

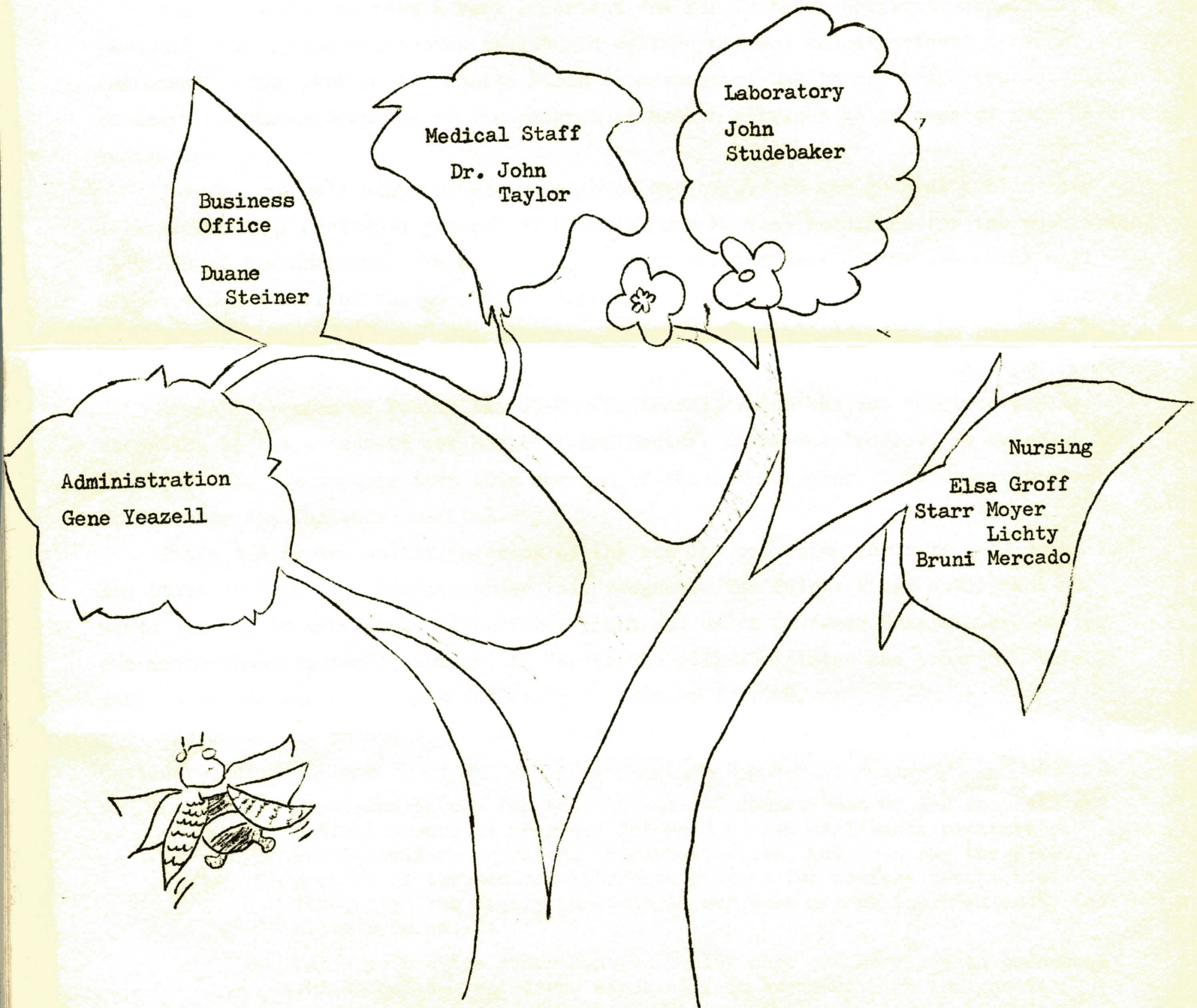
Castañer Newsletter
Volume 20
Fall, 1965



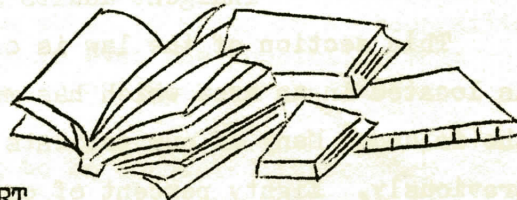
It is time once again to take a tour of Hospital Castañer. Many things have happened during the past year that show the progress of the hospital very distinctly. Won't you come along and meet some of the workers and learn of the work being done?



BRANCHES OF THE HOSPITAL TO BE VISITED AND LIFE THEREIN



Let us begin our tour by talking with the Administrator, Gene Yeazell. Since coming to Castañer in January, 1964, Mr. Yeazell has been very busy with the problems and concerns of the Hospital.



THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The past year has been a very important one for Castañer Hospital, especially in terms of Federal legislation on health and welfare matters and an evident growing awareness on the part of the Puerto Rican Department of Health of their responsibility to assist Castañer Hospital in its program of Health services to an area of very high indigency.

Everyone is well aware of the passage of Medicare. To the general public this legislation will provide a program of Hospital and Medical insurance for the population 65 years of age and over. This of course is the greater part of the law which will affect a major part of our population directly or indirectly. The affect that this legislation will have in providing better health care to all of our aged population will be shown in time.

A small section of Public Law 87-89 (Medicare), which has not received public attention to the extent of the Hospital and Medical Insurance Program, is referred to as Title XIX. It appears that this section of the law is going to be very important to Castañer and Castañer Hospital.

Title XIX is the welfare section of the new law providing for a federal grant to any State wishing the benefits under this program. The Puerto Rican government has moved quickly to make application for a grant and we at Castañer Hospital are making our needs known to the Department of Health who will administer the program. This section of the law will begin operating on January 1, 1966.

