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Smiling Vernon Ingle catches a bass. For story, see page 3. (Photo courtesy Globe-Democrat)
Last month I described physical changes in the clinic area to improve its efficiency, pending erection of completely new clinic facilities a couple of years hence in the expansion program. Revision of the organization, operation, and professional programs of the clinic are also under way, under the direction of Dr. Robert Potashnick, president of the Clinic staff, and Mrs. Peggy Reel, new supervisor of the Clinic.

The Medical Social Service Division has expanded its consulting services and accepted responsibility for training and supervising the interviewers who determine eligibility of patients for clinic care. Interviews are conducted in more privacy than was possible formerly.

Equipment and supplies to replace obsolete items and to improve techniques of examination and treatment have been ordered, and some have already been delivered and are in use.

Procedures for admitting patients to the hospital from the clinic and for prescribing medications have been streamlined. Under study, for implementation soon, are a new appointment system for patients and physicians, improvements in the handling of laboratory procedures for clinic patients, and a unit system for filing impatient and outpatient charts.

Results of the changes already made are apparent in the more efficient yet more understanding handling of patients by clinic personnel, and in improvement in the quality of the educational program for house staff and younger members of the attending staff.

Soon to celebrate her twenty-fifth anniversary at JH is Olga Fischer. She began working here as a temporary secretary and recalls that she had to pay a fee to an employment agency for the job. Although she occasionally regrets having spent the fee, her work, for the most part, has been enjoyable.

Before coming to the hospital she had been a kindergarten teacher and still is immensely fond of children.

Shortly after her arrival, she was made inventory clerk and eventually aided considerably in the purchasing. At present, Miss Fischer is Inventory Control and Communications Officer and has just moved to a new office off Ward 19.

Her private life is a big secret but she is known as a good baby sitter and also acts as a private consultant to the Public Service Company whose buses congregate under her apartment window in Webster Groves each morning.

Miss Fischer is now in the process of revising the inventory system used by the hospital. This procedure is a punch card type of device and promises to be a new innovation. In addition to this, she is responsible for maintaining messenger, page and mail service throughout the house.
Divisional Patter

Miriam Murmurs

Miriam's Aid to Daily Living Program was further augmented on July 31 by a picnic given for the patients and staff by Mr. S. C. Peterson at Country Life Acres. While the motive for the outing was recreation, there was dramatic evidence that fish can be caught from a wheelchair.

Activities such as these give the patient poise and confidence in carrying on normal functions and continually demonstrate the worthwhile goals that can be achieved from their training.

In addition to catching bass in the Peterson lake, there were prizes for many of the patients, and the sunburn of the year for Gertrude McCullen.

Newly-weds Peggy Rogers and Lorenza Jones, both employees at Miriam added their vocal talents to the festivities.

Social Service Signals

New Social Service offices have just been completed. The seven rooms provided give space for all the workers as well as room for students and secretarial help.

This changes relieves crowded conditions and also permits the clinic to have a solid block of rooms in one location.

Several staff members took part in the Missouri Association of Social Welfare conference in St. Charles, Mo. on September 3.

Auxiliary News

In preparation for the Auxiliary's activities as they will be established in the Medical Center, Mrs. Edward Schweich, Mrs. Ben Loeb, Mrs. Theodore Lending, and Mrs. Elmer Abrahamson paid a visit to Menorah Hospital in Kansas City to inspect their gift and coffee shops. With many ideas in mind, plans are presently being formulated in which these ideas can be further developed.

Despite the vacation months, the Auxiliary Committees have not been idle. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee under the direction of Mrs. Earl Rosen, Mrs. Robert Aronson, Mrs. Edward Schweich, Mrs. Maxwell Fineberg, Mrs. Martin Melzer, and Mrs. I. Lending have completed their work and have officially had the Auxiliary incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Mrs. Meyer Marx and Mrs. Sam Freund of the Volunteer Worker's committee have met with some hospital personnel in an effort to define the type of work available to the Auxiliary.

