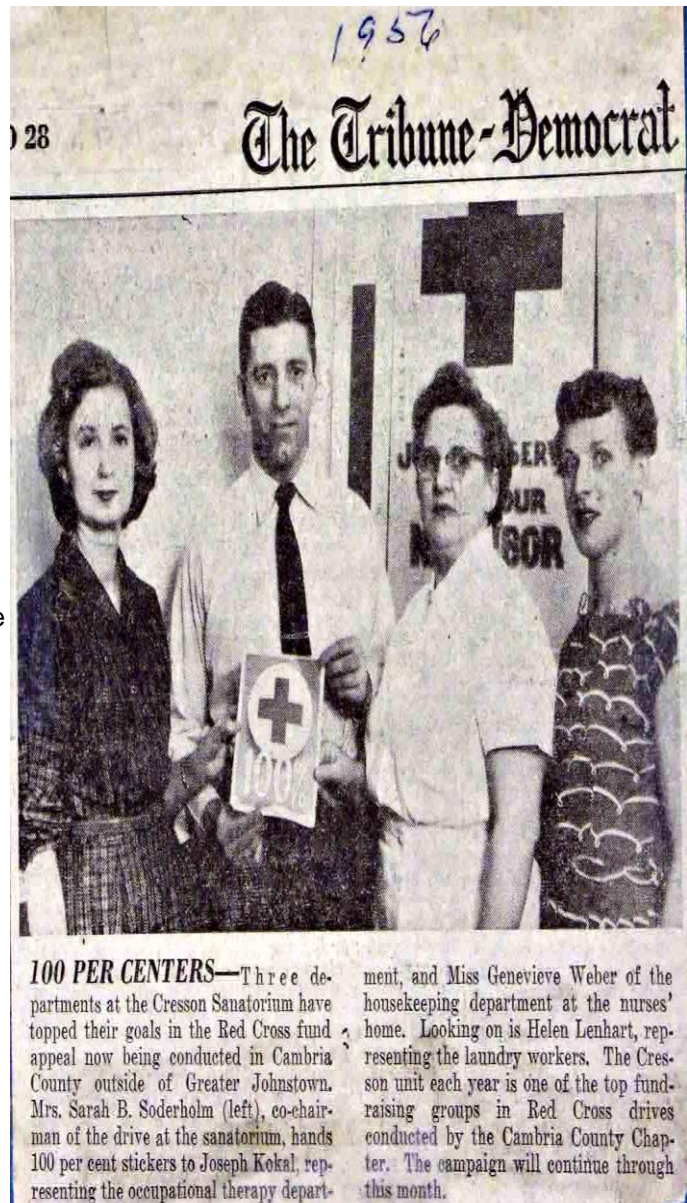


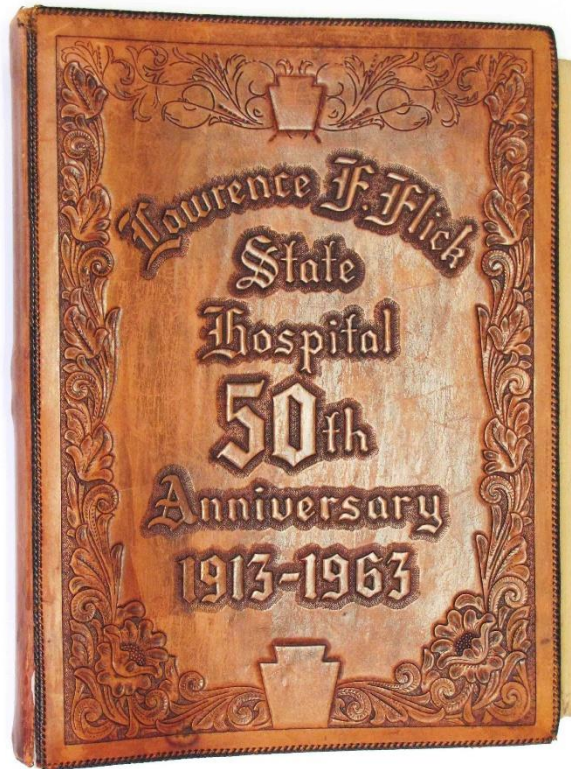
As part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the San in 1963, a scrapbook was donated to the Cresson Area Historical Association, Inc. by Lorraine Ott, a former employee of the San and Cresson State School & Hospital. The 6-ring scrapbook contained 88 large format pages (16" by 21") containing newspaper articles and clippings pertaining to the San. The book covers, shown below in Photos 1 & 2, were made of leather which had been hand tooled. Photo 3 shows the donation page inside the front cover.

The book is almost 50 years old now and some of the newspapers clippings show marked deterioration. In addition, some of the newsprint is small and/or faded. Therefore, the process to transfer the data to this website was to first photograph each page with a digital camera at 5MB resolution. The images were then processed to yield approximately 0.5MB images for this website. These images may be enlarged to make all the print readable. Because of the large file size per page, the 88 pages have been broken up into groups of 10 to reduce loading time.

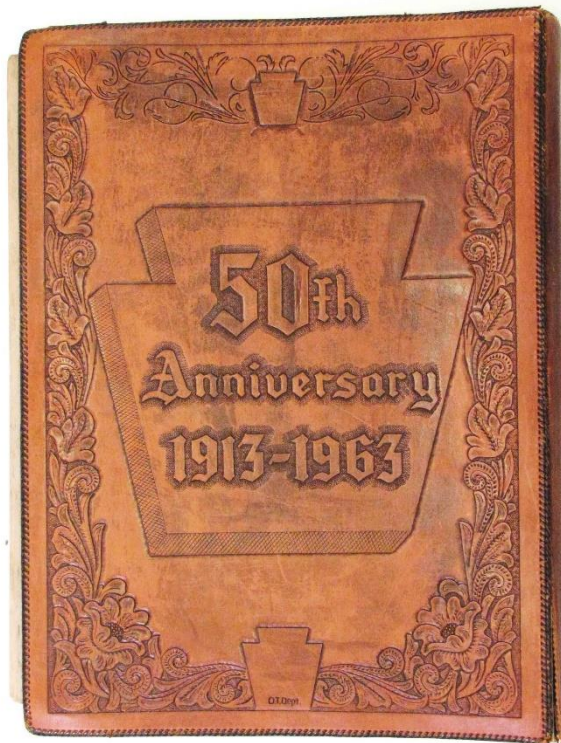
Hand written notes on page 87 give the origins of the scrapbook. The leather cover was made by Mr. Joseph Kokal, a former TB patient who worked in the Occupational Therapy Department. Mrs. Sarah B. Soderholm pasted the articles in the scrapbook. They are the two people on the left in the photo which is taken from Page 52 of the scrapbook.

I wish to thank Etta Albright of Cresson, Pa and the Cresson Area Historical Association (CAHA) for letting me borrow this one-of-a-kind commemorative book to photograph it and make the images available to the public through this website. The book contains a wealth of information pertaining to the history of the san and the staff and patients.

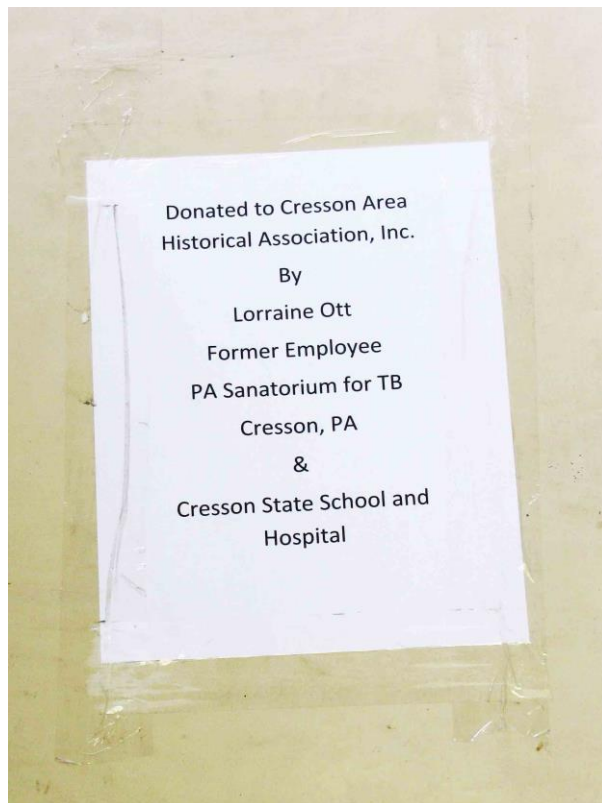




1. Scrapbook Front Cover



2. Scrapbook Back Cover



Donated to Cresson Area  
Historical Association, Inc.

By

Lorraine Ott

Former Employee

PA Sanatorium for TB

Cresson, PA

&

Cresson State School and

Hospital

3. Scrapbook Inside Front cover

## Graduating Class of Nurses' Training School, Sanatorium



Reading left to right—Helen Barbara Lee, Claribel Edbaugh, Anna K. Gondas, Mary Danyak, Barbara D. Stritman and Amanda Forsten.

CRESSON Sept. 22—Seven members of the nurses' training class of the State Sanatorium here were presented diplomas at the annual commencement exercises held Saturday evening at the sanatorium chapel. The graduates were addressed by Dr. Thomas Appel, State Secretary of the department of health and Dr. W. H. Proctor, of Twp. Rock, president of the Centre County Medical society.

Honor guests at the commencement exercises were Dr. Henry Gorman, medical director of the Hamburg sanatorium and Dr. H. H. MacCallister, medical director of the Mt. Alto sanatorium.

Dr. T. H. A. Egan, medical director of the local sanatorium, presented diplomas to the graduates. The graduating class this year was composed of seven members, all of whom will remain at the sanatorium as nurses in the service of the State department of health.

All of the nursing staff at the sanatorium, with the exception of one, are graduates of the local institution's nurse-training school. The commencement held on Saturday was the 19th annual event.

Various nationalities are represented in the graduating class, according to Dr. Egan. The nationalities include Polish, English, Irish, German and Hungarian. All of the graduates, however, are citizens of Pennsylvania.

Miss Sophia Olski, of 641 East Third street, Erie, is a member of the class, but was not present at the time the picture of the graduates was taken.

The home address of other graduates are as follows: Miss Helen Barbara Lee, Lock No. 4, Washington County; Miss Claribel Edbaugh, Monroeville, R. D. No. 3; Miss Anna K. Gondas, Monroeville; Miss Mary Danyak, Duquesne; Miss Barbara D. Stritman, Redco, Butler County; and Miss Amanda Forsten, Redco, Butler County.

## TB Hospitals Lack Nurses

(Continued from back page.)

rate, which is 20 percent over normal capacity.

For sometime, hospital authorities, generally, have been confronted with the situation of endeavoring to maintain services while handicapped by a shortage of nurses. This particularly is true by this lack of nurses have been the three state tuberculosis sanatoriums.

Why do these state institutions appear to be among the principal sufferers because of lack of nursing personnel? What is the state doing in an effort to correct this condition? These questions will be answered in tomorrow's article.

## SANATORIUM HAS GRADUATION FOR NURSES' SCHOOL

1926  
Two Johnstown Girls Among Nine Graduates at Cresson Sanatorium

### TALKS BY STATE MEN

Special to The Tribune.