The important points of Title XIX which will greatly affect Health Economics in Castañer are:

1. Provision to pay for the \$40 and \$50 deductibles of the Hospital and Medical Insurance programs for aged public assistance recipients. Public Welfare agencies, in certain cases, may even pay the \$3.00 premium of the Medical Insurance program for welfare recipients. Thus, even the highly indigent in our area may be included under the above program.
2. Funds to provide comprehensive health care and services to preschool and school age children, especially in areas of high indigency.

3. Funds to provide care to medically needy children under 21 years of age from low income families.
4. Other funds to provide expanded health services to dependent children, the blind, permanently and totally disabled persons and other medically indigent adults and children.

This section of the law is of extreme importance to our Hospital because Castañer is located in an area which has more people on welfare than any other rural area of the island. Many of our patients will likely fall into one of the categories listed previously. Eighty percent of our Hospital patients and 50-60 percent of OPD patients, by rough estimate, could be defined as medically indigent. Only 40% of the cost of providing service to these individuals is paid for by government agencies. Part of the remaining 60% of costs is covered by funds from the General Brotherhood Board, Church of the Brethren and donations from friends. A big part of this 60% ends up an operating deficit and is written off as uncollectable. The new law will help to cover the cost of these services, providing us badly needed income so that we might increase wages for our many dedicated workers and possibly set up a capital reserve fund.

The Hospital has been helped by programs of President Johnson's War on Poverty. Twelve people who have for many years been on Welfare are working parttime and fulltime in the Hospital in a program to assist them to develop skills which will help them to find permanent work and possibly remove them from the Welfare list. The government pays the salary for these individuals thus allowing us to increase the number of personnel. It has been interesting to see the desire that these people have to prove themselves capable of doing a good job and many of them have proved themselves to be very fine workers.

Castañer Hospital is uniquely related to the work of the Puerto Rican Department of Health and from the present appearance of things this relationship is going to be broadened and will be a closer one in the future. Castañer, being an area which is relatively isolated, has not been well served in the past by the P.R. Department of Health. Over the years the program of Castañer Hospital, for lack of local services by the Department of Health, has evolved into one that attempts to provide a program of preventive medicine as well as the "normal services" of a private general hospital. The Department of Health has always recognized us for our service in the area of Public Health and has provided us some financial assistance. However, this has never in any way come near to paying for these services.

This past year we have been in continuous contact with the Department, emphasizing to them the need for more assistance. It appears now that this work is going to begin paying off. The following items are of special interest:

1. Two Registered Nurses have been assigned to Castañer Hospital where they will work to pay off their government scholarships. This has never before been permitted in a non-government hospital.

2. A meeting was held on October 3rd at Castañer with Hospital staff, Department of Health Officials from San Juan, Arecibo, and Ponce, Local mayors, and Representative Jaime Rullan Mayol of the P.R. House of Representatives to discuss the program of the Hospital. Much interest was shown in the work of the Hospital and as a result the local Health Districts are moving ahead to unite in a cooperative effort to assist the Hospital. There is even the possibility that Castañer may be designated a special project area for purpose of certain public health work.
3. A mass immunization program is going to be conducted throughout the island and Castañer Hospital will be part of this program.
4. A T.B. epidemiologist, Public Health Educator and Public Health Nurse may be assigned to the Hospital.
5. Problems in local sanitation, water, communication and various other health problems are being investigated by the Department of Health like they never have before.

I cannot help but feel very enthusiastic about what is happening both in regards to federal legislation as it affects our community and Hospital and expanding relationships with the Department of Health which will most likely result in a more comprehensive program of Health services to the people of Castañer. May I take this opportunity to extend thanks to each and every one of you who support the work of Castañer Hospital in so many ways. A special thanks to all my co-workers here at the Hospital who through their dedication and love provide Hospital services which are second to none in rural Puerto Rico.

-- Gene Yeazell
Administrator

Before moving on with our tour, let us review some of the statistical reports of the hospital in the past three years. The 1965 figures are estimates.

	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Admitted to Hospital	1,093	1,000	961
Inpatient Days	7,474	6,983	6,649
Deliveries	370	367	337
Minor Surgery	386	437	679
Major Surgery	126	120	123
Lab-Total Procedures	18,078	15,503	11,116
X-ray Total Procedures.	1,877	1,922	1,848
Out Patient Visits.	28,636	26,177	23,105
Social Work Interviews.	2,597	2,764	1,309
Total Meals Served.	36,509	36,036	30,700
Pounds Laundry.	85,552	78,750	79,465

+ + +

There is nothing so strong and safe,
in any emergency of life, as the
simple truth.

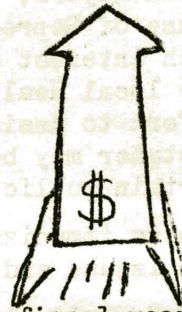
-- Charles Dickens

+ +

An idler is a watch that
Lacks both hands --
As useless if it goes
as if it stands.

-- William Cowper

A look at the Hospital financial picture is now in order as we move into the Business Offices. The Treasurer, Duane Steiner, who has been here since August, 1964, will give us this report.



THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial picture for Castañer Hospital for the fiscal year 1964-1965 has been one of encouragement. There has been a significant increase in income which has resulted in several physical improvements around the hospital. In addition, we have also increased the wages of our employees.

In April of 1965, our hospital charges were revised and many of them increased. This was something that had not been done since the original rates were established in 1962. One of the most important increases to us was the raising of the out patient professional service fee from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per visit. Along with this, many of our laboratory and x-ray fees and surgery professional service fees were increased.

