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Durham, N. C.

Holiday Events Set

Christmas is coming! This is the time of year when everyone tries to bring a true spirit of helpfulness and service and genuine goodwill into every part of the Hospital's life.

Bright decorations, informal parties on many wards, the strains of carols echoing from the halls are wonderful treats for the holidays, but the real spirit of Christmas shines in the cheerful greetings we have for friends and strangers alike and the efforts to make the Hospital a happier place for employees, for patients and for visitors.

Christmas trees will go up in every hall during Christmas week, to be decorated according to individual preference. Again this year, the decorations on the wards will be judged.

A special party for white subsidiary workers will be held on Dec. 22, in the practical nurses student classroom. Employees will drop in for refreshments between 2 and 4 o'clock.

A Christmas party for colored employees will be held on Dec. 23 in the Hospital amphitheater. Mrs. Martha Scoggins will assist the personnel office in planning the party, which will feature entertainment programs at 2 and 3 o'clock.

One of the most popular events of the Christmas season, the Out-Patient Clinic carol sing will be held again this year. Mrs. Hobgood tells us that it will be held probably on Monday of Christmas week.

Dr. James Cleland will be speaker for the student nurses annual choral communion, planned during the holidays.

Groups of student nurses will also continue their delightful custom of informal caroling in the wards.

Patients who must be here at Christmas won't be forgotten, either, when it comes to food trays. Mrs. Martin

and her dietetics staff are planning special menus and tray decorations and plans are also being made for the special buffet supper which is so popular with doctors and nurses each year.

While official holidays for the Hospital are Christmas and New Years days, the vast wheels of the Hospital can't be suspended completely. All employees who can't be spared on the two holidays will of course receive days off to make up for their holiday duty.

The Woman's Auxiliary, although suspending the Christmas Shop this year, will again bring Christmas joy to patients of the children's wards.

Proceeds from the Thanksgiving sale will be used to provide a gift and filled stockings for each child on Matas and Howland and permanent toys for both wards. The children's committee, headed by Mrs. Richard Tuthill, will fill the stockings, being made for the Auxiliary by Mrs. Carrie Sykes, and nurses on the children's wards will choose gifts and arrange a special Christmas Day party.

Auxiliary members will close all services from Sunday, Dec. 19 to Monday, Jan. 2.

While these are some of the special events now planned at the Hospital, other formal and informal get-togethers will be held to mark the Christmas season.

From all of us at InterCom, to all of you, best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dec. Salary Checks

In the past the University has been able to issue December checks the week before Christmas. Due to the procedures necessary with the IBM payroll system, this will no longer be possible.

Town Hall Goes to TV

Duke Hospital's Medical Town Hall makes its TV debut on Sunday, Dec. 19. The program will be viewed from 2:30 to 3 p.m. over WTVD, Channel 11.

Subject of the first TV program will be "Holiday Accidents in the Home" with Dr. Jay Arena and Dr. George Ferguson as speakers. Dr. George Baylin, creator of the program, will be moderator.

Half Millionth Patient

Duke Hospital's half-millionth patient arrived here for medical examination late in November.

He was Emmett Wood of Lynchburg, Va., whose case history became number 500,000, when he came to Duke for a three-day health check, as part of a program of preventive medicine at Duke's Private Diagnostic Clinic for key personnel from large and small companies. Mr. Wood is a supervisor of the Lynchburg Foundry Co.

During the hospital's 24-year history, patients have come from throughout the South, every corner of the Nation and many foreign countries. Last year, 17,475 patients, largest in the Hospital's history, came to Duke. This doesn't include a record number of 168,558 out-patient visits to public and private clinics.

Checks normally received on the 25th of each month will be issued prior to the 25th. Checks normally received on the first of each month will be issued December 31. Wage payrolls will be paid on December 3 and December 18 as usual.