CRESSON, June 11.—Commencement exercises for the 1926 graduating class of the State Sanatorium Training School for Nurses were held last Tuesday evening in the sanatorium chapel and nine young women were awarded diplomas. Dr. Charles H. Allen, Commissioner of the State Department of Health, addressed the graduates on "Advance of Treatment of Tuberculosis." Dr. W. G. Turnbull, former superintendent of the local sanatorium and now Deputy Commissioner of Health, spoke on "Prevention of Communicable Diseases."

Dr. T. H. A. Egan, Medical Director of the Cresson Institution, presented the class for graduation. Diplomas were presented by Miss C. Allison. Pins were presented to the graduates by Miss Viola J. Hater. Special music for the commencement program was given by Frances Tidener, Lydia Siles, Rose and Milla Meeks and Len Rice. The benediction was offered by the Rev. Charles A. Brownson, pastor of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Johnstown.

Following the graduation exercises there was a reception given for the graduating class in the amusement hall.

Those who received diplomas were Lettie B. Usher, of Kesho, Pa.; Helen M. Burns of Philadelphia; Elizabeth M. Shipman of Altoona; Margaret M. Fisher of Johnstown; Irene C. Mauck, of Johnstown; Katherine Park of Meadown; Ella J. Short, of Pitsburgh; Elizabeth A. Kane, of Fayette City, Pa.; Nellie G. Edwards, of Pittsburgh.

A two-year course is being taught at the State Sanatorium Training School. This makes the second class to graduate.

# Altoona Mirror.

ALTOONA, PA. FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 11, 1943.



RESIGNS—Dr. T. H. A. Stites (above), eminent medical man, will leave the employ of the state next week after a service record of 25 years.

## DR. T. H. A. STITES TO LEAVE CRESSON SANATORIUM POST

Plans to Retire from Work for Time; Formerly Army Officer

CRESSON—Dr. Thomas H. A. Stites has tendered his resignation as superintendent of the Pennsylvania State Tuberculosis Sanatorium here to Dr. A. H. Shewers, secretary of health, effective Apr. 15. Dr. Stites has been in the service of the state for 25 years, 16 of which he has spent at the local institution.

In recent years Dr. Stites has lived in Hollidaysburg, following his retirement from the work at Cresson. He will take up his residence in Nazareth, Pa., his former home. His successor has not yet been appointed. Prior to a successor named by next Thursday, W. L. Fry, administrator, executive of the institution, and Dr. Harry Treashler, chief of the medical staff, will assume the duties of Dr. Stites.

Dr. Stites is recognized as one of the foremost leaders in the field of specialized medicine in Pennsylvania. His career had its beginning following his graduation from Princeton University in 1916 and from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School in 1918. When the Spanish-American War broke out, Dr. Stites enlisted in Company E, First Volunteer Pennsylvania Infantry, but his service was not short when he was taken ill with typhoid fever.

In August, 1907, Dr. Stites entered the service of the state health department and was placed in charge of the work of establishing free tuberculosis dispensaries in every county of the state. In October, 1914, he was appointed superintendent of the state's new sanatorium at Hanover, Pa., on Aug. 3, 1920, was commissioned a major in the United States public health service, being stationed in the surgeon general's office at Washington, D. C., and on Aug. 2, 1923, was named chief of staff of the veteran hospital at Alexandria, La., where he remained two years.

Meanwhile Dr. Stites was promoted to the rank of senior surgeon. On June 1, 1925, he was called back to Pennsylvania to succeed Dr. William C. Turnbull as superintendent of the local institution.

Upon retiring from the superintendency here in 1930, Dr. Stites County, where he established a practice, he returned as superintendent of the local institution on Mar. 1, 1935, and has since been located here.

Other than his post, Dr. Stites has to pass the future. He is not dependent on the First National Bank, Cresson, and president of the Pennsylvania County Medical Society.

PORTRAIT HUNG



DR. THOMAS H. A. STITES.

## CRESSON HOSPITAL HONORS DIRECTOR

The staff of the sanatorium at Cresson on Tuesday paid a beautiful tribute to Dr. Thomas H. A. Stites, who for thirty years was an officer of the department of Health and for sixteen years medical director of the sanatorium.

The honored portrait of Dr. Stites in the reception room of the present surgery building under whose supervision it was erected and in which he held a warm spot in his heart.

Members of the consulting staff from Johnstown and Altoona and physicians from the medical societies of Cresson and other counties were present, as well as members of the Cresson Rotary club, directors of the First National bank of Cresson, of which Dr. Stites is a director, and local clergymen. A total of about 250 people, including the staff at the sanatorium, attended.

Dr. Harry J. Treashler, chief of medical service, presided at the hanging of the portrait. Dr. Joseph D. Finley, senior consulting surgeon at the sanatorium since its inception in 1912, made the presentation address, referring to the accomplishments under Dr. Stites as medical director and in speaking of the influence of Dr. Stites, quoted the following poem of an unknown author:

One only in the vast circle of time  
Who's name is known to all men  
Has done that in the world's esteem  
Which none can ever equal.

He built the nation's health  
And saved the world's disease  
He stands as fate's truest seal  
And stands as fate's truest seal.

That's it, he's work and toil and sweat,  
That by most we deem a task may fall  
Or a labor we tried to shun.

Miss Mary Mackerseth, principal of the sanatorium school for many years, spoke for those long associated with the institution, and the acting medical director, Dr. B. Franklin Boyer, referred affectionately to his many years of association with Dr. Stites.

## Dr. Stites Leaving

One of the outstanding men of the medical profession and an opponent of the state sanatorium at Cresson. For almost three decades he has been in the public health service of the state, sixteen of those years having been spent at the Cresson institution. This position he now resigns.

His constructive leadership at Cresson has made the sanatorium there a model institution of the kind. He sought and obtained the cooperation of the public health service, the tuberculosis and health societies, the medical profession and the people at large. He has the ability and the rare personality, the professional knowledge and skill as well as the administrative ability that such a position requires.

The Cresson institution is doing a great work in the battle against the white plague and the people throughout this area know that a great deal of the credit for making it what it is today belongs to him. The state authorities, the sanatorium and the people at large have been fortunate in being able to have the services of Dr. Stites as its official head.

During the years of his residence in this community Dr. Stites has won a host of friends and all will regret his departure. This has been a life rich in service and in friends and all will join in the hope that there will be many more years of useful service for him as he returns to his former home at Nazareth.

He will be sorely missed when he leaves the Cresson institution. His human sympathy, his understanding, his professional skill and interest in all who came there for help have permeated the sanatorium and served as an ideal for all who have been there.

## BECOMES ACTING SANATORIUM HEAD

Dr. E. Franklin Fryer of Cresson, Pa., will arrive at Altoona this afternoon to become acting superintendent of the Pennsylvania sanatorium there. He succeeds Dr. Thomas H. A. Stites, who retired today, at his own request. Dr. Stites and Mrs. Stites left for their future home at Nazareth, Pa., this morning.

Dr. Fryer is no stranger to health work. He became identified with the state health department in 1908 and was a member of Dr. Samuel C. Dixon's staff. He was named acting commissioner of health in 1922 and served until William Sproul became governor. Later he did a remarkable job of health work for the city of St. Johns, Newfoundland. Subsequently he was engaged in work for the National Association for the Physically Handicapped, the first of which was at the Mount Alto sanatorium.

Dr. Stites paid a few tributes to the administrative ability, the experience and the high professional standing of Dr. Fryer.

Altoona Mirror  
April 12, 1943

## G. O. P. Job-Holders Are Worrying Lest Their Heads Be Severed

By SID A. WEINSTEIN

Democratic Political Editor

Several leading Cambria County Republicans holding good jobs under the state administration are worrying these days whether their political heads are to be severed on the request of G. O. P. leaders. Their anxiety will increase as the session of the Legislature draws to a close, as Gov. Martin has stated that the patronage question will not be considered until the legislators go home.

The Legislature had been scheduled in Harrisburg to quit Apr. 20. How members to speed-up legislation is asserted that administration men came until the middle of May. No definite decisions have been made by the state capital commission who will control patronage in Cambria Co. will

the Cambria City, G. O. P. Executive Committee has not discussed any contemplated changes in jobholders from this county. It is known that individual members have definite ideas on the subject.

**SHOWING HEADS LIST**  
Shown at the top of list is G. O. P. attorney in Harrisburg, state secretary, communication referee. He receives \$5,000 a year. Stratton, it is known, will do everything in his power to save Schwing's political life, but there is no assurance that he will be able to do so. Harry C. Rodgers, Western tax collector, is said to be desirous of accompanying Mr. Schwing. He has the support of powerful members of the G. O. P. Executive Committee.

Also mentioned as a possible successor to Schwing, provided, of course, the latter is offered his job, is Frank A. Henz. Ed. Babin, who formerly held the position of compensation referee.

**LOYAL SEEKING PLACE**  
Attorney Lincoln Johns, Cambria town, is active in the race to succeed in the state Legation Control division of a powerful Republican Board. Simmons, who receives a group several years ago and is \$4,000 a year, is definitely determined certainly will have a strong effect on hanging onto his job. He may to dislodge him. These same leaders are assisted in his desire by Stock, who declares that Gov. Martin did not do so well as he should have in the G. O. P. not do so well as he should have in the County Executive Committee are in Munster, Pa., and they place a bet on him. Whether Simmons releases his job or whether Lloyd is successful in taking it away from him, the position eventually representative of the State, West will be filled by Lt. Col. Ernest F. Jones. Justice Paul R. Walker, who was granted a multi-year leave of absence from the Loretto, mentioned on the Legislative Committee, is said to have intention to enter the service. When county committee is said to have the best odds, the contest will be an eye on the job.

STILL OPPOSE SKILLING

Leaders of the County G. O. P. Executive Committee are still determined to have David T. Skilling, Maintenance engineer of the State Highway Department in Shensburg, moved from his county to other jobs because he will not play ball with them.

These leaders have picked Clarence M. Hartgering, Beaverdale, as Skilling's successor. Skilling, at any rate, will not be discharged. Over this G. O. P. county leaders who are after his scalp realize that Skilling is efficient. In addition, he has friends who are influential in Harrisburg. These include Don Stapp, director engineer of the Highway Department, who recognizes Skilling's ability and is determined that his side in Skilling will not be sacrificed on the altar of political expediency. Skilling receives \$4,000 annually.

FRY TO KEEP JOB

Some county G. O. P. leaders during these surfer of the state job situation call hanging eyes on the position held by William Fry as mechanical director at the Cresson Sanatorium. The job is a real plum, paying \$3,000 annually. It was discovered, however, that Mr. Fry is under civil service and cannot be fired without cause.

Efforts to have Mr. Lucy B. Love, Western, succeed Fry on the State Board of Cresson, were accomplished by county G. O. P. leaders, who heard that Mrs. Love had too many influential friends who were willing to go to her. Being that they were engaged in a hopeless race, they abandoned these efforts.

Thursday Morning - April 22, 1943

June 26, 1944

### Cresson Graduates 22 Nurses

#### Six Men, 16 Women To Get Diplomas of Sanatorium Hospital

Twenty-two nurses, six men and 16 women, will receive diplomas as members of the first class to be graduated from the nurse training school in Cresson State Hospital and Sanatorium since 1906.

Commencement exercises will be held at 8:15 p. m. Thursday in the recreation hall at the institution. The diplomas will be presented by Dr. A. H. Stewart of Indiana in secretary.

Miss Alice O'Halloran, R. N., L. I. D., director of the Bureau of Public Health Nursing, Harrisburg, will give the principal address and present diplomas to members of the graduating class.