In direct relationship with our increased rates is our marked increase in patient income. In August of this year, we broke all records in this income by going over \$8,000. In the early part of this fiscal year, we were having trouble getting \$6,000. per month. Some of this increased income can, of course, be attributed to our higher charges, but we feel also that the people are beginning to pay more as the whole economy of the valley is improving. Another factor contributing to our financial increase has been the institution of our billing system. In the past, our patients very seldom received statements of their accounts. Now, we are establishing an address file and patients are being billed monthly. This is rather difficult because many people do not have adequate mailing addresses and bills are frequently returned as "unknown" or "unclaimed", but the system is definitely worthwhile. We have received as much as \$300.00 per month from our bills.

Anticipating a new minimum wage law in Puerto Rico, and also considering that an increase had not been given the employees for sometime, we raised the wages of our Puerto Rican workers as of December 1, 1964. This raise amounted to about a \$3,000. payroll increase annually. Then, sure enough in July we were hit with the new minimum wage law and once again gave increases amounting to \$5,000. yearly. This meant that we had raised our payroll expense \$8,000. annually. This had been somewhat difficult for us to absorb but it certainly has been a worthwhile benefit for our employees.

Another new and very important change for us was the adoption of a salaried plan for Stateside registered nurses. We have moved in this direction to aid us in

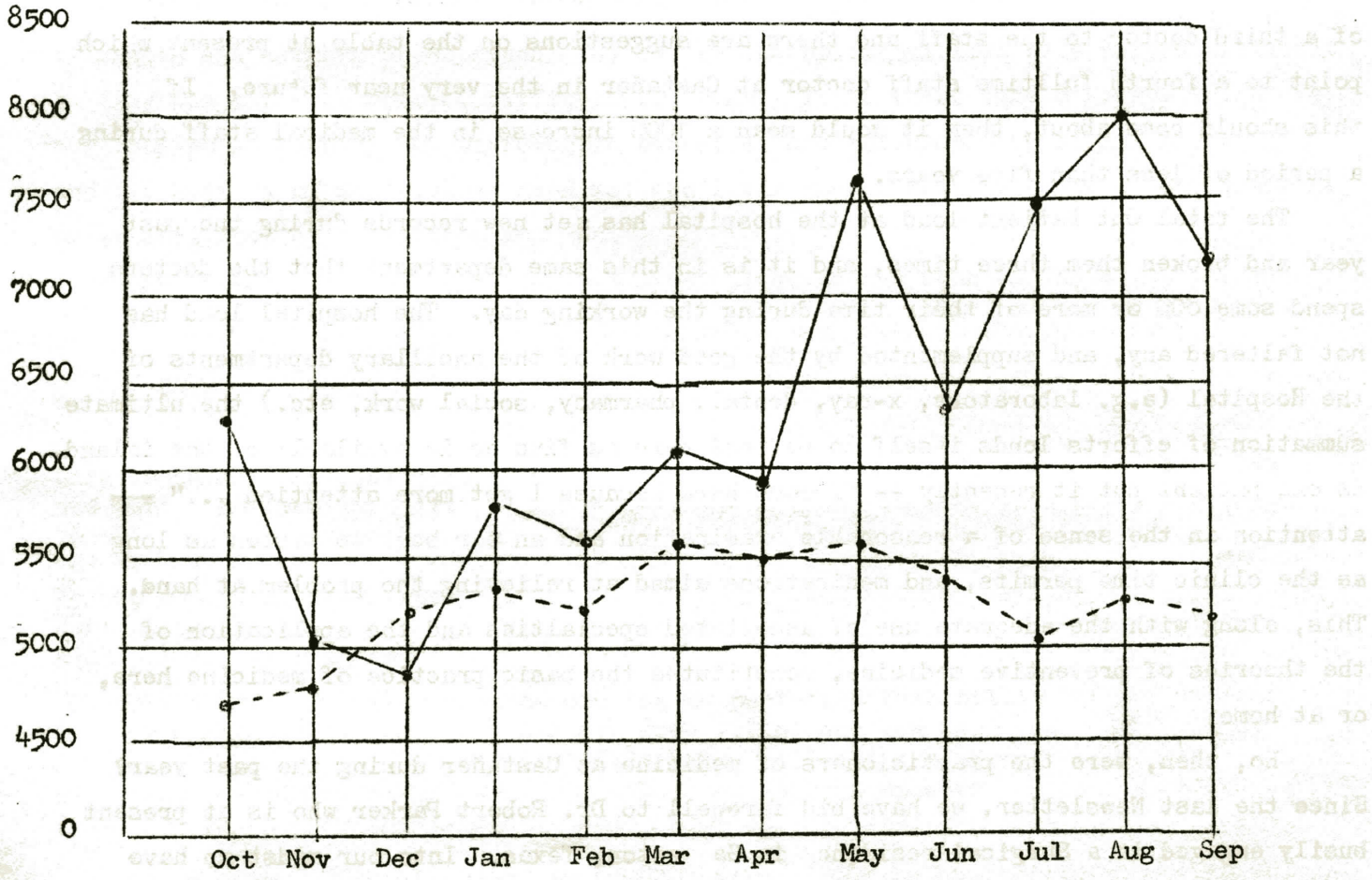
keeping our hospital more fully staffed around the clock. We mention this as an opportunity for those nurses who feel they cannot serve on a volunteer basis.

Looking around the hospital we see several new improvements. The painting program was completed early this summer. Both the outside and most of the inside has taken on a fresh new look. Secondly, a water softener is being installed which will give us more suitable water and also will decrease the amount of wear and deterioration on our pipes and equipment within the hospital. We are able to accomplish this with the donations from the Wille Forbes Memorial Fund. In early September, a new Toyota (Japanese Jeep) was added to our vehicles. This came to us through the help of the vehicle replacement fund in Elgin and the Castañer Social Service fund headed by Nathan Leopold.