On July 8, there was an important meeting of all the presidents of Women's organizations that have shown an interest in the Jewish Hospital in the past. Dr. David Littauer and Mr. Major Einstein explained the purpose and aims of the Auxiliary to them with the result that these groups have agreed to cooperate in helping to solicit members for the Auxiliary.

The chief membership drive will take place October 29 at United Hebrew Temple with some 8000 prospective members being invited. All civic minded women are urged to come to this meeting and enroll as charter members in the Jewish Hospital Medical Center Auxiliary.
Suggestion Plan Gives Employee Chance To Manage

Vera Morgan makes a suggestion

Letting the employee have a chance to put his pet theory into practice has become the basis for a new program at the Jewish Hospital. The Personnel Advisory Committee has put into operation a Suggestion Plan which will give all segments of the personnel opportunities to express themselves and at the same time benefit the hospital and earn remuneration for their ideas.

Everywhere this plan has been tried, employees have shown that the practical experience learned in their jobs have immeasurably profited themselves as well as their employers. For example: a laundry worker in San Francisco suggested an improvement that made working conditions considerably better for herself and her fellow employees; a nurse in a Baltimore hospital came up with an idea for an orthopedic appliance which improved patient care, cut costs and saved time; and an engineer in a Chicago hospital found a way of keeping down steam waste which saved his institution thousands of dollars.

In inviting you to suggest improvements, the hospital feels that each person is capable of contributing personally to the operation of the hospital. The Suggestion Plan should not be considered as competition with prizes as rewards for ideas. Rather, the employee should understand that he is participating in a continuous plan that is helping management solve its operating problems.

Examples of the types of suggestions that you may wish to consider are:

- Save operating costs by improving methods, equipment, or procedures.
- Provides better patient care and comfort.
- Conserves waste of supplies and time.
- Provide better and safer working conditions.
- Improves either personnel or public relations.

There are many more ways in which your recommendations can be helpful. However, merely pointing out a problem without suggesting a solution cannot be awarded.

Although all employees are eligible to participate in the Suggestion Plan supervisors may not submit suggestions which are in the scope of their own responsibility.

Each month, the Personnel Advisory Committee will judge the suggestions and will make the awards.

Suggestion boxes have been installed at the entrance to each of the cafeterias and a supply of suggestion blanks is available at each box.

New time clock installed opposite personnel office is currently being used by the Housekeeping and Laundry Departments.
Recent Donations to Jewish Hospital

Volunteer Aid Society

Pictured above are an anesthesia machine and a resuscitator purchased for the hospital by the Volunteer Aid Society.

The Volunteer Aid Society which sprang from an afternoon canasta club, was founded in 1948 by Esther Coichman, Eva Heifetz, Esther Kovinsky, Essie Silverman, and Belle Wolfson.

With the objective of furthering medical research in St. Louis hospitals, many other ladies became interested in the group which soon sky-rocketed into an active philanthropic organization.

WARDS AND CORRIDORS

Staff Rounds

The Ben Mannis family has made the addition of a blond, blue-eyed baby boy named Richard Lowell. Dr. Mannis has recently been made a Fellow in the Internal College of Surgeons.

Dr. J. G. Probstein presented a paper on terminal pancreatitis prepared by Dr. Leo Sachar and himself at the International College of Surgeons meeting in Chicago on September 4.

Pharmacy Phantasy

Even in the confines of the pharmacy, folks are going places. This year’s vacations showed a unanimity for traveled with everyone heading in a different direction.

Harvey Mizes and his wife Ileane who were married June 17 went south to Florida, Konrad Scherer headed East, and George Horne scored a double play by going North to the A.H.A. Hospital Pharmacist’s Institute in Canada and West to a vacation in Mexico.

The Gas Chamber

Norma J. Coggan, anesthetist, was married August 2 to Dr. P.D. Stahl. The couple honeymooned in New York City and Nantucket Island and are expected back the fourth of September. Mrs. Stahl will continue working through the month of September. She will terminate seven years of faithful service to the hospital on October 5.
Currently needed are three oxygen tents which will be used to replace outmoded equipment. These are fully automatic tents and do not need constant filling with ice cubes. They cost $576.95 each and may be set up as memorial donations.