

p/111318

Joe DeCastro Reports . . .

From Columbia To The Point



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH
 Rev. Francis J. Mosley
 Administrator
 Rev. James M. Rogers
 Assistant
 Rev. James D. Bono
 Assistant

BOSTON GLOBE MASSES
 SUNDAYS, 1:30 and 2:30 a.m.

Other Sunday Masses, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. Daily Masses, 7 and 9 a.m. Confessions Saturdays, 4 to 5:30 and 7:30 to 9 p.m. Baptisms, Sundays, 2 p.m.

ASCENSION THURSDAY Masses (today) 1:30, 2:30, 7, 8, 9 a.m., 12 noon, 7 and 8 p.m.

ANNUAL LADIES Communion Supper following the 7 p.m. Mass will be held in the Church Hall this evening. Slight typographical error last week. So sorry.

CYO SKATING this evening, 7 p.m., admission \$1.

BOSTON PRIESTS working in Peru. Sunday a collection is being asked for the Society of St. James, founded by Richard Cardinal Cushing, which is made up of Priests from Boston working in Peru.

A **BLITZ PARTY** will be held for him at St. Christopher's Hall, Saturday, May 28, 8 p.m. Admission \$1.

Father Christopher is the cousin of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. Christopher, 111 Monticello ave. Cousin Arthur is Cub Master of St. Christopher's Cub Pack 220.

The following was written by Daniel Doherty, May 18, 1960, a well-versed Irish historian living in Dorchester.

In this world mad, the devil glad?
 A man a knave or fool
 If this be so, I want to know
 Then why a home or school?

We labor hard for to construct
 machines and houses grand.
 Then by neglect we do elect our
 minds for to aband.

So many words of wisdom the
 wise have spoken well
 But always are in silence when
 the world is facing hell.

The summit of the intellect have
 leveled to the plain submitting
 to the atmosphere as soft as
 summer rain.

for the needy folk who need glasses, crutches, wheel chairs, etc. Tickets cost one (1) dollar. An evening of high class entertainment, sports, musical, vaudeville, and drawings for automobiles, boat, and an all-paid trip to Hawaii by jet, all for \$1 — **YOU DON'T HAVE TO ATTEND IF YOU ARE A WINNER.**

GEORGE BELL and his charming wife motored to Camp Lejeune, N. C. visiting their Staff Sergeant Joe and Mrs. Grace Oliver, nephew and niece. George is the jovial maintenanceman at the Project.

COLUMBIA POINT CENTER
ROLLER SKATING at Chez Vous by the Afternoon Clubs this afternoon, leave Center 2:45 p.m., return 6 p.m., cost 40 cents, skates provided, and carfare.

MEN — WOMEN Fashion Show and dance recital, Monday, June 20, 7:30 p.m., big surprises and fun for papa and mama.

AFTERNOON CLUBBERS and their families Picnic, Wednesday, June 15, more info later.

KEEP IN Mind dates — Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11 a.m., self-improvement class. Tuesdays, 11 to 12 noon, Volunteer Leaders' Workshop. Tuesdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., funtime in the auditorium, Columbia Point Socialites. Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Columbia Point Socialites, business meeting, program meeting, or Columbia Point Improvement Association meeting.

THE

The Hospital Edition

May 13, 1977

CHELSEA RECORD





Shown above is the Florence Family—
Jewish War Veterans Chapel

For Those Who Want To Pray

Whatever their religious persuasion, the veterans and employees of the Soldiers' Home and the Quigley Memorial Hospital, have the opportunity to satisfy their spiritual needs.

Three major religions are represented at the Soldiers' Home. There is a Catholic Chapel (Saint Michael the Ar-

changel), a Protestant Chapel, and a Jewish Chapel (The Florence Family-Jewish War Veterans Memorial Chapel.)

The Reverend Monsignor John J. Geegan is the resident chaplain. Reverend Harold Small is the resident protestant chaplain and Rabbi David H. Weisenberg is the resident Jewish Clergyman.

Featuring Inside

Cover Photo of World War I Veteran Dan Doherty standing in front of Soldier's Home Headquarters by Arnold Jarmak.

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295 EASTERN AVENUE
CHELSEA, MASS.

In observance of NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK

....We congratulate the staff and board of directors of CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL for their achievements in service to the community!

A Home For All Who Served

By Joshua A. Resnek

Wherever Julius Caesar went, his army was sure to follow. Such were the benefits of being the world's greatest strategist, conquerer and statesman. But the reason Caesar's armies followed him into battle were not because of Caesar's charm or persuasiveness, though both of those attributes were a part of his magisterial personality. His armies followed him because the men in his legions knew that if and when Caesar conquered in the name of the Roman Empire, that he would share the spoils of victory with the troops that fought valiantly beside him. No soldier who fought with Caesar went without.

Caesar wasn't the first general to realize that the supreme sacrifice was worthy of recognition. King Philip of Macedonia, the father of Alexander the Great, rewarded his faithful fighters long before Rome existed as a great nation.

In the brief two-hundred year history of our country, we have come a long way from the dark days when men and women who were wounded in battle went without because no one seemed to care. Those days are over and though inequities and bureaucratic hassles still exist within the Veterans Administration, no such conditions can be found at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea.

The Cover Photo

Shown on the front cover leaning against the rail at the entrance to the Soldiers' Home Headquarters is World War I Veteran Dan Doherty. He fought "over there" with "Black Jack" Pershing's First Army in the Argonne Forest. Now that may not seem like anything to today's youth, but the battle of the Argonne Forest was like ten Khe Sanhs (the Vietnam battlefield which took the lives of hundreds of young American Marines).

Whether or not Dan Doherty was wounded in battle, or whether or not he escaped harm completely, there was the chance that he might have been killed in the line of duty for his country. Because millions of Americans like him carried arms in the defense of our country, it became imperative to reward those millions the tangible thanks that every great society owes its citizen patriots.

A Veteran's Fortune

Dan Doherty came from Ireland in 1909, worked for the Old Boston Consolidated Gas Company, joined the Ar-

my when the war broke out, and returned to his job when it was over. He worked the rest of his life, never acquiring great riches or financial security and when his wife died ten years ago, (after a lengthy illness that wiped Dan Doherty's life savings out) he came up to the home.

"It's been just wonderful up here," he said in a thick Irish brogue. "I've gotten good service up here. It couldn't be better. The people are concerned here. They help make life worth living." He also told the story of his arrival in Portland, Maine in 1909, after an eighteen day journey on a tramp steamer. He recollected about Pershing and the battlefield.

For ten years, Dan Doherty has called the Soldiers' Home just that, home. Because his sacrifice is remembered, Dan Doherty can live out his days in dignity; in the knowledge that his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

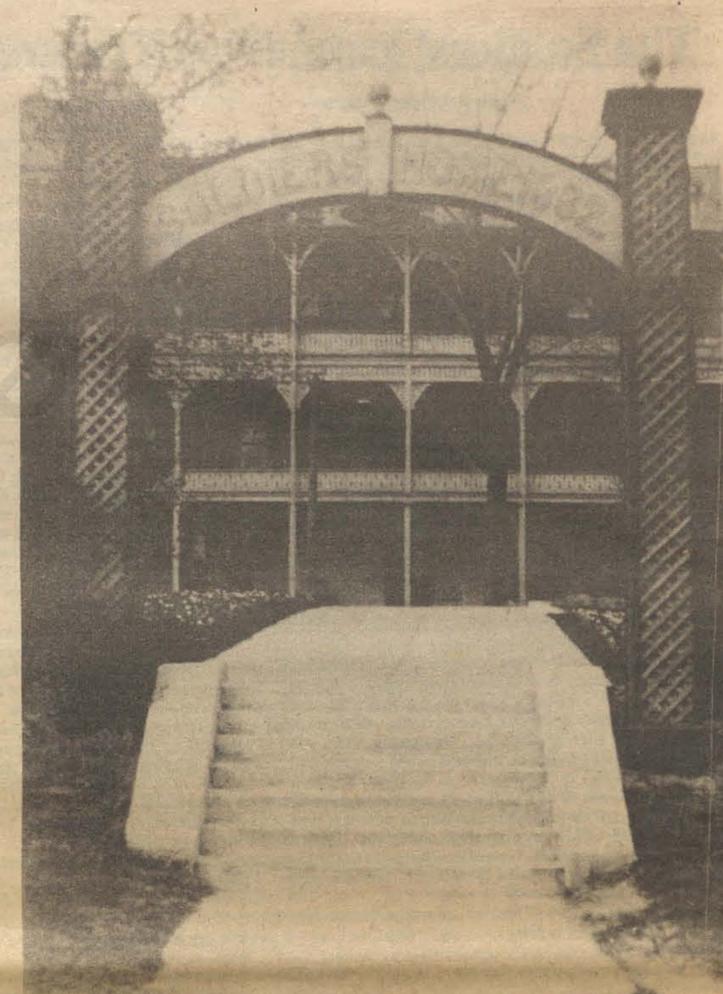
There are approximately 14 million veterans of World War II and millions more who served in Korea and in Vietnam. Needless to say, there are still millions of veterans who served, like Dan Doherty, in World War I. To some people, who are not veterans, it must seem like a pretty high price to pay - you know - hospitals, homes, educational benefits.

