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SURGEON IS DAFFODIL AUTHORITY

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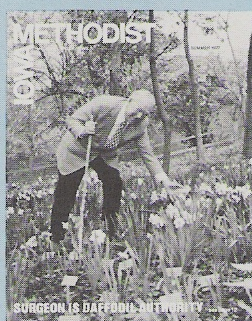
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ON THE COVER SURGEON AND DAFFODILS

Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton, IMMC Surgeon, has done extensive computer research on daffodils and gained world-wide fame for his efforts. Recently, he was presented the Silver Medal of the American Daffodil Society and the English Peter Barr Cup. Dr. Throckmorton, who is pictured in his garden, is also preparing a book on the subject. A story on the surgeon and his daffodil research appears on page 12. The cover picture is the first four-color print IMMC NEWS has published.

NEW SERVICES CONS CANCER TREATMENT PROGRAM EXPLAINED AT BOARD MEETING

Consecration services for the Jeanne Hoff Goodwin Chapel, Joseph B. Priestley Operating Room Suite and Charles Iles Memorial were held in conjunction with the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Directors May 24.

Bishop Lance Webb of the United Methodist Church; Donald W. Cordes, Executive Vice-President; Tom D. Throckmorton, M.D., surgeon; Dr. Kenneth Metcalf, Superintendent of the Des Moines District United Methodist Church; Dr. R. Paul Walters, Director, Clinical Chaplaincy Department; and Ralph L. Jester, Board member, participated in the ceremonies held in the chapel. Organ music was provided by Palmer D. Lowry, chapel organist.

The chapel is named for the wife of William Goodwin, Jr., who retired from the board a year ago. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin were present. The Priestley Suite is named for the late Dr. Joseph B. Priestley, long-time IMMC surgeon and former Chief of the Surgical Staff. The Iles Memorial honors the late Charles F. Iles, former Medical Center President.

Tours of the Priestley Surgical Suite and the Iles Memorial (Medical Center Lobby) followed the consecration service. More than 160 members of the Medical Center Board, Guild Board, physicians, Partners in Healing and their spouses attended.

Presiding at the program in the Medical Center Cafeteria was Robert



Sandblom, Vice-President and Chairman, Executive Committee. The Reverend M.D. Summerbell, who is retired from the Board of Directors, was recognized for service rendered. He was appointed to the Board in June, 1956.

Dr. Metcalf, Chairman of the Gifts and Bequests Committee, presented citations to the new Partners In Healing—persons who have given to the Medical Center. Guests included: Mr. and Mrs. Julius Black, Mr. and Mrs. Myron N. Blank (Blank is Medical Center Treasurer), Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hite, Miss Lois Hoskins, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Sieg, Dr. Virginia Thompson and Dr. and Mrs. George Zaharis.

A panel of staff physicians presented the program, "Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment at IMMC". Norman K. Rinderknecht, M.D., Medical Staff President was the moderator. Other panelists were Richard Hankenson, M.D., Oncologist; Louis Maher, M.D., Radiotherapist; and Jack Spevak, M.D.,

SURGEON GAINS WORLD WIDE FAME FOR DAFFODIL RESEARCH

A well known Iowa Methodist Medical Center surgeon has become the "Alex Haley" of the daffodil world. Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton has gained international attention for his work in computer classification of all daffodils, their parentage, what they look like and just about everything else there is to know about this plant with its amazingly human-like characteristics.

He began his work in 1960 on the Medical Center computer and has since compiled detailed information on more than 10,000 varieties of the delicate flowers, superb examples of which graced the spring woods behind his home.

"We have run out programs on family trees down to seven generations," Dr. Throckmorton explained. Currently he is preparing a book, "Daffodils to Show and Grow" which will list 5000 strains of daffodils currently available "somewhere". Appropriately, the book is being printed by computer and will be distributed to daffodil connoisseurs all over the world.

Dr. Throckmorton credits two members of the IMMC computer team—J. Simpson, Director, who did the complicated programming and Mrs. Beverly Buckley who did the punch card work—with making it possible for him to do his research. He is also grateful to the Medical Center for the computer time granted him when the machine was not being used for Medical Center Purposes.

"I found daffodil classification to be rather cumbersome. It just didn't make much sense. Then I developed a simplified language to put into the computer and we were able to make rewarding progress."

Through the aid of the computer he has successfully bred strains of daffodils, six of which are going on the market. He is attempting to breed a "toned" plant. Traditionally, the blossoms are entirely white or yellow and he seeks to develop a flower with softer, more pastel colors.

From the "Stud Book and Almanac"—the complete computer printouts—he quickly can produce facts about any given strain. From this information he is preparing his book which is expected to become the "Roots" of the daffodil world.

Dr. Throckmorton has received many accolades. This spring he was presented the Silver Medal of the American Daffodil Society, an award given to the person considered to have made the greatest contribution to the Society, and the Peter Barr Cup for worthwhile work in daffodils.

The Peter Barr ceremony was held in London and the cup subsequently shipped to Dr. Throckmorton. The Silver Medal was presented in San Francisco. Dr. Throckmorton is only the third American to win the Peter Barr Cup.

The cup, understandably, is named for Peter Barr—a British plantsman who, in 1885, searched the countryside of northern Spain and Portugal for strains of wild daffodils. Those which he found interesting he dug up and had shipped back to Britain for transplanting. He was founder of Barr and Sons, a London establishment now operated by H.R. Barr, a third generation member of the family.

The award is made annually and the cup is passed from one recipient to the next. This is the first time, however, it has come across the Atlantic. Previous American winners apparently have elected to let it remain in England.

IMMC JOB SWITCH AIDS "UNDERSTANDING"

IMMC employees traded jobs for a while during National Hospital Week.

The great "Job Switch" occurred Wednesday May 11 when more than 100 IMMC staffers experienced what it was like working in another area for one hour. Nurses became administrators, counselors became cafeteria attendants, secretaries became laundry workers, etc.

The main result seemed to be increased appreciation on the part of the participants of the rewards and challenges of hospital positions other than their own.

Ann Heath, Nursing Service, who went to Admitting said: "I wanted to see what was going on in Admitting. It gave me a better understanding of my work on the nursing floor in relation to Admitting."

Dr. Stanley Haugland, Medical Director of the Powell-3 Unit, spent an hour with Donald W. Cordes, Executive Vice-President and enjoyed a closer view of the duties of the top executive officer.

David S. Ramsey, Vice-President and Administrator, became a Recovery Room Orderly. "I wanted to experience the male orderly level and learn more about the administration of health care at this level," Ramsey said. "I think this is a very good experience for hospital administrators."

It was a learning experience for everyone involved. No one actually took responsibility in areas with which they were unacquainted. It was an exercise in understanding of what fellow employees do.

"I hope we do it again, soon," was the typical comment of the participants.