

a new main hospital on the site of the present 40-year-old structure, many times condemned by grand juries, which is used at present.

"You see part of this old building could be torn down and replaced by a new building, while we care for the patients in the converted laboratory building," Dr. Flake pointed out.

Mayor Admits His Ignorance
"Yes, and we could have built a fine hospital for the money spent on the unfinished Brooklyn Public Library, too," the Mayor answered.

Looking out of the operating room windows, the Mayor again saw the laboratory building and remarked, "I can't miss that laboratory. Do you know we would all have been saved some embarrassment if I knew what it was all about."

"Came near being a patient here myself today," the Mayor said to the group. Further inquiry disclosed that while en route to the hospital in his suite, another machine had side-swiped the Mayor's car on Nevins st. A serious accident was averted by skillful driving of the Mayor's chauffeur.

Drs. Jones, Flake and McNamara pointed out to the Mayor, "You can't improve this old building. There must be a new building here," to which Mayor Walker replied, "I am sure that you can't cure this building with poultices; it needs a major operation."

The Mayor then visited the new wing of the main building and saw the contrast sharply drawn. He went to the morgue and seemed greatly shocked at the inadequacy of accommodations there.

"Do you mean to say that you only have room for 18 bodies here in the morgue? And this is supposed to take care of all Brooklyn and Queens?" he asked.

When informed that such was the case, he asked Jim McGuire, in charge of the morgue, what he did with the extra bodies and was told of the conditions at the time of the Malbone st. wreck when scores of bodies were stretched out in the laundry for want of other quarters.

Raps Lecture Rooms.
The much discussed bone of contention, the new laboratory building, almost completed exteriorly was next visited. Mayor Walker was informed that since the controversy between himself and Commissioner Coler the interior plans had been altered, and by November 1 accommodations for 160 beds would be completed. Mayor Walker was quite wrought up over the layout of large rooms for lecture purposes and for offices and scored a policy of leaving the patients in cramped quarters while students have fine, big rooms.

Assistant Mayor Kerrigan suggested that the chronic wards be built and this was done, although Mayor Walker, having spent more than two hours at the hospital, found it necessary to telephone to City Hall to postpone other matters.

The archaic circular-enclosed fire-escape slide on the ancient chronic ward building built in 1865 roused the ire of the city executive. "That is certainly an outrage," he declared.

He visited the cramped quarters for the old men and women and inquired into the number of nurses in charge. When informed that there are but two trained nurses to a floor with 100 or more patients, he was horrified.

As he was leaving the men's ward, he stopped to shake hands with an old fellow, suffering, he was informed, with nervous trouble.

"If things keep on for a week or so, I guess I'll have to ask the old fellow to push over," he facetiously interjected.

Mayor Walker last visited the modern nurses' home, the finest building of the hospital group, with all modern facilities, but still somewhat overcrowded.

"My personal reaction to all this is, what fine buildings you have for your nurses and what terrible buildings for your patients," Mayor Walker declared as he left for Manhattan.

He explained that his entire tour of the hospital was merely for the purpose of seeing things for himself for a future guide in making appropriations.

Dr. Flake was overjoyed at the Mayor's visit. "When I was a young fellow, I was thrown in that tub, but I would take a dozen duckings to bring the Mayor here to see things as he did today," he added.

When the hearing started at 2 o'clock in the Fitzgerald home, barred doors greeted the newspapermen, where, as on the day before, they were allowed in the corridor. Several were forcibly ejected.

The six internes arrested on the charge of assault were marched to the inquiry room and closeted with the Interne Committee of which Dr. Cameron Duncan is the chairman. What transpired has been kept a secret.

Shortly before 3 o'clock word filtered through that Mayor Walker was due to arrive at the hospital and personally take over the anti-Semitic inquiry. It caused a distinct stir.

Interne's Counsel Barred

Dr. Solovay, one of the three complaining Jewish internes, arrived in an auto accompanied by his counsel, Nathan Suedler, and others. Counsel for the interne was refused admission to the inquiry building and was told that he could not appear. A legal adviser at the hearing, he used to allow Dr. Solovay to testify.