It is to our credit that we, as the most affluent society to ever flourish on the face of the earth, have agreed to take care of the millions of men and women who, whether they wanted to or not, put their lives on the line in the defense of their country. One of the profoundly simple truths about democracy, is that it is expensive to keep. The only alternative to that, is the loss of it. That's why places like the Chelsea Soldiers' Home and the Quigley Hospital hold such high positions of importance today.

A City Within A City

The Soldiers' Home at Chelsea stands boldly atop the crest of Powderhorn Hill, at the highest point in the city. It is a full service institution and one of the city's largest employers. A chronic hospital, an acute hospital, and the dormitories service more than 500 veterans and there is always a waiting line for admittance. Last year, the out-patient department serviced over 40,000 veterans.

With tree-lined streets and spit polished facilities, the Soldiers' Home complex is a city within a city, and one apart from Chelsea. Through the incessant and outstanding efforts of its commandant,



The Victorian Archway that led to the back entrance of the old Home no longer stands. Hundreds of Civil War Veterans passed through the wooden portal which succumbed to the ravages of time and the imperatives of progress.

Mr. John Quigley, a descendant of a prominent Chelsea family, the hospital has not only maintained itself, but has managed to expand its range of services. Unlike the disaster struck city below, the Soldiers' Home and the Quigley Hospital are the very essence of finely tuned engines that have never been abused. The humanitarian work conducted by the 590 employees at the top of the hill goes on day and night. It goes on quietly, and without fanfare.

The Quigley Memorial

The 29 year-old Quigley Memorial Hospital is undergoing renovations to increase the bed total to 185 by the late fall. The total cost of the work is \$2.8 million and will include a new operating and recovery room.

Two more dorms will be built at a cost of \$1.5 million, and will provide for more single rooms, better facilities for treatment and recreation programs. Also, a total of \$375,000 is being spent on improving the grounds around the home and for a new generator.

"When I took command of the hospital in 1948, its budget didn't exceed \$2 million dollars," Quigley said. This year, he asked for \$7.3 million - the same amount requested for the past two years - and got it. "I didn't think it was possible to provide the same service without more money. Keeping the budget in line is a constant battle."

The continued success of the Soldiers' Home as a Chelsea Institution is vital to the city's economy. Mr. Quigley calls his budget request "a rifle shot."

"We do our job well and don't waste a dime. It doesn't take too much brain power to make something run," he said. "Mechanical things can be accomplished if you set-up a routine."

Quigley said that the new dorm under construction will greatly enhance the drive to return the Veteran to the community. This reflects his obvious understanding of the progressive nature of modern therapeutic thought. For no matter how attractive we make our institutions, they are still institutions. So when a man enters an institution, it's often

as if he was leaving society. Rather than allowing veterans to vegetate the effort is now made, as Quigley so rightly noted, to give everyone enough activities and stimuli to motivate them to return to the outside. It is a long, difficult and expensive process.

Quigley believes the Soldiers' Home offers the best care for veterans in the country. Indeed, take a look around this city within a city. Talk to the many veterans who are there, and who still command strong feelings of self-respect and self-importance. The Home, is without question, a place where the human spirit is uplifted and where every effort is made to make veterans a part of the society they fought to save.

High Blood Pressure?

ONLY YOUR DOCTOR CAN TELL

Ask your Heart Association

The Soldiers' Home—A Treasure Trove of Memories

By Andrew P. Quigley, Publisher

As publisher of The Chelsea Record, I am pleased to be able to join in a tribute to the Massachusetts Soldiers' Home upon its 100th Anniversary.

I am especially grateful for the efforts of Joshua Resnek, for his articles and Mary Piggott; Arnold Jarmak for his photographs.

I appreciate also the efforts of Tim Murphy, also of our staff, for his articles about the Chelsea Memorial Hospital which is also included in this special tribute to Hospital Week.

For me personally, the Soldiers' Home is truly an endless source of memories. No one can fully appreciate what it meant to "grow up" in the surroundings of the Home.

I was 9 years old when Dad was appointed commandant of the Home, and finally moved from there when I was 22, after being elected State Representative.

Today, long after those young and impressionable years, there is hardly a week that goes by that some thoughts of The Home are recalled by something happening or someone you meet who also recalls those days.

Most of my time was spent in the carpenter shop where Bill Henry would always try to show a clumsy boy just how things should be done, and the patient Ben Brown would pick up where Bill's patience finally gave out.

The carpenter shop was just a small building at the end of Sargent Hall kept warm by a large pot-bellied stove and scraps of wood.

Then there was the wonderful Bill Hatch in charge of the paint shop down further toward Summit and Warren Avenue.

Back toward the driveway was the office of Chief Engineer Bernie Laughlin — and that is just about where I spent hours and hours talking to Bernie — and who always seemed busy writing or reminiscing.

All the underground passages connecting the various buildings were great to walk between especially during the cold and snow.

But I guess where I really found the place of greatest interest was the print shop — with Harry Conroy. In those days everything was set by hand — one letter at a time. And almost from the first time I walked into that shop at about 11 or 12 years of age, I knew I would be involved in one way or another with the printing business.

What a thrill it was to talk to Bernie Laughlin, and see him write a poem or a story, then take it to the print shop and help to set it in type, and see it printed.

Just the thought of writing something and having it printed and seeing people read it, seemed to a youngster not even in his teens, wonderful achievement.

That's probably when I started to read, and memorize poetry, I could see from Bernie how it could be used for years and years — and how really wonderful it seemed to be able to have just the right quotation for the right moment.

In fact, just last week a teacher — that's right, just one — came to my office and wanted to know that he was appreciative of the fact that the teachers salary issue was finally settled and he wanted to thank me for the increase the y finally received.

He said that some of the teachers were talking about the meeting. They said I had a quotation from Shakespeare and they couldn't remember. The quote was said in reference to the final contract that was adopted — and I quoted Shakespeare and said: "Tis a poor thing, but 'tis mine own".

But the point here is that it was from those early days at the Home I started to read with the purpose of remembering.

Thinking now of the Home and life that time, the names of so many people come to mind — Dad's secretary Faye Stein, and how close the family was to her family; and Ruth Ward and Marie Geary, what wonderful girls.

Eva Terrio at the switchboard where the keys to the cars were kept, and how many times she covered up for me when I would have the keys and Dad would sometimes call and her answer "Yes Commandant the keys for some cars are here" — it was the word "some" that made the difference.

Then at nights, it was always possible to stop in the kitchen late and Jack Dunn

was on duty — and what westerns he made for youngsters that always were hungry.

Frank O'Day in the receiving room, "Huck" Finn the butcher, Winnie Farren in the doctor's and nurse's dining room always putting a sandwich together for us.

John Murphy the chauffer, Tom Cronin the gardener, "Kitty" Timulty in the laundry; Captain Harry Snyder in charge of the dormitory; Gene Pidgeon of the tailor shop; "Ronnie" Parquet with the bugle every morning; Jack Harding in charge of the garage, with Earl Elliott; working with Jack Walsh running the movie projectors Sunday nights; Joe Drozak a real master chef; Harry Wilson on nights; and working in the canteen with "Uncle" Austin Dolan.

I remember packing some ice cream for Arthur Blake and I was trying to get so much in Austin came over with a hammer and said why don't you try a hammer, you may get more in the box.

But Austin was always great to rely on for a "short term loan" when you needed money — and what boy didn't growing up.

Gosh how the memories flood back once you start to think about them.

I just about spent more time in Arthur's Blake's house than my own — cleaning up for Dorothy (one of the most wonderful people I've ever known); then helping out Mrs. Blanchard (gosh, was that Dr. Blanchard an impressive man) and how thrilled we used to be when young Billy Blanchard came home on vacations from West Point.

