

Hepburn Strives For Top Quality Care

BY JOHN W. SYMONS
ADMINISTRATION

Our community is very fortunate to have its own hospital.

Recent government regulations in health care have made it difficult for hospitals to maintain, let alone, improve services and equipment. Despite many obstacles, the board of directors' primary interest is to maintain the hospital's ability to offer the best possible care and to move ahead into the future with modern services and equipment.

In 1983 ground work was begun to stay within government controls but also to move Hepburn Hospital into the forefront as a provider of health care beginning with an active physicians' recruitment program. The recruitment of specific specialists met with unexpected and immediate success.

Not only did two new physicians join the staff but three additional specialists applied for and received approval for staff membership and are due to begin practice in the very near future. James C. McGeorge, MD, joined the medical staff in April 1983 specializing in orthopedics. Shortly after in June, Aranjyothi (Jodi) Kotha, MD, entered private practice in the specialized area of psychiatry.

A nephrologist is due to arrive in early February and will be located on the third floor of the hospital's health center. Two other specialists to be added to the staff will complete final arrangements for office space and relocate to the area in early 1984, one is an obstetrician/gynecologist and the other a gastroenterologist. Active recruitment is also underway in additional medical specialties.

In addition to new physicians, five physicians assistants now are on staff and provide 'round the clock coverage in the emergency room in compliance with State Health Department regulations. Two new departments have been organized to better serve patients and staff and to continue the ongoing education of employees as required. A department of materials management, directed by Joyce Mallette, RN, combines several services, i.e., consolidation of the receiving and distribution functions in one central department along with mail and messenger service, and the sterilized central supply area.

The department of education was organized in order for the hospital to continue to develop itself as a progressive institution, to have concern and to address the continual requirements for patients as well as employees education in all areas. It is also planned to expand into community projects and work with local health related groups as may be requested. Jean Haskin, RN, is the director of the department of education.

Edward C. Maciag, director of pharmacy, was in charge of setting up the "unit dose" system in the pharmacy services. The entire department was relocated to accommodate the system designed to distribute medications to patients on a dose-by-dose basis. The method was recommended by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH).

Speaking of JCAH it should be noted Hepburn was granted a one year extension of its two year accreditation, postponing the scheduled 1983 survey to 1984.

FOUNDATION FORMED

Joining other hospitals in corporate restructure the board of directors organized and submitted plans receiving the necessary State approval for the formation of the A. Barton Hepburn Hospital Foundation, Inc., and is presently only awaiting recognition from the Federal Internal Revenue Service. The Foundation will own and operate the hospital as well as handle other activities financially supportive of the hospital. Attorneys representing hospital interests recommended the establishment of a "separate" entity to manage the hospital's assets. Abraham Rothenberg was elected to serve as the first President of the new Foundation. Other officers and members of the Foundation Board are as follows: Joyce MacArthur, vice-president; and Mahlon Clements, secretary-treasurer; directors Charles Kelly, Karl Pingrey, Fred Shurtleff and Doris Wheaton.

Berwyn Woodman, MD, was named chief of surgical services, replacing David DePue, MD, who retired from that position and from active medical practice.

A new assistant administrator joined the management team, Bernardo J. Carotenuto, formerly with the Oil City Hospital, Oil City, Pa., replaced

Jeffery M. Earle, who accepted an administrative position in Ithaca, NY.

STATISTICS

Financial statistics for 1983 demonstrated a strong financial base. Births numbered a total of 554 newborns at Hepburn in 1983. The total number of patients seen in the emergency room in 1983 numbered 15,276 up from the previous year's 13,987. Patients admitted to the hospital during the past year totaled 6,449. The increase of patients in hemodialysis necessitated expansion of hours to include a third patient shift to accommodate the demand for services. The chronic hemodialysis unit has remained the only such facility North of Syracuse since its formation in 1968 and now accommodates seven patients per shift.

EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS AND BENEFITS

Four management promotions were approved, Joyce Mallette, RN, to director of materials management; Jean Haskin, RN, to director of education; (both department head positions); Colleen Lago, RN, to head nurse in the operating room; and Judith Poirier, RN, to assistant head nurse in the O.R.

Also in 1983 union negotiations were successfully completed and contracts agreed to with the New York State Nurses Association, The Licensed Practical Nurses, Inc. and the A.P.N. Local 204.

Employees enjoyed during the year receiving appropriate benefits. Forty-two employees, including retirees of 1983, were honored at an employee recognition dinner. Twenty-three Candy Strippers were also recognized for their volunteer services at a special dinner in their honor along with mothers of each Candy Stripper invited to attend.

A disaster drill was held in conjunction with the staff of Canton-Potsdam Hospital and area rescue squad units. A mock school bus accident with 58 injured students aboard proved to be a beneficial experience and was well carried out by all involved. This was one of four disaster drills held during the year, two are external and two internal drills.

There were many accomplishments and advancements, of which the above are only a few, that were made in 1983 at Hepburn Hospital. These,

however, resulted in the board's decision to consider plans to move forward with needed services and the consideration of expansion of medical

facilities. Completion of a long range plan for the future will highlight the goals of 1984 and insure our own community hospital's leadership in pro-

viding the latest in medical technology and services to the sick and suffering in the best possible manner.

1983 Was Year Of Change For City's Public Library

This was a year of change for the Ogdensburg Public Library.

After his decade of service, it saw the retirement of Nick Smith as Director and the appointment of Robert Belvin as the new Director. It is difficult to put into order the many changes that have occurred.