The class was started two years ago at the institution because of the shortage of registered nurses. It was found extremely difficult to obtain nurses to care for the tuberculosis patients in the institution and Dr. Franklin Rogers, medical director of the institution, sponsored the class.

**Class Roster Announced**  
Assisting in training the new nurses were Miss Nellie J. Boyer, director of nurses, and Miss Agnes McLain, assistant director of nurses. Another class will commence training next September. It was announced by Dr. Rogers.

Women members of the class are Pauline Horton, Westover; Nora Puhalski, Scranton; Pauline Barick, Canadota; Agnes Stapp, Beaver Falls; Martha Ousey, Philadelphia; The Whitman McDonald; Pauline Parro, Canonsburg; Nathan Brown, Greensburg; Jane Carbonell, Altoona; Mary Morland and Grace Moreland, Portage; Cora King, Bradford; Helen Marshall Butler, Belvidere; Rosalie Spring, Mabel Menzer, Reading Springs and Catherine Herrie, McKeesport.

The men members of the class are David Beaudart, Hollister; Carl Churchill, Somerset; John Drey, Pittsburgh and Edwin Leach, Everett Buffet and Robert Stangen, all of Philadelphia.

Dr. Boyer also announced that eight nurses from the institution have entered the armed forces. They are Margaret Kline, Ebensburg; Helen Taylor, Butler; Grace Platt, Patton; Lillian Kellertown, Johnstown; Jessie Robinson, Scranton; Priscilla Adams, and Mary Moran, Pittsburgh.

### 22 at Cresson Win Diplomas

Miss Alice O'Halloran, director of the Bureau of Public Health Nursing, Harrisburg, Thursday presented diplomas to the 22 nurses, 16 women and six men, who were graduated from the nurse training school in the Cresson State Hospital.

Miss O'Halloran spoke to the graduates on the topic, "Value of Nursing Service." Introductory remarks were made by Dr. E. Franklin Rogers, medical director of the institution.

The following program was presented: Invocation, Rev. Thomas O'Donnell; Nightingale Prayers, O'Donnell; presentation of diplomas, Miss O'Halloran; vocal solo, Eugene Kuhn; additional vocal solo, Earl M. Hove; violin solo, Robert Durr; and benediction, Rev. E. N. Fry.

A reception was held for the graduates after the exercises. A banquet for the graduates was held Wednesday night in the hospital. Dinners at home were Dr. and Mrs. Boyer; Miss Nellie Stapp, director of nurses; Miss Agnes McLain, assistant director of nurses; and Mrs. Kennedy, night supervisor of the hospital.

### Tuberculosis Chief Topic For Doctors 1945

Members of the Blair and Cambria County Medical societies, at a joint meeting yesterday afternoon, held at the Cresson sanatorium, were treated to a most illuminating discussion of the progress that is being made in coping with tuberculosis, rated by one of the chief speakers of the afternoon as one of the greatest present-day problems.

Approximately seventy physicians, equally divided between the membership of the two societies, attended the meeting and the dinner which followed. All were disappointed, however, when Col. Harry W. West, Altoona physician, now state secretary of health, sent word that he could not be present because of a very important meeting of the state sanitary water board which gave consideration to the problems of eliminating pollution of the Susquehanna river.

They were welcomed to Cresson by Dr. E. P. Roper, superintendent of the sanatorium.

A most illuminating and instructive address was made by Dr. Ezra Bridge, president of the American Tuberculosis Society, who is superintendent of the Blair County sanatorium, N. Y., and an instructor in the university medical college there.

It was Dr. Bridge who characterized tuberculosis as one of the nation's greatest problems. He said it is costing more than any other disease but to give assurance that good progress is being made in finding the disease, in its treatment and cure.

Dr. Bridge said that it did not increase during the war in this country, but it is increasing since the war ended and more people are dying from it in the general hospital than in the sanatorium.

Dr. Bridge indicated that a change of policy has been adopted in building sanatoriums. Instead of building two or two and a half story buildings, high structures of many stories will be the rule where occupational therapy as well as general treatment policies can be carried out.

He spoke about the X-ray tests. These are now being given at the colleges and he asserted that at Rochester it has been found that 40 per cent of the young men students have positive TB tests.

Dr. Bridge said that he preferred the Von Pirquet test and he asserted that they now have found a serum which, when injected in those who do not have tuberculosis, will forever prevent it.

Speaking of drugs, Dr. Bridge said that the sulfa drugs and penicillin will not cure tuberculosis but experiment with a new drug strepto mycin, on guinea pigs have proved that it will smother the disease.

Dr. L. M. Hathington of the University of Pittsburgh medical school and consultant at Cresson, gave the doctors an insight of the methods of closed intra-plural pneumothorax as an adjunct of treatment. He told of the difficulties that are experienced because of adhesions in the lungs and he explained how it is possible to cut these adhesions and thus aid in the treatment.

Others who participated in the discussion included Dr. C. C. Custer, medical director at Mount Alto; Dr. Harry A. Gorman, medical director at Harrisburg; Dr. Joseph A. P. Neagle, president of the Cambria county society, and Dr. A. R. Koch of Altoona.

### Doctors Discuss New Treatments For Tuberculosis

CRESSON — Dr. Ezra Bridge, president of the American Tuberculosis Society, general professor of medicine at the University of Iowa Sanatorium in Des Moines, N. Y., was guest speaker at a joint meeting of the Cambria and Blair County Medical Societies at the Cresson Sanatorium. His topic was "Recent Developments in Tuberculosis."

A large number of physicians from both counties were present at the meeting and at the dinner served in the sanatorium dining room. New and modern methods of treating tuberculosis were discussed.

Other speakers were Dr. C. C. Custer, medical director of the Pennsylvania State Sanatorium at Mount Alto; Dr. Harry A. Gorman, medical director of the Pennsylvania State Sanatorium at Harrisburg; Dr. L. M. Hathington, physician in charge of medical service of the Tuberculosis League Hospital, Pittsburgh, and Dr. E. P. Roper, medical director of the Cresson sanatorium.

Dr. Joseph P. Neagle, Johnstown, president of the Cambria County Medical Society, and Dr. Roy W. Goshorn, resident of the Blair County Medical Society, were in charge of the meeting.

### Sanatoria of State Treat Many Patients

Harrisburg, Oct. 24.—A total of 8,508 tuberculosis patients were treated in Pennsylvania's three state-sanatoria during the month, dating from June 1, 1944, to May 31, 1944, it was reported today by the Dr. Harry W. West, secretary of health.

In the previous 1942-43 biennium, 8,445 patients were treated in the sanatoria.

The three large tuberculosis sanatoria maintained by the state department of health are located as follows: Pennsylvania sanatorium No. 1, Mount Alto, at South Mountain, Franklin county; Pennsylvania sanatorium No. 2, Cranberry, Cambria county; and Pennsylvania sanatorium No. 3, Harrisburg, Berks county.

Any citizen of Pennsylvania is eligible for treatment in these institutions if the patient involved, or his family is unable to assume the financial burden involved.

The procedure of admission to the sanatoria begins with the family physician, or with one of the state sponsored tuberculosis clinics that are strategically located throughout the commonwealth so that easy access may be had to them.

Patients may enroll in the clinics on their own initiative or be referred to them by their own private physician. At the clinic the patient is studied and, if found to have tuberculosis, as is in need of further diagnosis the clinic submits a request for admission to a state sanatorium. As soon thereafter as possible arrangements are made for admission and the patient is transferred from the jurisdiction where he began active treatment for his disease.

The many individuals tuberculosis can be arrested even after clinical symptoms such as fatigue, loss of weight, pain in the chest or low grade fever, have appeared," Dr. West said.

To too many other cases the disease is well advanced before treatment is sought so that a long period of consciousness is required. The discovery of early lesions in the lung is very important in combating successfully this disease which takes an annual toll of approximately 400 lives a year in Pennsylvania.

Altoona Tribune  
4-12-47  
**TB Authority  
Pays Visit to  
Mercy Clinic**

"The death rate from Tuberculosis in Pennsylvania is 26 out of every 100,000," Dr. Henry G. Chadwick, one of the nation's foremost tuberculosis sanatoria control authorities from Waltham, Mass., said yesterday after visiting the health tuberculosis clinic at Mercy hospital.

"This figure compares favorably with the national average of 42 out of every 100,000 when it is considered that there are many industries and mines, which are breeding places for the TB germ, throughout the state of Pennsylvania," Dr. Chadwick pointed out.

Making a comprehensive survey of the tubercular combatment facilities in western Pennsylvania, Dr. Chadwick, a pioneer in the Tuberculosis Control Work in Sanatorium work, visited Dr. A. S. Kieck, director of the luncheon treatment in the state clinic in Mercy hospital.

Dr. Chadwick left Altoona yesterday noon for Harrisburg with Dr. Benjamin Franklin Boyer, medical director of the Cramon sanatorium. The tuberculosis specialist had visited Dr. Boyer's sanatorium for three days prior to his visit to Altoona.

Before leaving, the P. R. R. station to start his trip to the state capital where he will report to Dr. M. Clay Stary, a former Altoonan, who is the director of the state health department. Dr. Chadwick said he attributed the remarkable strides that medicine has taken in their battle to wipe out or curtail tuberculosis to the cautious work of the state public health nurses.

Dr. Chadwick said that the biggest drawback in the fight to wipe-out tuberculosis is the lack of beds in hospitals.

He said that an ideal plan would be to have two beds set aside in the hospitals for sanatorium care for every one case reported the previous year.

If we could follow this plan we could be prepared to prevent the tubercular germ from getting a stronghold on the patients before their cases become acute, Dr. Chadwick said.

# Altoona Tribune

Vol. 91—No. 205 Monday, Sept. 1, 1947 Five Cents

## Dr. Weest Named Head Of Cresson Sanatorium

Former Secretary of Health Succeeds Dr. P. Franklin Royer

Dr. Harry W. Weest, former state secretary of health and chief surgeon of the 28th "Recreation" division, has been appointed director of Cresson sanatorium.

The Altoona physician is the son of Harry W. Weest, 100 Second avenue, and resided at 1977 Eighth avenue.

Dr. Weest replaces Dr. P. Franklin Royer who has left the sanatorium to be consultant in the office of Tuberculosis control, Harrisburg.

Dr. Weest, who served on the staffs of both Altoona and Mercy hospitals, served in World War II, leaving Altoona March 27, 1941, with the 28th division and was discharged as a lieutenant colonel, the end of August, 1945. He was sworn in as state secretary of health by Gov. Edward Martin, Sept. 4, 1945, as he left the army. He served as chief surgeon of the 28th "Recreation" division.

He returned to America from the European theatre of operations June 3 when he flew across the Atlantic with a group headed by Gen. Omar Bradley and Gen. Carl Spaatz. Arriving in Philadelphia, the officers were guests of the city.



DR. HARRY W. WEEST

**ANNOUNCES NEW DUTIES**

Dr. Weest has been at Cresson, having been appointed to the post two weeks ago Saturday. The official announcement of his being named director of the sanatorium is expected to be forthcoming this week. It was learned at the Tribune last night.

He is married to an Altoona, Dorothy Lindenfelzer, and the couple has one daughter.

He was graduated from Altoona high school, class of 1913, and from Jefferson Medical college.

(Continued on Page 10, Col. 4)

## Dr. Weest Heads Cresson Sanatorium

(Continued from Page 1)

ago, returning to Altoona to intern at Altoona hospital.