What a career he had, the youngest General at 29 — and then went on to be a four star General and died unexpectedly at his desk in the Pentagon.

Then Dr. Glazer — what a wonderful man.

It was from the Home we went off to school and from the Home we went off to war.

It was a wonderful place for a boy to grow up.

Memories come back also of the many people who came to the Home for care of some treatment.

So many of them were Dad's friends, and he really had a great sense of humor.

I remember walking with him along the corridor one time, he always used to twirl a key-ring and everyone knew when the Commandant was coming. He always used to say that one of the worst things a man with authority could do was sneak up on those working.

But one time, we went by the Dental Clinic, an this good friend, Tom Gleason, was just getting in the chair, the big needle for a novacaine was on the stand and Dad winked to the Dr. and waved him aside, and walked over to talk with Mr. Gleason.

Then he said: "Just relax Tom, you won't feel a thing".

Tom said: "What do you mean relax, what are YOU doing?"

"I try to help out the Doctors — so I've been trying to give the needle to save them time." Dad said.

Tom bolted upright — and as a friend for years on the local Fire Department said: "For God's sakes, Lawrence, don't fool around with that needle! — I'm scared enough with the doctor giving it without you experimenting."

Dad with his straight face and serious manner almost had Tom convinced — and when we walked away he said: "He will be so happy to have the Doctor give him the needle, he won't mind it a bit."

A year or so ago, when many federal officials were here studying the possible use of the Naval Hospital, it was necessary to take them on a general tour of the entire city.

It was a complete bus load of people, and I was at the microphone telling all about beautiful Chelsea — and as we toured the area of the Soldiers' Home, I showed them the large house I grew up in, and mentioned about the Home — and then said how depressing after being raised in the atmosphere of the Home, it was to realize as the years pass that for me everything has been downhill from about the age of 12.

Well, they laughed, and I laughed, but as the years pass and the daily routines of day to day living become almost a continual struggle you realize how really wonderful and secure it was for a boy growing up "out at the Old Soldiers' Home."

A Living History Alive With The Past

In the hectic days of 1862, a train arrived in Boston, crowded with wounded men and boys from the battlefield of the Civil War. They were met by a large gathering of patriotic men and women, anxious to give aid and comfort and help them back to their homes; but many of the men had no homes to go to; and the only place for shelter and care for them was in the Alms House of the cities and towns of the State.

And it was this group who started agitation throughout the State; that in a large way was responsible later for the funding of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts. Like many other worthy projects before and since, the same formidable difficulties were encountered in raising funds.

From 1862 many organizations were formed to help the destitute soldiers and sailors under various name and titles. Some persuaded the merchants of Boston to let them use their warehouses; others procured linen and medical supplies, but with one exception they disbanded at the conclusion of the war.

The exception was an association known as the Ladies' Aid. This organization persuaded the City of Boston to furnish a commodious building on Springfield Street, in Boston, and it was called The Soldiers' Home in 1869, the building was sold, and the Home transferred to Marcella Street in Roxbury. In 1870, due to lack of funds, the Home was abandoned and the veterans sent to Alms Houses. General Sargent was present when the furnishings of the Home were being auctioned off and urged the workers to keep together, and a Home would be built.

On June 18, 1875 — The One Hundredth Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill — the first conference was held in the home of the Honorable Andrew J. Bailey in Charlestown, Mass., with General Sargent and General Devons present. The purpose of the conference was to establish a Soldiers' Home, and this was the birthplace of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts.

In 1877 at a G.A.R. Convention in Boston, General Sargent, then Department Commander of the G.A.R., recommended that a Home be established. One of the first bequests received for a Home was through the will of a Miss Elizabeth P. Sever of Kingston, Massachusetts, and a Captain Thomas of Charlestown donated the stately sum of ten thousand dollars. With the G.A.R. back of the project, the going for raising funds to help the veterans and establish a Home for them, became much brighter, and in 1881 the Board of Trustees felt they had sufficient funds to purchase land and erect a suitable

building.

Some years previous, a group of hotel men had purchased a tract of land on Powderhorn Hill in the City of Chelsea, and built quite an imposing edifice, known as the Highland Park Hotel. After a few years of operation it proved a financial failure, and the mortgages foreclosed and advertised the hotel for sale. The Trustees investigated its suitability for a Home and voted to buy it. While the founders of the Home lived, they never regretted the selection of the site or the purchase of the building.

Powderhorn Hill, the location of the Home, according to legend was so named because an Indian chief known as John Sagamore traded it to a Samuel Maverick for a powderhorn. The early records of the 17th century mention the hill frequently and its popularity has never diminished. During the Revolutionary War the hill was extreme outpost of Washington's army and a signal station on its top communicated with one on Winter Hill, Somerville, and then, with Washington's Headquarters at Cambridge.

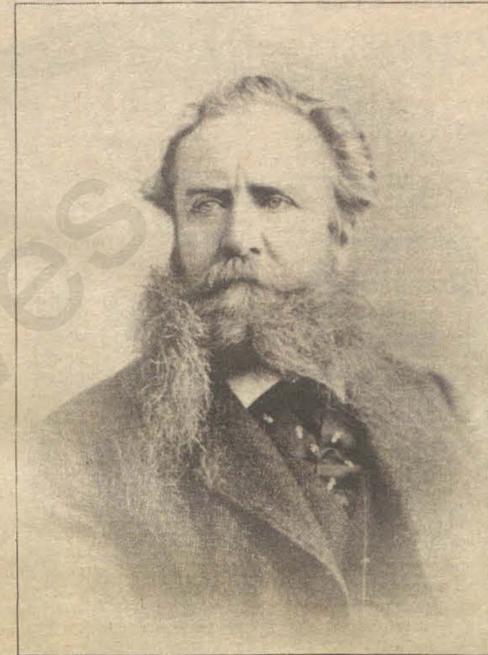
A guard order of a Colonel Gerish reads: "Three soldiers shall be detached and stationed on Powderhorn Hill, to watch the motions of the enemy on land or water and report all discoveries to headquarters." The New Hampshire Company participating in the battle of Bunker Hill bivouacked here before the battle and the wounded were brought here after the battle, so it may be truthfully said that the care and treatment of our fighting men started with the first battle that birthed the United States of North America. Therefore it was most appropriate and fitting that Old Powderhorn was selected for the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts.

Chelsea had twenty-one officers in the Revolutionary War and three hundred privates.

In the Civil War, Company H of Chelsea, first Massachusetts regiment, was the first company in the State to be mustered into the United States Army and sent eighty officers and twenty-one hundred privates to fight for the preservation of the Union. A most remarkable showing for a city of only thirteen thousand population and a voting list of fifteen hundred! The Adjutant General's records of the Civil War indicate: Chelsea in proportion to its population sent more men to that war than any other city in the Northern States.

The first Marine and permanent Naval Hospital in the United States was established in Chelsea.

When Washington had his headquarters in Cambridge, on his tours of inspection of



HORACE BINNEY SARGENT,
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER,
1876-78.

General Horace P. Sargent, Father and Founder of the Soldier's Home in Massachusetts.

He Championed the cause of the boys in blue - After the Civil War was through.

He aroused the citizens of the Old Bay State, To Care for them in their last estate.

He took them from sail lofts and Poor Farms too, And gave them from a home with a splendid view.

He kept them from a paupers grave, And draped their biers with the flag they saved.

his troops, he always stopped at the old Pratt House, in Prattville, Chelsea.

The Trustees bought the Hotel and four acres of land in 1881 for twenty thousand dollars. One June 8, 1882, the Home was dedicated, and on June 25th it was opened for the reception of members.

At the dedication, the Home was presented with two fitting emblems — a Bible and a flag — one to be a guide in the journey of life to a better land, the other to inspire patriotism and love for the country these members helped to save.

General James A. Cunningham, who during the war served as a colonel and after the war Adjutant General of Massachusetts, was appointed Superintendent; and his wife, Matron.

For several years, the Home was considered a G.A.R. institution. General Sargent was recognized as the father and founder, and the Trustees were prominent and influential in the organization and State. The G.A.R. relied upon its numerous posts and affiliated bodies to raise funds for its support.

The records of the Home show up to January 1, 1883, that one hundred and fifty-four veterans had been admitted — seventy-five of these were directly admitted from city and town poor houses; one hundred and ten of the total number admitted were native born and forty-four of foreign birth.

