine, did it — with his little fake-gold crowbar.

The beginning-of-the-end for the serviceable old brick building, which has provided classroom and laboratory space for generations of medical students, came at about 5 p.m. on Friday, the 10th of May, 1968. Although the services were brief they were graced by eloquent speakers, an accomplished M.C. and an enthusiastic audience of second-year students, meeting for the last class of the academic year with Dr. Stanley L. Robbins, Professor of Pathology.

Dr. Mathew Derow, Dr. Henry J. Bakst, Dr. Marott F. Sinex, Dr. Chester S. Keefer all took a turn at the microphone. Last to be called was Dr. Robbins whose climactic role in the proceedings was the presentation of a package to Dean Ebaugh. The wrappings came off to reveal a small but sturdy crowbar, and, weapon in hand, the Dean made a start at the leveling of Building B — a small start, to be sure, a prying up of a section of the molding above the historic blackboard, which carried as its final message to the class, the following stern admonition: "PICK UP YOUR EXTRA KEYS. TAKE YOUR PADLOCKS. Remaining padlocks WILL BE CUT OFF LOCKERS."

Not much longer now will Building B, already in the shadow of its handsome

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In connection with the opening of MediCenter, a well-attended and successful national “Seminar on the Concept of Extended Care” was presented on May 8th and 9th in the John Hancock Hall of the John Hancock Mutual Insurance Company and the Sheraton Plaza Hotel. Under the auspices of the Boston University Medical Center, the two-day program presented an exposition of the development of changing concepts and techniques in providing continuity of care and provided a meeting ground for ideas for the health care administrator, the physician, the insurance underwriter and the mortgage lender. Authorities from these fields of medicine, insurance and finance, and officials of the government insurance programs, Medicare and Medicaid, contributed to the educational program and panel discussions of the seminar. Keynote speaker was Dr. Michael E. DeBakey, Chairman of the President’s Commission on Heart, Cancer and Stroke.

The photographs on this and the following page were made during the course of a MediCenter Open House for “the family”, held on Friday evening, May 10.

Poppi and Hyacinth

There are many brave and cheerful patients on Robinson 7, with Dr. Murray M. Freed and the staff of the Rehabilitation Unit right there beside them on the long, hard road to independence and self-care. None much braver than Poppi, nor so far from home.

Calliope, just 21, was named for the muse of epic poetry from the mythology of Greece, her native land. She was a basketball star on the team of Piraeus, the port of Athens, when it happened last August –– an automobile accident that left her paralyzed.

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Poppi (continued)

But Poppi wouldn’t give up the idea of walking again, and she had a priceless ally in her sister Hyacinth. When the girls heard word of successful spinal surgery performed at our University Hospital by Dr. Edward L. Spatz, there was no hesitation. It had to be Boston, although they had no friends or family here. Hyacinth, 25, a commercial artist, postponed her wedding, gave up her job and her dowry to the plans for Poppi.

Today her sister, whose surgery was in January, is soon to be discharged. And although she may not walk unaided, she has taken her first steps with braces and a walker. Dr. Freed feels that in time Poppi will achieve self-care. Financially the girls are hard-pressed. Olympic Airlines flew Poppi here without charge. Dr. Spatz performed his operation as a gift. And leaders of the Greek Community of greater Boston, under Bishop Demetrios, have devoted time and effort to a drive that, if the contributions are thousands of dollars short of the cost of hospitalization.

To Poppi and Hyacinth, who have sacrificed so much and overcome so much, this challenge, too, is one they feel they can surmount.

LAST CLASS (continued)

towering neighbor, the new Instructional Building, stand in the way of progress. Their tribute paid, the celebrants of its coming demise repaired to the comfort of a keg of beer.

Service Awards Presented in Annual UH Ceremony

"In Honor of the Men and Women Associated with University Hospital for Five or More Years", the simple and moving ceremony of recognition for years of devoted service took place this year in the Evans 9 dining room on the afternoon of May 16.

The list this year was impressive, with men and women named for 40, 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 10 and 5 years of service. This roll of honor cannot be called completely in the space available. Here are those whose long and devoted association covers the broadest span.

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. Harold A. Carnes
Mr. Louis J. Hunter
Miss Marion Lyons
Dr. David B. Stearns

35 YEARS OF SERVICE

Dr. Nathan L. Fineberg
Dr. Edward C. Smith

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Honorable Bailey Aldrich
Dr. John W. Chamberlain
Miss Evelyn Ryer

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mrs. Betty Allman
Mrs. Julia Bailey

Dr. Howard A. Blazer
Dr. Max J. Blumen
Dr. Joseph W. Copel
Mr. Kenneth E. Cotterman
Miss Norma Farrow

Dr. John S. Wheeler

15 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mrs. Betty Allman
Dr. Nicholas J. Fiumara
Mrs. Julia Bailey
Mrs. Sydney Friedman

Dr. Howard A. Blazer
Dr. Edward A. Gaensler
Dr. Max J. Blumen
Dr. Trygve Gundersen
Dr. Joseph W. Copel
Dr. Frederick L. Landrigan
Mr. Kenneth E. Cotterman
Dr. Herbert Mescon
Miss Norma Farrow
Mrs. Jennie Skipper

In the National News

Two members of the Pharmacology Department, Dr. Joseph Cochin, Professor of Pharmacology and Dr. Conan Kornetsky, Research Professor of Psychiatry and Pharmacology, participated in a symposium on "The Persistent Effects of Narcotic Drugs" held in Washington, D.C. in late April as part of the two-day scientific program of the Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Sciences. The Academy is the country's most prestigious scientific organization, and to be asked to participate in its annual program is considered a signal honor.

The April 22 symposium in which Drs. Cochin and Kornetsky participated created great interest, was followed by a press conference, and was widely quoted in newspapers and periodicals throughout the United States.

