



WHAT'S HAPPENING...

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

February 7, 1972

IT IS REQUESTED

The Patient Care Committee suggested, several weeks ago, that the old two-visitors-for-each-patient rule be re-emphasized, and that visitors and others be requested not to smoke in patient rooms. The suggestion met the approval of the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff last week. Plans call for signs in each room, but in the interim, cards bearing the message will be given to visitors at the information desks and nursing stations. The same policy will be implemented at Mercy and Osteo. Results should be better rest and clearer air for patients in all three Portland hospitals.

THE STRIPES ARE UP

A system of colored stripes to help guide hospital newcomers is being installed in the ground floor corridors. The first, which is orange, leads from the Bramhall lobby all the way to the Security identification office at the far west end of the General Building corridor. This one stripe will guide visitors and outpatients to some 23 separate offices, facilities and locations along the way, and of course to elevators which they'll take to reach many more. A second stripe--yellow--also starts in the Bramhall lobby and leads to the Richards elevators. There'll be one more, under present plans, to help patients to the clinic areas.

REQUIRED READING

New signs and polite suggestions that hospital personnel ride the passenger elevators only, leaving the "patient and utility" elevators for stretchers, just haven't worked. Vertical people continue to use the "patient and utility" elevators, and last week, the OR schedule was out of kilter on more than one occasion when patients were delayed. The rule will be enforced in the near future to prevent these delays, and to insure that the stretcher cars are available whenever they're needed.

TUESDAY AT 5

Catherine O'Connor, director of the new MMC Chorus, reports that the 5 p.m. rehearsal last Tuesday drew a different group than the 7:30 p.m. session a week before that, and that she'll try to get both groups together in the Irish classrooms this Tuesday afternoon at 5. That will result in about 20 members, she says, with lots of enthusiasm and real promise of becoming an excellent musical organization. More people will be welcome to come, of course.

REMEMBER THE MAINE

The Health Sciences Library acquired the first 20 volumes of the American Journal of Nursing last week through a gift of money presented by the Maine General Hospital Nurses' Alumnae Association. It was the first nursing journal ever published in the U.S., and the first article in the first volume dealt with a voyage from London to South Africa of the U.S. Hospital Ship "MAINE."

NO IDENT CARDS

More than 3,000 privilege-identification cards have been issued by the Security Department, but at least two MMC workers still don't have them. They're "Idie," who's been a Radiology department regular for some time, and "Deena" who reports to Rehabilitation daily. Both are Seeing-Eye guide dogs. "Idie" is the companion of Charles Voorhis, a volunteer, and "Deena" comes to work with Ann-Gretchen Lazette, a medical stenographer.

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