



Mr. & Mrs. Joe Blou  
1010 St. Catherine St.  
Montreal.

# JGH news

VOL. 7, No. 1

JEWISH GENERAL HOSPITAL/MONTREAL, QUE.

FEBRUARY 1969

## Introducing...

### Mrs. Aubie E. Wolfe



(This is the seventeenth in a series of articles introducing members of the Hospital's Board of Administration.)

As sympathetic as she is dynamic, Annalee Scherzer graduated from

Montreal High School in her native city, obtained her B. A. Degree from McGill University in 1946, her B. S. W. a year later, did social work for a year each the Montreal Juvenile Court and the Children's Aid, then joined the Social Service Department of the JGH — an affiliation she came by naturally as daughter of one of Montreal's first pediatricians and granddaughter of the Hospital's first Vice President, Mr. Louis Salomon.

After another year's social work in New York's Eye and Ear Hospital, Mrs. Wolfe returned to Montreal and joined the JGH's Women's Auxiliary where, over the years, she assumed increasingly heavy responsibilities as volunteer, co-Chairman of the Membership Committee, and Vice President — a post she held for eleven years before becoming President of this 6,000-member organization in 1967. Says she: "I'm overwhelmed by the personal dedication of so many women who put aside leisure time to give of their talent and experience to our organization — no matter how routine some of the jobs may be." As President of the Women's Auxiliary, Mrs. Wolfe is a member of the Hospital's Board of Administration.

Married to Dr. Aubie Wolfe, Obstetrician and Gynecologist, she is the mother of two teenage children.

## JGH's new psychiatric institute to house suicide prevention center

One of the first projects the Hospital's new Institute for Community and Family Psychiatry will establish when it opens in April is a suicide prevention center, Dr. Henry Kravitz, Psychiatrist-in-Chief, said in a recent interview. The purpose of the center will be (1) to try to prevent suicide attempters from committing suicide, and (2) through interviews with those who attempted suicide but failed, to find why people resort to this step, determine useful signals for their protection in future, and find aspects in the social structure which might reduce the suicide rate.

While suicide is the tenth major cause of death in the United States, 8.8 Canadians per 100,000 population died by their own hand in 1965 — a rate which represents over 200 suicides annually in Montreal alone.

And while it is believed that there are six to ten suicide attempts for every one which succeeds, there are also the unknown proportions who destroy themselves through car and other "accidents".

"But as suicide is still a relatively unexplored field," Dr. Kravitz continued, "the most effective approach to its prevention is unknown. We do know that while up to one-third of

(Continued on page 3)



**IN THE PINK:** So far, the heart-assist pump operation which was first applied clinically a year ago at the JGH by Dr. Jacob Rosensweig, Department of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, and his team, has saved the lives of four JGH patients suffering from acute coronary occlusion — plus a few known others in the United States.

Above, three of the four JGH survivors (the fourth was treated a week after this photo was taken) are, from the left: Mr. Abe Ravitsky, 54, Montreal clothing manufacturer; Mr. Alphonse Allaire, 60, kitchen helper, St. Jean, Quebec; and Mr. Sam London, 49, packaging salesman, Montreal, who was the initial patient.

Hospitals and medical societies have indicated their interest in this new circulatory assist procedure by inviting Dr. Rosensweig and Dr. Shekhar Chatterjee, senior research fellow on the project, to discuss the application of the new method in several North American cities as well as Jerusalem.



## JGH nursing students in school pilot project

The Hospital's second year class of nursing students comprise the single test group in a two-week pilot project originated by the Health Coordinator of the South Shore Protestant Regional School Board, Mrs. G. Lennox, R. N., and implemented with the cooperation of the Nursing Education Department of the JGH, the Quebec Association of Ophthalmologists, The Canadian Red Cross, and Maico Hearing Service, Inc.

Designed to impress administrators and nursing students that school health is a specialty field, the project gives student nurses a chance to appreciate the health problems which interfere with a child's learning and development, understand the sources of these problems, and find ways of dealing with them — all under the supervision of school nurses. Said Miss Mary

Barrett, the Hospital's Director of Nursing Education: "Since one of the objectives of our School is to develop the student nurses' understanding of a patient as a total person who functions in a family and community setting, this school nursing experience was well adapted to our program."

After completing a twenty-hour orientation program from November 23rd to 27th which dealt with hearing, perception and related problems found among school-age children, methods of testing, screening, recording and referring, and Red Cross First Aid, students were assigned to school nurses on the staff of the South Shore Protestant Regional School Board for one week beginning January 16th. However, as all twenty-four students in the class will not have completed this second phase of the project until summer, final conclusions about the program will not be known until October, 1969. Meantime, Quebec's Department of Health and the Association of Nurses of the Province of Quebec have indicated interest.

## Suicide Prevention . . .

(Continued from page 1)

successful suicides made previous attempts at it, few attempters who receive hospital treatment succeed at it later — so that a large proportion of potential suicides don't go to hospital for treatment. We also know that persons who do not go to hospitals for treatment have different personality characteristics than those who do go . . . so we hope that at least some of the first group will come to our center. At any rate, this has been the trend in the United States. The space made available to us in our new Institute will enable us to probe deeply into this subject and, we hope, to decrease the high suicide rate in the Province of Quebec."