He remained as secretary of health during Gov. Martin's administration and left Harrisburg, Jan. 1947, to do research work in his field at both Jefferson and the University of Pennsylvania. He has been taking courses at the above named schools since that time.

Dr. Royer, whom Dr. Weest replaced, had been in retirement until the outbreak of hostilities and he offered his services for the duration of the emergency and was named to the Cresson post at that time. A native of Greenacres, he also served as commissioner of health for a number of years, taking that position in 1938.

## CRESSON HOSPITAL PROJECT BIDS OPENED

HARRISBURG, Sept. 1.—Bids on more than \$800,000 worth of work at the Cresson hospital in Cresson, were submitted to the General State Auditor today. Three low bidders were announced.

General occupation of surgical unit—H. B. Alexander & Son, Harrisburg, \$440,000.

Heating and ventilating of surgical unit—Altoona Heating and Ventilating Company, Harrisburg, \$150,000.

Plumbing and drainage of surgical unit—Altoona Heating and Ventilating Company, Harrisburg, \$110,000.

Electrical work on surgical unit—James E. Year, Harrisburg, \$100,000.

## Training Class Began Completes Work

CRESSON—Diplomas will be presented tomorrow evening to 25 nurses who have completed a two-year course in tuberculosis nursing at the Cresson Sanatorium.

Awards will be given by Dr. P. Franklin Royer, medical director, Dr. Norris W. Vaux, secretary of the State Department of Health, Dr. Roy G. Goshorn, superintendent of the State Hospital in Hollidaysburg, will give the principal address. Helen K. Carroll of the Mt. Altoona Junior College Faculty and two of her students, Miss Constance Litinger and James Ritter, will furnish music for the program.

Members of the graduating class are: Anne Kolmar, daughter of Mrs. Susan Kolmar of 139 Spring St., Johnstown; Teresa Biltmore, Cresson; Rose Hestrick, Portage; Martha Johnson, Bentleyville; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; Edna Mari, Altoona; Jeanice Hiller, Sarah Yoder, Hoop Springs; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; and Joseph Saboda, Jackson Center.

Two class members received sufficiently to study nursing and rehabilitation immediately after tuberculosis. The exercises will be transferred throughout the hospital so that bed patients may hear.

Miss Agnes McLaw, assistant director of nurses, and members of the medical, nursing and laboratory staffs organized and trained the class. Miss Catherine Baraka supervised training during the final four months.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1947

## Sanatorium Is Scene of Party

A Halloween masquerade party was held at the Cresson sanatorium for the ambulant patients on the evening of Oct. 30 in the entertainment hall.

The auditorium was beautifully decorated and a large number of the patients were in costume. Prizes were awarded for the outstanding costumes which were designed and made by the patients.

The highlight was furnished by J. P. McDermit, volunteer musician of Altoona, who entertained the patients with his trials of magic, and who was also responsible for bringing several other entertainers who delighted the patients with their musical selections. Mr. McDermit was assisted by Mrs. McDermit.

Miss Joan Caparone of 219 Thirty-seventh street and Edward Brandt of 227 Ninth street, a pupil of Miss Caparone, entertained with a number of selections from the accordion. Miss Virginia Bell of 419 Bell street played a number of selections on the saxophone.

The entire program was broadcast from the auditorium to the bed patients throughout the hospital wards. The party ended with much merriment and the guests who included members of the staff were in good play.

## 200 at Cresson Minstrel Show

Approximately 250 patients and employees of the Cresson Sanatorium attended the annual minstrel show of the Blairsville Kiwanis Club in the auditorium Monday. E. B. Mitchell directed the performance. Halie Hestrick had charge of the music.

William McMillin, Indiana Co.'s State Legislature representative, described the entire performance to bed patients over the sanatorium's broadcasting system.

Vocal numbers were offered by Paul Short, Loris Ray, L. H. Kirscht, Roy Rowser, Robert Coon, Ralph Beard and George Cray. Ray Rowser presented several xylophone selections.

## Altoona Mirror Class to Receive Diplomas at Cresson Sanatorium



Shown above are nurses who recently completed a two-year course in tuberculosis nursing at the Pennsylvania state sanatorium, Cresson, and who will be awarded diplomas this evening. They are (left to right): Front row—Martha Johnson, Bentleyville; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; Edna Mari, Altoona; Jeanice Hiller, Sarah Yoder, Hoop Springs; Joseph Saboda, Jackson Center, and Anne Kolmar, Johnstown. One graduate absent: Teresa Biltmore, Cresson.

## Farewell Given For Director At Sanatorium

(Special to Altoona Mirror)

CRESSON, Aug. 26.—Dr. and Mrs. P. Franklin Royer were honored at a gathering Thursday evening at their residence at the Cresson sanatorium by the medical and nursing staff and office employees, the occasion being a farewell party.

After serving as medical director for the past four and one-half years, Dr. Royer is leaving to take up a new position as consultant in the office of the bureau of tuberculosis control at Harrisburg.

A gift to be used in their new home in Greenacres was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Royer, and an orchid was presented to Mrs. Royer, whose gracious ways endeared her to all during her stay at the sanatorium.

Dr. Royer was in retirement at the time the war broke out and offered his services during the emergency and shortage of doctors. His offer was readily accepted because of his knowledge of public health work and the operation of the state sanatoria having served in the health department under the late Dr. Samuel Dixon, first commissioner of health in this commonwealth. He filled the unusual position as commissioner of health following Dr. Dixon's death in 1918.

Dr. and Mrs. Royer are both natives of Greenacres for so long period, and they will be welcomed by their many friends in that city at their new residence, 622 East Baltimore street, Greenacres.

## Heads Sanatorium



Dr. Harry W. Weest (above) of Altoona has been named director of the Cresson State Sanatorium. He succeeds Dr. P. Franklin Royer, who resigned to become consultant in the office of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, Harrisburg.

Dr. Weest was chief surgeon of Pennsylvania's 28th Division during World War II. He served as state secretary of health for more than a year after having been appointed Aug. 30, 1945, to fill the vacancy left by Dr. Alexander H. Sweeney, Indiana. During the last year he has been doing research work at the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

## 10 Complete Nursing Study At Sanatorium

9 Women, Man to Get Diplomas at Cresson Institution Tomorrow

The annual nine women and one man will receive diplomas tomorrow evening for completing a two-year course in tuberculosis nursing at the Pennsylvania State Sanatorium, Cresson.

Dr. P. Franklin Royer, medical director of the sanatorium, will present the awards at commencement exercises in the institution's auditorium. The diplomas were issued by Dr. Norris W. Vaux, secretary of the State Dept. of Health.

Principal address will be given by Dr. Roy G. Goshorn, superintendent of the State Hospital, Hollidaysburg. Music for the event will be furnished by Helen K. Carroll of the Mt. Altoona Junior College faculty and two of her pupils—Miss Constance Litinger and James Ritter.

Members of the graduating class are: Anne Kolmar, daughter of Mrs. Susan Kolmar of 139 Spring St., Johnstown; Teresa Biltmore, Cresson; Rose Hestrick, Portage; Martha Johnson, Bentleyville; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; Edna Mari, Altoona; Jeanice Hiller, Sarah Yoder, Hoop Springs; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; and Joseph Saboda, Jackson Center.

Several members of the graduating class were victims of tuberculosis but recovered sufficiently to study nursing and rehabilitation themselves after the illness.

The commencement exercises will be broadcast throughout the hospital wards so that bed patients may hear.

The training class was organized and trained under the direction of Miss Agnes McLaw, assistant director of nurses, and members of the medical and nursing and laboratory staff. The last four months' training was under supervision of Miss Catherine Baraka.

## Altoona Choir Entertains At Cresson Sanatorium

Approximately 300 patients and employees of the Cresson Sanatorium assembled in the auditorium last Friday evening where they were entertained by the acropolis choir of the Altoona High School under the direction of Howard W. Lindeman.

The program consisted mostly of Christmas carols by the choir several violin solos, and several mandolin duets. The bed patients had the opportunity to listen to the program over the sanatorium's radio hook-up.



# Altoona Mirror.

ALTOONA, PA., FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 2, 1948.

## HOUSES NEW T.B. RESTORATIVE SURGERY ROOMS



This building at Cresson sanatorium houses the modern operation and hospital rooms which now make possible a steady program of restorative surgery for the benefit of tuberculosis patients. The building formerly contained a swimming pool and roller skating rink.

## Cresson Sanatorium Complete Community

By JIM BEATTY

Cresson sanatorium is more than a hospital to the 600 tuberculosis patients who are there for treatment. It is a way of life. For the sanatorium is a complete and thriving mountain-top community with its own school and playground, general store, post-office, movie house, library and chapel.

This was revealed on a recent three-hour tour of the sanatorium where a general expansion and improvement program is currently getting started.

Dr. Harry W. West, medical director of the sanatorium, and Eugene F. J. Kuhn, business manager, accompanied this reporter and personally answered many questions regarding the sanatorium, which first opened its doors to a relative handful of patients in December, 1912.

The 300 acres of lofty plateau which comprise the sanatorium grounds were a gift to the state from the late Andrew Carnegie, who had originally purchased the ground with the idea of building a summer estate there for his mother. She died before this plan could be carried out and Mr. Carnegie decided the land to be conserved for the use of the sanatorium.

The few patients who were present in 1912 lived in the present-day buildings and dining room. Completed in 1913, the original build-

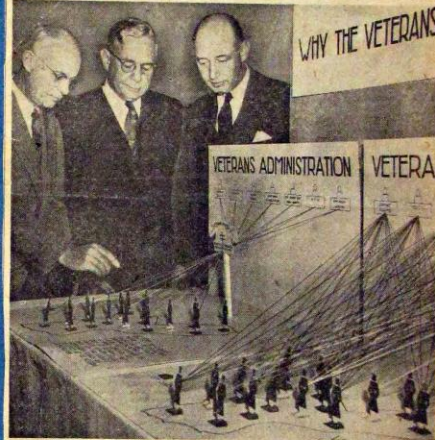
(Continued on page 10, column 2)

## NURSING CLASS AT SANATORIUM

It was announced by Dr. Harry W. West, medical director of the State T. B. Hospital at Cresson, that 11 students have been accepted for training in practical nursing at the hospital. This is the 14th class to start and a few more students may be accepted, says Miss Agnes McLane, R. N., director of the training school. The one-year course is open to interested persons who have had at least one year of high school or equivalent. Tuition is free and students are furnished uniforms, books, paid vacation and an attractive compensation while training.

March 18/48

FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 5, 1948 ad 17



## STUDYING EXHIBIT AT TUBERCULOSIS CONFERENCE

Looking over an exhibit which illustrates the need for the veterans' service branch in the Philadelphia Tuberculosis and Health Association, are (from left) Dr. Esmond R. Long, president of the association; Dr. Edward J. O'Brien, of Wayne University, and Dr. James Perkins, of the National Tuberculosis Association.

## Rest Called Vital For Victims of TB

Indiscriminate "shotgun treatment" of tuberculosis patients with streptomycin will bring this wonderful drug into disrepute and will cause the unnecessary deaths of many innocent victims, an eminent physician told the 20th annual tuberculosis conference here yesterday.

Addressing more than 450 delegates at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Dr. Edward J. O'Brien, thoracic surgeon of the Lima District Tuberculosis Hospital in Michigan, stressed the need for rest in treatment of the disease rather than "merely a shot of air occasionally in the abdomen or chest along with streptomycin."