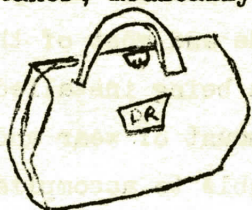
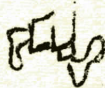
Fixing our thoughts on the new fiscal year, 1965-1966, the financial picture should once again be one of continued improvement. Beginning in January, 1966, we have promises of more financial help from the Department of Health and then, of course, in July when Medicare goes into effect, we will be receiving funds from the Federal Government to aid in caring for aged.

— Duane L. Steiner
Treasurer

Key
1963-64 - - - -
1964-65 ———— COMPARISON OF OUR 1963-1964 AND 1964-1965 PATIENT INCOMES



Dr. John Taylor, one of three doctors at Hospital Castañer, has been here since July of 1964 and plans to stay until June of 1966. He will report to us of progress in Hospital Castañer, medically.



THE DOCTOR'S REPORT

"....distinctly isolated, and yet striving to maintain and improve the basic medical care of the people of the valley region around Los Rabanos."

This has been said of the medical work centered at Hospital Castañer --- yet the distinction of isolation carries with it the desire and need for collaboration, co-operation, and downright improvisation at times, and without the ability to function in such a context, a medical doctor would not last long in the Castañer valley. Fortunately, most of the men who have served this medical centre during the past years have been men of such calibre that their malleability of outlook never weakened their firmness of conviction, and vice versa. The result has been a gradual increase in the quality and quantity of medical care here in Castañer with the specific desire and aim that the latter's rise will never hinder the advance of the former. A specific move was made in the summer of 1962 to insure good quality medicine by the addition of a third doctor to the staff and there are suggestions on the table at present which point to a fourth fulltime staff doctor at Castañer in the very near future. If this should come about, then it would mean a 100% increase in the medical staff during a period of less than five years.

The total Out Patient load at the hospital has set new records during the past year and broken them three times, and it is in this same department that the doctors spend some 80% or more of their time during the working day. The hospital load has not faltered any, and supplemented by the good work of the ancillary departments of the Hospital (e.g. laboratory, x-ray, dental, pharmacy, social work, etc.) the ultimate summation of efforts lends itself to medical care as fine as is available on the island. As one patient put it recently -- "I come here because I get more attention ..." --- attention in the sense of a reasonable examination and an ear bent to listen as long as the clinic time permits, and medications aimed at relieving the problem at hand. This, along with the adequate use of associated specialties and the application of the theories of preventive medicine, constitutes the basic practice of medicine here, or at home.

Who, then, were the practitioners of medicine at Castañer during the past year? Since the last Newsletter, we have bid farewell to Dr. Robert Parker who is at present busily engaged in a Surgical residency in Galveston, Texas. Into our midst we have

seen come and go, several medical students who have made effective contributions to the work: Patrick Dowling and Arthur Norris from the University of Wisconsin; Larry Miller of the University of Michigan, and Waldrund Quenzer, presently studying at the University of Kentucky. Welcomed onto the staff for at least two years was Dr. Keim Houser, graduate of Northwestern University. Our surgical service has been kept in good shape with the monthly assistance of Dr. Ray Nelson of Bella Vista Hospital, Mayaguez, and during the month of August, Dr. W.G. Cauble of Wichita, Kansas contributed greatly to the surgery programme as he made use of any available time in the operating room. Dr. Cauble and his family were here through arrangements made with the Layman's Overseas Service (LAOS). Once again this summer, Dr. Merritt Canfield of San Diego, California, very admirably filled in for three months during a staff changeover. The present staff consists of Dr. Lee Smith, Jr. of South Bend, Indiana, Dr. John Taylor of Toronto, Ontario, and Dr. Keim Houser, of New Liberty, Indiana.

The months ahead will bring new faces and new skills to Castañer, and yet the basic needs, challenges, and problems will remain unchanged as a whole, for the winds of change blow softly and slowly in the Caribbean Climes. In part II of Pilgrim's Progress, Bunyan said: "It happens to us, as it happeneth to wayfaring men: sometimes our way is clean, sometimes foul; sometimes up hill, sometimes down hill; we are seldom at a certainty the wind is not always at our backs, nor is everyone a friend that we meet in the way." Here in Puerto Rico, the medical, moral, and mental illnesses are matched or superceded by social and spiritual ills of a nature difficult to diagnose and even moreso, difficult to treat. It is these same diseases which are our enemies as much as the microscopic bacteria, and the combating of all man's ills and the meeting of man's whole need is, and still should be, the basis of our labours, or we fail both our fellowman and God.

-- John R. Taylor
Chief of the Medical Staff

+ + + + +
Life is partly what you make it
and partly how you take it.

-- Author Unknown

He who would eat the kernel
Must crack the nut.

-- Plautus

Three little rules we all should
Keep to make life happy and bright:
Smile in the morning,
And smile at noon,
And keep on smiling at night.



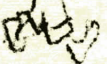
-- Author Unknown

No one can be perfectly free till
All are free ... no one can be
Perfectly happy till all are happy.

-- Herbert Spencer

H.R.

In the laboratory we meet John Studebaker, who will be leaving us in March of 1966. John has been our Lab Technician during his service here and has found many changes to have occurred in the laboratory and x-ray departments of the hospital.



THE LABORATORY REPORT

As I rush into the last quarter of my two years here at Hospital Castañer, I can reflect on the many changes that have taken place here in the community, the hospital, the laboratory and of course in myself.

The changes in the community are subtle ones for developments in Castañer are rarely on a grand and dramatic scale and when Castañer is pushing toward a day when some of these developments will become local achievements. In a mere 18 months, one can note a marked increase in community concerns for and understanding of their roll in such long standing projects as a decent community center, a community recreational program and in the maintenance and progress of Hospital Castañer. Although inside the hospital progress continues at a steady pace in all departments, I will confine my progress report to the laboratory and X-ray departments.

