

July 1978

## CC Celebrates Its 25th Anniversary



President Harry Truman laying the cornerstone in 1951.

On July 6, 1953, the Clinical Center's first patient—a white-haired, 67-year old Maryland farmer—was taken in a wheelchair to the main lobby and admitted to the 12-East nursing unit. His attending physician, Dr. Roy Hertz of the National Cancer Institute, was doing a study at that time on hormonal treatment for cancer of the prostate gland. The patient, No. 00-00-01-2, began therapy and for the next year and a half continued on the study protocol.

The elderly farmer was followed by four or five more patients the first day. All Institutes shared the 12-East ward at first and "there were more doctors than patients when the Clinical Center started out," according to Dr. Hertz. By the end of 1954, however, 1,542 patients for six Institutes had been admitted. Since opening, almost 100,000 patients have been admitted to the Clinical Center—presently at a rate of more than 5,000 each year.

The Clinical Center was specially designed to bring patient care facilities close to research laboratories so that new findings of basic and clinical scientists can be more quickly translated into patient treatment. Patients are selected solely because their illnesses meet the requirements of the research being conducted by the Institutes. The integrated research concept that inspired the planning of the Clinical Center has continued to guide its growth over these 25 years.

In 1944, Congress authorized a hospital at the National Institutes of Health to provide the high-quality care necessary to conduct biomedical research. Funds were appropriated for the 541-bed Clinical Center in 1947 and construction started in 1948.

President Truman laid the cornerstone in 1951 and the hospital was dedicated in 1953 by the first HEW Secretary, Oveta Culp Hobby.

During the first year, six Institutes—NCI, NHI, NIAID, NIAMD, NIMH, and NINDS—admitted patients. By December that year 161 beds were occupied. By 1957, all 541 beds were in use. Last year, nine Institutes had clinical research programs and over 6,000 patients were admitted.

A new surgical wing was added to the Clinical Center in 1963. The four-story circular structure, which accommodates heart and neurosurgery facilities and the blood bank, is an outstanding example of medical architecture and engineering. It has an uncluttered operating arena, free of electronic monitoring and recording equipment. These are



The first patient admitted to the Clinical Center, Charles C. Meredith, with Dr. Roy Hertz.

in a central area which accommodates the newest instruments without sacrificing the safety, effectiveness, and efficiency surgeons require.

Early last year, construction for the Ambulatory Care Research Facility (ACRF) ushered in a dynamic period of growth for the Clinical Center. The 13-story ACRF will expand and strengthen the laboratory and patient care programs and provide space for the hospital's rapidly expanding outpatient program. The new facility was planned to keep pace with developments in health care which have shifted research emphasis to chronic diseases and increasing orientation toward outpatient studies.

The ability to identify many individuals with early stages of disease has added impetus to this new development.

(more on page 3.)

# Happy Birthday, CC!

On July 6th, the Clinical Center will celebrate its Silver Anniversary—25 years of patient care, with an afternoon program in the Jack Masur Auditorium, a reception for 25 year employees and their families, and a display of exhibits about Clinical Center activities.

