

of the concern of the hospitals for the welfare of the sick and for that of their employees that the hospitals are now making request that hospital personnel be not included under the provisions of the proposed enactment. The following reasons are presented:

1. Unemployment is negligible in the hospital field.

Hospitals must always be prepared for any emergency or epidemic and, therefore, must keep their personnel practically constant, whether their occupancy be low or high. Although there is fair daily fluctuation in patients, there is very little seasonal fluctuation. There are no idle periods at all, except at times on the isolation ward. Furthermore, a large proportion of the hospital personnel are highly specialized experts, such as obstetrical and operating room supervisors, laboratory and x-ray technicians, dietitians and others; these individuals cannot be replaced on short notice and are, therefore, assured of permanent employment. As over 60 per cent of our hospitals are under 50 beds capacity, it is obvious that such small hospitals cannot make much, if any, seasonal variation in their roster of employees, a roster which usually includes one technician, dietitian, cook, book-keeper, stenographer, engineer, groundsman, etc.