Dr. Cochin has recently been appointed to a three-year term on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.
BUMC BRIEFS

Dr. Wilfred Tashima of Boston City Hospital was awarded the second prize in a nationwide medical photography competition for his close-up photograph of "Skin Popping Ulcers of a Heroin Addict." The award was made in connection with the Student American Medical Association-Eaton Medical Art Salon 10th Annual Competition.

On display at the SAMA convention in Detroit, the prize-winning photograph will be shown again at the American Medical Association convention in San Francisco in June. It was the first time that Dr. Tashima, a keen amateur photographer, had ever entered a photographic competition.

Dr. Tashima becomes chief resident of the Third (Boston University) Surgical Service on July 1; he went to BCH for internship in 1962 after graduation from our School of Medicine. He and his wife Lily live in Needham and he plans eventually to return to practice medicine in his native Hawaii.

Family camping time is coming up at Boston University's Sargent Camp in its beautiful southern New Hampshire setting. Two special sessions are available to all university full-time personnel and alumni and their children: the cost is very moderate.

Housing ranges from cabins and heated dormitories to more rugged outpost camp sites where living is in tents (with platforms) and you do your own outdoor cooking. Activities range from A to W — archery to water skiing — with golf, canoeing, softball, tennis, sailing, swimming, hiking, riflery, star gazing, fishing and lawn bowling in between. There is even summer theatre in the nearby and lovely town of Peterborough.

Family camping sessions are June 24-June 28, and August 19-23. For registration forms and further details, call Mrs. Angland at 2748.

Spurred by the Smithwick Foundation of the Boston University Medical Center, a conference entitled "Engineering in Surgery" was held in mid-April at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel here. The day-long meeting presented four panels — one on Material Science, Data Processing, Instrumentation and Hemodynamics — whose speakers were drawn from national leaders in the fields of biomedical engineering and surgery.

Our Medical Center's Surgeon in Chief, Dr. Richard H. Egdahl, chaired the conference. Distinguished moderators for the panels were: Dr. Edward W. Merrill, Department of General Engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. James F. Dickson III of the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health; Dr. C. Walton Lillehei of the Department of Surgery, New York Hospital; and Dr. Michael DeBakey, Department of Surgery, Baylor University.

Late news is good news if it accompanies the picture of a pretty girl. FRONT & CENTER has unearthed this happy shot of Constance MacDonald, Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Dean of the School of Medicine as she beamed above an anniversary cake during the course of a party "sprung" on her last Valentine's Day. Connie completed 22 years of service on February 14, and her admirers, who are many, felt it was time for a celebration. As Secretary to the Executive Committee of the School, Connie is well known to those who control its destiny, and she reports being thrilled by the distinguished contingent who shared her surprise party.

Late in May, this letter reached our Hospital's Personnel Department from "two lonely, letterless sailors" aboard a U.S. destroyer off the coast of Vietnam. (We hope they have lots of takers!)

Vietnam — May 5, 1968

Dear Sirs,

Picture this. A destroyer, WW II type, cruising off the coast of Vietnam. Out of the sky comes a helicopter with mail! The first in over 30 days! The mail is dropped and brought to the small post office. Outside the closet size space stand two sailors, waiting and hoping. For what? A letter. A letter that never comes.

Those two lonely letterless sailors are myself, Mark Revenaugh, and my associate, Jeff Lott.

What does this sad story have to do with you?

One night I was reading the NAVY TIMES, and I saw your advertisement. NURSES! I conversed with my friend and we came to the conclusion that nurses are women.

So we took the chance. We are asking you, have pity. If any of your lovely students has a yearn to write a couple sea-faring men, give them either of these addresses.

Mark Revenaugh STG3 B804547
W. A. Division
USS Floyd B. Parks (DD884)
FPO San Francisco, California 96601

Jeff Lott STG3 9182242
(same address)

Sincerely,
Mark Revenaugh

Of the total number of Ph.D's granted by Boston University this year (110) a considerable number were earned by students in the Division of Medical Sciences. The highest number of doctorates went to the School of Theology. 26. There were 12 in the Division of Medical Sciences.

Members of the Nurses' Alumnae Association of the Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals Association held their Annual Meeting and Dinner — Roast Sirloin of Beef! — on the evening of June 3 in the Evans 9 dining room.

Four Boston University Medical Center physicians: Drs. Jack Evjy, Edward Kondi, Harvey Neitlich and Charles P. Reynolds, assisted the Massachusetts Division of the American Cancer Society in the presentation of an exhibit on Cancer of the Cervix at the 187th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society, held from May 21 to May 25 at the Statler-Hilton, Boston.

On Friday afternoon, May 3, Mrs. Alice Carey, after 21 years with University Hospital and the Medical Center, received a quiet and heart-warming send-off from a large number of her friends and associates who stopped by the Evans 9 dining room to share a cup of coffee, and say goodbye, at a party in her honor.

David Calvert, Administrative Assistant of the Hospital, sent the following memo to department heads: "This is to announce the retirement of Mrs. Alice Carey, Telephone Supervisor, on Friday, May 3, 1968. Mrs. Carey retires from full-time employment after completing 16 years of devoted service to the University Hospital, and five years in service for the entire Center. Since December, 1963, following the merging of UH and BUMC telephone facilities, Mrs. Carey has been Telephone Supervisor, a position she has held to this date. We all wish Mrs. Carey happiness and well being in her retirement.

Sincerely,
Mickey Kondrat, Secretary to Dr. John Mannick, and Judy DeMarco, Administrative Assistant to Dr. Richard Egdahl, preside at the 'sign-in' desk for attendees of the Engineering in Surgery conference, held in April at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. See BUMC BRIEFS for details of the conference.