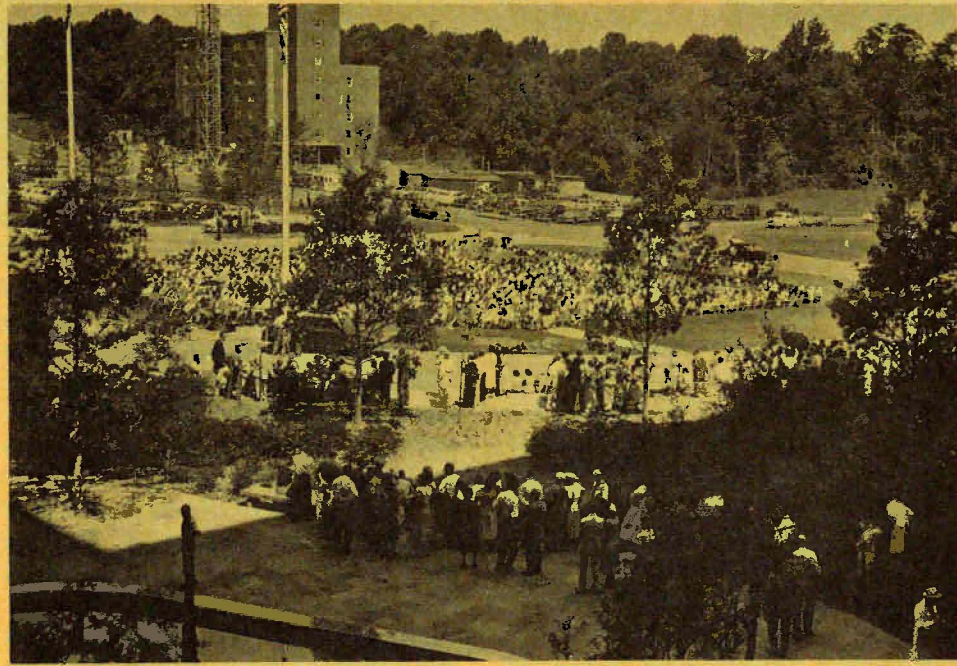
Ceremonies at the auditorium will highlight the Center's 25 years of service and medical research with an opening salutation by CC Director Mortimer B. Lipsett, M.D.

Speakers will include Dr. W. Henry Sebrell, Director of NIH from 1950-1955, Nutrition Department Chief, Edith Jones, a 25-year employee of the Clinical Center, and Dr. Mortimer Lipsett.

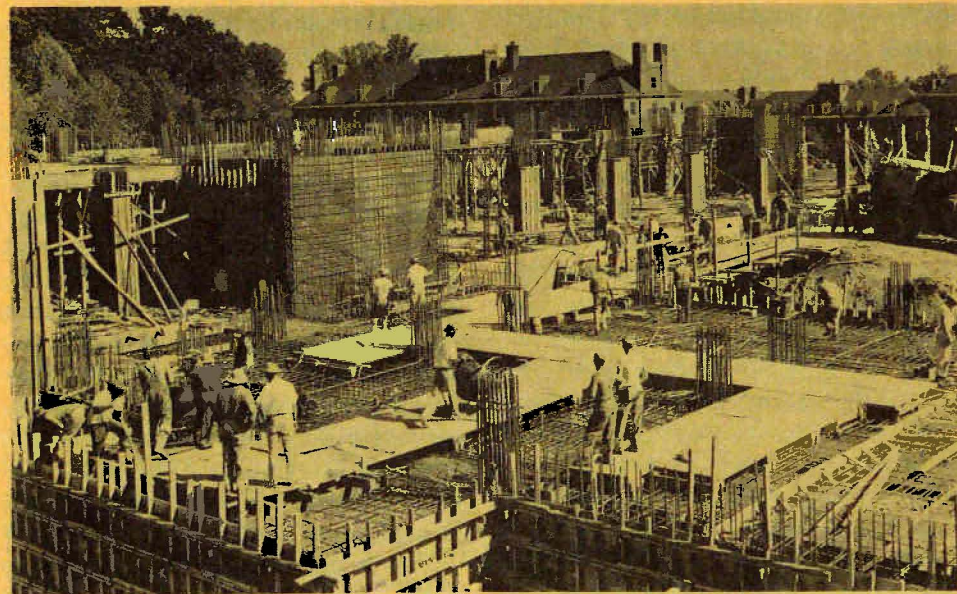
A very special part of the program is CC Deputy Director Dr. Griff T. Ross' presentation of awards and certificates to sixty employees who have served twenty-five years as members of the Clinical Center staff.

A number of exhibits will be on display in the lobby near the main elevators, including a large exhibit of historical photos which will capture twenty-five years of progress and change at the Clinical Center.