A letter written by Bariah Williams, who was admitted to the Home from the New

Con't on page 10

The City of Chelsea Massachusetts PROCLAMATION 1977

Whereas, the maintenance of one's health is of the greatest importance to each and every one of us; and

Whereas, This important function is the responsibility of our nation's doctors, nurses and health care facilities; and

Whereas, Our country's hospitals are renowned for the high quality of health care services which they provide; and

Whereas, We in Chelsea are fortunate in having in our midst an excellent network of health care services provided by the Chelsea Memorial Hospital, the Soldiers Home and the Massachusetts General Health Clinic, who so competent and efficient staffs provide quality hospital services to people regardless of race, color, or creed; and

Whereas, It is altogether fitting that we take time out from our normal daily activities to pay tribute to these hospitals and to the men and women who make these institutions amongst the finest in the area;

Now, therefore, I, Joel M. Pressman, Mayor of the City of Chelsea, do hereby proclaim May 8th through May 14th,

HOSPITAL WEEK

and call upon the people of Chelsea and Chelsea City Government to extend their appreciation to our hospitals and their staffs by visiting these fine institutions and by providing their full support and cooperation to our local hospitals.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand
on this
Joel M. Pressman
Mayor

The financial institutions appearing here

Extend Congratulations

—to—

THE CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

on this annual observance of National
Hospital Week, May 8 - 14

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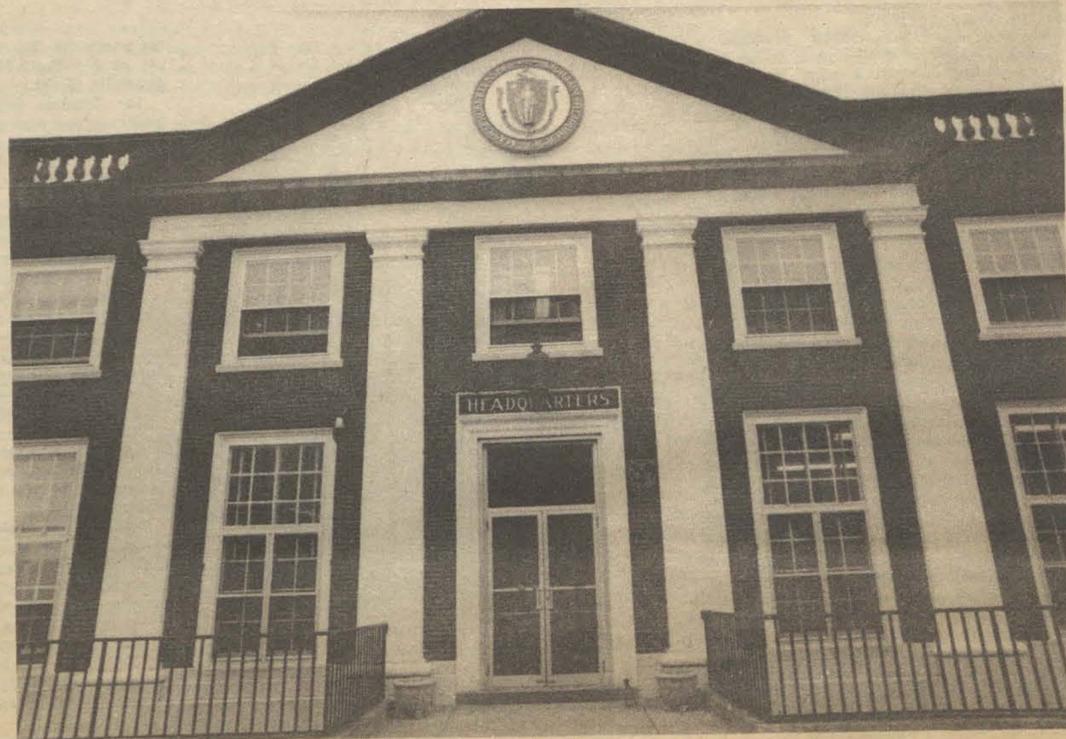
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Soldiers' Home

CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS

100 years of service...

....To the Veterans of Massachusetts

OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

John L. Quigley, Commandant
 Allan L. Davis, M.D., Medical Director
 Frederic M. Howard, M.D., Assistant Medical Director
 Dorothy M. Clark, R.N., Director of Nursing Services
 Barbara Timmins, R.N., Assistant Director of Nursing Services
 Jane B. Livermore, R.N., Director, School of Practical Nursing
 Lawrence T. McVay, Assistant Superintendent
 Vincent F. Sullivan, Adjutant
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 O.S.A., Chairman
 Leonard Florence
 Thomas P. Hazelton
 John Barooshian
 Annette V. O'Brien
 Donald McCullough
 Samuel Samuels
 John L. Quigley, Commandant



The postcard above shows Leonard Florence, center, as a shoeshine boy at the Soldiers' Home as a youngster not yet in his teens, and was used as a Christmas Greeting card to the members in the Home.
 Shown with Lennie, are twin boys Vincent and Joseph DiGianni who are still associated with Mr. Florence in his business today.

Leonard Florence Success Story

From "Shoeshine Boy" To Trustee

Leonard Florence grew-up on Bloomingdale Street when Chelsea was a city filled with immigrant people trying to make it in America. Like millions of sons and daughters of proud immigrant men and women, he went to work as soon as he could walk.

From the time Leonard Florence was eight years old he was shining shoes and hustling to lift himself from the intolerable bondage of nagging economic want. To put it simply, Leonard Florence went out into the world so that he could own a piece of it.

Today, Soldiers' Home Trustee Leonard Florence (he was appointed by Governor Volpe in 1961) is the President of the Leonard Silver Company, which has offices in New York, Chicago, Dallas, Denver and Sheffield, England. He commands a company that employs more than 500 people a company which had over \$32 million dollars in sales in 1976. Not bad, for a guy who used to have the shoeshine concession up at the Soldiers' Home!

His recollections of the "good old days" are vivid. He

has always held the city in high esteem. Leonard Florence is still proud to say he came from Chelsea. But of all the accolades that one might bestow upon a man who has gone from rags to riches, the greatest is that Lenny Florence never forgot where he came from or what it was like for him when he was driven to make it.

His efforts on behalf of the Soldiers' Home have been outstanding, earning him the respect of the Home's Trustees and its Commandant, John L. Quigley. With his generous aid, time and again the Home has been able to move ahead with meaningful projects.

One such project was the

construction of the Florence Family Memorial Hospital, which was erected in memory of his parents, Myer and Fannie Florence and in memory of their departed comrades of the Department of Massachusetts Jewish War Veterans.

It is to Leonard Florence's credit that he never forgot his roots. Now, in his time of greatest success, he has taken the time to remember, to bring joy to those who are unable to bring it to themselves. He is a Chelsea man who benefited from the experience of growing up in a once great city that without question, left a positive impact on him that will last until the day he dies.



Best Wishes to the Administrators, Doctors, Nurses, and the Staff of our local Hospitals . . . on this - your annual observance of NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK May 8-14, 1977

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National Hospital Week

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Congratulations

TO THE
**CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,
 SOLDIERS' HOME
 & The Chelsea Health Center**

in observance of
Hospital Week

**The
 Chelsea
 Record**

Chelsea's Fine Hospitals . . .

*Where People
 . . . Care For People!*

Continued Growth and Success
 in the future

**CHELSEA
 CLOCK**

284 Everett Ave., Chelsea



Photo Arnold Jarmak

In MGH Chelsea We Trust

MGH Staff Serves City

The Mass. General Hospital - Chelsea Health Center staff goes out of its way to serve the city.

They do it in a lot of ways — like the time staff members came in on weekends to change a young boy's dressings, by the kind of service they provide the elderly, or by running a dental health poster contest for the city's kids.

The Center staff has not been satisfied with the treating of only those persons who come to the clinic, but with a three-year grant from the Edna McConnel Clark Foundation trained outreach workers to conduct a door-to-door canvass to seek out Chelsea's elderly.

And while the grant expires a case coordinator who works solely on facilitating access for the center's older patients stayed.

The case-coordinator, Lorraine Capistran does what busy clinic staffers don't have the time to do — she "makes sure people don't get lost in the scuffle."

Awarded the Outstanding New Professional Award in the Field of Community Health for 1975, Mrs. Capistran brings prescriptions to shut-ins, arranges finances and make the elderly feel at home at the center.

