

Supt's Corner



by Charles H. Frenzel

The construction of the Main Entrance Building, connecting the present hospital with the Diagnostic and Treatment Building, will complete the planned hospital complex for this site. This project will increase our bed complement to approximately 750 beds and will correct several of our serious shortcomings by providing adequate lobby and waiting room space, a complete "emergency" clinic, a comprehensive X-ray department, and an outstanding delivery suite.

Our long range plans call for additional hospital facilities in a new building complex located in the area between Bell Building and Erwin Road. This new hospital will probably be built in stages over many years but it is anticipated that it may reach a size comparable to the present hospital.

We recognize the obvious disadvantage of operating two major hospital complexes at what now appears to be a considerable distance from each other but there are numerous advantages to be obtained from this plan. It is the prevalent view of hospital experts that a hospital of over 600-700 beds tends to become unmanageable, impersonal, and inefficient for good patient care. Recognizing our eventual need for over 1200 beds, our concept of two hospitals, avoids the development of a massive single hospital.

Many deficiencies still exist in our space requirement for supportive diagnostic and service functions. Continued addition to the present building complex makes the location of efficient space for these functions extremely expensive and in some cases virtually impossible. Construction of additional hospital facilities in the new complex will enable us to stage effectively adjustments and expansion of functions in the present build-

ing to provide these badly needed support services.

Often overlooked is the adverse effect major construction can have on the operation of the existing facility. It has been many years since Duke Hospital has been able to operate at a near "normal" level because of the continuous construction projects on all sides. The Main Entrance Building will again seriously affect our operation for the next several years. The staged construction of a new hospital facility on a separate site should enable us to operate the present hospital under reasonably stable conditions during this period.

INTERCOM

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EDITORS

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George B. Kantner
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Mailing address: Box 2895, Duke Hospital, Durham, N. C.

A New Front Door

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building includes bringing in a new road from the northeast which will circle in front of the new building. One-way traffic on this circle is expected to alleviate much of the traffic problem that now exists.

A preliminary to the new construction has already started and will be finished about the end of this year. The courtyard outside of the PDC is now being filled in to the level of the first floor to allow for expansion of the Surgical and Medical PDCs.

As in the past we can all feel proud of another new building which is designed to bring better medical care, more conveniently, to more patients and at the same time bring the latest



FRANK LIBMAN ENGEL

December 10, 1913-July 10, 1963

Here was a man, gifted as few are gifted. Many men are endowed with scholarly perception, with creative imagination, and with the capacity for sustained inquiry. If he had had only these endowments, Frank would have been distinguished among his colleagues, for he was richly endowed with those qualities which brought him well-merited recognition in the world of medical research. Others know far better than I ever can the contributions he made to the science of healing. I speak only as his friend and his Rabbi, only as a man who saw the measure of Frank Engel as a human being.

He dignified and enriched those words: human being. His compassion, his unqualified readiness always to be humanly useful, his gentleness, his delightful wit—all these gave him a dimension rarely achieved by most of us. In his all too brief passage through life, the warmth of his personality, the supportive strength of his very being, somewhere, somehow, in large ways and in small, touched the destinies of some, and the day-by-day lives of more than we can number.

—Rabbi Efraim M. Rosenzweig

in teaching and research spaces to our professional staff.