No area in the hospital can show an increase in quality, accompanied by an overall increase in quantity, comparable with that of the laboratory and X-ray departments. Practically the sole factor responsible for this improved quality is the corresponding increase in personnel. Where before there were sporadic periods of months at a time with but one technician attempting to keep both departments under control and rarely have there been more than two, two full time technicians in the past 18 months, now there are four full time persons working in these departments and in addition there are two part time assistants as well.

Our X-ray department was revived when Ernesto Diaz recovered from a back injury and subsequent surgery and took over the duties as X-ray technician early in June this year. Ernesto is doing an excellent job. During the summer, Ferdinand Santiago, who had just graduated from High School, came on full time to lend an invaluable helping hand. Late in August, as Ferdinand packed up and went off to study at Interamerican University in San German, José A. Cortes (Pucho) began, full time, to fill the gap which Ferdinand left. Pucho is working out well and should prove to be a valuable technician.

Our most recent additions have come as a result of the various "Johnson Plans". Several weeks ago, under Plan No. 1, Rosa Velez took on the responsibilities of keeping both the laboratory and X-ray departments, plus all the equipment therein, clean. This is a job that was never done well in the past. Now Rosa does it so well

that I occasionally have to look for more dirt in obscure corners in order to keep her busy. In addition Ernesto's daughter, Elsa Enid Diaz and her friend Rosa Esther Rivera have applied to work in the lab. and X-ray departments under "Johnson Plan" No. 2 (for unemployed high school graduates). Until the girls are officially accepted they have volunteered to serve as clerks and assistants without pay.

All of this progress means a great deal to me not only because of the general improvement in these departments, but also concerning my personal appreciation of my two years here in Castañer, Puerto Rico. There have been many attractive personal opportunities here in my first year and one half which were necessarily rejected because of our understaffed situation in the lab. Now I am beginning to find time to understand our more direct medical service by spending more time with our doctors in off hours and by observing surgery on Thursday mornings. Also, I plan to get a look at our out patient clinics which I have heard so much about. To wind up my account of the laboratory and x-ray service I might mention that it is "probable" that my replacement, a BVS'er, will arrive in December. This gives us a much needed over-lap of at least two months since I will be finishing my term in March.

In Castañer I have learned a great deal, come to appreciate the Puerto Rican people, and confirmed my interest in medicine. For these reasons, when I return to the states and Manchester College in the fall of '66 to continue my pre-med. studies, the people of Puerto Rico and their beautiful island will perhaps prove to have been the most important and influential two year period in my life. For this experience I am most grateful.

-- John Studebaker
Laboratory Technician

+ + + + +

Trouble's a ton , or trouble's an ounce,
Or trouble is what you make it.
It isn't how much you are hurt that
Counts, but only how did you take it?

-- Edmund Vance Cook

If at first you do succeed,
Try again!
Life is more than just one deed;
Try again!

-- C.A.S. Dwight

Think that day lost whose low
Descending sun views from thy
Hand no noble action done.

-- Jacob Bobart

We should strive to go on in fortune and misfortune like a clock during a thunderstorm.

-- Roberto Luis Stevenson

24



As we walk into the hospital (bed-patient area), we meet Elsa Groff, the Director of Nurses. Mrs. Groff is very busy, but she has time to give us some information about the nursing situation in Castañer.

THE NURSES' REPORT

There is a ray of hope breaking through now to solve our nurse situation in Castañer. The government is taking positive action and helping us in this major problem.

For years we have had to train our own practical nurses, which took time and preparation in our already busy schedule. With the constant movement of people to the cities we could never solve that problem. This year through the Kennedy Act. . . . the labor department organized and is training a group of twenty young local men and women as practical nurses in their vocational school. This will mean that at the end of this year, I will have a nice selection of practical nurses to choose from to staff our hospital.

Now what about the Registered Graduate Nurses? Although this problem is not completely solved, they have given us help. Some young women of the area enter every year into Graduate Nurses Training, but most of these young women also study under government scholarship, making it mandatory that they work for the government after graduation. After a strong appeal to our Department of Health official, we succeeded in convincing them that our work in Castañer was closely involved with Public Health and "de moda" very closely related with the Government. The outcome of this is that they had given permission to two nurses to work in Castañer. The nurses, by working here, will pay their scholarship back to the government. At the present we have two of

these nurses working with us.

That still leaves six other positions to fill in order to have a complete staff of nurses. At the present we have two vacancies and possibly very soon, three.

Any qualified Registered Graduate Nurse interested in serving in our modern hospital in a very needy area, will not only find a feeling of service, but also one of challenge. If you are interested, please contact, Hospital Castañer, Box 23, Castañer, Puerto Rico.



-- Elsa Groff
Director of Nurses

Let's listen to a routine day in the life of an R.N. at Castañer.

I am an R.N., yes an R.N., but what am I doing here? Oh, how many times do we ask ourselves this question? But then come to think of it what R.N. anywhere in any hospital doesn't ask the same question? Really, when we do take out time to see what we are doing over and beyond experiencing fatigue and drudgery, we find a great deal of satisfaction in our work here - a great deal.

It seems that anybody existing anywhere near a Castañer R.N. becomes very much aware of the life of a nurse, especially when reminded to keep quiet - the night nurse is sleeping.

6:00 AM: What an unearthly hour to arise, especially on a chilly Castañer morning, but duty calls once again. So off to work at 7:00 AM is Elvira Martinez to find Fern Hudson, the night nurse, doing the last charting of the first surgery patient for the day. And here comes Bernice Martin in her lovely OR scrub dress pushing the stretcher toward the patient's room. Oh, Elvira uses another one of her five senses and hears strains of "Hay que dolor, Hay Dios mio," coming from the direction of the labor room. Well, it sounds like a typical busy surgery day.