Once a week, a physician visits the Buckley apartments, a 200-unit elderly housing facility here, as well as patients who can not leave their homes.

Opening in 1971 as a well-baby clinic, the MGH-Chelsea Health Center gradually expanded its services. Its administration is shared by Dr. Andrew D. Guthrie, Jr., Medical Director and David Catalano, administrator.

The clinic was formed in response to a health-care crisis resulting from a critical shortage of resident physicians.

As family doctors retired or died, many residents, the center found, had simply given up seeking care.

Originally housed in the Horace Memorial Baptist Church on Spencer Avenue, the center had 3100 patients and recorded 9000 patients visits when it moved to its present (and overcrowded) building at 111 Bellingham St., in 1973.

Today the clinic boasts more than 12,500 registered patients and the yearly visits total more than 27,000. Of those patients, 86 per cent are Chelsea residents.

The doors are open seven days and two evenings a week with emergencies handled around the clock.

The center's rapid and almost geometric growth stemmed mainly from its increased services which now include adolescent medicine, adult medicine, allergy, dental, dermatology, gynecology, mental health, nutrition, obstetrics, pediatrics, podiatry, psychology, and speech and language.

Telephone coverage is available 24-hours a day and a center physician is on-call. A fee schedule is posted and some insurance covers the charges. If a person cannot afford the charges the center can reduce fees.

Transportation from the Senior Citizen Drop-In Center in Bellingham Square is provided every half hour, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The center, said Catalano, a Chelsea native, is "committed to health care in Chelsea."

It was awarded Building 82 at the Chelsea Naval Hospital due to the need for expanded space.

The health center has been working closely with the

Chelsea schools to provide Chapter 766 evaluations and school physicals, with Operation Headstart to provide the needed physicals and with the Visiting Nurses Association.

Several doctors serve on the adult medical team. One physician coordinates the patients care and, unlike many clinics, is the doctor you'll see on subsequent visits.

Nurse practitioners work with the physicians, as well as other team members such as health center assistants, nutritionists, mental health workers and others.

In cooperation with the Chelsea School Dept. the center provides dental health care for children and youths through age 20. Children are screened for cavities and taught to maintain good oral hygiene at home.

Each child is given a free dental care kit compliments of the Chelsea Rotary Club.

Complete gynecological and obstetric services are provided. Comprehensive pre-natal services are given with a choice of referral hospital for delivery at St. Elizabeth's Hospital of Boston Lying In.

There is a weekly one-hour OB team meeting of physician, nurse mental health worker and nutritionist to develop plans for high-risk patients. As a result of those meetings, pre-natal classes have been originated and are divided into three, one-hour sessions in both Spanish and English.

Mental Health workers at the center are part of a team working to help aid the patient in making the best use of his or her own and community resources.

The staff of social workers, psychologists, secretaries, parent aides and volunteers are augmented by a full-time child specialist from the North Suffolk Mental Health Clinic as well as a part-time Child Resource Team.

The clinic, today, is reaching out, not only to the city's elderly, but to anyone in the city in need of good, professional health care.

And, as shown by its enormous and continuing growth — it is more than successful in that effort.

We Salute 

CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

and your staff during this observance of National Hospital Week

from all of us at.....

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CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
'People Caring for People'

The Chelsea Health Center 111 BELLINGHAM ST., CHELSEA

...is a Community Health Service of Massachusetts General Hospital

established in CHELSEA to provide outpatient health services in your community.



NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK... MAY 6-14, 1977

Soldiers' Home History

from page 5

Bedford Poor house, reads: "I am a man now and not ashamed to look into the faces of my fellow men. I am in the Soldiers' Home and not in the poor farm." This letter is illustrative of the many grateful expressions which came from the lips of its members before they died, for the comforts the Home gave them.

The records show the expense of running the Home in 1883 was \$176.60 per member. This year the management stated the Home had reached a good operating condition, but at the end of the year only \$240.00 was left in the treasury, and it behooved the Trustees and friends of the Home to look around and ask: "From what source shall come our future supplies?" This was the first and only doubtful period in its existence, and true to tradition when a great need arises; the man to meet it seems always to be at hand; this man proved to be the Daniel Webster of the G.A.R. — John W. Lee — when he made his epical appeal for funds. In substance he oratorically said — I have faith in the Christian and patriotic people of this old Commonwealth; faith in them who shared with them the grief and horrors of the battlefield; faith in the great General Court of Massachusetts, that the Comrades of those men who bequeathed their souls to God, their body to Mother Earth, and their acts of heroism to history in the cause of their country, shall never be returned to a pauper's home . . . and they never were.

From this time on, the Home developed rapidly, building extensions, improving medication and general conditions.

In 1908, the State appropriated \$250,000 for a separate fire proof hospital building, installed modern equipment and appropriated funds for the salaries of an efficient Staff. With the buildings of a fire proof building and the removal of the sick and infirm from the old hazardous wooden structures, the Trustees were content to rest the building program.

It had now become quite noticeable that the ranks of the Blue were rapidly thinning and that deaths were exceeding applications for admission. The Trustees were also beginning to realize that the trust bestowed upon them by their first Commander and his associates; namely, the care of disabled and elderly veterans of the Civil War, was nearing its termination, and they could be assured in the later days of their lives, a good shelter, medical treatment and tender consideration until they passed out of this life to that mysterious land beyond human care and protection.

The first brick structure that might be considered the initial step in the replacement of the old wooden buildings is the

present Laundry Building, built in 1920.

After the first World War, the Trustees felt that they should try and provide fireproof units for the veterans of that war, and in 1923 petitioned the Legislature for an appropriation to replace all the old wooden buildings.

The petition was unfavorably voted out by the Ways and Means Committee, and President Woods of the Trustees, who was also a member of the General Court, locked horns with the Committee and presented the petition directly to the Legislature, where it was again voted out. The Honorable Mr. Woods became so incensed by their action that he resigned. However, the agitation for new buildings continued; and in 1929 the Budget Commissioner directed Bernard Laughlin, Engineer of the Home, to prepare tentative plans for a new utility building.

The plans were approved and \$300,000.00 was appropriated by the Legislature to construct the building; out of this sum, \$80,000.00 was taken to build a Nurses' Home.

Under a W.P.A. Project, a members' and employees' dormitory was built in 1934, and in 1936, \$50,000.00 was appropriated for alterations in Sargent Hall — named in memory of General Sargent, the leader in founding the Home.

In the foregoing paragraphs, the Home was mentioned as Grand Army of the Republic institution in the sense that it was initiated, controlled and directed by a Board of Trustees, all of whom were members of the State Department of the G.A.R. This precedent continued until the demand for accommodations was so great that the Trustees found it compelling to appeal to the Legislature for much more financial assistance.

The Legislature appropriated the money with the understanding that the State would have representation on the Board, so the Charter was amended, permitting the Governor to appoint three Trustees to the Board.

For some time, however, the State appointees were selected from members of the G.A.R. The first digression from this practice was the appointing to the Board of the Honorable Joseph B. MacCabe, Ex-Representative, Ex-Senator and Past Commander-in-Chief in the Order of the Sons of Veterans. He was appointed in 1890 and served as secretary of the Board until his death in 1930.

General Darling, a Spanish War veteran, was appointed to the Board in 1920 and served as Treasurer until his death. General Darling was the first Spanish War veteran to be appointed to the Board.



The Smoking-Room.

In the good old days, when men were men and soldiers got together to relax at the Home, they came to the smoking room. This re-production of an etching from a wood-cut depicts the Soldiers' Home smoking room sometime during the late 1880's.

National Hospital Week

from all of us at
Atlantic . . . continued
success in the coming
years. We salute
Chelsea Memorial
Hospital and Soldiers'
Home on the occasion
of National Hospital
Week.

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Continued on page 12

Our very best 100th birthday greetings to...

THE CHELSEA SOLDIERS' HOME and Quigley Memorial Hospital

Leonard Florence,

TRUSTEE, MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS' HOME

Leonard Silver Mfg. Co., Inc.

144 ADDISON ST., EAST BOSTON

Soldiers' Home History

from page 10

General William J. Keville, a Spanish and First World War veteran and Adjutant General of the State in the second World War, had the distinction and honor of being the first non-G.A.R. veteran to be elected President of the Board of Trustees and continued to hold the office of President until the Home was taken over by the State on December 1, 1934, and on the same date he was appointed by His Excellency, Governor Bly, as Chairman of the new Board of seven members for seven years, being reappointed to the Board at the expiration of his term of office.

