



WHAT'S HAPPENING...

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

July 30, 1973

COMPUTER SEMINAR

MMC's Computer Committee headed by Dr. Robert F. Ritchie has arranged a two-day, six-session seminar to acquaint personnel with the hospital applications and the potential of electronic data processing. In a letter announcing the program, Dr. Ritchie characterized the approach as "fairly vigorous," and said the "impending action concerning computerization probably represents the most vital and far-reaching decision that our Medical Community has ever faced."

The seminars will begin at 7 a.m. on August 8th and 9th, in the Rolland Irish Classrooms, and have been arranged to allow maximum attendance. The schedule, distributed last week, indicates the seminars will cover a wide range of topics including general and specific uses of computer processing here at MMC.

RE-SURFACING PROJECT

The City's Public Works Department has advised the hospital that re-surfacing will be under way this week in the Hill-Crescent-Ellsworth street area, generally improving the approaches to the Emergency Division, the Orthopedic Clinic, the Richards parking lot and the top level of the parking ramp. There will be congestion in this area as the work is being done, and it would be helpful, Hospital Engineering says, if employees and others would use the Gilman Street entrance to the ramp, minimizing top-of-the-hill traffic. Rescue units have been advised of preferable temporary access routes to the Emergency division entrance.

A GIFT FROM THE KNIGHTS

An arteriosond, an electronic device used to record the blood pressure of infants, was presented to the Pediatrics Division Wednesday by the Dramatic Order of the Knights of Korassan. Dr. George Hallett, chief of Pediatrics, accepted the gift on behalf of the hospital from Frederick A. Barstow of Buxton, chairman of the order's Humanitarian Committee, and Edward H. Glover of Rumford, Grand Master-At-Arms. Portland's Mayor, Edward Bernstein, attended the presentation.

FOR LESS CONFUSION

Sometime next month, there'll be many changes--and hopefully many improvements--making it easier for patients and visitors to find their way around. Part of the problem, of course, is that MMC has grown sideways, by adding buildings over the years, making locations difficult to find, and directions difficult to give.

One possible solution, it appears, is to give each of these buildings more individuality, and making the whole system easier for the stranger to understand. A new plan involving color will be started in August. There'll be a different "key color" for each of the hospital's five buildings, used on certain walls, maybe, and on elevator doors. The identifying color will appear on the various directories, and maybe in the parking areas, in conjunction with directional and identifying signs. There'll be symbols, too, to help eliminate the confusion sometimes caused by lengthy medical words.

It may not be the complete answer, but it'll be a big help.

NAMED TO STAFF

Donald Wilson, M.D., neurosurgeon; and Robert A. Sylvester, M.D., internist/rheumatologist, have been granted temporary medical staff privileges pending review and processing of their applications by the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff and the Board of Trustees.