Sure enough doesn't the labor patient decide to delivery while all the doctors are scrubbed in surgery! Every time! Well, we can rest at peace knowing the patient is in the good experienced hands of Mrs. Groff and Elvira to deliver her.

It was a busy 7-3 shift with all the surgery and a delivery and now at 2:55 PM comes a pediatric admission. Oh, Ofe Rodriguez the 3-11 nurse has arrived and offers to finish the admission for Elvira. So after the 3 PM report, Ofe is off to a busy start, having to set up a hypodermoclysis on the child, checking all the surgical patients and a labor patient. Then, here comes Esther Alicea, our 3-11 OPD girl to Ofe's capable advice on a problem.

Tonight it seems to be one of those busy OPD evenings (Out Patient Department) with all kinds of emergencies and then, of course, an admission or two and a delivery. With the excellent help of the aides and practical nurses, Ofe finds herself ready for the night nurse, Carmen Ramos, at 11 PM.

Oh, Carmen is relieved to find all things quiet and under control when she comes on duty - no labor patients, surgery patients quiet, and our sick child is better. She is just finishing report with Ofe, when the buzzer sounds, the emergency door buzzer. A busy night ahead?

OOPS! We missed Bruni Mercado during these rounds of shifts because she had the day off. However, Bruni had her big day yesterday in away-clinic, way up at Cerrote. Oh, those treacherous roads and those Americano doctor drivers! But, it was worth it to see and help all those cute little children.

♥♥ Starr Moyer Lichty, R.N.
Now located in San Juan



" AWAY CLINICS" OF CASTANER HOSPITAL

Away clinics, begun in 1943, are conducted by the Hospital in isolated areas where there is a great need for a program of preventive medicine. Wednesday of each week is Away Clinic day. A medical doctor, registered nurses, two nurses aides, social worker and the public health secretary take a four wheel drive jeep and head in to an area where the population finds the Hospital rather inaccessible.

The results, as illustrated in the statistics below, are surprising:

Patient visits	2,941
Innoculations for DPT, DT, and Polio	884
Patients treated for intestinal parasites (Ascaris and Uncinaria)	1,465

The purposes of the clinics are:

1. To immunize children against all communicable diseases.
2. Give examinations for intestinal parasites and give treatment to those infected.
3. Education of families for better health, better meals and better hygienic conditions.
4. Education in family planning.
5. Stimulate the children to attend school.
6. Help, in anyway possible, any family that has children with physical defects.
7. Try to develop a positive attitude towards the roll and worth of good health to the individual.

Maybe what we are doing in our Away Clinic program is little, but for us it is the road to greater aspirations for the future. We want to take to these people the best in medical service.

-- Adapted from a report by
Brunilda Mercado, R.N.

+ + + + +

The project Camera Club now has three by five picture postcards of the hospital. The picture on the post card is a very good view of the hospital today. These cards are for sale at five cents a card plus ten cents an order for handling and mailing payable to Castañer Hospital. GET YOUR ORDER NOW!

+ + + + +

A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
-- From "Leisure" by William H. Davies

A truth that's told with bad
intent
Beats all the lies you can
invent. -- William Blake

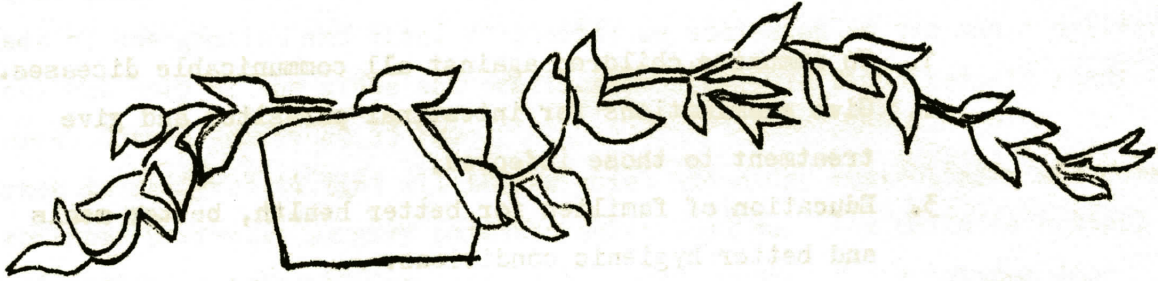
Peace is recognizing that iron curtains
are not metal but mental.
-- Wilferd A. Peterson

No one can make you feel inferior
without your consent.
-- Eleanor Roosevelt

You are more likely to get along if
you develop a brake for your tongue
and an accelerator for your brain.
-- Adapted

No quarrel ever stirred
Before the second word.
-- Arthur Guiterman

Kindness is a golden chain by which society is bound together. -- Goethe



Let us step out of the hospital and take a short walk over to the church. After visiting with our Pastor Don Fike, we can then become acquainted with the new project personnel and refresh our acquaintances with project members who have been here for one year or more.



NEWS NOTES from the CHURCH

During this year a new level of participation and inspiration in the life of the church has been reached. Several persons have entered into full fellowship with the church through baptism. Five of these are members of the "extension" group in Yahuecas, where increased understanding of the Christian way of life has been evident.

The youth group in general has been very active throughout the year. For the first time a Youth Cabinet Retreat was held at the Methodist camp in Barrio Mameyes, Jayuya. Along with recreational and devotional activities, the retiring and newly elected Cabinets joined forces in outlining the activities of the group for the entire year. Besides the normal gamut of activities at home, interchanges of meetings were carried out with Baptist youth of Castañer and Adjuntas, and also with a Methodist youth group of Ponce. On another occasion the group attended the capping service of Dolores "Lolita" Cortes who has entered her second year of nurse's training in Saint Luke's Hospital, Ponce.