While some suicide prevention centers have functioned successfully in Europe since World War II, an estimated seventy-five have sprung up in North America since then, and the National Institute of Mental Health for Studies of Suicide Prevention was

(Continued on page 5)



The JGH's School for Nursing Assistants graduated its seventh and largest class to date — thirty-three students — in the auditorium of the nurses' residence January 14th. Mr. Arthur Pascal, Vice President of the Hospital, chaired the ceremony, Miss Julia Longseed, B. N., R. N., Instructor, presented the diplomas and pins, and Mr. Fred Goldstein, Administrative Assistant, read the address of Dr. W. R. Slatkoff, Executive Director, who was out of town at the time.

Above, the graduates are, from left to right, front row: the Misses Maureen Roachford, Eudora Thompson, Sybil Dick, Clair Bérubé, Jennifer Cook, Joan Bibby, Pearl Browne, Ellen Richer; middle row: the Misses Diane Deslauriers, Sandra Hollander, Heather Fashler — who won The Mrs. Philip Gar-

finkle Prize for consistent progress and professional development, Mrs. Ruth Jonsson — who won The Mrs. Bernard J. Lande Prize for general proficiency, the Misses Evelyn Berkowic, Susie Markowitz, Joyce Bathurst — who was the class valedictorian, Miss Lynda Gales; back row: Miss Lourdes Shen, Mrs. Veli Beinglas, Mrs. Astra Klaise, Mrs. Otti Krull, Mrs. Junie Magloire, Miss Marsha Abrams, Miss Lynne Levine, Mrs. Agatha Primo, Miss Judith Saxe, Miss Imogene Franklin, Miss France Belisle, Miss Linda Curwell, and Mrs. Leah James. Missing from the photo are: Mrs. Deanna Forde, Miss Winsome McFarlane, Miss Elizabeth Revesz, and Mrs. Angelina Willard.

Thirty-six new nursing assistant students started their one-year course at the Hospital January 21st.





On their rounds of Hospital wards during Chanukah week, members of B'nai B'rith's Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 1683, kindle the eight lights for patient Sam Bessel. The three Lodge members above are, from the left: Past President Barney Grosser, and Brothers Marty Rosensweig and Marven Chaim.

Students of the School of Nursing also celebrated Chanukah when, on the evening of December 17th, they visited all wards of the Hospital to sing traditional songs to patients.



Happiness is winning recognition at the Hospital's Third Annual Arts, Crafts and Photo Exhibition held in the auditorium of the nurses' residence January 8-12th. From left to right, standing, are: Mr. Jose Ruiz, technician, Surgical Research, who won honourable mention in the painting and drawing category; Mr. Zoltan Noeh, technician, Blood Bank, who shared first prize with Dr. Joseph Shugar, Orthopaedics, in the sculpture category; Dr. R. D. Hubar, Dentistry, first prize, painting and drawing; Dr. M. Dines, Dentistry, first prize, photography. Seated are, from the left: Mrs. Sabine Pinkus, technician, G. E. Lab, honourable mention, crafts; Dr. Nathan Freedman, Cytologist — and Chairman of all three of the ACP Exhibitions to date — honourable mention in both the painting and drawing, and sculpture categories; Dr. Michael A. Gold, Medical Director, who presented the prizes; Miss E. Kardonne, technician, X-ray, first prize in crafts. Missing from the photo are Dr. Joseph Shugar, Orthopaedics, who also won honourable mention in photography; Dr. B. Davis, Obstetrics and Gynecology, honourable mention, photography; and Mrs. Elaine La Paix, aide, Dietary Department, honourable mention in crafts. Judges for the event were Montreal's outstanding sculptress and painter, Mrs. Yvette Bisson and Mr. Moe Reinblatt, respectively.

## Suicide Prevention . . .

(Continued from page 3)

established in the United States in 1966. Most of these local centers are purely service oriented while some also collect information from doctors, clergymen and others whom suicide attempters had contacted for help, note the results of these contacts, interview the suicide attempters who can be found, and then, with the information collected, develop methods of suicide prevention which they test on other suicide attempters as they contact the centers. Until now, only one other center in Montreal has begun to attempt to deal with this community problem.

Said Dr. J. J. Sigal, Director of Research at the Department of Psychiatry: "The JGH suicide prevention center will be staffed on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis with specially trained bilingual volunteers who will sleep there, answer 'phone calls coming in on a widely advertised number, talk to callers, ascertain whether they need only someone to talk with, or the help of their families or professional help. When the last seems to be the case, the volunteers — depending on their assessment of the problem — will immediately contact a clergyman, social worker or psychiatrist who will be on call for this purpose, and he will follow through. Eventually," said Dr. Sigal, "we may have a mobile unit of volunteers and professionals which, if necessary, will go out to homes and places of business to contact suicides there. But consistent with the policy regarding any service in the Institute, the suicide prevention center will function only so long as research is being carried out in relation to it. Once the research phase ends, the service will be terminated, and the accumulated information offered to whatever agency may wish to continue the work."

Volunteers wishing to work in the center along the lines described are invited to telephone the Hospital's Department of Psychiatry at 342-3111, local 401, exchange 21.