

Supt's Corner



By Charles H. Frenzel

Amid the confusion of construction and the overcrowding our our existing buildings one gets the distinct sensation of a growing dynamic organization, the Duke University Medical Center. Only one of the manifestations of this growth is the service being offered to Duke Hospital Inpatients.

In this issue of InterCom a three-year comparison of selected hospital services and inpatient costs and income is included. This is provided on a separate insert sheet and it is hoped that many will keep it for ready reference. These statistics indicate, with only slight fluctuations, the steady increase in activities for patients and the concurrent increase in costs. Not shown in these figures is the ever-increasing complexity of the illness of Duke Hospital patients and the new and improved diagnosis and treatment techniques introduced each year.

At present Duke has 627 beds and 30 bassinets available; this is very near maximum complement and more than our space for specialized beds and supporting services should accommodate. For the past several months our average census has been close to 90% and over 95% on the medical and surgical floors. At the same time our waiting lists for admission have lengthened.

The new building at the front of the main hospital will provide additional ambulatory diagnostic and treatment space and expansion for our research programs. We must soon plan for additional beds and supporting clinical services.

Delford Stickel Awarded Markle Fellowship

Dr. Delford L. Stickel, assistant professor of surgery, has won one of twenty-five Markle Fellowship awards made this year. Dr. Stickel was appointed to the Medical Center faculty on March 1 after completing his residency training here in general and thoracic surgery.

Given by the John and Mary R. Markle Foundation, New York, the scholarships are for a five year period and are intended to support medical teachers and researchers early in their careers and thus strengthen the faculties of medical schools.

Seven other members of the Medical Center faculty have held Markle Fellowships in the past: Drs. William G. Anlyan, Ivan Brown, Jr., Sanford Cohen, William De Maria, Wayland

E. Hull, William S. Lynn, Jr., and Suydam Osterhout. In addition three former members of the Medical Center staff were Markle Fellows during their years at Duke: Drs. Samuel Martin, Ashton Morrison and George Schwert.

PLEASE, EVERYONE: a great many books are missing from the Auxiliary library. If you have ever borrowed any books from this library, please check through your homes and offices to see if you are harboring one of these. We need them back!

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