



WHAT'S HAPPENING...

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT ■ MAINE MEDICAL CENTER ■ PORTLAND, MAINE 04102

Dec. 8, 1975

DISCUSSING THE UNION ISSUE

MMC President Andrews reports that he considered an invitation to a formal "debate" with 1199 but declined, on the advice of legal counsel. It would imply institutional sponsorship of union activities, he said, and "I don't think that would be proper."

There has been no lack of interchange between employees and the administration on the union issue, the President added. He pointed out that he had long since declared his willingness to meet with employees, answer questions, and listen to their views. As a result, he had responded to invitations to a number of hospital units to sit down and talk, and had "learned a lot" from the experience.

He hopes that the invitations will keep coming.

THE CAT-SCANNER

The state's newspapers and electronic media carried the story last week that MMC will receive and begin to treat patients with the CAT-Scanner in May. The device will provide doctors with clear and detailed cross-sections of the brain and supplant older diagnostic methods that involve pain or a measure of risk. It's a marriage of radiology and computer electronics, and is regarded by some doctors as the most significant diagnostic advance since the invention of x-ray.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Pharmacy personnel changes were announced last week by Robert R. Auger, director of Pharmacy Services. Former assistant director William L. Gousse has been promoted to associate director; Richard Drew has been named assistant director of Pharmacy Services, and Marlene Valeriani has assumed the new position of technician supervisor.

The changes, Auger said, are part of an effort to meet increasing demands for pharmacy services.

PRIVATE LINE PAYS OFF

Several callers on the PRIVATE LINE have suggested that (1) the evening meal time be extended to 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria; and (2) that the rule requiring hospital visitors to use the cafeteria only after 1 p.m. be enforced, insuring seats for employees at noon; and (3) that the next day's menu be posted. Late last week, after arrangements had been made, all three suggestions were put into practice.

There have been several other changes and improvements as a result of PRIVATE LINE calls, and many individuals have received personal attention and written answers to their questions. So far, it's been good for employees and good for the administration, and that makes it good for the Medical Center.

FOR SPELLING EXPERTS

We had occasion, last week, to use an English word that's descriptive of a Jewish December event known as the "Festival of Lights." We said, to our Jewish friends, "Happy Chanukah."

"That's right," said one, "but it might be better if you spelled it 'Hanukah'."

So we changed it to 'Hanukah.'

Then, for the next 12 hours, a lot of our co-workers (none of them Jewish) pointed out that our spelling was terrible.

So we looked it up. Here are the acceptable spellings...there's one for nearly everybody: Chanukah, Hanukah, Hannukah, Hanukkah, Channukah, Chanukkah, etc.

It's a Yiddish word, and can be only phonetically spelled in English, so your way is as good as my way, and our spelling isn't all that terrible.

BICENTENNIAL CHRISTMAS

Decorations are going up today in the cafeteria for the annual employees' Christmas party Tuesday afternoon. All MMC employees have been invited to attend the annual event which this year will include the bicentennial theme, music by Bob Brouillard and his organ, the MMC Chorus and an appearance by Santa Claus and of course the usual fine Christmas dinner.

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