

# InterCom

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## The Building in the Middle of the Road

That "building in the middle of the road" has just been completed and most of its new occupants have moved to their new quarters. This latest addition to the Duke Medical Center campus is the \$2,200,000 Diagnostic and Treatment Center No. 3 and Gerontology Building. The appearance of the building suggests that it is one unit, but in reality it consists of two separate projects, each with a different purpose and financing.

The east end of the attractive new structure houses the Diagnostic and Treatment Center while the west end of the building is devoted to the relatively new concept of gerontology.

The rapid growth in the past several years of the Medical Center is not news to those of us who have worked around renovation and construction constantly. In the course of this growth, the various functions of each department and of the individual physician have become so widely dispersed that efficiency was seriously hampered. The need for centralization of certain operations was obvious and it is this need for consolidation that the Diagnostic and Treatment Building answers.

The members of the departments of medicine, surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry and radiology that are now located in the new building have under one roof their offices, laboratories and examining rooms. As Duke Medical Center becomes more and more a regional referral center for difficult diagnostic and treatment problems, it is essential that each physician has within easy access the latest tools of his specialty as well as the availability of other members of his staff for consultation. The new building is joined to the Hospital by a 16-foot tunnel. This tunnel, incidentally, is the first section of a corridor that will connect the present hospital to the proposed



The main entrance to the new building is decorated with a relief of Aesculapius flanked by caducei.

new Medical Center complex beyond the Bell Research Building.

Thus these latest laboratory facilities are within easy access of hospital in-patients as well as out-patients. A further integration of functions will be realized when the Clinical Research Building—which adjoins the Diagnostic and Treatment Building—is completed in the spring.

The activities that are now taking place in the new D & T Center are many and diverse. Most of the business of the ENT department will be carried on in the new facility. Dr. Hudson's office, examining rooms, an enlarged and more pleasant clinic space, and more space and newer equipment for audiologist Mrs. Susie Hunt are now available.

The psychiatric day care program will be carried on in the new clinic facilities in this building. The department of radiology has space for sev-

eral research projects including the investigation of an electronically controlled system for copying x-ray films. This device, called Log-E-Tronics, it is hoped will be useful in copying for teaching purposes and for improving the diagnostic accuracy of films.

Neurosurgery will have diagnostic and clinical space for the study of cancer, Parkinson's disease, nervous system disorders related to aging and rehabilitation following brain surgery. Dr. Sealy and Dr. Young will have space for specialized diagnostic procedures necessary in patients being evaluated for chest surgery. They will also have laboratory space for studies in deethyphothermia. This long word is used to describe the study of the effects of the lowering of body temperature and the clinical applications of this procedure.

Dr. Grimson will move all of his  
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