The Christmas drama was a real success again this year. It was presented first to a crowd that filled the sanctuary here in Castañer. Later, the same evening a sizeable group walked to various points in the community, stopping at intervals to sing villancicos and carols. Then again on Three Kings the youth group traveled to Ponce where they presented the drama in the Corson Methodist Church.

Once again we felt the absence of some of the most dedicated and able youth of the church as a result of graduation. It is interesting to note that the president, vice-president and other leaders of this year's graduating class were members of the youth group here. Most of them have moved beyond the community now to activities of study,

work, or service. Several are in Inter-American University, San German and others in the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras. Another of the girls has entered nurse's training - this time in Arecibo District Hospital.

Camp was held early this summer with José Olmo of Mayaguez serving as director. Schedule conflicts at the Monte del Estado facility necessitated holding this year's camp at El Guacio. As last year, it was a co-educational experience with campers and leaders from Marina Neighborhood House, Mayaguez, and Castañer. The program involved a total of approximately 75 persons.

The community wide Vacation Church School was held in the Baptist Church this summer, with the Pentecostals, Baptists and Brethren furnishing the leadership. We hope to pass it from one church to another so that each group will serve as host once every three years.

Perhaps the most thrilling development in the life of the Church this year was the realization of a visitation ministry to non-resident members and friends in the States while maintaining an active summer program in Castañer under the direction of Dr. Solomón Cabezas from Ecuador. Dr. Cabezas is a dentist by profession, though also an active layman who has served the Ecuadorian evangelical Church in various positions of leadership. Sponsored by the United Andean Indian Mission, he studied a year in the Evangelical Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba. Later he came with his family to continue theological studies in the Evangelical Seminary of P.R. in Rio Piedras. The friendship, begun in Ecuador by the Pastor, was continued here in Puerto Rico, and through a series of "coincidental" experiences, the Cabezas family was able to live in the parsonage during the absence of the pastor for two of the summer months.

Dr. Cabezas worked mornings in the Hospital Dental Clinic and dedicated afternoons and weekends to church activities. The church in general and the youth group in particular profited greatly from his leadership. His ministry made it possible for the pastor and his family to visit extensively among Puerto Ricans throughout the eastern half of the U.S. as well as teach for a week at the New Windsor, Md. training center for volunteers, after attending Annual Conference.

A detailed log of the open doors, warm receptions, meaningful conversations, invitations to speak and preach, friendships renewed, new acquaintances, helpful information exchanged, etc. through approximately 7,000 miles crisscrossing from New Jersey and New York to Chicago and points between, would serve as a record of a dream fulfilled. A desire to renew and maintain the Church's contact with many who have gone from the community, and especially the Church, to live in the states; to give them counsel and encouragement and help in any way possible to bring deeper meaning to their lives.

The correspondence ministry was a forerunner of the summer's experiences and now forms an indispensable carry-through for many of the contacts made. Impressions received, information gathered and lessons learned during the summer provide a broader and deeper base for a more adequate ministry inside and outside of Puerto Rico.

PERSONNEL



Let's take a peek at new personnel.

Since October of 1964 there have been several new fulltime continental replacements on our staff.

++ Arriving in December from Vernfield, Pennsylvania, came Starr Moyer. Starr was here as a BVS Registered Nurse and trained in the October Unit.

++ Doctor Eugenia York from Miami, Florida came to fulfill our dentist vacancy on an indefinite term.

++ Jerry Ruff, more commonly known as Chupp, arrived from Bridgewater, Virginia in March. Jerry will be working in maintenance until March of 1967 while serving his BVS term.

++ Castañer Hospital, always in need of good nurses, was very happy when Fern Hudson, a Registered Nurse, arrived in May. Coming from Minneapolis, Minnesota, Fern is a well experienced and needed nurse.

++ Also a very welcome sight, was Bernice Martin, another new R.N. Bernice is from Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and plans to be with us for one year. She will be our surgery nurse.

++ Dr. and Mrs. Keim (Sylvia) Houser arrived in July to serve as doctor and housewife. The Housers are from Forest Park, Illinois and plan a two year stay.

++ Arriving from Idaho are Dr. and Mrs. Ray Blikensstaff. Dr. Blikensstaff will be serving as Dentist and his wife (Margaret) will serve as Dental Assistant. Their term of service is presently for one year.

++ Not new to project personnel, but new to their new assignment are Edgar and Helen Kiracofe. During the past year, the Kiracofe's were managers of the old project in the absence of Forrest Groff. During the coming year, they will serve as personnel advisors, B.V.S. councillors, and unit co-ordinators.

VISITOR WORKERS DURING THE PAST YEAR:

Mr. & Mrs. Jim (Janeene) Coleman and Julie:	Sacramento, California Seven Months - Pharmacist
Dr. & Mrs. Merritt (Esther) Canfield:	San Diego, California Three months - Doctor
Dr. & Mrs. Wilber Cauble, Jack and Steve:	Wichata, Kansas Four weeks - Surgeon
Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon (Carol) Wion:	Logansport, Indiana Six weeks, Community Center Leaders
Miss Mary Sue Helstern:	Brookville, Ohio Three months - Registered Nurse

THOSE WHO LEFT DURING THE PAST YEAR:



<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Now Located:</u>
Barbara Custer	Nurse	Elgin, Illinois
Tess Daley	Accounts Receivable Secretary	Porterville, California
Starr Moyer Lichty	Nurse	San Juan, P.R.
Mary Ann Packer	Nurse	Westover, Maryland
Dr. and Mrs. Bob (Carolyn) Parker and girls	Doctor and housewife	Galveston, Texas
Mr. and Mrs. Galen (Sarah) Sargeant	Comptroller and housewife	Sebring, Florida
Lynn Shively	Maintenance head	Nashville, Tennessee
Clara Rae Walters	Nurse	Quito, Ecuador
Dr. Eugenia York and daughter	Dentist	Honolulu, Hawaii
+ + + +		

