

NEW ENGLAND HOSPITAL ENGINEERS SOCIETY NEWS LETTER

April 15, 1961

Vol. 3. I

It is our sincere hope that all who attended the annual meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 1961 at the Hotel Bradford in Boston, held in conjunction with the New England Hospital Assembly, enjoyed an informative and interesting session.

Mr. Harry Schreiber of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology spoke on "Making it Easier". His words of wisdom were pointed toward good planning based on proper thought and continual evaluation of methods. Plan ahead, write it down, think it out, then ask, "Why the hell does it have to be done in this particular manner?" Many of us will take men out on jobs and start the project without fully thinking it through, and then find an easier method when the job is nearly completed. This is often known as the "Hard Way". Mr. Schreiber feels the true "Engineers Approach" of planning on paper, figuring labor and material costs, operating functions, and writing instructions, plans, and specifications will save both time and money.

Those who missed the panel on "Engineering Mistakes" missed a good show put on by a rather brave group of our members. These men worked hard and put in a lot of preparation to carry off this show and to still point out some of the things which befall all engineers at one time or another.

"Well Done Gentlemen!"

NEWS LETTER (Continued)

Our list of newly elected officers runs as follows:

President: Joseph W. Degen, Assistant Director
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston 14, Massachusetts

Vice President: Edwin W. Chaffee, Administrative Engineer
Rhode Island Hospital
Providence, Rhode Island

Treasurer: Vincent F. Gardner, Administrative Engineer
Beth Israel Hospital
Boston 15, Massachusetts

Secretary: Louis B. Ely, Jr., Chief Engineer
Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital
Hanover, New Hampshire

STATE REPRESENTATIVES:

Connecticut: Frank A. Fuhlbruch, Plant Manager
Newington Hospital for Crippled Children
Newington, Connecticut

Maine: Winslow Harris, Chief Engineer
Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine

Massachusetts: Louis H. Hough, Assistant Administrator
Boston Lying-In Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts

New Hampshire: Richard K. Hersey, Chief Engineer
Huggins Hospital, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire

Rhode Island: William H. Ormberg, Plant Engineer
Westerly Hospital, Westerly, Rhode Island

Vermont: Oran Lambert, Chief Engineer
Mary Fletcher Memorial Hospital, Burlington, Vermont

These men work in your behalf to promote better engineering practices within the hospital business. We respectfully solicit your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and constructive criticism. Don't hesitate to let us know how you think and feel.

NEWS LETTER (Continued)

During the luncheon our past presidents' were awarded handsome plaques in honor of services rendered. Unfortunately, George Vera, our first president, was on vacation in Florida and could not receive his, but smiling Dick Stockwell, our second president, was on hand to receive his from our new president, Joe Degen.

A new committee was formed by Joe Degen for publications. This should produce some good material from time to time, with a real work of art to be handed out during the fall meeting. If any member has thoughts or ideas on this subject, please contact the chairman, Warren Marble, Chief Engineer, Danbury Hospital, Danbury, Connecticut. The remaining members are Bill Harney, Tom Manchester, and Lou Ely.

Remember! 1961 Dues are Due.

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NEXT MONTH

QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS:

The Questionnaire which was answered during the fall meeting in Concord, New Hampshire, will be one of the topics of next month's News Letter.

JOIN THE CONTEST:

The official rules covering the New England Hospital Engineers Society emblem contest will be out in the May edition of the News Letter. Remember! You don't have to be an architectural draftsman to compete. In order to make it easy, a sample will accompany the rules to give one and all a flying start.

PRIZES:

Bottle of Scotch and box of cigars.

Judges to be announced in May, with prizes to be awarded during our fall session.

A SHORT EDITORIAL

During the past three years, we as members, have begun to get acquainted, and a link of genuine understanding has developed, along with some true friendships. Having a luncheon at the annual meeting improves the program and has given us more time together. The free exchange of information has shown its importance, and the general attitude of all concerned has been excellent, especially in assisting one another.

The technological advances of the past few years has made the life of the hospital engineer a more complicated one, and as time goes on, it will become even more so. A gradual change in the thinking of those who guide the destinies of hospitals is slowly making itself apparent. Some hospitals are now authorizing training programs to competent worthy individuals in the engineering and maintenance fields. The requirements and standards are continually rising. The necessity of obtaining well qualified men in as many fields as possible and protecting this investment by providing good working conditions, reasonable salaries, and a fair number of fringe benefits, has finally been recognized. Electronic controls, sonic washers, gas and steam combination sterilizers, automatic filing equipment, individual ice makers in multiple locations, ever increasing demands of research, along with a great increase in building programs, have placed greater

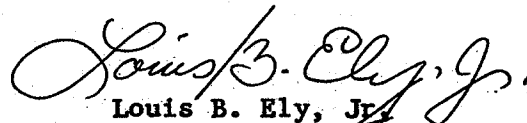
EDITORIAL (Continued)

work loads on nearly all maintenance personnel. Determining how it works, how to repair it, trying to determine which spare parts to have on hand, and where it fits in the preventive maintenance program, are all parts of the puzzle. Where do you fit in this puzzle?

A good beginning to find the solution is to visit a hospital of the approximate size and type as your own, and compare. You may find it necessary to visit several before you can really evaluate your own operation. Sometimes this information is of definite value. If you have conditions or problems which are common to other hospitals, inquire within the Engineers Society for information. Among the nearly one-hundred members involved in this society, there are some very capable men with good backgrounds and a great deal of experience. Many members have taken the opportunity to get out and see other hospitals and the men responsible for their care, have observed methods of operations, equipment contained, and the structures involved; and as a result have gained more knowledge of their profession. People like to help one another, so don't hesitate to ask, or don't be too surprised if someone asks you.

Use Your Engineers Society

Respectfully,



Louis B. Ely, Jr.
Secretary N.E.H.E.S.
Chief Engineer
Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital
Hanover, New Hampshire