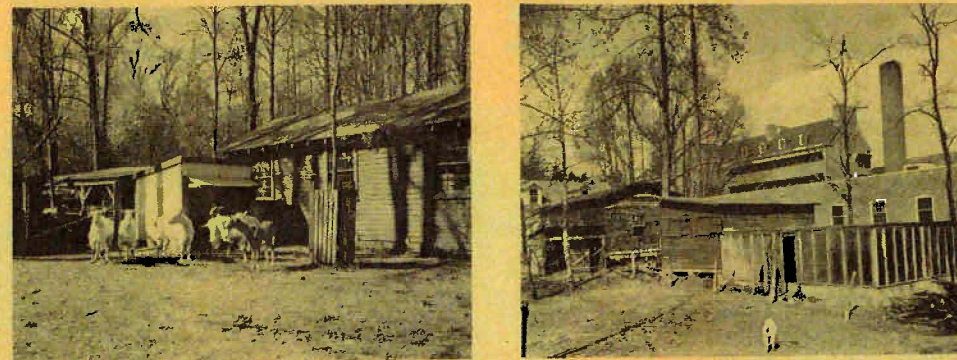
Other exhibits will feature the new Medical Information System (MIS) and the new Ambulatory Care Research Facility.



The CC dedication ceremony held in front of the new hospital in 1953.



The construction of the Clinical Center in October, 1949.



These structures were on NIH property before the Clinical Center was built. (Some of the present buildings can be seen in the photograph on the right).

# CC Veterans See Growth, Change

*NOTE: This article is the first of a series of three about the 60 employees who have been working in the Clinical Center 25 years or more. Those employees not found in this article, will be in either the August or September issues of Closeup.*

Can you imagine what it must be like to work in one place 25 years? Well, believe it or not there are 60 CC'ers that either watched the doors of the hospital open, or came just in time to see the number of patients grow from one to 100. The CC veterans can be found in many departments and their duties are many.

Evelyn Bowling, medical aide in the Pharmacy Department, came to the CC from Georgetown University Hospital. The wife of the Department's chief told her about the CC opening and she decided to apply for a position here. "The first years . . . were very pleasant," she says. "The people had a lot of time to be kind to each other, and the Clinical Center was just one big family. When we came there were only five patients. Now things have changed. The pace is so fast and everybody is so busy." Evelyn has done lots of missionary work, like going up to the wards to visit and pray with people, aside from her work. Because of this she says, "If I was younger, if I could live my life over again, I'd stay 25 more years. I've enjoyed my work. I feel like I'm a part of the Clinical Center." When Evelyn retires, she plans to go to Bangladesh and then to Africa to do missionary work.

Annie Caldwell is coordinator of the Central Sterile Supply Service

of the Pharmacy Department. She also heard about the jobs at the CC from the Pharmacy chief's wife and "I scored 98.5 in eligibility and experience," she says proudly. "I remember when I came in on June 16, Central Sterile Supply was one big section and everything was sitting in the middle of the floor. For the first six weeks I didn't do anything because we were waiting for equipment (cabinets, sinks, etc.) to start work." Thinking back, Annie says, "I've seen lots of supervisors come and go. Each one of them changes things. Lots of co-workers have come and gone. . . . It feels good to have been on one job, I don't like to change jobs."

Horace Carpenter was working at Walter Reed when the chief of the Housekeeping Department and then chief foreman, Alexander Davis, asked him to come to the CC to help set up the elevator operations. Horace is an elevator operator, foreman, in the Department of Environmental Sanitation Control (DESC). He can remember the visits of President Johnson, President Ford, and Vice-President Nixon. "Khrushchev was supposed to come but didn't make it," he says. Horace thinks the CC changed most after Dr. Jack Masur, a former Director, passed away. "All employees had a great deal of respect for him," he says. Like most of the veterans he has enjoyed working in the CC. "I didn't realize the time had passed so fast. I've had good relationships with my chiefs and supervisors." He can remember about five different Section/Department chiefs (DESC, which was initially a sec-

tion, has since grown into a department). Reflecting, Horace says, "I've seen hundreds of patients come in on stretchers, and when they left they were walking. One of the greatest achievements doctors made here was separating the Siamese twins that came about 17 years ago. That was something very rare at that time." Horace has nothing but praise for the staff of the CC. He thinks the doctors who are here, and those who have come and gone . . . are the greatest, and all the nurses ". . . are beautiful people."

