

JGH

PULSE

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Dr. John McCrae, author of the now world-famous poem In Flanders Fields, was born in Guelph, Ontario, in 1872, educated in Toronto, and had been a professor of pathology at McGill University by the time WW I broke out. Serving the 1st Canadian Contingent as a medical officer, he saw service in every Canadian action in 1915. At Ypres that year, his close friend, Lieut. Alexis Helmer, of Ottawa, was killed... and afterward was buried in nearby Poperinghe, Belgium, in a small graveyard filled with red poppies and white crosses. One day during a lull in the shelling, McCrae -- who had written verse for years -- looked at his friend's grave from a tiny first-aid dugout, climbed into the rear of an ambulance, and wrote, in 20 minutes:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies blow
In Flanders fields.

Published in England's Punch magazine shortly thereafter, the "perfect war poem" was soon reprinted around the world. By the time McCrae knew about it, he was Lieut.-Col. in charge of Canadian Hospital No. 3 in Boulogne, France. He died of double pneumonia with massive cerebral infection on January 28, 1918, just five days after being named consulting physician to the 1st British Army. He is buried in Wimereux, France.

HOW TO CUT DOWN ON HOSPITAL THEFTS

IN THE PAST several months, thefts of personal belongings, money, handbags, wallets, etc. have, unfortunately, been occurring in all areas of the Hospital. Some of these thefts could have been carried out by visitors; others have taken place in areas where the general public rarely, if ever, has occasion to go. All losses, no matter how small, should be reported, immediately, to the security officer.

Following are suggestions for the security of your belongings:

1. Never carry large sums of money -- only enough for day-to-day needs.
2. Female personnel carrying handbags should carry them at all times. If this is not possible, lock the handbags in a desk, cupboard, or some other place where they can't be seen.
3. If you use a locker to keep street clothes in, make sure it is kept locked at all times.
4. If you must leave your office with no one there, lock it, and take the key with you. If you do not have a key, lock your office anyway and ask a security officer to open it for you on your return.
5. At mealtimes and rush-hours -- when offices and nursing stations are usually short-staffed -- make sure that your belongings are out of sight and locked up.
6. Keep your credit cards, money, and driver's license in different places. Loss of a credit card can sometimes cost you much more than a few dollars cash.
7. If you see any strangers loitering, or personnel in your area who have no apparent business there, notify the security officer at once.
8. Although a radio can provide company for people on night shifts, do not bring one to work if you value it.

Generally, remember that a thief cannot steal what he doesn't see, but what he sees is what he gets.

Lieut. David B. Piccott,
Pinkerton Security Officer.



OFF TO THE RACES! After 26 happy-go-lucky years at the JGH, Glasgow-born Bill McGeehan is all set and raring to go as Mrs. Agnes LeBlanc, C.E.H., Executive Housekeeper, presents him with a purse from his many friends at a special "do" held October 29th.

Bachelor Bill joined the Housekeeping staff in 1936, left in 1941 with the merchant marine to see action overseas, and returned to the JGH in 1950 as a Cleaning Supervisor to complete more than a quarter of a century of loyal service.

Above is a special Good Luck cake made for him by the JGH Dietary Department: a Bluebonnets racetrack complete with two running horses. (Which one did you bet on, Bill?)

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

WELCOME BACK to Mrs. Mabel McGill, RN, Nurses' Residence, who flew, October 29th, for a month's vacation in and around Hong Kong...to Mrs. O. Krull, NA, 5W, who had minor surgery at the JGH in October... to Mrs. S. Tyrell, RN, Case Room, who vacationed in Spain and Portugal in October... to Mrs. Mona Michaels, RN, Nursing Office, and Pulse's best reporter, who was a patient on 3NW September 17th to 30th... to Miss Dorothy Butler, RN, Nursing-In-Service, and Miss Sarah Sperry, HN, Health Service, who vacationed in Atlantic City during the first half of September...to Mme. Pierrette Methe-Hamel, Chief Dietician, who vacationed in Europe for two weeks in September ... to Dr. Sydney Pedvis, Chief, Pediatrics, who attended the International Congress of Pediatrics held early in September at the Hofburg Palace, Vienna... to Dr. Michael Gold, Medical Director, and Dr. Robert Levine, Senior Surgeon, who cruised the Aegean Sea as far as Israel during September...

BEST WISHES to Mrs. Agnes LeBlanc, Housekeeping, who moves December 1st to Ottawa... to Miss Leslie Gilmour, RN, Caseroom, 5W, who retired from the JGH November 14th after 37 devoted years... to Miss J. Rothman, NÄ, 5NW, who is a patient at the JGH following major surgery... to Mr. George Baird, Maintenance who leaves soon for a Ritzy new job... to Miss Luz Paa, RN, CCU who was appointed Head Nurse 3W November 1st... to Miss Wilda Aitken, AHN, 5W, who retired October 31st after 34 devoted years... to Miss Marilyn Butlin, who was recently appointed Assistant Head Nurse on 7NW... to Miss Letty Gobuyan who was recently made Assistant Head Nurse on 8W... to Mrs. Freda Kurtz Business Office, who left October 29th to have her baby...to Miss Mangliemot, RN, 8W, who became Mrs. T. Garcia in October.. to Messrs. Emile Blais, retired from the JGH after 20 years; Jack Cloran, retired after 16 years; Duncan Campbell, now in his own business after 5 years here; and poor Dave Walker who moved to Toronto after 4 years here -- all of whom left a big gap in the Maintenance Department beginning August 31st...

CONDOLENCES to the family and many friends of Mr. Mendel Segal, formerly of the Business Office and very recently retired, who died suddenly at the JGH September 30th...

CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Eric Saibil, Radiology, who recently became engaged to Miss Eleanor Tatner... to Mr. Ed. Bennett, Maintenance, and President of the JGH Recreational Association, who was recently appointed Supervisor, Maintenance... to Mr. David Littman, formerly of the Business Office, and another star reporter for Pulse, who was recently appointed JGH Administrative Assistant... to Mr. T. Aronovici, also of the Busin-

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ESS Office, a newly appointed Credit Officer...

DID YOU KNOW that over 300 JGH staffers and friends have signed up for the newest series of French classes, most of them beginners? that Dr. W. R. Slatkoff, Executive Director, was a patient at the JGH from October 7th to 14th? that a record 750 people -- some from as far away as California -- attended our Psychiatric Institute's second annual symposium held in the Institute October 21st-23rd? that the theme of this one was "Techniques in Family Therapy" and "The Future of the Family"? that at another symposium of 200 scientists in Switzerland, anthropologist Margaret Mead lashed out against men for "monkeying with women" to prevent unwanted pregnancies? that she said "the pill has been put into women's hands by men because men are so extraordinarily afraid to experiment with their own bodies?? that a recent survey of Montreal's high schools shows that 30% of students have used drugs at least once compared to 12% in 1969? that the proportion of users under 13 years of age had quadrupled since then? that an announcement will be made in the next issue of Pulse regarding the exhibition of staff paintings and photographs in the JGH cafeteria? that a survey recently conducted by the Federation of General Practitioners reveals that, since Medicare, their average income has increased to \$36,000 a year? that their average number of patients has also increased to 151 per week? that two-thirds have extended their work week to almost 58 hours?

AND DID YOU KNOW that the 5th book by Dr. A. Stilman, Honorary Attending Staff, Urology, will be on the bookstores in a few days? that, entitled Levy, it's about the generation gap? that John Sigal, Ph. D., and Shirley Braverman, M.S.W., Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry, were interviewed on CBC-TV's Format 30 September 15th regarding the \$15,690 grant the Institute received for their project on youth alienation prevention? that Dr. David Harris, Associate Director of Mt. Sinai Hospital, NYC, and formerly deputy health commissioner of that city, reported at the recent annual meeting of the American Public Health Association that New York State's liberalized abortion law accounts for "a sharp decrease" in that city's maternal death rate? that in the 15 months since the statute was enacted, maternal deaths have been reduced by more than half to their lowest rate in history? that Mrs. Elaine Brome, Dietary, shook hands with Pierre Berton when he autographed her copy of his latest book The Last Spike while in Montreal September 24th? that Miss Cay Draper, Public Relations shook hands with Canada's Governor General Roland Michener in the bazaar in Istanbul, Turkey, October 12th?

Gentlemen:

Mrs. Lillian Singer, my wife, was recently in the Hospital and was treated and looked after by Dr. Norman J. Goldberg. This was the first time any member of my family was in the Jewish General Hospital and we are indeed, very happy we were able to make an effort toward the Hospital.

I am a Governor of the Hospital, and Mrs. Singer and I donated \$5000 toward the Endowment. We sincerely hope we will be able to repeat this in the future. I would like you to convey to Dr. Norman Goldberg my deep appreciation of his services and consideration.

October 7th.

Respectfully yours,
Maxwell E. Singer.

* * *

To the staff on 5N:

Just a short note to thank you all for the good care and kindness given me during my 10 day hospitalization.

One thing they can say about the JGH is that they have a fine nursing staff on the 5th floor N.

I am coming along nicely but miss my friends I made in the Hospital.

Once again, thank you for everything.

October.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Daphne Therrien.

* * *

Dear Mr. Littman:

... I cannot write to you without taking a moment to praise the entire operation of your grand Hospital. Unfailingly, each staff member was kind, considerate, and grateful for the many kindnesses and courtesies shown...

Woodbridge, N.J.
October 4th.

Sincerely,
Gerald L. Salzer.

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Ed. note: More appreciative letters already in hand will be published in the next issue of Pulse.



PULSE PROFILE

Doorman Henry Arsenault was born in 1908 near Summerside, Prince Edward Island, one of five boys and six girls in what must have been a lively family. Henry's father owned a saw-mill, a lobster factory, and a grocery store so there was plenty to do.

"But I had 'always' wanted to travel," recalls the vital, independent Henry. "So I quit the country school I was going to at 14 and went from Halifax to Vancouver and back in three months. In those days we went hobo-in'," he explains, grinning. "I went on freights, trucks... everything I could ketch."

For the next 16 years, Henry worked in Minto, N. B., a miner in the coal pits. Then when World War II broke out, he joined the Canadian Army as a private, and became a gunner in the 5th Light Ack-Ack. Henry did a mite more travelling then ... moving progressively from England, Algeria, Sicily, Italy, France Belgium, Holland, and finally to Germany itself. In '45, the veteran returned to "The Island" for Christmas, and six months later was honourably disharged. "Five years and two months," he thought out loud, with obvious satisfaction.

After driving a truck around Minto for two years, Henry worked another eight as a cleaner in Fredericton's civil service. Finally, in '56 he moved to Montreal, and shortly afterward joined the JGH to become doorman, a job he still holds. "I like it because I get to meet a lot of people," he says affably. Asked if there was anything about his job that he doesn't like, he quickly replied: "The children. On Sundays, the visitors' children are a real nuisance. They have to stay in the lobby, and you have to watch them."

Henry's first love is horses. "I go to Blue Bonnets," he says. He also likes watching hockey and baseball on TV or firsthand.

Don't blow it with drugs.