Some hot words followed and several doctors placed their hands on the lawyer until he warned them to stop, as the action constituted an assault.

At this juncture, Rabbi Dr. Louis Gross, of the Union Temple, accompanied by Dr. Harry Weiss, of Shaari Zedek Temple; Dr. Israel Leventhal, of the Brooklyn Jewish Centre, and Dr. Israel Goldfarb, of Temple Beth Israel, arrived at the hospital in an auto.

Dr. Gross explained to newspapermen that this group with Rabbi Lyons formed a committee of the New York Board of Jewish Ministers representing more than 100 synagogues. He said that in company with Supreme Court Justice Lazansky they visited Commissioner Coler earlier in the afternoon and agreed that a more drastic investigation should be made than that under way at the hospital. Justice Lazansky, he said, suggested that a complete investigation be made of all hospitals, pointing out that the halibut incident at Kings County was merely an incident in a long series of anti-Semitic gestures. He declared the inquiry should be an authorized one and testimony taken under oath. The Commissioner of Accounts was suggested as the proper director of such an inquiry. With Commissioner Coler's acquiescence, it was decided to lay the entire matter before the Mayor.

"We saw the Mayor and he told us that he would immediately come to the hospital and take personal charge of the investigation, sitting as a City Magistrate," Dr. Gross added.

Within a few minutes it was found that the Mayor, accompanied by Charles F. Kerrigan, the Assistant Mayor, and Commissioner of Accounts James A. Higgins had slipped into the main hospital administration building through a rear door.

Mayor Closeted an Hour.

From 4 o'clock until after 5, the Mayor was closeted in the office of the superintendent, Dr. Mortimer D. Jones, with Dr. Calvin F. Barber, president of the Kings County Medical Board; Dr. Edwin E. Flake, Dr. Sylvester McNamara, Dr. Russell M. Rome, of the board, and Dr. Jones, superintendent, and Dr. William Curry, deputy superintendent. Nathan Suedler and the rabbinical delegation were also called in and spoke with the Mayor for several minutes.

Dr. William Lathrop Love, State Senator of the district in which the hospital is located, arrived at the hospital with Louis Wolff, his secretary, but did not join the delegation.

Mayor Walker then called newspapermen into Dr. Jones' office and answered all inquiries.

"The superintendent and the hospital board have decided to suspend the six men implicated in this trouble until after the termination of their case in court. Meanwhile, their duties will be assumed by others and the service will not suffer. The assistant visiting doctors and nurses will take up the work and if they find their number insufficient, the city stands ready to send assistance from any or all hospitals in the city. It won't mean any lessening of service," he declared.

Speaking in the third person, Mayor Walker continued: "The Mayor has decided to hold an open and public inquiry at the City Hall one week from tomorrow (June 29). While the charges are pending the Medical Board has decided to continue its inquiry here. Commissioner Coler has requested the Mayor to initiate an inquiry by the Commissioner of Accounts, but the Mayor has not acceded and will do it himself."

The Mayor further pointed out that the inquiry to be held by him will be merely as to the policy in force at the various hospitals with regard to racial or religious discrimination and it will in no way interfere with the criminal charges now pending.

"The Mayor feels the necessity and obligation of investigating all hospitals under city control to see if there is any discrimination," he declared. Asked just how many hospitals he meant, Mayor Walker answered, "Every hospital that the city has anything to do with."

Asked if he had inquired into any discrimination against Jewish patients, the Mayor said that he had not.

Further asked who would be called at the City Hall investigation, the Mayor answered "Anybody may be called—Commissioner Coler, very likely."

Asked what would be done if the suspended internes were found guilty of assaulting the three Jewish internes, he replied, "No man guilty of an assault would be a good man to be in the service."

He concluded his interview by declaring, "You can't couple benevolence with bigotry."

Coler Welcomes Inquiry.

Commissioner Coler today declared he was glad that the hearing in the hospital will result in a complete examination of all the city hospitals.

"The incident will not be entirely void of good results if it causes the Mayor and the other members of the Board of Estimate to make a personal examination of all the city hospitals. However, an inquiry by the Mayor may affect me personally. I shall feel pleased if he gets the viewpoint of the American College