MEDICAL STUDENTS:

December to February:	Dr. and Mrs. Patrick Dowling	Madison, Wisconsin
March to May:	Dr. Arthur Norris	Elgin, Illinois
March to May:	Dr. and Mrs. Larry Miller	Chicago, Illinois
June to August:	Dr. Waltrund Quenzor	University of Kentucky, Lexington
+ + + +		

THOSE STILL ON PROJECT:

Mr. and Mrs. Gene (Carol) Yeazell	Administrator and housewife (In April, the Yeazells became the proud parents of their second child - Melody Dawne.)	
Dr. and Mrs. John (Joan) Taylor	Doctor and Housewife	
Dr. and Mrs. Lee (Glea) Smith	Doctor and Housewife	
Mr. and Mrs. Everett (Elsa) Groff	Purchasing Agent and Nursing Supervisor	
Rev. and Mrs. Don (Shirley) Fike	Minister and Housewife	
Mr. and Mrs. Duane (Jeannine) Steiner	Treasurer and Secretary	BVS
Nancy Donaldson	Secretary	BVS
Norene Keenen	School Teacher	BVS
John Studebaker	Laboratory Technician	BVS
+ + + +		

When you are good to others,
you are best to yourself.

-- Benjamin Franklin

All the beautiful sentiments in
the world weigh less than a
single lovely action.

-- James Russell Lowell

There's nothing so kingly
as kindness
And nothing so royal as truth.

-- Alice Cary

VISITORS

VISITORS

VISITORS

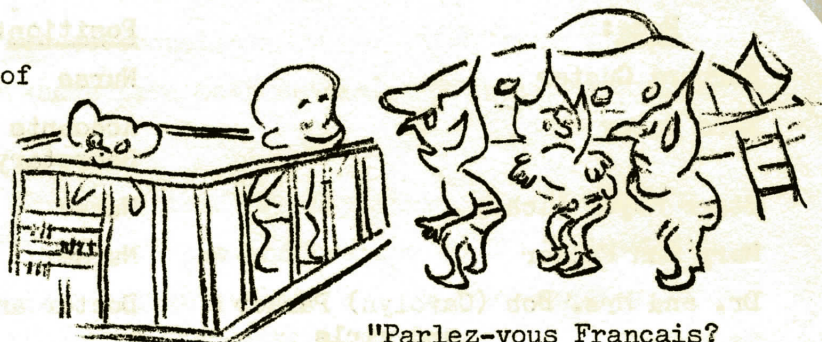
VISITORS

As in every year the list is long of visitors to Castañer in the past year. It would be impossible to list every one, but among many were:

Mr. Roberto Sanchez Vilella, newly elected Governor of Puerto Rico; W.

Harold Row, on his yearly administrative visit; Mr. Rufus King and family, after many years absence from this, their former home; Rev. Eugene

Carper, to see the new hospital which only on the drawing board when he was director of the project; Rev. and Mrs. Nevin Zuck, Elizabethtown; Rev. and Mrs. Glenn Norris, Elgin; Dr. and Mrs. John Schaeffer, Executive Secretary of Division of the World Mission of E.U.B. Church; Eighteen students from Park School of Buffalo; Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Brock, Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. William J. Long; Miss Fran Clemens, New Windsor; Mr. Roger Sollenberger, McLean, Virginia; The Rev. and Mrs. Howard Bernard, Mt. Joy, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stutzman, Orlando, Florida; Mr. and Mrs. John L. Donaldson, Peru, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Luther Keenen, New Carlisle, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Studebaker, Dayton, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Yeazell, Tucson, Arizona; Mrs. Joanne Goff, Tucson, Arizona; Evelyn Grisso and Steve Knoblock, returning BVS'ers from Haiti.



"Parlez-vous Francais?
Habla usted Español?
Do you speak English?
Sprechen sie Deutsch?"

-- Gene Yeazell

+ + + +

Before leaving Castañer for Sacramento, California, Jim and Janeene Coleman were given an opportunity to express their personal ideas and views of what serving in Castañer has meant for them.

Following are excerpts from the speeches given by the Colemans that can speak to us all.

JIM:

"Why? We have had all these freedoms, [freedom of education, free enterprise, freedom to live how and where we want, freedom of worship], but we've also had the nagging and growing realization that what we have is the goal of all men ... that these freedoms will be lasting only if others have the opportunity to share in them.

How? Layman's Overseas Service seemed to fit our needs. [LAOS] We know now that the world is full of Castañers waiting for helpers. We also know that the world will never be a better or kinder place for men, until the efforts of people like you outweigh the efforts of the many who are trying to tear down the few islands of

freedom in the world. We came here because we had to come. We were looking for many different things, and we've found most of them - a place to serve, another culture, another language, strength for our own faith"

JANEENE:

"Our first challenge is time. Is our stay of seven months long enough to make any worthwhile contribution ? We all know for a fact that Castañer Hospital would not even exist without volunteers; it was founded thus Here, we have the chance to show by evolution, rather than revolution, how native peoples can develop skills

.... Is the Spanish culture being submerged by the American image? let's admit to ourselves that we are exporting American culture. If we believe that we have developed one of the best economic systems in the world, made the greatest advancements in medical science the world has known, and given our people more material comforts and leisure time than any society in history, why are we afraid to say so?....

....Meanwhile, the best way we ourselves can cope with the problem is to offer the best possible service while we are here, and when we return home to encourage others to volunteer...."

+ + + + +

It is time that we revise our address file of those that wish to receive the Newsletter in the coming years. If you wish to receive the Newsletter in the future, please fill out the form below and mail it to Hospital Castañer, Box 23, Castañer, Puerto Rico 00631. Thank You.

Name _____

Current Address _____

Please include the above signed in the address file for Future Newsletters.