### NEED HOSPITAL BEDS

"It is difficult to believe that any doctor, who must know that everyone who contracts tuberculosis gets it from someone who has it, could allow patients with open lesions with tubercle bacilli to remain at home spreading this dreadful disease to those around them," Dr. O'Brien declared.

He added: "What we need to eventually eradicate the disease, and any communicable disease can be eradicated, are more hospital beds and a better case-finding program to fill them."

Dr. O'Brien warned that to prevent patients with active tuberculosis that they can become cured without bed rest, and often while at work, only leads to empty the beds that are already filled.

### PHYSICIANS SPEAK

"Who could raise lasting doubts of confessions if they are assured that and believe that bed rest is no longer necessary?" the physician asked.

Dr. O'Brien, who is president of the Michigan State Sanatoria Committee, was one of eight physicians who addressed the conference.

New Lease on Life

# Santa Quickly Fulfills Wish of Stricken Girl

## Barnesboro Legion to 'Foot' Bill For Operation for Miss Douglass

It took only one day for Santa Claus to fulfill the Christmas wish of 15-year-old Betty Douglass of Barnesboro R. D. for a new lease on life.

The time the role of Santa was taken by members of Votzak Post 508, American Legion, Barnesboro.

Yesterday morning members of the Legion post read in The Democrat that Miss Douglass, a patient at Cresson Sanatorium, she was one of the happiest persons in the world.

Miss Douglass was surprised greatly and extremely gratified by the way people from all over the district came to her aid so quickly and so generously.

Hospital authorities revealed the girl was not informed until last night of her plight being conducted in her behalf or that story of her plight was printed in The Democrat and radioed throughout three or four states.

The proprietor of Wheeling's Inc. Wheeling last night telephoned The Democrat that contributions would be received there and turned over to the Barnesboro institution.

Authorities at the sanatorium last night said Miss Douglass will undergo the operation a few days after Christmas in Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh. It will be performed by Dr. Kipp, one of the leading lung specialists in the country.

Not having heard of the generous offer of the Legion post, Rev. Snoddy last night said the citizens of the district were very generous already had contributed nearly \$200 to the fund.

Comm. Howard Wilson and Adm. Frank Morley last night told the county board the Legion's action. They also said the minister's position was filled and a check for \$1,000 would be turned over to the institution on Monday so Miss Douglass Christmas was a joyous one.

In Pittsburgh several radio stations read The Democrat's story and broadcast the story over the air.

Residents of the district immediately came to the aid of the girl and flooded radio stations with requests to contribute to the fund.

The United Press last night telephoned The Democrat to inquire where the contributions could be sent because of the large number of requests being made by people in the Pittsburgh area to give aid to the stricken girl.

# TB Vaccine Found Effective in Test

## 13-Year Study by Doctors Concluded

CHICAGO, Jan. 19 (UP)—These physicians said today that they have concluded from a 13-year study that vaccination against tuberculosis with a germ originally isolated from the milk of a tuberculosis cow is a safe and effective procedure.

More than 2000 persons were inoculated with "BCG"—a vaccine made from the non-virulent germ. The same number of unvaccinated persons from similar environments was selected as a "control" group for comparison.

Dr. Ed. P. Rosenthal, Eleanor I. Loebl and Brian Lovyansky, reported in the Journal of the American Medical Assn. that only 13 cases of tuberculosis and one death occurred in the vaccinated group.

### Tested on Animals First

There were 45 more and 11 deaths from tuberculosis in the control group.

The study on humans was made over a 10-year period, after the perfected vaccine had been tested on animals for three years. Only persons who reacted negatively to tests for tuberculosis in the control group.

Those tested included infants born of tuberculosis parents, children born of "tub" families, student nurses, medical students, children living in a Federal housing project and inmates of a mental institution.

### High Non-Vaccinated

The doctors reported that only 11 vaccinated infants living in slum areas contracted tuberculosis and 23 in the non-vaccinated group contracted the disease.

The disease was more than five times as prevalent among non-vaccinated children as it was among vaccinated children and mothers, they said.

The doctors said that "practically all" complications of vaccination were avoided.

# MEHALL - BRADY M. 82, Park Avenue, Cresson, died Oct. 9, 2001, at Select Specialty Care, Johnstown.

Born Dec. 28, 1918, in Bellvue, daughter of the late William Arthur and Hannah (Cornelia) McHail. Preceded in death by brother, Jack William, married to the former Dorothy Shannon, Meridian, Idaho; Dorothey Shannon, Butch, Grangeville, Idaho; Jack, Hillsboro, Ore.; Patrick, Cranberry Township, and Eleanor A. Richard, Altoona; five grandmothers and nephews; and sister-in-law, Audrey Kenny, Altoona. Also survived by close cousins, Faye Cochran and Rex McHail, Graduate of Johnstown Mercy Hospital School of Nursing and the University of Pittsburgh, with a bachelor's degree in nursing education. Retired as nursing administrator at Cresson State School and Hospital, Member of St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Cresson, and its Legion of Mary; also member of several nursing associations. Friends received from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the Charles M. Kennedy Funeral Home, Cresson, where Legion of Mary will recite the rosary at 6 p.m., followed by vigil for the deceased. Funeral Mass 9:30 a.m. Saturday at St. Aloysius church, the Rev. Msgr. John Lett, Committal, St. Francis Xavier Cemetery.

# Cambria County News

## Pennsylvania Week Program Held at Cresson Sanatorium

CRESSON, Sept. 27.—Pennsylvania week was inaugurated at the Cresson State Tuberculosis sanatorium yesterday afternoon, with important ceremonies on the lawn between the cap and west wing.

Miss Lenora Okamoto, an employee at the institution, acted as mistress of ceremonies. She introduced Dr. Harry W. West, medical director, who extended a cordial welcome to the visitors not only for the opening day but throughout the week as well. He expressed his sincere appreciation for the cooperation received from employees and visitors, members of the Lions club of Cresson and others in coming to make Pennsylvania week in Cresson and the sanatorium a success.

The 20th infirmary division band of Altoona, which has approximately several engagements, entertained the assembly with a mixed selection of music. The band was under the direction of W. O. Larson. Dr. West was assisted as a special officer for the tub infirmary in the last.

Patients, staff and visitors viewed the various chest X-ray films on display in a room adjoining the tub infirmary in the administrative building. Good work of radiologists and staff who have been for a 12-year period.

On Tuesday evening a group of musicians featuring a state champion fiddle, violoncello and fiddle, entertained the patients in the entertainment hall.

The Patton High school band has been engaged for a concert on Saturday at 8 o'clock Friday afternoon. Miss Edith E. Patton, director of Patton, a charter member of the Cresson Lions club will entertain the group with his single triola.

Chief of Police Eddie Donohue of Patton will bring several copies Transportation in and from Cresson for the mutual organization will be provided by Patton Loyd Opler of Moon, Franklin, Oiler of Eagles and American Legion members. A musical director of music in the Patton schools will be in charge of the band.

Cresson also has been selected for Wednesday and Thursday evening.

Patients will be breakfast over the sanatorium's street cars.

W. O. LARSON.

Legion F. J. Kelly announced today that free chest X-rays will be given daily in the tub infirmary, in a room adjoining the infirmary building, from 9 o'clock until 4 o'clock. Examinations are available for those 15 years of age or over. All the information available in the same age and address. Those having chest X-rays taken will be mailed a report of the examination from Harrisburg by the next delivery. Free movies on the subject of tuberculosis are being shown daily in the medical director's office from 1 until 3 o'clock.



DR. HARRY W. WEST.

# News

October 1, 1935

## Cresson State Week Program Is Successful

(Special to Altoona Mirror)

CRESSON, Oct. 4.—Cresson's observance of Pennsylvania week at the Cresson borough public school, Cresson State Tuberculosis sanatorium, Pennsylvania Railroad company enginehouse and the Board street.

Howard Mellon, transmitter on the Cresson branch of the Pittsburgh division, P. R. E., who served in the capacity of county vice chairman, was highly pleased in the manner the charitable institutions and others cooperated in making the week a success.

Forrestaker Clarence E. Tobin served as chairman of the week's division, and Miss Jean Peard, John, principal in Cresson High school, as head of the women's division. At the borough public school a class was conducted each day on the history of the state with a different member of the Cresson High school teaching course in charge.

A unique display at the P. R. E. enginehouse on Wednesday, which was dedicated as Railroad day, attracted a large number of visitors, while at the Cresson State Tuberculosis sanatorium it was "open house" all week. Dr. Harry W. West, medical director, and his associates were highly pleased by County Chairman Mellon for their untiring efforts in helping make the week a success. It was estimated that nearly 2000 visitors from all over the state were escorted through the institution.

Dr. West was assisted in the program during the week by the Cambria County Tuberculosis association of Johnstown.

The chest X-ray films and the laboratory department, under the supervision of J. J. Billie, attracted many of the visitors at the sanatorium and it was estimated that 1000 pieces of literature were distributed by the Cambria county TB society.

Dr. Walter Davis, director of special education in the Johnstown schools, was the principal speaker in the entertainment hall at the sanatorium Thursday night. High class entertainment was provided each evening in the entertainment hall and every other afternoon, alternating at the east and west wings.

Officers of the Cresson Lions club, sponsors of the Cresson Pennsylvania week program, are already preparing the grounds for next year's observance of state week.

Director West reported that several hundred persons took advantage of the free X-ray examinations at the sanatorium during the week, while many others viewed special films on tuberculosis.

Advantage of the free X-ray examinations at the sanatorium during the week, while many others viewed special films on tuberculosis.

## Secretaries Visit Cresson Sanatorium

A committee from Hershey chapter, National Secretaries association, through the courtesy of Walter Fries and Alfred Zimmerman visited the state sanatorium at Cresson, Saturday, Aug. 10. In the interest of the children at this institution.

The grounds are beautiful, well taken care of—pleasant to guests as well as patients.

Dr. Harry West met the committee and gave a brief story of the commencement of this wonderful work to help humanity.

There are approximately 600 patients, sixty-five of which are children from two to sixteen years of age.

Dr. West introduced Miss Catherine Hadden, R. N., and Miss Elizabeth Doyle, institution secretary, as well as Miss Mary MacKerrell, teacher in the school, all of whom work with the children.

In talking with these people who have the interest of the children at heart we found they are well provided with food, shelter and medical care. However, the families are responsible for clothing the children. Some families, due to circumstances are unable to provide the necessary clothing for these lovely children.

We were conducted on a tour of the buildings covering the cafeteria, library, dining room, X-ray room, hobby shop, barber shop, dental parlor and many other rooms provided for the welfare of the patients who receive excellent educational and religious training, having schools and churches on the grounds and for those who are able there is a gymnasium, outside playground and other means of entertainment in the interest of building the children mentally and physically.

The purpose of our trip was to give the children a treat provided by the department and by contributions from Miss Deane Summers and Mr. A. G. McGraw.

The small patients are a happy group with a smile for everyone. Their rooms which we were privileged to visit were lovely.

Our aim is to assist in the comfort of these children. We are happy to witness that our state is providing for those who are afflicted some of whom are orphans, and that the staff, through their untiring efforts and affection for these children are raising them back to health.

## Cresson State Hospital Plans Commencement

(Special to Altoona Mirror)

CRESSON, June 2.—Eighty graduates of the Cresson State sanatorium school will be held tomorrow evening in the hospital community hall. It was announced by Dr. Harry W. West, medical director.

