

# Hospital Carpeting Aimed at Reducing Noise

If the hospital seems much quieter to you these days, there is a good reason.

During the Christmas holidays 1,291 square yards of Antron II Design VI carpet were installed in the main corridors of the first floor hospital building and 1,115 square yards of Antron II Faculty carpet were installed on Reed Ward.

The manufactured Lee's carpet, fabricated from DuPont yarn called Antron II nylon, was bought from the Educational Equipment Company of Raleigh. Due to the heavy traffic in the hospital during the daytime hours, the installation of the carpet was performed during the evening and early morning

hours.

In order to save time and money and provide safety in eliminating the smoke hazards of foam rubber backings and paddings, the new carpet was installed by "direct glue-down" over jute.

As an experimental pilot project at Duke, the continued use and expansion of carpeted areas will be determined by the success of the present project.

The need for such a project grew out of a desire on the part of the administration and Environmental Services to keep hospital noise at a minimum, increase safety, provide sanitary conditions and maintain a pleasant, aesthetically appealing hospital

setting.

The hospital carpet committee was headed by former hospital associate director Sam Huston and Steve Caprio, director of Environmental Services. Other members of the committee instrumental in planning and executing the project were from the medical center Planning Office.

According to ServiceMaster, a leading hospital cleaning corporation contracted to maintain the upkeep of the carpet, the feasibility of using carpeting at Duke with as much as 24,000 "traffics" per day on the first floor is favorable. (A "traffic" refers to an object, whether animate or inanimate, passing over the carpet).

ServiceMaster management engineer of carpet-care, Wally Duzansky, said that the proper type of carpet can be used in any area.

"For example," he explained, "at McCarran Airport in Las Vegas, they had over 10,000,000 traffics over a two-and-one-half year period. The original life expectancy was five years. However, after the first two-and-one-half years, the life expectancy was readjusted to eight to 10 years.

"This carpet," he continued, "was an Antron II fiber woven into Design III. Lee's feels Design VI (which is presently being used on the first floor of Duke Hospital) will out-perform its predecessor."

According to ServiceMaster findings, the following is a list of reasons why carpeting is more advantageous than terrazzo flooring. Each one of these statements has been substantiated by E.A. Taylor, director of aviation at McCarran Airport:

1—Acoustical advantages. Kodora Acoustical Laboratories in Elmhurst, N.Y., ran experiments that show vinyl tile floors had noise ratings seven to 12 times higher than carpeting, and terrazzo had ratings nine to 14 times higher.

2—Thermal properties. Kansas State University's Environmental Laboratory estimates that carpeting results in five to 13 per cent less heating and/or air conditioning costs.

3—Aesthetics. There is no more economical or faster way to replace an old floor than putting new, modern colorful carpeting over it.

4—Safety. The problems of people slipping and falling are virtually gone. Wet floors are safety hazards. Wet carpeting is just a clean-up problem. At McCarran Airport the lowest three-year accident rate on their old terrazzo was 91 claims. During the first three-year period in which the carpeting was in use, not a single claim was received.

Among the other properties of Antron II are: It is non-allergenic; It is engineered to reflect light rather than allowing it to pass through the fiber; The abrasion resistance guards against rapid wear and its excellent crush recovery properties cushion impact and reduce traffic patterning; It meets government flammability standards in commercial, institutional and residential applications; It has good cleanability; It is soil resistant — soil collects mostly on the surface and can be easily cleaned.

According to Duzansky of ServiceMaster, a carpet maintenance program can save approximately 25 hours per week compared to the maintenance of a terrazzo floor.

"A carpet maintenance program will give a savings on the first floor corridor of the hospital only because of its being a non-patient area," he explained. "Normally we have to be aware not only of a good visual appearance, but also that the area be bacteria-free if possible. This corridor would receive more of a

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DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

## Metcalf and Wheeler Are Appointed New Assistant Directors of the Hospital

Two new assistant directors have been appointed at Duke Hospital. They are Robert D. Metcalf and Kenneth E. Wheeler. Announcement of the

appointments came from Richard H. Peck, administrative director of the hospital.

