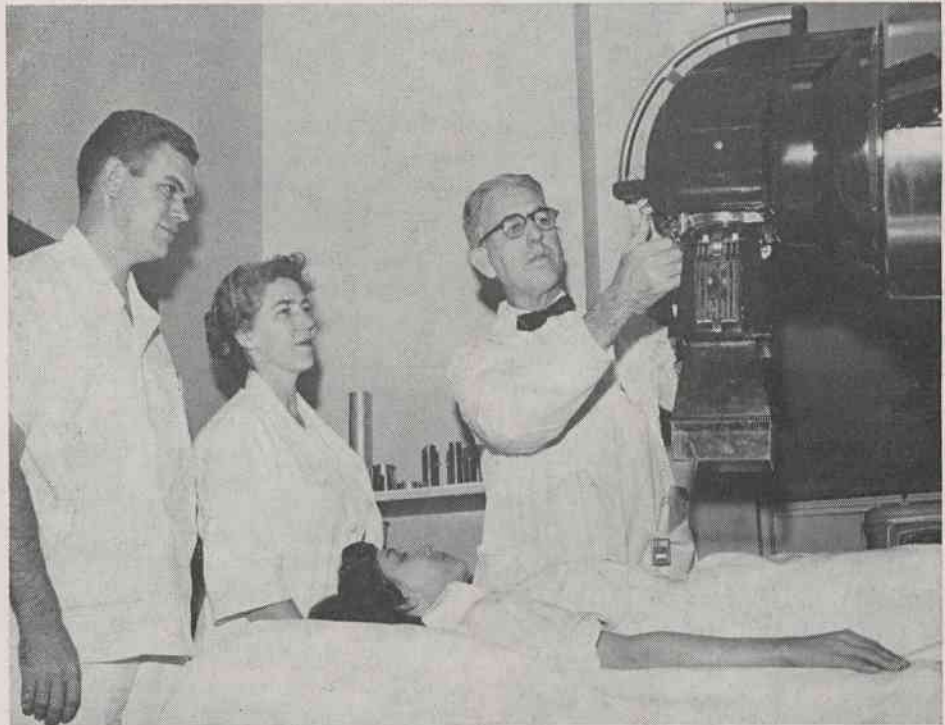


## Radiology Looks Ahead

Soon after the first of the year, construction will begin on a new Radiation Therapy wing. Running out from the back of the hospital, parallel to Howland Ward, the unit will contain 14 rooms and should be complete in about six months. Housed in this unit will be one cobalt therapy machine containing approximately 2,000 Curie's of cobalt 60. A second room for cobalt therapy will be equipped later. Used chiefly in the treatment of malignant disease, cobalt therapy has proved helpful in a slightly higher percentage of cases than conventional x-ray therapy. At Duke the machine will be used, also, for teaching and research. This type of radiation therapy is becoming more common throughout the country with 65 to 70 installations over the United States. At present there are only two other cobalt units in North Carolina.

Construction of the new radiation therapy wing is being financed jointly by Duke University and federal funds. Development of the Radiation Therapy Division of Radiology will necessitate enlarging the department staff about July first. This will include a physician specially trained in cobalt therapy. The recently acquired radiation therapy machine, powered with 280,000 volts, will be moved from its present quarters to the new wing. In addition to rooms for the treatment of patients, the new therapy wing will contain rooms for student conferences



(Duke Photo by Sparks)

Dr. Reeves checks the new radiation therapy machine (280,000 volts) with Radiology resident, Dr. Claude Smith, and chief therapy technician, Mrs. Helen Tillery.

and space, including laboratories, for cancer research.

The Diagnostic Division of x-ray will remain in its present quarters on the second floor of the Hospital. Space vacated by the move to the Therapy wing will allow for long needed expansion of the Diagnostic X-ray and Isotope Divisions.

The Isotope Laboratory in the Department of Radiology has several distinct functions. It makes available certain types of newer treatments which use radioactive materials. At the Duke Medical Center the emphasis has been on the use of isotopes in diagnosis. Such compounds in the body as thyroid can be traced with radioactive material. It



(Duke Photo by Sparks)

Dr. Robert J. Reeves, Professor of Radiology and Chairman of the Department, was a member of the original Duke Hospital staff. A native Texan, he is an honorary member of the Texas Radiological Society. He came to Duke by way of Columbia University Medical Center.