Four students who have passed the county examinations for entrance into high school will receive their diplomas. Professor Alvin T. Bush of Gallitzin, assistant Cambria county superintendent of schools, will deliver the principal address.

Special musical selections will be rendered by Miss Jane Glaze and Miss Irene C. Roberts of Cresson, both graduates of Mount Altoona academy. The children of the hospital under the direction of Miss Mary E. MacKerrell, principal, will entertain with songs and playlets.

The Altoona Kiwanis club, sponsored by the Kiwanis club of that city, presented a very fine program of music and choral singing for the benefit of the patients in the Cresson state hospital last Tuesday evening. The program was directed by Professor Howard W. Lindeman and was presented in the community hall of the hospital. Miss Catherine Nagle of Altoona was accompanist for the group.

**Oct. 1947**  
**Doctors Told**  
**Of Surgery in**  
**TB Treatment**

Surgery in the treatment of tuberculosis was the theme of a paper presented by Dr. Harold A. Kipp, Pittsburgh, at a meeting of the Cambria and Blair Co. Medical Societies Thursday in the Cresson Sanatorium. The program was directed by Dr. Harry A. West, new medical director of the sanatorium and former Altoona physician.

Dr. Kipp, surgeon at Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, has performed chest surgery on approximately 45 Cresson Sanatorium patients. He exhibited X-ray films of a number of these patients showing the condition of the lungs before and after the operation.

Dr. Archibald Judd, chest surgeon and medical director of the state-owned Hensburg Sanatorium, discussed Dr. Kipp's paper. Dr. Judd also has performed chest surgery on a number of Cresson patients.

Dr. B. Franklin Royer, former medical director at Cresson and now connected with the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control of the Department of Health, Philadelphia, also spoke. He presented a paper on the lines of tuberculosis control and asked cooperation in forming a state law that provides some relief in their homes or in sanatoriums.

Dr. Martin J. Sobolew, chief of the division of tuberculosis in health, discussed Dr. Royer's paper. He told of measures used by Philadelphia in enforcing tuberculosis quarantine regulations. Dr. J. Moore Campbell, deputy secretary of health, and George H. Good, medical director of District 10, also discussed quarantine regulations.

Tuberculosis clinicians and clinic nurses were guests at the meeting and dinner. About 75 physicians from the two counties attended. Along with Dr. Norris W. Vaux, state secretary of health, Dr. M. C. Stayer, director of tuberculosis control; Dr. Raymond Decker, director of State Veterans Hospital; Dr. George K. Martin, superintendent of State Tuberculosis Hospital, Pittsburgh; and Dr. R. C. Dooling of Mont Alto.

**JOHNSTOWN, PA. 1947**  
**Sanatorium Nurses Graduate**



Dr. B. Franklin Royer, medical director at Cresson Sanatorium, is shown as he presented diplomas Thursday to 10 new nurses—five women and five men. He is holding a "checkbook" to Sarah Jane Summers, Gallatin; Joseph Sabatino, Jackson Center; Yvonne of Reising Spring; The other graduates (left to right) are: Martha Johnson, Beallsville; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; Edna Marie Johnson, Beallsville; Rosemary Louise Walker, Hiller, Altoona; Ann Kolesar, Johnstown; Miss Catherine M. Hahn, Jeannette; Teresa Billedeau, Cresson, who was not present when the picture was taken.

**Altoona Will Direct State**  
**T. B. Sanatorium at Cresson**  
**1947**

Succeeding Dr. B. Franklin Royer, Dr. Harry W. West, junior state secretary of health and division surgeon of the 20th Division, Altoona, has been appointed director of the Cresson tuberculosis sanatorium.

The Altoona physician, who resided at 1307 Eighth avenue, is the son of Harry W. West of 200 Second avenue. Dr. West's predecessor, Dr. Royer, will serve as consultant in the office of tuberculosis control at Harrisburg.

Dr. West, who has served on the staffs of both Altoona and Mercy hospitals, began his military service with Army Air Corps division in World War I and remained active in military affairs up to and throughout World War II. He left Altoona March 8, 1941, with the 38th division and served more than four years here and abroad, staying with the division on all its campaigns.

Dr. West was released from active duty as a lieutenant colonel at the end of August, 1945. He is (Continued on page 10, column 2)



DR. HARRY W. WEST

**ALTOONAN WILL**  
**HEAD SANATORIUM**

(Continued from page 2)  
now holds the rank of full colonel. He was sworn in as state secretary of health by Governor Edward Martin, Sept. 4, 1946, upon leaving the army and relinquishing his duties as division surgeon.

Dr. West's return to America from the European theatre of operations was highlighted by the fact that on his flight here he was part of a group headed by Gen. Omar Bradley and Gen. Carl Spaatz. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia, members of the group were guests of the city.

Col. West has been serving in his new capacity at the Cresson sanatorium for a little over two weeks, although an official announcement of his appointment has yet been released by authorities at Harrisburg. Official notice will be forthcoming in a few days. He is indicated by an Al. Dr. West is married to an Al. Dr. West is married to an Al. Dr. West is married to an Al. Dr. West is married to an Al.

to World War II. He offered his services for the duration of the emergency and was named to fill the post at Cresson. A native of Green Castle, he once served as a commission in health for several years, beginning in 1915.

Dr. West's return to America from the European theatre of operations was highlighted by the fact that on his flight here he was part of a group headed by Gen. Omar Bradley and Gen. Carl Spaatz. Upon his arrival in Philadelphia, members of the group were guests of the city.

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Dr. West was graduated from Altoona High school with the class of 1913 and from Jefferson Medical college, returning here to intern at the Altoona hospital. He resumed as secretary of health throughout Governor Martin's administration, leaving Harrisburg in January of this year to perform research in his field at the University of the Pennsylvania and the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Royer, whom Dr. West succeeds, had been in retirement since

**Nurses to Be**  
**Graduated at**  
**Sanatorium**

(Special to Altoona Mirror)  
CRESSON, June 4.—Ten women, nine women and one man, will receive diplomas at the Pennsylvania state sanatorium here after finishing the two-year course in tuberculosis nursing.

Commencement exercises will be held at 8:15 o'clock Thursday evening, June 6th, in the auditorium at the institution. The diplomas will be issued by the secretary of the department of health, Dr. Norris W. Vaux.

Dr. Roy W. Graham, superintendent of the state hospital, Harrisburg, will give the principal address and the diplomas will be presented by the medical director, Dr. B. Franklin Royer. The dignified pledge will be led by Miss Catherine Hahn.

Music for the event will be furnished by Helen R. Carroll, leader of voice and piano at Mount Altoona Junior college, who will play the organ.

The march for the graduating class and line of her outstanding women, Miss Catherine Litzinger and James Hiltner, will sing two numbers.

The training class was organized and trained under the direction of Miss McLean, executive director of nurses, and members of the staff, including Miss McLean, Miss Spry, Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette, and Joseph Sabatino of Jackson Center.

An interesting feature, concerning some of the members of the class, is that several of them are recovered from tuberculosis sufficiently to take the course in nursing, thus becoming rehabilitated after their illness.

The commencement exercises will be broadcast throughout the hospital so that bed patients may listen in.

Members of the training class include: Teresa Billedeau, Cresson; Rose Hestrick, Portage; Anna Kolesar, Johnstown; Martha Johnson, Beallsville; Edna Marie Johnson, Beallsville; Yvonne of Reising Spring; Victoria Zaleski, Jeannette; and Joseph Sabatino of Jackson Center.

An interesting feature, concerning some of the members of the class, is that several of them are recovered from tuberculosis sufficiently to take the course in nursing, thus becoming rehabilitated after their illness.

**75 PHYSICIANS**  
**PARTICIPATE IN**  
**2-COUNTY MEET**

**Dr. Norris W. Vaux,**  
**State Health Secretary,**  
**and Dr. M. C. Stayer Present.**

Members of the Blair and Cambria County Medical societies, at a joint meeting yesterday afternoon at the Cresson sanatorium, heard a most illuminating discussion on the part surgery in playing the arresting of active pulmonary tuberculosis.

Approximately 75 physicians, divided almost equally between the two societies attended the meeting and dinner which followed. The Blair county visitors were headed by Dr. D. Gordon Burket, society president.

They were welcomed by Dr. Norris W. Vaux, Pennsylvania secretary of health, this being one of the few public affairs he has been able to attend since assuming office because of illness. He was introduced by Dr. M. C. Stayer, director of the bureau of tuberculosis control, department of health, and a former Altoona.

Three tuberculosis clinicians and clinic nurses and district supervisors from the two counties were present in addition to physicians of the two counties. Mrs. Alfred M. O'Hara, director of the bureau of public nursing, department of health, also attended.

The afternoon program was presented by Dr. Harry W. West, newly-appointed medical director of the sanatorium and a former Altoona physician. Dr. Harold A. Kipp, surgeon of the Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, and assistant professor of surgery at the University of Pittsburgh, spoke on "The Value of Surgery in the Treatment of Tuberculosis."

During the past 24 months Dr. Kipp has performed chest surgery on approximately 45 Cresson patients with excellent results. He exhibited X-ray films of a number of these patients, showing the condition of the lungs before and after operation. Dr. Kipp expressed the opinion that in many cases surgery delayed too long while other treatment is prolonged, this resulting in more extensive surgery required to clear the cavity.

Dr. Archibald R. Judd, well-known chest surgeon and medical director at the Hensburg State sanatorium, discussed Dr. Kipp's paper. He also has performed chest surgery on a number of Cresson patients with equally good results.

His Headquarters.  
The latter half of the program was devoted to "Control of the Infective Case of Tuberculosis by the Cooperative Case of Infective Tuberculosis and the Method of Procedure is Desirable." Dr. B. Franklin Royer, former medical director at Cresson and now with the bureau of tuberculosis control, department of health, presented an educational paper on this subject.

Dr. Royer said one of the greatest sources of tubercular health contact is the post-treatment patient who will not voluntarily place himself under treatment in a sanatorium but who remains at large and resists all attempts to place him under treatment. He advised the audience that an old Pennsylvania law provided for the quarantining of such persons in the home, or in (Continued on page 10, column 2)

**Dr. West of**  
**Altoona Given**  
**Cresson Post**

**Named Successor to**  
**Dr. Royer as Head**  
**Of State Sanatorium**

Dr. Harry W. West, Altoona physician, who served as chief surgeon of Pennsylvania's 20th Division during World War II, has assumed directorship of Cresson Sanatorium.

The Altoona doctor was named to succeed Dr. B. Franklin Royer as head of the institution. Dr. Royer resigned after serving four and one-half years to accept a position as consultant in the office of the Bureau of Tuberculosis Control, Harrisburg.

Dr. West took over directorship of the institution over the weekend as Dr. Royer returned to his former home in Green Castle. Official announcement of the new appointment is expected shortly by the State Dept. of Health.

The new director served more than a year as state secretary of health after being appointed Aug. 20, 1945, to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Alexander R. Stewart, Indiana. The appointment was made by Gov. Edward Martin and Dr. West served until the new administration took office.

During the last year or so he has been doing research work at the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He is a veteran of both World Wars, having served with the Reynolds Division in Italy.

Dr. West was graduated from Altoona High School with the class of 1913 and later graduated from Jefferson Medical College. He was a member of the staff of both Altoona and Mercy Hospital in Altoona.