John Botts, better known as Elder Botts, is also an elevator operator with DESC. He came to the CC from the Bureau of Standards where he did all kinds of things, but finally became the head of janitorial services. One of the head men at the Bureau encouraged him to come to NIH. He best remembers when he took President Johnson to the different floors in the CC and also when he "prayed for a little boy 2½ years old with leukemia and he was healed." He gets the most pleasure from praying for the many patients in the CC and feeling that they have been healed and helped by his prayers. He also has enjoyed being a part of DESC, which is where he has been for all 25 years. "I've carried up many people, many officials. I enjoy my work . . . I really do."

Sylvia Barbour is a supervisor in the Transcription Unit of the Medical Records Department. She was employed at the U.S. Marine Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio before

being transferred to the CC. How did she stay 25 years? "I've always liked medical and research terminology. You learn something new everyday . . . even more than in a regular or general hospital." Sylvia believes that there are more opportunities for employees to better themselves now than when she started working. However, she feels, "my years here have been challenging as well as rewarding in the degree of learning experience, and communication" which she has acquired. In August of this year, she will have completed 32 years of government service.

Jahue Artis is an elevator operator and acting starter in DESC. He also came to the CC from the Bureau of Standards. He started out in Housekeeping in the Physical Therapy Section of the hospital, there was no Rehabilitation Department, and enjoyed contact with the patients. "There were patients on about three floors," he says. "The wings with the laboratories were not open yet." Mr. Artis also speaks highly of his co-workers. After being here so long, he says, "I've become part of the Clinical Center." To young people starting out, he stresses the importance of getting an education and furthering oneself, and he has done this with his own children.



Sylvia Barbour



Jahue Artis



Roena Bayes



Merme Bonnell

"I suppose the thing I remember most is that we started out in one small cubicle on the 12th floor . . . Dr. George Brecher was our chief," says Roena Bayes of the Clinical Pathology Department. Roena is a supervisory medical technologist in the Hematology Section. She had been in the military, and after making an unplanned trip to Washington, she decided to stay. She worked at Suburban Hospital initially. "I watched the Clinical Center being built while at Suburban and later decided to try to get a job there when it was finished." She has been here ever since. Something else that stands out in her mind are "the wonderful patients that have been here. It's part of what makes the Clinical Center so great . . . the nice people here." Roena also recalls the 6 or 7 patients the department had, and that there were no outpatients. Roena did other things before coming to the CC. She taught school, spent three years in the Army-Air Corps (in California and England), and spent some time in the reserves. Because of her past experiences, Roena is sure she is where she belongs. "I can't think of any place else I should have been. NIH is the best place in the world for opportunities. The positives completely outweigh the negatives."

Merme Bonnell is chief of the Patient Dietetic Service, Nutrition Department. She was asked to come to the CC, to set up the Metabolic Unit, by Dr. Frederic Barttner, who she had worked with at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Barttner was and still is with NHBLI. Ms. Bonnell best remembers all of the people she has met who have gone all over the country. "It's a very interesting place to work. It has been an experience watching the NIH grow." When she came to NIH the hospital was not open. "There weren't many people when I came. Just think, this was Building 10, and now there are 40-odd buildings."

Victor Chance is a health technician in the Blood Bank. "I came in 1953. I started in Housekeeping and from Housekeeping I went to Clinical Pathology on the fourth floor. From Clinical Pathology I came to the Blood Bank." The most outstanding thing about the CC to Victor is how nice people here have been to him. "If they had not been so kind, I probably wouldn't have stayed." In 1963, Victor was ill and did not have insurance or enough money to cover the hospital bills. The people in Clinical Pathology collected money and took care of them for him. He was later asked by Blood Bank chief, Dr. Schmidt, to



Evelyn Bowling



Annie Caldwell



Horace Carpenter



John Botts



Victor Chance



Wanda Chappell



Eleanor Campbell



Alexander Davis

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Gladys Garris

work in the Blood Bank, and he says, "I've been here, delighted, ever since."

