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## FROM THE DESK OF . . . DEAN BROWN School of Nursing

New Year's is traditionally the time to take stock of one's situation and to plan for the year ahead. In the Nursing Service of the Medical Center, this New Year has served as the midpoint of a period of assessment and planning for the future. In 1968, there promises to be a growing demand for highly specialized nursing care for an increasing number of patients. Before June, four nursing units will re-open following remodeling and renovations, augmenting the number of inpatients by approximately one hundred and fifty. Many of these people will have complex nursing needs, particularly those in the enlarged recovery and intensive care area, the expanded cardiac care unit and the nursery for acutely ill young infants.

While planning to provide for these increased service needs, the Nursing Service is making great efforts to improve the quality of care afforded to all patients. During 1968 a number of programs and special projects will be launched or enlarged to assist the nursing personnel in their efforts. An expanded program of continuing education is being planned to assist all nursing persons to more fully develop their abilities. Continued learning is fundamental to promotion and increased job satisfactions. This month several of our practical nurses are starting their six month program in advanced practical nursing which will prepare them for positions of greater responsibility and reward.

Increased learning facilities are being developed for in-service education. The old record room is being remodeled into a well planned and equipped classroom and learning laboratory for inservice education. This year should see the production of several television tapes for teaching both within the Medical Center and outside in other hospitals. Another program scheduled for 1968 is a career counseling service. Staff members together with a counselor will assess their interests, abilities and goals. In addition to regularly undertaking study in in-service education or University courses, growth in abilities will be fostered by selected job placements. Renovations planned for the Nursing Service offices will make them larger, more attractive and enable staff to meet privately with a career counselor.

As the Medical Center grows larger, ways are being increasingly utilized to facilitate communication and joint planning of diverse groups. For example, this is the second year of work by a committee made up of nursing supervisors and faculty of the School of Nursing. This group is meeting monthly to find ways by which the expertness of all Duke nurses can be used maximally to meet patient needs. Considerations are being given to the initiation of team nursing, joint appointments of nurses on the Faculty of the School and in the Nursing Service, the use of consultants and the greater use of clinical nursing specialists in the direct care of patients. More Medical Center committees now have active nurse members. This permits the nursing needs of patients to be considered in the design of units, in the early recruitment and preparation of adequate nursing staff and in better programming for patients in new units of the future. Even in the face of increased patient load and the expected staff changes, 1968 can close with each member of the nursing staff confident that she has grown in her ability to give good nursing care and that many patients have benefited from her ministrations. This will be possible if we all continue to work together with the unity and industry that have characterized the Nursing Service.

## PROFESSIONAL NEWS

\*\*\* Dr. Jay M. Arena is leaving the Children's Clinic in Durham, which he started many years ago, to devote full time to the Duke Medical Center, where he will continue his work as professor of pediatrics and director of the Poison Control Center. In addition, Dr. Arena will assume several other duties, principally with Dr. Harvey Estes in the new Department of Community Health Sciences and as secretary to the Duke Medical Alumni Association.

\*\*\* Dr. Edmund C. Dyas, IV, an assistant resident in orthopaedics, has been named recipient of a fellowship from the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation, effective January 1. Dr. Thomas E. Andreoli, assistant professor of medicine and physiology and head of the division of clinical physiology at Duke University, has received a research career development award from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences.

\*\*\* Dr. P.D. Kenan attended the Southern Triological Conference in Florida Jan. 11-13th. Dr. Robert Whalen will attend the regional meetings of the American Federation for Clinical Research in New Orleans, Jan. 24-27. Dr. Whalen is Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Section, American Federation for Clinical Research. Dr. Cleanes Bennett is new at Duke Medical Center as Associate in the Department of Medicine.

\*\*\* Alexander A. Cosmatos, who is Post Doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Microbiology, is working with Dr. Wheat of the University of Athens, Greece. Jean Campbell is the new Assistant Director to Dean Brown, Dean of the School of Nursing.

\*\*\* On January 24th, 25th, and 26th, the Duke Hyperbaric Chamber will provide the facilities for a series of experiments by Dr. Abraham Rudolf, Professor of Pediatrics at the Cardio Vascular Research Institute in San Francisco, California. Dr. Rudolf and his associates will perform two experiments a day on each of the three days. On Thursday, the 25th, he will deliver a lecture on pulmonary vascular changes from birth onward in the Duke Amphitheatre.