**75 PHYSICIANS**  
**ATTEND MEET**

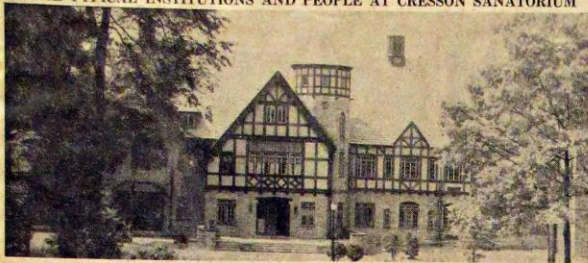
(Continued from page 2)  
a sanatorium. He asked the cooperation of those present to aid in the control bureau's effort to enforce the law.

Dr. Royer's paper was discussed by Dr. Martin J. Sobolew, chief of the division of tuberculosis, department of health, in Philadelphia, who told how Philadelphia is enforcing the quarantine on resistant patients.

Others who discussed Dr. Royer's paper were Dr. J. Moore Campbell, deputy secretary of health, and Dr. George H. Good, district 10 medical director with headquarters in Altoona. Dr. Stayer also addressed the physicians and nurses, asking their cooperation in the serious problem of controlling resistant tuberculosis patients.

Those present at the meeting in addition to the members of the two societies were: Dr. Raymond Decker, director of State Veterans Hospital; Dr. George K. Martin, superintendent of State Tuberculosis Hospital; and Dr. George H. Good, district 10 medical director with headquarters in Altoona.

SOME TYPICAL INSTITUTIONS AND PEOPLE AT CRESSON SANATORIUM



Above is the children's home at Cresson sanatorium where the younger residents are cared for. The children range from six to 14 years of age. Some are actual patients, others are not tubercular, but are the children of adult patients.



Patients at Cresson sanatorium see the same movies that are showing in the nation's screens. The movies that come to the sanatorium theatre pictured above are up-to-date, first-run releases. The auditorium is usually crowded on theatre nights.



Elementary grade students in this photo build castles and draw bridges in the sanatorium school sand box which provides sheltered recreation for rainy days.

provides for physical as well as mental development. Near the school is a picturesque stone chapel with a combination altar for both Catholic and Protestant services. All services are carried over the sanatorium's radio-picking system which reaches all patients. Each patient has his own set of earphones to pick up these programs and also to listen to the regular commercial broadcasts over national bookshops. Incidentally, Harry K. Thaw's mother donated the \$25,000 which built the chapel.

All the combination general store and postoffice, practically everything a patient desires may be purchased, and a letter or package may be sent by any of the accepted forms of mail. The postoffice operates under a regular, three-class postal contract let to the Cresson postmaster. The station is officially known as State Pa. George Lennie handles the postoffice.

Dr. West and Business Manager Kuhn pointed out that the store is operated from the benefit of the patients and all profits are used to secure improvements the patients desire. A store council, comprised of a patient, an employer, a staff doctor, the business manager, and Mrs. Ines Wilson, the store manager, supervises the operation of the store. More profits purchased the radio and motion picture equipment at the sanatorium and paid for remodeling the chapel.

The motion picture theatre features the latest hits which are shown on local screens and contains a modern projector and sound equipment. The films are supplied free of charge by the manager of the Rivoli theatre in Altoona.

Other touches which make Cresson sanatorium very much like many an orthodox small town include a barber shop with a full-time barber (ladies haircutting a specialty), a dentist office with a full-time dentist and modern shoe repair shop with a veteran cobbler on duty daily.

Some of the newly received patients at the sanatorium live in the camp cottages on the grounds. There are nine cottages for women and 23 cottages for men. Each cottage will accommodate eight patients.

Books play a large part in the mental life of most of the patients and the hospital library is well-stocked with volumes on every conceivable subject. In order to facilitate reading for hospital patients the books are placed on small trucks and delivered to the bedside.

Many of the patients on the meet take part in the sanatorium's rehabilitation program in which they engage in many of the handicraft arts, especially woodwork and leathercraft. They turn out remarkably fine work, Dr. West observed.

Nature study holds the interest of many of the patients since the sanatorium grounds abound with wildflowers. A path leads to the grounds is a gathering place for many deer, rabbits, squirrels and other small animals are plentiful. Patients, especially students in the sanatorium school, have identified nearly 60 different kinds of birds which nest in the area.

In order to keep the more grassy side of the sanatorium life moving, a surprisingly large staff of workers is busy around the clock under the general supervision of Master Engineer William J. Fry. These workers include painters, electricians, window washers and laundry men. Twenty-four persons are employed on the laundry alone.

Although currently out of operation, there is even a saw mill to provide rough lumber for construction work.

And that's Cresson sanatorium. A complete, if somewhat out-of-the-ordinary place just like many another, except that it's a lot cleaner than any ordinary hospital because of the widespread infection due to a fall received last night at the home of his uncle Joseph C. O'Leary of Kowars St.

Anne Hughes Is Married

Wedding Is Held In Mercy Hospital

Richard J. Hughes Boston Place is announcing the marriage of his daughter, Anne Katherine, to Dr. Thomas F. O'Leary, Cresson, Pa. son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis J. O'Leary, Altoona, Pa. The wedding was this afternoon in Mercy Hospital. The Rev. Joseph D. O'Leary, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, Altoona, and brother of Dr. O'Leary, officiated.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, is a graduate of Nazareth College and a member of Kappa Gamma Pi national honor society.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Duquesne University, University of Pittsburgh and Jefferson Medical College. He is a fellow of the American Society of Chest Physicians and is a senior physician at the State Sanatorium, Cresson, where the couple will live after May 15.

The bride wore a mist gray dress with periwinkle accessories. Her bouquet was of Spanish iris and roses. Her only attendant, Helen M. Coyle, wore a spring green dress with gold accessories. Her flowers were tallamum roses.

John F. Harro was best man. The wedding ceremony was performed in Mercy Hospital instead of in Holy Trinity Cathedral because of the widespread infection due to a fall received last night at the home of his uncle Joseph C. O'Leary of Kowars St.

Mrs. John F. Harro, Mrs. Fred Molloy, and Helen and Catherine Coyle were hostesses for parties complementing the bride. Mrs. J. J. McClain entertained in Birmingham, Mich.; Mrs. James R. Harro, in Mason, Mich. and Helene Hinzburg in Leasing, Mich. at pre-wedding parties.

BANQUET GUEST

DR. THOMAS H. A. SITES

FORMER CRESSON HOSPITAL HEAD

(Continued from page 11)

1907 that he became medical inspector of dispensaries for the state department of health. He served as medical director of Hamberg State sanatorium from 1914 to 1920 and as medical director of the Cresson sanatorium from 1922 to 1928 and from 1938 to 1942.

Dr. Sites served in the Spanish-American war and from 1903 to 1928 was with the federal public health service as surgeon and senior surgeon. In August 1928, he served in the surgeon general's office at Washington, D. C. and from September 1929 to August 1931 was chief of the medical staff of the veterans' hospital at Greentown, S. C. He served as commanding officer of the veterans' hospital at Alexandria, La., from September 1930, to August 1931.

Dr. Sites has been affiliated with medical societies of Lacksawanna, Dauphin, Berks and Columbia counties, becoming a member of the Northampton County society in 1925.

He has held the posts of president, president-elect and second vice president of the Northampton society and presently is chairman and treasurer. He also served in 1936 and the University of Pennsylvania where he received the degree of doctor of medicine in 1901. He has received the degree of a fellow of the Pennsylvania Medical society, and received his state license in 1901.

Dr. Sites conducted general practice in Scranton from 1902 to 1907 and was general physician at West Mountain Sanatorium there from 1907 to 1907. He also was in

Former Cresson Hospital Head To Be Honored

(Special to Altoona Mirror)

NAZARETH, Pa., Oct. 16.—Dr. Thomas H. A. Sites of Nazareth, R. D. former medical director of the Cresson State sanatorium, will be honored this evening at a luncheon dinner to be given by the Northampton County Medical society at the Northampton Country club.

Dr. Harry W. West, formerly of Altoona and present medical director at the Cresson sanatorium will be among those present to see Dr. Louis Jones of Wilkes-Barre, president of the Pennsylvania Medical society, present a certificate to the guest of honor for serving 50 years as a physician.

Dr. Sites was educated at Hillman academy of Wilkes-Barre, Princeton college where he received his bachelor of arts degree in 1896 and the University of Pennsylvania where he received the doctorate of medicine degree in 1901. He served his internship at St. Agnes hospital, Philadelphia, and received his state license in 1901.

Dr. Sites conducted general practice in Scranton from 1902 to 1907 and was general physician at West Mountain Sanatorium there from 1907 to 1907. He also was in

# WN DEMOCRAT

The Weather:  
For Her—the Greatest Gift of All



This will be the greatest and happiest Christmas of all for 20-year-old Betty Douglas. The Indiana County farm girl is happily reunited with her family after undergoing two delicate lung operations to cure her of dread tuberculosis. She is shown helping her mother, Mrs. Lovell Douglas-Nickel, and her two full brothers, Donald and Ronald, get decorations ready for the tree.

### 'Life Can Be Beautiful'

## She Lives Today Because of Last Year's Gift From God

### Happy Yule for Girls, 20, Near Death Year Ago

Humanity's priceless gift—bestowed only by the Eternal Giver—today gives the dearest, truest Christmas thanks from the heart of a girl in Clymer.

Gleety of thrashed, festive holidays take into worthlessness as 20-year-old Betty Douglas holds tight the gift of God-life itself. A year ago from a bed of torment, Betty closed her eyes to the presents offered by the world while her soul longed for the immortal Christmas present.

Through earth's servants of mercy, the girl has been delivered and today the Yuletide carols sound far beyond the weary girl's ears. With faith as her guide, she has walked from the shadows of that year's year into the brightness of a new Christmas day.

The year's Christmas was blotted out by the misery within as the pretty, high-spirited girl suffered the pains of tuberculosis last year in Cresson Sanatorium. Her Christmas prayer was for a new chance to gain another gift on life. She needed money for a costly operation.

When she departed, the Great Physician had the gift delivered. "I am, the happiest girl in the world," Betty exclaims. "Just look at me! I can walk, I can laugh and sing again, and you, dance a little, too."

Like most people who seldom give thought to the "little things" of walking, talking, laughing, Betty has found now that "Life is wonderful!"

The "servants" who helped present the Christmas gift were, among others, a minister, Barnesboro American Legion Post and The Democrat. Today, Betty said, "I'll tell the boys, speak and sing again, and you, dance a little, too."

When stricken with the disease, Betty and her family lived on Barnesboro, B. D. Today, the family resides on Clymer, R. D. 2.

Just a few days before last Christmas doctors and nurses had all but given up the last threads of hope. A delicate operation was held as the only means of saving her life.

The girl's stepfather, Don Hickok—a coal miner—was making barely enough to feed and clothe eight young children.

Faith of the suffering girl came to the care of a Barnesboro minister, Rev. Paul F. Smalley, pastor of the small Church of God. The minister contacted members of his little congregation of 100.

On Dec. 17, The Democrat heard of the desire for \$1,000 to finance the operation and published the story. Betty's Christmas wish for money had gone to God.

Through the efforts of Comedian Harry Dixon and Adjutant Frank Mosley, members of the Barnesboro American Legion Post

### Risks to Life? Only Yule Gift She Asks Is Chance To Live to Enjoy Another Christmas

### Only Delicate Operation Can Save Girl, 19

In Cresson Sanatorium today lies a 20-year-old girl who is recovering from a delicate operation to cure her of dread tuberculosis. It is the gift of God-life itself that she has received.