When Wanda Chappell, supervisory nurse, came to the CC, her department, the Blood Bank, was part of the Microbiological Institute and was called the Laboratory of Blood and Blood Products. "We've always been in Building 10," she says. "There was one nurse (me), one doctor, one technologist, and the secretary." Wanda read about the CC opening and the need for employees in the newspaper. "My son was 11 years old and I wanted to go back to work," she says. Wanda best remembers the many changes and achievements in Blood Banking that she has been here to see come about. She recalls the change from bottles to the increased use of plastics; the very sophisticated tests of the present; and the freezing of blood. She also proudly recounts the firsts of the NIH: the Platelet-pheresis program; white cell transfusions; more advanced treatment of blood diseases like hemophilia; and HLA-typing. "It's just been a marvelous experience . . . a wonderful 25 years." She has also enjoyed "the expansion, growth, experiences, the day to day challenge, and the interesting research."

Eleanor Campbell is a housekeep-



Robert Grimes



Ada Hruska

ing aide with DESC. She decided to apply for a job at the CC after receiving numerous calls and telegrams from Personnel for six months! She already had a job in town and did not want to come this far to work. ("There was no bus service, you had to walk from Navy Medical.") Eleanor set up two patient wards when she came to the CC. "When I came to work, trees were in the lobby," she says. Eleanor has enjoyed her co-workers and working on 2-East with the children who were patients on that ward. "I plan to work another year. Then I'm going to do a little charity work—with children and older people." She also plans to go to church, and fish and crab at a cottage at the beach.

Alexander Davis is well known around the Clinical Center. Just about everyone knows of his past achievements in Housekeeping and his present strides as chief of the Fabric Care Department. He came to the Clinical Center from Walter Reed in 1952 to help the Housekeeping Section chief build a complete staff from scratch. He was the fifth employee to come to the Section. In addition to recruiting staff, he took part in purchasing equipment and supplies, and getting the building ready for the Open House in July of 1953. While on night serv-



Martha Allen



Essie Goodwin

ice he worked with then Executive Officer Earl Laurence, and in 1968 he was selected as an EEO Counselor. "I learned from being in EEO and became interested in people and helping them in the Clinical Center." When a vacancy became available for assistant chief to Gordon Gamble, he applied for and got the job in 1970. In 1971 the Fabric Care Department needed a chief, and he took the job in 1972. "At first I didn't want any part of the job. I took it as a challenge and focused on being people-oriented to change the attitude of people toward laundry workers." He also took part in an advisory group, made up of department heads and EEO Counselors, which was set up to advise the Director of the problems and concerns of employees. The Clinical Center Annual Awards Ceremony grew out of the work of this group. (In the past, each department had its own ceremony.) The things that stand out most in Mr. Davis' memory are: working as an EEO Counselor with all levels of people in the Clinical Center, and being accepted at a time when EEO was very new; the change in attitude of management towards the employees—"people are now accepted as human beings and not numbers. A degree does not make you more important than anybody



Dorothy Bingham



Emma Edgar

else"; and "the quality of cooperation I've received by the Clinical Center administration. I've received outstanding support. The Clinical Center is one of the best run organizations I've ever been associated with." Mr. Davis thinks things have changed since he started working here. ". . .equality towards people has improved, but there is still a long way to go." Reflecting, he says, "I never dreamed I'd be the chief of the Fabric Care Department. It just wasn't done. Someone from outside was usually selected. Trends have been toward improving work conditions and relations with employees, and the Clinical Center has grown tremendously."