It was the intent and spirit of the founders of the Home that it not only would be a comfortable place of shelter for the veterans in time of storm, but in a general sense, a family home.

No rigid or strict routine was to be exercised. Members could go and come with the same freedom they were used to in their own homes. The members were permitted to bring and have installed in their rooms, furnishings of perhaps long and sentimental association, such as rugs, desks, rocking chairs, paintings and occasionally a hall clock. Many a bed was draped with a covering made by some dear old mother or a loving wife.

General Cunningham, the first Superintendent, and his wife, who acted as Matron, resided in the Home and weekly visited each member, listening sympathetically to their troubles and giving cheer and solace to the afflicted — that spirit today is characteristic of the Home.

The Home — originally conceived and established by the veterans and their friends of the Civil War — later opened its doors to veterans of all war, when these veterans needed its comforts and care. Its founders were somewhat fearful of the future of the Home when necessarily it would have to be given over to younger leadership to carry on the purpose of its creation. Today it speaks for itself. How well the trust bestowed was kept! How greatly their doubts unfounded, for today it stands, more substantial in all its added grandeur and capacity for service, and the last of their comrades before their departure were the most honored, respected, and protected members of its household!

EVENTS

In 1883, in the President's Report made by Capt. G.B. Adams, Acting President, he said: *Let me congratulate you that we meet today in a Home of our own, the last dollar of our indebtedness having been paid the last year.*

In 1890 through the efforts of Henry Cabot Lodge, Trustee and U.S. Senator, the Home received one hundred dollars per member, per year. The first resident Surgeon was

appointed in 1895. The first Female Nurses were installed in the infirmary in 1894. The Superintendent's House was built in 1897, where the Captain John Adams Hospital now stands, and was moved across the street, when the hospital was built in 1908. In 1898, the soldiers and sailors of the Spanish War were treated and domiciled at the Home. In 1908, General Sargent died at Santa Barbara, California.

During the Great Chelsea Fire, the Home took in all of the patients of the Frost Hospital, now the Chelsea Memorial Hospital.

From 1882 to 1907, the marketmen of Boston furnished the supplies for the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. In the early years of the Home, clothing dealers of Boston furnished a liberal supply of clothing to the members.

In 1908, the Trustees created a new office, that of Chaplain of the Home. In 1909 the John G.B. Adams was opened and occupied and named in memory of Captain Adams, the second Vice-President, of Trustees. In May 1912, Sunday Mass was offered up at the Home for the first time. All necessary paraphernalia for the celebration of Mass was furnished by the Trustees.

In 1923, two hundred and three graves in a lot at Woodlawn Cemetery were purchased, next to the U.S. Navy Lot.

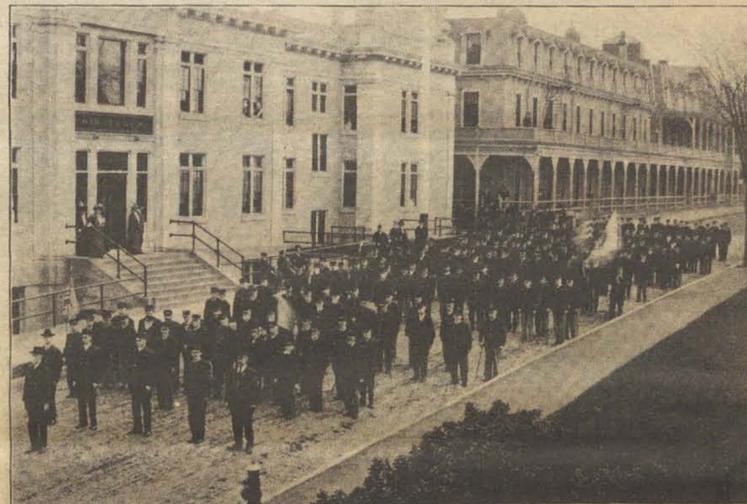
In 1926, a Dental Clinic was established in the Home under B.H. Sawyer, D.M.D. A training school for Nurses was instituted the same year.

In 1929, at the request of the Commission on Administration and Finance, Bernard Laughlin, Engineer of the Home, prepared tentative plans for new buildings. The Headquarters building was dedicated in 1932. At the time of its dedication only eleven Civil War veterans were in the Home and only three were able to attend the ceremonies. The Chapel in this building was named in honor of Captain Joseph McCabe, who served as secretary of the Board of Trustees for forty years.

On December 1, 1934, the Home and all properties of the Home, were assigned to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to be directed by a Board of a seven members, each member to serve a term of seven years, appointments to be made by the Governor and approved by the Governor's Council. General William J. Keville was appointed Chairman of the Board.



WHEELCHAIR MEN IN HOSPITAL



OFFICERS AND MEMBERS, OCTOBER 27, 1913

The Way It Was Sixty Years Ago

Both of these photographs depict a world far different from the one we live in today. Indeed, when these photographs were taken America was just beginning to embark on a "power trip" that would last until the unhappy days in Korea. In 1913, our industrial capacity was jumping by leaps and bounds. Our concern for our Veterans was also undergoing a new awakening. These two photographs, more than anything else, are priceless timepieces of a period long past. Notice how everyone's posture even those seated in the wheelchairs, is erect.

In Observance of
National Hospital Week
WE SALUTE THE
SOLDIERS' HOME
CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

and the
CHELSEA HEALTH CENTER
(Community Health Service of Massachusetts General Hospital)

CHELSEA-PROVIDENT
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Where Others Might Fail, Alpert Succeeds

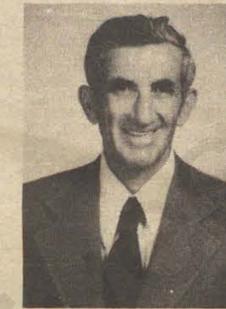
Back in 1955 Julius Alpert had just finished a term as President of the Chelsea YMHA and the Chelsea Memorial Hospital, Alpert was chosen to head the drive to raise a million dollars for an addition to the hospital. Without the addition, which actually is "the" hospital, CHM would never have received accreditation from the state.

Because of his fund raising efforts on the behalf of the YMHA and the Chelsea Memorial Hospital, Alpert was chosen to head the drive to raise a million dollars for an addition to the hospital. Without the addition, which actually is "the" hospital, CHM would never have received accreditation from the state.

At first the hospital hired a professional fund raising company to do the job. The professional group didn't work out and were let go. That's when Alpert came into the picture.

"You've got to have the right person, in the right place, at the right time," Alpert said while explaining the art of raising funds.

When he took over the hospital drive, Alpert decided that he needed one of the largest businesses in Chelsea to donate a substantial amount of money so he could use it as an example. And what's a bet-



Julius Alpert

ter way to get a company to donate some money then to have as one of your co-chairman for the drive, a doctor who "happens" to be a brother-in-law of the president of the company. Alpert was able to get \$50,000 and the drive was under way.

Ten years later the hospital opened the new addition after \$1.2 million was raised.

At the present time Alpert, who is serving as Treasurer of the Hospital, has assumed the chairmanship of another fund

raising drive on behalf of the hospital. He is engaged in raising \$150,000 for the establishment of an new intensive care unit at the hospital.

Alpert said the intensive care unit was needed if the hospital wanted to stay up with the latest equipment. "An intensive care unit is important because minutes can mean the difference between life and death."

Before the drive for the hospital addition, Alpert worked on an effort to raise \$150,000 so the hospital could pay drug companies owed money. At the time, the companies were ready to stop selling CMH drugs and other necessary products. That was back in 1952.

Alpert has been involved in many various forms of public service over the years, starting in 1939 when he was elected a member of the Chelsea School Committee. He has served as president of the Temple Emanuel's Brotherhood, president of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club, chairman of the Combined Jewish Appeal, and a member of the governing board of CMH. Alpert has received the Jewish Advocate

Carnation Award twice for his community work.