A recent operation to remove the diseased lung was successful. She is now recovering from the operation and is expected to be discharged in a few days.

She has a new lease on life and is looking forward to the Christmas season.



Miss Betty Douglas, a girl in 1947, is shown in the photograph above. She is now recovering from a delicate operation to cure her of dread tuberculosis.

### Sunday School In Barnesboro To Seek \$1,000

The Sunday School in Barnesboro is holding a collection to raise \$1,000 for the operation of Betty Douglas. The collection will be held on Sunday, December 27, at 10 o'clock.

Above is the story of Betty Douglas as it appeared in The Democrat last year. It was this story that triggered the generosity of hundreds during the happy Christmas season of 1947. It brought offers of money from all over Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio after the girl's plight was relayed over a Pittsburgh radio station. However, the Barnesboro American Legion underwrote all costs of giving the girl "a chance to enjoy another Christmas."

arranged to defray all costs of the operation.

Betty was removed to Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, and Dr. Ripp, an outstanding lung specialist, was engaged. She underwent two major operations.

Physicians removed three ribs from her right side during one of the operations. In fiber surgery, parts of three ribs were removed from the same side. The lungs were drained, and Betty started the walk on the slow road to recovery.

Betty was returned to Cresson May 1. She continued to show remarkable improvement and gain in weight. By summer when the flowers were bursting into new life, Betty was walking around the hospital grounds.

She was discharged from the

### CRESSON APPOINTEE



DR. CARL E. LEVAN 1948

### Local Dentist Is Given Post At Sanatorium

Dr. Carl E. Levan of 2827 West Chestnut avenue, a dental practitioner in Altoona since 1934, has assumed his duties as the first full-time dentist at the Pennsylvania state tuberculosis sanatorium at Cresson.

The appointment of Dr. Levan, who has served since 1933 as part-time dentist at the institution, was announced by Norma W. Vaux, secretary of health for the commonwealth, and became effective Feb. 1.

Dr. Harry W. West, superintendent of the Cresson sanatorium, said today that the full-time appointment was made because of the increasing dental care requirements by the approximately 600 patients of the institution.

Dr. Levan, who has closed his dental office in the Central Trust building, will be on duty from 9 to 5 o'clock Monday through Friday and from 9 to 12 o'clock on Saturdays. As part-time dentist at the sanatorium he visited the institution twice weekly since 1933 when he succeeded Dr. Patrick S. Healy of Altoona.

Dr. Healy held the position for four years as successor to the late Dr. Guy C. Robb who took care of the patients' dental needs for many years.

Dr. Levan began the practice of dentistry in Altoona Feb. 1, 1934, following his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania school of dentistry.

### Cresson Patients Honor Altoonan

In appreciation of kindnesses, the patients and residents of Cresson Sanatorium have presented Raymond A. Allison, Altoona, manager of the Ritzon theater chain with a jeweled stock and lavender. The presentation was made last week at exercises in the Community Hall of the Sanatorium.

Dr. Thomas M. A. Ritter, former medical director of the sanatorium, presented the gift to Raymond A. Allison, Jr., son of Mr. Allison, who was presented from

### 3 Get Certificates At Cresson Sanatorium

CRESSON—Graduation exercises were held recently at the Cresson Sanatorium School. Certificates were presented to those pupils who passed the county examination for admission to junior high school.

Dr. Harry W. West, medical director at the sanatorium, made the presentations to Mary Brown, Donna Rossman and Ronald Barker. Peterson penmanship certificates for excellence in writing also were presented. Selections by the primary department rhythm band featured the exercises.

and a friend of Mr. Kuller, signed Earl to entertain him a bit. Popped up on pillows, the sick man enjoyed himself thoroughly. In fact, he had such a grand time that he talked about it to other people. Since then they have won national acclaim for entertaining in many hospitals, orphanages, as well as visiting private homes. For instance, recently a lovely lady was entertained on her 10th birthday.

So well have Earl and Doris become known, they were recently invited to appear on the "We The People" program which is heard over the Columbia network every Sunday evening. Tom Brennan, Master of ceremonies of the Breakfast Club of Hollywood, radio broadcast, has awarded Earl an honor with the "Good Bet" letter.

To Your Hospital  
Columbia County Medical Association  
Please take this Hospital, Cresson, Pa. to your hospital.  
We will be pleased to see you at 1 o'clock at our hospital.

Entertainment Good Medicine for TB Patients



With entertainment being recognized by the State Health Department as medicine for tuberculosis patients, the Crescon Sanatorium is giving its patients good doses of it. One of the most popular features of the entertainment setup is a "disc jockey" program over the sanatorium's broadcasting station, WSNAN.

Handling the program are (left to right): Edwin Burdard, Pittsburgh program director; Lesora Cresson, Brownsville, master of ceremonies; Thalia Donnelly, Carnegie, chairman of arrangements; and John Buchek, Coveville, engineer. All four are exercise patients at the sanatorium and are members of the patients' social committee, which helps in planning activities.



"Keep these good programs coming," two staff patients in the sanatorium tell James J. Bellis, director of entertainment. The young women, Irene Malissa (left) of New Castle and Grace Sandy of Do-

mon, listen to the entertainment through headphones which are made available to every patient. Mr. Bellis, who supervises the entertainment program besides his regular duties as laboratory technician, formerly was a patient. (Tribune Staff photo.)

'Disc Jockey' Program Favorite at Sanatorium

Crescon Patients Present Broadcast Of Request Numbers By EDWARD JORDAN Tribune Staff Writer

WSNAN at State, Pennsylvania, bringing you your favorite tunes. With this announcement, patients at the Crescon State Sanatorium adjust their headphones and listen to their No. 1 "disc jockey."

Station WSNAN is the sanatorium's broadcasting system that pipes entertainment to all parts of the institution. State, Pa., is the postoffice address, in case you didn't know. It's a regular U. S. postoffice.

The "disc jockey" program is probably the station's most popular feature. It is part of the sanatorium's well-rounded setup of entertainment which has been commended by the State Health Department.

The department's official publication, Pennsylvania's Health, comments on the local institution in its current issue. It added: "Entertainment is good medicine for patients of a tuberculosis sanatorium."

"Almost any form of entertainment helps divert the patient's mind from his illness, his helplessness and worry about the future. Mental depression and boredom are drugs on recovery."

Lots of this "good medicine" is being provided patients at Crescon under the direction of Dr. Harry W. West, medical director and former state health secretary.

His right-hand man in charge of entertainment is James Bellis, a 15-a-b-1-a-story technician and a former patient. He personally supervises the program.

However, exercise patients, those nearing full recovery—handle most of the details of the entertainments.

600 Requests Monthly But getting back to Station WSNAN and its "disc jockey," the recorded music is an all-request program. Patients mail their requests through State Postoffice at the rate of 600 to 700 a month.

It's a program that any of the 600 patients at the sanatorium seldom miss. It is heard from the stages of the movie house, or audi-

torium of the institution. At present, Miss Lesora Cresson of Brownsville is the "disc jockey." John Buchek of Coveville is the engineer and Edwin Burdard of Pittsburgh is the program director. All are exercise patients.

Recordings are donated by individuals, including ex-patients, and organizations. Others are loaned by individuals and groups having libraries of recorded music.

Expanses and loudspeakers in every room carry the music right to the patient. The program of request numbers is scheduled once a week during the summer months. It goes on twice weekly during the winter season.

Other Entertainment The recorded music, however, is only one phase of the entertainment setup. Live music, movies and variety acts are staged in the auditorium. Those patients able to attend get to see and hear the programs, personally. Students lead the entertainment over Station WSNAN.

Professional and amateur groups from Johnstown, Altoona, Ebensburg, Indiana, Gallitzin, Portage, Lilly, Hollidaysburg and Butler are frequent guests on the program.

Celebrities who have appeared on the stage include Russ Morgan and his orchestra, the Andrews Sisters and Vaughn Monroe.

Movies Twice a Week The stage has a regular theater screen and sound equipment for movies. Feature movies, sponsored free by the Rivoli Theater, are shown twice a week.

The sanatorium station also picks up broadcasts from the major air networks and transmits them from its master control room by wire to the audience listening on amplifiers and amplifying networks.

Sunday religious services in the sanatorium church—Grace Chapel—also are broadcast to the patients.

Dr. West "We believe we definitely are helping the patients to get well quicker with our program of entertainment," Dr. West said. The patients' social committee—the group that books run the entertainments—is planning a picnic for patients next month. It will be in the form of a homecoming, with all ex-patients invited to attend.

In its invitation to ex-patients, the committee said it feels they will prove an inspiration to some of the newer patients.

The Philippines contain 13 million people who have been more or less active in modern times.

Family Group Gives Program At Sanatorium

Patients and employees of Crescon sanatorium were entertained on the evening of Jan. 30 with a program featuring Earl and Little Doris Ruster, nationally known studio entertainers, and Thomas Rusche, musician, all of Turtle Creek, Pa. Earl sang and played the guitar and Doris sang and played the accordion. This hobby of singing to patients started in 1920. At that time Tom Russell of Altoona, best friend for many years and a friend of Mr. Ruster, asked him to entertain a bit. Mr. Russell had made an enjoyable time that he talked about it to other people. Since then the Rusters have given national acclaim for entertaining in many hospitals, orphanages and private homes. Recently they entertained a woman on her 10th birthday. It would have they become known that recently they were invited to appear on the "We the People" program which is heard over a set-work every Sunday evening. They have also been awarded the "Good Neighbor" badge by Tom, treasurer, master of ceremonies of the broadcast club of Hollywood program. Mr. Rusche has appeared before social groups and clubs in the Pittsburgh area.

Former Patient Named Official Of Sanatorium

CRESCON — Eugene F. Kuhn, who was a patient at Crescon Sanatorium in 1924, has been named business manager of the institution. His appointment was announced yesterday by Dr. Harry W. West, medical director. Mr. Kuhn became interested in hospital work when he entered the institution 24 years ago for treatment. After recovering he served as part-time bookkeeper. Later he was made stockkeeper at the sanatorium. He specialized in hospital purchasing and administration in courses at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. In 1933 the Kuhn family moved to Pilegrim. Mr. Kuhn entered a partnership in a trading company there. He returned to Crescon in 1939 to become purchasing agent at the sanatorium. Employees and patients of the sanatorium were given a program of entertainment last Saturday. Featured were Earl and Little Doris Ruster, nationally-known studio entertainers, and Thomas Rusche, musician, all of Turtle Creek. Earl sang and played the guitar. Doris sang and played the accordion.

Weekly Music Programs Held At Sanatorium

(Special to Tribune Staff) CRESCON, Pa. — Patients at the Crescon sanatorium will be entertained with a weekly music program announced today by Dr. Harry W. West, executive medical director of the institution. The entertainment will consist of musical programs given by members of the American Federation of Musicians, local units No. 14, Altoona, and No. 10, Erie, Pa. The musicians will be paid their regular union rates. Funds representing the union share from proceeds of the recording and transcription fund allotted to local units No. 14 and No. 10 of the American Federation of Musicians, of which James C. Fort is president of the construction committee, and Mr. H. H. H. The weekly music program of the sanatorium was first held last Saturday evening, by Earl and Little Doris Ruster. The music was recorded over a studio microphone system to the sanatorium's broadcasting station, WSNAN, and carried to the patients in every room.