



A. Simmons, D. D. S.

1973. Robert Peterson, M. D. is the present pathologist and owner of the Great Lakes Laboratory Services. Yukio Umemori, M. D. and Modesto A. Lorenzo, M. D., radiologists, were in charge of the x-ray department until April, 1975 when Dr. Lorenzo assumed the responsibilities on a part time basis when Dr. Umemori is not available.

During summer months, the emergency room is covered by Northern Professional Medical Service. In May, 1975, Roger Klettke, M. D. joined the staff as a full-time emergency room doctor. The Northern Professional Emergency Service continues to handle weekend assignments.

Gaylord's first dentist was Dr. Abraham A. Simmons who came from Ontario, Canada to Gaylord in 1897. He practiced until his sudden death in 1921. Dr. Henry Seth Edward, Dr. William F. Housen, and Dr. Charles G. Saunders also practiced dentistry in the county in the early 1900's. Others who have practiced here are Dr. Swanson, Dr. M. A. Donich and Dr. David R. Mehlich. Dr. William Berry, whose office was at 110 South Elm Street, practiced dentistry in Gaylord for more than thirty years until his death on July 2, 1974.

Dentists in Otsego County in this Centennial Year are John W. Burat, D. D. S., Joseph Comella, D. D. S., T. W. Holloway, D. D. S., William G. Kennary, D. D. S., James E. Robb, D. D. S., Eugene Sklar, D. D. S., and Dan W. Walchak, D. D. S.

Levi H. Stevenson was Gaylord's first optometrist, coming to the area in 1910. His primary occupation was a jeweler. In the late 1940's and early 1950's, until he retired, Thomas E. Glover, O. D., practiced here. Dr. Robert E. Barnes was in Gaylord a short time in the early 1960's. Dr. Richard Bentz opened his practice in optometry here in 1949 and maintains his office at 121 E. Main Street. Newcomers to the area are Thomas W. Rice, O. D. and E. Timothy Elges, O. D. with offices at

429 North Center Street.

Dr. Paul Balwin was probably Gaylord's first chiropractor. His office was across from the present Chamber of Commerce Building and he practiced in the 1940's and left in 1958. Dr. Dennis Mellon took over his practice.

The present Alpine Center, formerly the Gaylord State Home an agency of the Department of Mental Health, was originally the Northern Michigan Tuberculosis Sanatorium which opened in 1937. Joseph L. Egle, M. D. was the first Superintendent and Director of the Sanatorium. Among the doctors who worked with him over the years are George Gerald Stauch, M. D., Edward F. Skinner, M. D., Hubert E. Atkinson, M. D., Charles M. Bauman, M. D., Howard T. White, M. D., William Van Bissonette, M. D., Fred A. Farney, M. D. and Junius Evans, M. D. William Berry D. D. S. served as a part-time dentist.

Some surgical procedures were being developed for the treatment of tuberculosis. Consultants who operated here were J. C. Day, M. D., and William M. Tuttle, M. D. Dr. Tuttle was the inventor of the bronchoscope.

As tuberculosis began to come under control, the sanatorium was gradually converted to a facility for the care of mentally ill children. The years 1960 through 1963 were years of transition. Dr. Donald E. Christiansen was Medical Superintendent during those years. He left the staff in 1971 and Stanley M. Beck, M. D. replaced him as Medical Superintendent. Among the doctors serving on the staff of the Gaylord State Home are: Robert S. Libke, M. D., Mary Wizer, M. D., L. Leo Tinkey, M. D., and William Diamond, M. D. Scott T. Harris, M. D., Clinical Director of the Home retired in July, 1973 and was replaced by C. C. Kim, M. D.

John F. McNally, D. D. S. came to the Home in February 1974.

June 30, 1974 completed the institution's first year as The Alpine Center and marked a period of one and a half years that this facility operated in the role of an admitting and service institution for the northern twentyone counties of the Lower Peninsula.

Other doctors presently practicing in Gaylord are Ray W. Boyer, M. D., Nestor M. Gund, M. D., Nicholaos G. Makris, M. D., I. Matias, M. D., and W. C. Trowbridge, M. D.

The new Medical Arts Building was dedicated in September of 1972.

An early Veteranarian was Dr. Jacob Deadman. The are now has three Doctors of Veteranary Medicine, C. J. Jehle, D. V. M., D. M. Hird, D. V. M. and R. A. Greve, D. V. M.