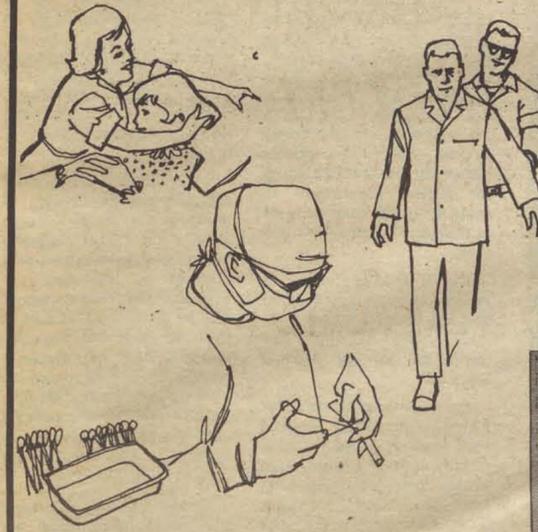
Alpert was married to the former Sophie Rozman of Dorchester in 1939. They were the parents of a daughter, Roberta Alpert Bernstein, who died in 1969, following a long illness with Hodgkin's Disease.

In tribute to their daughter, who was a nurse at CMH, the Alpert's established the Roberta Alpert Bernstein Hodgkin's Disease Foundation in 1970 at the Deaconess Hospital, in her memory. Funds from the foundation are used for scientific and medical research of Hodgkin's Disease.

The Alperets also established a nursing fund at Whidden Memorial Hospital in the name of their daughter, who completed her training at the hospital.

Last October Alpert was honored by the Kiwanis Club as one of three "Outstanding Citizens of the Year." At the end of a biography on Alpert those attending the dinner received, it said: "Julius H. Alpert has proved on numerous occasions that it is possible to do the impossible."

PEOPLE CARING FOR PEOPLE



NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK — MAY 8th thru 14

Congratulations to the.... CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

We are fortunate indeed to have such a fine
medical facility.... in our local community!

The above message is presented to you in the
interest of NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK by:

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We are proud and fortunate to have a high quality community hospital located in our city.

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What's Chelsea Memorial Hospital Doing About Health? Plenty!

1. Sponsored a variety of community public health programs for such life-screening purposes as cancer; diabetes; lung disease; choking; mental health; and blood donations.
2. Opened a new four bed patient monitoring unit employing the latest technology available.
3. Conducted CPR — Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation courses for nurses and others.
4. Many employees attended a course on "Death and Dying". An in-service education program was carried out by nursing administration on "management tactics for nurses."
5. Initiated, co-ordinated and participated in a Task Force planning effort to bring together hospitals in the Chelsea-Revere-Winthrop area for purposes of sharing services and ultimately creating a new hospital system.
6. Undertook an in-depth study and implemented a program to improve wages and benefits for all personnel.
7. Conducted infection control studies which reflected the excellent low ratio of hospital infections among staff and patients.
8. Installed a new television imaging system in radiology providing the latest technique in the area of fluoroscope studies; added major movable equipment in both the o.r. and pathology departments.
9. Enjoy membership in the American Hospital Association; Massachusetts Hospital Association; New England Hospital Assembly; Massachusetts and United States Public Health Association.
10. Contributed to a massive data collection effort to identify morbidity and mortality statistics and patient origins the results of which are used in planning programs for improving health care of the patients we serve.
11. Improved and strengthened the capability of emergency services by adding new equipment and carrying out training for emergency room personnel. Secured agreement with Emergency Medical Associates, a private group of physicians who are emergency care specialists to staff the hospital service 7 days a week 24 hours a day.

NATIONAL
HOSPITAL
WEEK
MAY 8 - 14

Your Hospital.... Support It!
Chelsea Memorial Hospital
"People Caring For People"
100 BELLINGHAM ST., CHELSEA

A Rich History Long And True; Chelsea Memorial Serves You

"Adequate appraisal, advice and initial treatment shall be rendered to any ill or injured person who presents himself at the hospital."

The above principle, laid down by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals governs the operation of emergency rooms at Chelsea Memorial Hospital.

An emergency is any illness or injury which constitutes a life threatening hazard to patients.

Last year over 20,000 sick and injured people were seen in the Emergency Room. At least 10 per cent were hospitalized — According to hospital Administrator Constance Caloggero, the local hospital Emergency Room is on stand by and available to provide care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A competent well trained staff of physicians and nurses serve as the primary providers of care. They are backed up by a group of physician specialists in surgery, orthopedics, dentistry, pediatrics, psychiatry, urology and other such medical specialties.

In addition a supportive staff of technicians — ever

present in the background — are immediately available in laboratory, x-ray, nutrition, respiratory, therapy, equipment specialists and physical therapy capability. This team is then further supported by the human resource people in Social services and administration who quietly in the background, facilitate the total care of the patient.

Dr. Timothy McAvoy and Dr. Samuel Mascellino members of the Emergency Medical Associates, Inc., are the co-directors of the Emergency Hospital. Both are full-time emergency room physicians. This is their specialty. Both are members of the American College of Emergency Medicine.

They contend that logic would suggest that an Emergency Room is a health care facility for patients with painful or life threatening problems. But that is not how today's patients see it.

Like it or not, the public in this community and neighboring cities is using the Chelsea Memorial Hospital Emergency Medical team for its family doctor. Since the hospital will not turn away people in need of help, it must maintain a constant ability to cope with a sometimes crushing load of ambulatory care. Balancing this responsibility with continuing capability is the goal of the team at the Chelsea Memorial Hospital Emergency Room.

One side of the picture is the need of a local community hospital to provide health care to it's residents. On the other side is the high cost of providing that care.

A special Task Force was formed two years ago to study the health care needs of the Chelsea-Revere-Winthrop area, and to make recommendations as to whether a regional hospital, with at least 200 beds, should replace the community hospital.

"With a small bed capacity of 65, hospitals like Chelsea and Revere can not distribute the cost of medical technology over a very wide area," Joan Agababian said. Agababian, is a staff member of the Health Planning Council of Greater Boston, which is a private non-profit agency funded by the federal government to study the health care needs for 61 Greater Boston cities and towns.

The State Department of Health considers any hospital with less than a 100 beds "obsolescent" and has gone on record as favoring regional hospitals.

Asst. Administrator for Chelsea Memorial Hospital Paul Simeome, sees the issue as two-fold. "People want health service with out traveling into a city, they want it in their community, but there is also the cost of com-

munity hospitals," Simeome said, "the real kicker for Chelsea people is the bridge and traffic into Boston."

Simeome said that if Chelsea did not have to fight traffic going into Boston, "there would be no need for CMH" because Mass. General Hospital, one of the finest in the world, is less than three miles away.

Chelsea area residents, who suffer heart attacks, needn't worry about receiving complete care, because, Simeome explained, "the attack victim is kept stable in the hospital for around five hours before being moved to a teaching hospital such as Mass. General." He also pointed out that CMH has all the necessary equipment to handle heart attacks.

Agababian said it is the job of the Health Planning Council to "create a health care program at a reasonable cost, but of the best quality." She gave high grades to the emergency room at CMH which sees between 15,000 to 20,000 sick or injured people a year. But, she said, ambulance rides to a regional hospital are not "as much of a problem as people think it is."

"People are against regional hospitals for the same reason they are against regional schools, it's civic pride," Agababian said, "people don't want to go to school 10 miles away, and the same goes for hospitals."

Simeome said there are two possibilities for a regional hospital without building a new one at the cost of \$61,000 a bed. Everett's Whidden Memorial Hospital has the size, over 200 beds, but is almost filled by Everett residents. An addition would have to be built in order to take on the additional patients, Simeome said. Everett has recently sent a representative to sit in on the Task Force meetings.

The second site for a regional hospital would be the Chelsea Soldiers' Home, which according to Simeome, would be the best idea because of the facilities already there, and the decline of health care that veterans will require in the future.

"World War II veterans will not use soldiers' homes as much in the future because most of them have insurance and would go to their own hospital or into Boston," Simeome said. Veterans would still be given medical care if the soldiers' home was converted without any problems because the ability to expand at the Powderhorn Hill site. Veterans and regular patients could also be placed in separate departments, according to Simeome.

The Task Force will submit it's report within a month, according to Agababian.

Chelsea Memorial Marks 87 Years Of Service

In November of 1977, Chelsea Memorial Hospital will mark 87 years of service to Chelsea and surrounding communities. Though the hospital was started under a different name, it came into existence during the fall of 1888.

Four years before the hospital to the public the Chelsea Homeopathic Aid Association devoted itself to "the care for needy patients from Chelsea at the Mass. Homeopathic Hospital."

When Chelsea finally got a hospital, the organization discontinued its work in Boston and the same services were extended to local needy families.

In the early spring of 1888, Rufus S. Frost invited local doctors to talk over plans for a hospital. It was first suggested that a children's hospital should be built, but at the end of the meeting, Frost and the doctors felt that a general hospital would best serve the needs of Chelsea.