The Friends of the Library have staged two enormously successful book sales. They have raised money that will be used to give the library items it normally could not have afforded to buy.

The library has changed its procedures so that it will use a computer to keep track of how much the library has spent each month.

The outside of the building has been painted. The LSCA Grant will permit us to rehabilitate at least the first floor of the building. This grant, along with the gift of the Dodge family will bring over \$100,000 into the community.

The card catalog remains a crisis area that will receive its proper attention in 1984. There is an overwhelming backlog of cards to be filed. Worse than that is the backlog of cards to be pulled because of books that were discarded.

The library is at a hiatus since it lost children's librarian Karen Wright. When the library hires a new children's librarian, hopefully by mid-March, then services to children, especially to pre-schoolers, will become one of its strongest suits.

The board's approval of a circulation policy has put its activities on a consistent basis. It will be more fair to patrons while protecting the taxpayer's investment in library materials.

Although the library still has far to go, efforts show what can be done to improve the library's appearance once it cuts down on the clutter.

The library has its microcomputer and is using it. The first applications have been in word processing and in budget. Next will be a system for handling periodicals, then book ordering, and then inter-library loan.

Work in organizing and deciding what books should be updated and on what cycle means that the library will get current copies of reference works as they are published at the frequency we specified. This will let the public have access to current accurate information.

After discussions with the Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, the library has converted this space to a Local History Room. This has freed up space in the microfilm room and will free up space in the vault.

The activities of the Friends of the Library — the two book sales and the reception/birthday party — all show the positive aspects of a Friends of the Library organization. It bodes well for the future since they have accomplished so much in such a short time.

Magazines are not attractively displayed and will receive more attention from the public. Binders protect the newest copies so that they can be read in the library.

The library is carefully examining which magazines it now gets and what it will get in the future.

The reference room is now clean, orderly and attractive. The materials are available and old items are being updated.

Due to the hard work of Terri George and the young people on the Summer Youth Employment pro-

gram, the stacks now run in order, and contain all of the circulating non-fiction except for the greatly oversized items and the newest books.

The library collection has been brought under control. Although there still are sections that are overcrowded with materials that have insufficient demand, the bulk of the collection fits the shelves. At least 4,000 more items will be weeded out in 1984.

Some of the areas that should be pursued in 1984 are:

— Continuing to rationalize clerical procedures and apply to computer where it is advantageous.

— Emphasizing work with children.

— Improving the access of the staff and public to materials, both by cross-training of staff and by emphasizing reference and information services.

— Finding sufficient staff time to improve organization of local history materials.

— Fixing the card catalog.

— Exploring the quality of service to teenagers.

— Continuing the board's exploration of what the library's priorities should be.



HEPBURN EXECUTIVE BOARD — Members of the A. Barton Hepburn Hospital Board of Directors Executive Committee include, left to right, James W. Smithers, treasurer; Edward B. (Ned) Hackett, vice president; Judge John H. Livingston, president; and John B. Leonard, secretary. (Wight Photo)

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REPORT OF CONDITION

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS			
	1978		1983
Operating Income:			
Interest and fees on loans	\$211,913.69		\$519,659.89
Interest on Fed. Funds Sold	41,212.41		99,660.68
Interest on U.S. Gov't. Sec.	41,458.55		44,587.61
Interest on State & Municipals	11,087.93		15,988.78
Interest on other Securities	405.00		405.00
Serv. Chgs. on Dep. Accts.	2,461.90		12,409.02
Other Income	2,495.58		5,987.74
TOTAL INCOME	311,035.07	Five Year Growth	698,698.72
Operating Expenses:			
Salaries & Employee Benefits	64,709.50		122,179.82
Interest on Deposits	136,349.24		340,237.29
Bank Occupancy Expenses	14,136.99		18,488.88
Provision for Possible Loan Losses	11,789.11		9,038.00
Other Expense	49,636.07		118,831.25
TOTAL EXPENSES	276,630.91		608,775.24
Income before taxes and Sec. gains and losses	34,404.16		117,891.48
Income Tax applicable to earnings	7,447.00		27,988.00
NET OPERATING EARNINGS	26,957.16		89,903.48

REPORT OF CONDITION			
	1978		1983
Resources:			
Cash and due from banks	\$ 288,254.82		\$303,221.38
U.S. Treas. Securities	593,716.15		399,277.16
Obligations of States & Political Subdivisions	148,484.53		274,102.00
Other Securities	6,750.00		6,750.00
Federal Funds Sold	600,000.00		1,550,000.00
Total Loans	2,500,352.41		4,333,025.66
Bank Premises & Equip.	36,766.10		65,312.65
Other Assets	24,533.62		45,045.12
TOTAL ASSETS	4,198,857.63	Five Year Growth	6,976,733.97
Liabilities:			
Deposits:			
A. Demand	1,045,718.50		1,250,972.80
B. Time & Savings	2,677,287.84		4,641,741.16
Other Liabilities	29,282.18		378,146.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,752,288.52		6,270,860.86
Capital Stock:			
Total, Par Value	100,000.00		100,000.00
Surplus	125,000.00		125,000.00
Undivided Profits	221,569.11		480,873.11
TOTAL CAPITAL ACCTS	446,569.11		705,873.11
TOTAL LIABILITIES & CAPITAL ACCTS	4,198,857.63		6,976,733.97

Cash basis for accounting used. The comparative reports of the condition and earnings of The First National Bank of Lisbon as hereby submitted to its shareholders as directed by the Comptroller of the Currency and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Milton E. Skiff, Cashier.

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