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Our Catholic Hospitals

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changed in all the Ages past; and they are equally valid today!

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OUR CATHOLIC HOSPITALS

The religious objective of the Catholic hospital must be detectable in every department and in every fraction of the department's activity. It is the unifying, the integrating, the only truly significant feature of the Catholic hospital. For this reason, even the principles of administration of a Catholic hospital as well as the details of administration must necessarily be different in a Catholic hospital than they are in a non-Catholic institution. Hospital administration thus achieves a new significance as applied to a Catholic institution. We may go so far as to say that if a Catholic hospital fails to maintain a high degree of excellence of hospital service, it fails only partially but if it fails in the smallest part to

achieve its Catholic significance in any detail, it fails totally. Not that the faith and Catholicity can ever be taken as excuses for inadequacy in services, slovenliness in management, lethargy or indifference in public relations, carelessness in medical care. Any institution which so uses its Catholicity is not truly Catholic for every institution that is truly Catholic will recognize its work to be the work of Christ and no work can be worthy of Christ unless it is performed with the expenditure of every ounce of energy, every fraction of self-restraint, every iota of dignity, every minutia of perfect attention. This is what we demand of a Catholic hospital to be truly Catholic.—REV. A. M. SCHWITALLA, S.J.