The first site of the hospital was at the corner of Chester Ave. and Shawmut Sts. The hospital comprised six wards and rooms, with a capacity of 15 patients; office and living and reception rooms. A few years later the hospital grew to 67 beds with the help of an addition. Also added at the same time was a building for isolation cases and a "shed for doctors' horses". In 1894, the name was changed to the Rufus S. Frost, General Hospital.

During 1907, the hospital urgently needed more bed space and the land on Bellingham Hill, the site of the present location, was considered. Plans for a new hospital was put into high gear when the Great Fire of 1908 destroyed Frost General Hospital.

A new hospital was constructed and ready for the doctors' inspection on Oct. 11, 1909, public inspection the following day and the first patient was admitted the next day.

The next eight years saw the hospital encountering many hardships, mostly financial. But with help for members of the community, the hospital was able to raise enough money to build a laundry for hospital use, a boiler room

and quarters for "female employees."

In 1923, Timothy Remick contributed \$35,000 for a new home for nurses and students, which was named in his honor. This structure included living quarters for nurses, classrooms, a chemical lab and a recreation center the nursing school.

The trustees changed the name of the hospital in 1920 to the present Chelsea Memorial Hospital. The wing that is known as the "Children's Cottage," which houses all juvenile patients, was added and the basement finished and equipped with an X-ray room and an out-patient department.

The need for greater services resulted in further rapid expansions and improvements. In 1928, a sprinkler system was installed. This was followed by the workshop and ice plant building. The east wing on the second floor was renovated, new and up to date delivery and nursery room modernized.

A continuous program, begun in 1934, has enabled the hospital to be kept in excellent condition and furnished with the most modern equipment and facilities. This included new sun porches and added kitchen and lavatory facilities. The attic was finished with bedrooms, living and bathrooms for interns' quarters. The old porch at the west side of the main structure was made into a permanent building and a new stairway to the second floor added.

During the following few years new additions included a mortuary room and box, and an autopsy table and modern room. The laboratory was modernized and a new lobby, offices and doctors' room constructed. Paging and house telephone systems were installed. The third floor was renovated as a female surgical and medical floor and the second story made into an obstetrical room.

In 1941, new equipment was provided in the laundry and diet kitchen. Three years later, a new brick chimney, and incinerator were constructed. The year 1946 saw extensive improvements in the maternity department and equipment and a modernized obstetric

room. In the same year, an iron lung and a modern operating table were also presented.

Two years later, an iceless oxygen tent was donated. Additions and renovations included two kitchens and remodeled classrooms at Remick House and a therapeutic kitchen and student diet laboratory. In 1950, a new X-ray room was furnished. The following year a clinic room with modern equipment was added.

The former Chelsea Day Nursery was acquired by the Hospital as a nurses' home in 1950. The new quarters, named Robie House in honor of the deceased Chelsea Record publisher and prominent civic leader, were renovated and remodelled in 1951 and now serve as the scene of many meetings and functions of the Aid Association in addition to being the living quarters of the hospital's Florence Nightingales.

On January 1, 1957, the hospital was accepted for membership in the United Community Services, thus becoming a Red Feather Agency and eligible for assistance from the organization. The local institution will benefit in many ways from this affiliation, especially in partial reimbursement for medical care to patients unable to pay for their hospital treatment.

The hospital is a member of the Massachusetts and American Hospital Associations and has been cited by these two groups, the American Medical Association and the American College of Physicians and Surgeons, which also conducted a clinic there. It was granted permanent accreditation in 1956 by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

The next major change at Chelsea Memorial came when it was decided that the School of Nursing would close because of "a complete changeover in patient care." The hospital's School of Nursing was established in 1890, under the direction of a "Miss Robertson", matron of then Frost Hospital. The school was a two-year school at the time. After the fire of 1908, the school was extended,

to a three-year program.

A total of over 900 nurses graduated from CMH over the years. At the time of the closing the Chelsea Record reported that "smaller hospitals not only do not have the financial means to meet the requirements, but are also often times unable to attract qualified teaching personnel who, naturally, prefer to be associated with larger "name" hospitals."

The latest and biggest structural change came when the new 60 bed \$900,000 addition was dedicated with "an impressive exercises and an open house attended by more than 1,000 persons," during the fall of 1965. Always referred to as the "addition" the new wing is now the largest part of the hospital. More than one person has said that the addition is what made CMH a respected community hospital.

My best wishes to:

CHELSEA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
"People Caring For People"

**Representative
Richard Voke**

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MEMORIAL HOSPITAL**

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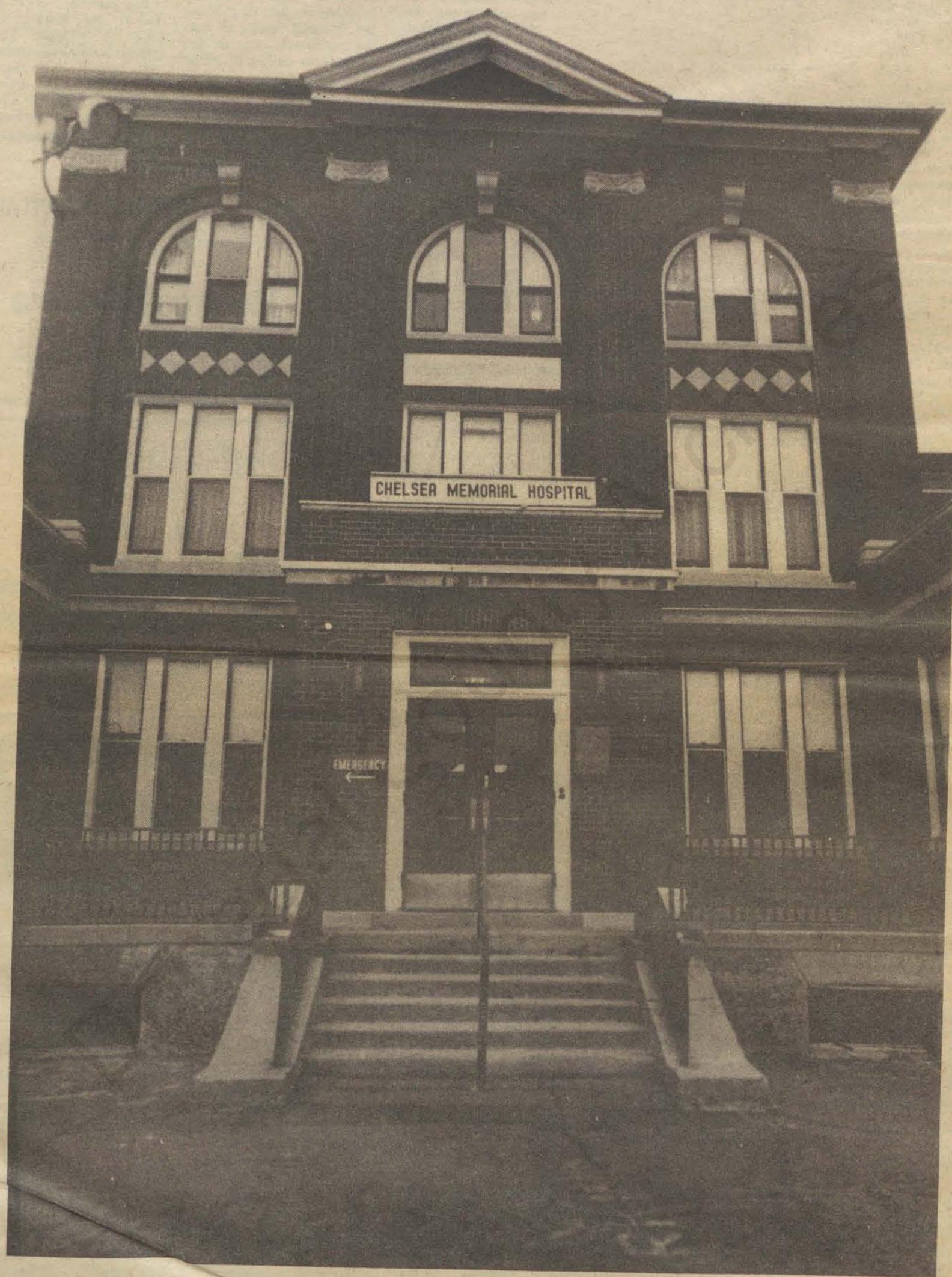
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