

## Computer Potential Examined

A group of distinguished scientists gathered at Duke University November 17-20 to explore the impact of computers on man's intellectual capabilities and the potential usefulness of computer technology in many fields. Entitled "The Computer and the Mind of Man," the symposium explored computer potential in such fields as medicine, education, the social sciences, the information sciences, biology and physics.

Many experts believe that the "computer revolution" is still in its infancy. While the marvelous machines are sometimes characterized by the public as monstrous electronic wizards capable, perhaps, of replacing the human intellect, they really provide man with a unique tool to extend his intelligence much as nuclear energy provided man with an extension of his power. Such intriguing possibilities were suggested as a national repository for rare books which could then be requested and read with electronic equipment in one's own library carrel.

The symposium was opened by Dean William G. Anlyan. The featured speakers, and their topics, were: Dr. James Miller, director, Mental Health Research Institute, University of Michigan, "The Computer Era in Education"; Dr. Frederick J. Moore, senior staff adviser for medical records systems, Advanced Systems Development Division, IBM, "The Computer and the Physician"; Dr. Ralph Stacy, professor of biomathematics, N. C. State College, "The Computer and the Biologist"; and Dr. Fred Brooks, Jr., chairman, Department of Information Sciences, University of North Carolina, "The Computer and the Information Sciences."

Also Dr. Eric Marler, associate in medicine and biochemistry, Duke, "The Computer and the Mind of Man"; Dr. Howard K. Thompson, associate in medicine, Duke, "Computer Facilities at Duke University"; Dr. Earle C. Fowler, professor of

## PDC Gets Breathing Space

In the seven years since PDC moved into the "'57 addition," its volume of business has more than doubled. This reflects both the more highly specialized quality of patient care and the burgeoning of health insurance. Many patients now have not one health insurance policy but several, and this has greatly increased the over-all business load. Space which seemed adequate when the 1957 addition was planned was outgrown almost at once.

Expansion into an adjacent light court has given both the Medical and Surgical Divisions of the Private Diagnostic Clinic much needed breathing space and elbow room. A necessary by-product of closing in the court was air-conditioning of the employees' dining room. In the planning stage two years, construction began in February and is now virtually complete. The new "breathing space" contributes to efficiency, comfort and morale.

The Surgical Division has used the light court to gain a net increase of nine examining rooms and extra storage closets. All examining rooms have been standardized so that any member of any surgical service can use any examining room and find it equipped for his needs. The new area, located away from the main hospital corridor, is quieter. The new examining rooms are grouped around a central hall equipped with desks for staff members. The central hall with beige walls and floor is brightened by tangerine upholstery on the desk chairs. The examining rooms have chairs in green, blue, beige or brown and built-in desks topped with formica to match the chairs. Each examining room has an intercom, an enunciator and an x-ray view box.

For the Medical Division the courtyard expansion with its 1700 square

feet of additional space (plus renovation of adjacent areas) provides more adequate administrative, secretarial and accounting space and relieves congestion throughout the business section, particularly in the patient-processing area.

A visitor to the expanded area is impressed with the attention to detail and ingenious utilization of existing advantages. The window wells in the old walls have been converted into storage closets. A microfilm reader and dictating machine are side by side, so notes can be dictated as the films are read. Similarly, copying machines, a calculator and automatic letter opener are adjacent to one another. New computer equipment is being installed in a special room adjacent to the large, well-lighted accounting area. Floor to ceiling carpeting of the walls in the computer room provides unique acoustical treatment. Individual lockers for personnel have been installed. An attractive coffee lounge which can accommodate six to eight persons is centrally located so personnel can be contacted readily if needed. On the lighter side, open the built-in cabinets and there—reminiscent of the barber shop of grandfather's day—are rows of coffee mugs, each with the name of its owner imprinted on it. An examining room which had been pressed into service for "coffee breaks" has been renovated and returned to its original use. In the office of the Business Manager it was possible to preserve one courtyard wall so the stone of the campus buildings has been brought indoors. The administrative and secretarial areas are decorated in soft greens, blues and Spanish gold.

Busy as they are, the girls welcome an opportunity to give you the deluxe tour.

physics, Duke, "The Computer and the Physicist"; Dr. Thomas Naylor, assistant professor, Department of

Economics and Business Administration, Duke, "The Computer and the Social Scientist."