Metcalf will work with the medical center's Planning Office and Dr. Jane Elchlepp, assistant vice president for health affairs, on the design and construction of the new Comprehensive Cancer Center, scheduled for completion in early 1977. He also will assume administrative duties with the dietetics and environmental services departments.

Wheeler will have administrative responsibility for the medical center's clinical laboratories and a number of service departments including the

pharmacy, central supply and materials management. In addition, he will be responsible for the emergency room, the Surgical Outpatient Clinic and the Department of Radiology.

A native of Madison, Wis., Metcalf is a 1948 graduate of the Northern Illinois College of Optometry and a 1963 graduate of the Medical College of Virginia's hospital administration program.

As a 27-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he has served in various health-related management positions and has most recently been administrator of a 270-bed Air Force hospital at Clark Air Base in the Phillipines.

Metcalf and his wife, the former Christine McLean of Whitewater, Wis., have two children, Scott and Dale.

Wheeler received a B.S. degree from Cornell University in 1964 and a master's in business administration from the University of Chicago in 1966. He has served as an administrative assistant at Passavant Memorial Hospital in Chicago, a member of the U.S. Public Health Service in the Office of Comprehensive Health Planning and, prior to coming to Duke, assistant executive vice president of the McGaw Medical Center at Northwestern University in Chicago.

He is married to the former Lorraine Mackoviak of East Chicago, Ind., and their two children are Christie and Michael.



ROBERT D. METCALF

## Sabiston Elected To Two Positions

Dr. David C. Sabiston, chairman of the Department of Surgery, is beginning 1974 with two new jobs—both prestigious tasks within his profession.

Sabiston is the new editor of the Annals of Surgery, the nation's foremost journal of surgical science, and he also is the new president of the Southern Surgical Association.

His elections to the two positions are not related, but the Annals of Surgery has published the proceedings of the Southern Surgical Association since 1936. It began publishing the proceedings of the American Surgical Association eight years earlier.

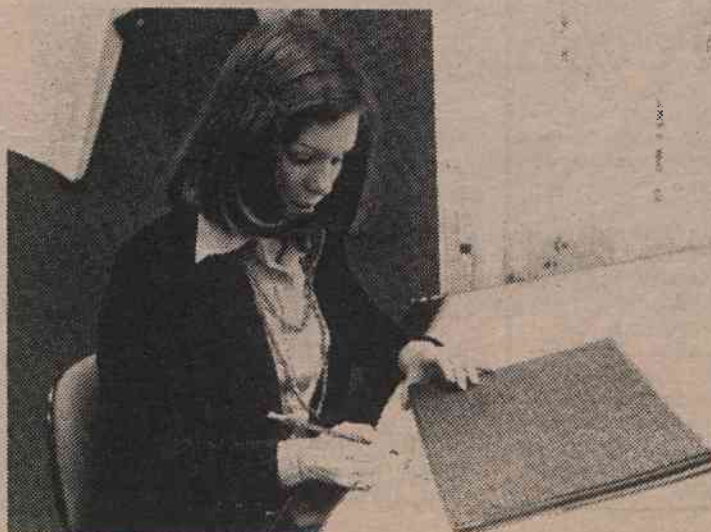
Sabiston, who is James B. Duke Professor of Surgery, is the seventh editor of the journal which began publication in 1885 and is the oldest continuously published surgical review in the English language. Monthly it publishes original papers pertaining to clinical surgery and laboratory experimental surgery.

Sabiston, who took over the editorship with the January issue, said he envisions no major changes in the journal in the near future but that there will be increased emphasis on editorial commentary.

His appointment to the continuing  
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KENNETH E. WHEELER



**CARPET PLANNING**—Medical center interior designer Linda McNeer uses a plan of the first floor hospital building to indicate where the new Antron II Design VI carpet was installed. Aside from the main corridors, 1,115 square yards of Antron II Faculty carpet were installed on Reed Ward during the Christmas holidays.