Gladys Garris is a kitchen helper in the Nutrition Department. She remembers the three floors, 12, 9, and 5, that were open and that "Miss Jones (Edith) used to have the cafeteria. The food was cheaper and tasted better," she says. Gladys also remembers the Life Island project (now the Laminar Air Flow Unit) where one of the early patients (a twin with leukemia) was kept to be protected from germs. "He improved because he eventually left and went back to college," she says. "NIH is an interesting place to work," says Gladys. "The scientists and doctors have done a good job of research in different fields . . . the Nutrition Department has helped a lot too, with all the types of diets that must be prepared for the patients and the special diets prepared in the metabolic kitchen. I think the chief of the department has done a wonderful job with the doctors and the many studies they have involved her in over the years."

Ada Hruska, clinical nurse expert in the Nursing Department, came to the Clinical Center ". . .because it was new. I wanted to be part of something new and exciting." Ada has been detailed just about everywhere in the building within the department. She enjoyed working on the Cancer Nursing Service the most, though. "I'd love to be



Mattie Inman

here when they discover a cure for cancer because I enjoyed working on it. I've had interesting and varied nursing experiences in the Clinical Center," she says. "I've met many many VIP patients and staff here at the Clinical Center, but I see all patients the same." What stands out in Ada's mind is that "of all the people that come to the Clinical Center, each of them deserves the best that the staff has to give. Every patient is special."

Essie Goodwin's father was doing construction work here in 1953, and brought an application to her when he heard of the job openings. Essie is a dietetic assistant in the Nutrition Department. "The first ten years were the most interesting," she says. She helped prepare the food for President Johnson's visit, and enjoyed "serving and meeting people." Essie would tell new employees, "try to have perfect attendance and you won't have many problems . . . listen to the person who is training you."

Emma Edgar is also a dietetic assistant in the Nutrition Department. She found out about the jobs at the Clinical Center from Essie Goodwin. "I remember when the first patient arrived on the 12th floor, and I served him. About three or four months later the 5th floor ward opened up and I was sent there. I served the first patients down there." Emma likes working with the patients and satisfying them. "I get such a joy out of their comments about the food." She has been to classes and other hospitals and thinks, "this is one of the nicest hospitals to work for."

Robert Grimes is a licensed practical nurse with the Nursing Department. He had been a nursing assistant until 1969. Robert served in the Medical Detachment, 701st Military Police Army during World War II. He does not regret any of the time spent in the service. "I loved every minute of it." Robert says "I've learned a lot . . . seen a lot of changes. Being here encouraged me to get my license in Nursing."

Martha Allen, dietetic assistant, Nutrition Department, came here after her cousin told her about the Clinical Center. It was her first job and she thought it was too far out of town, but she came. Martha met her husband, who was working in Mental Health, here at the Clinical Center. She has worked on many floors and services and is now on seven, working with the heart patients. Martha says, "there were ups and downs, but you have to hang on in to make it." Martha thinks the environment here is good. She's met good friends, and thinks the doctors, nurses, and her co-workers are all nice.

Dorothy Bingham is an assistant metabolic cook in the Nutrition Department. She came to the Clinical Center from the Bureau of Engraving and started as a kitchen helper on the 9th floor. She's been in the metabolic kitchen about 20 years. Dorothy says, "I've enjoyed the work I've done, and the people I've worked with." She also advises young people starting work to "do a good job of whatever you do. Once you learn something, you'll always know it. Doing your best, and a good job is important."

"The first time I came out here," says Mattie Inman, kitchen helper in the Nutrition Department, "I was told that I had to work Saturday and Sunday, so I didn't want the job. My husband told me that there was a future in it so I applied again. I've been here ever since, and love it." Like the other veterans, Mattie has enjoyed her co-workers, the dietitians, and the nice people. "This is the longest I've stayed in any job." Mattie's advice to the new employee is: "If you want to work, you have to keep at it. You're young, you need to work to try to make it and get what you want."

The Clinical Center veterans have a wealth of knowledge and experience. They are the special people who have endured much change and growth. Be sure to see the next two months of *Closeup's* spotlight on the Clinical Center Veterans.

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