

Hospital Services Counted

When the people in the hospital laundry say they're going to do the washing, they mean it in a big way.

Last year the laundry processed 4,003,861 pounds of laundry. That's more than five tons a day.

The dietetics department is another one whose annual production goes into seven figures. During the year, dietetics prepared and served 1,217,072 meals—more than 3,300 a day.

More than 1,500,000 laboratory procedures and 115,000 radiological procedures were performed.

The hospital staff—237 members of the medical staff, 416 residents and interns and more than 2,250 other employees—provided 221,868 days of care to approximately 22,400 patients during the year. The average length of stay per patient was 10.3 days.

Outpatients served totaled 246,702. They included 105,455 in the outpatient clinics; 123,091 in the private diagnostic clinics; and 18,156 in the emergency room.

Doctors performed 14,185 operations and delivered 1,674 babies.

Med Student Gets Award

A woman medical student now studying in Israel under a special research training fellowship has received another award in her absence.

Miss Linda Green, a third-year student from Falls Church, Va., was named by the Upjohn Company to receive one of its \$200 prizes for an essay discussing some social, cultural or economic aspect of health.

Miss Green's paper was titled "An Approach to Health Education in Poverty Areas." At Duke she is chairman of a student committee on community health and has participated in the Edgemont Project in Durham, a program in which physicians, medical students and other health personnel conduct a clinic for the indigent.

Nursery

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tricts which have a large number of deaf children.

Deaf children as individuals follow the normal range of personality types, but certain characteristic patterns are evident. Most deaf children are strongly assertive and aggressive. This behavior can partially be attributed to the frustration of a deaf child in trying to express himself.

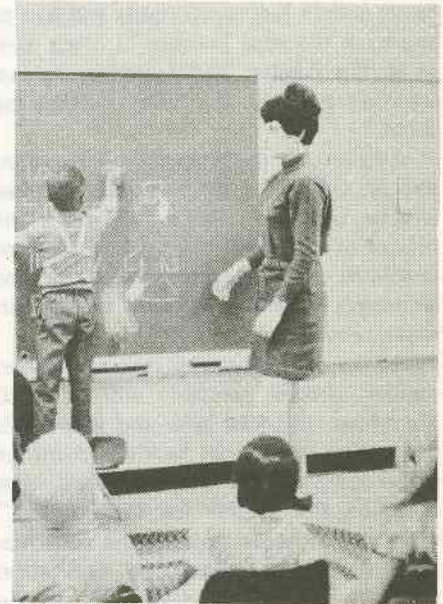
Parents of children enrolled in Duke's Acoustic Nursery feel that it is important to treat these youngsters as much like normal children as possible. "I want my child to do everything he is able to do on his own, to learn as much as he can about overcoming his handicap," one mother said.

Specialists at the nursery plan sessions for parents to explain the purposes of activities held in the nursery and to answer parents' questions concerning the problems of raising the deaf child. Discussions among parents permit exchange of ideas and attitudes.

Although deafness can have a variety of causes, nearly 30 per cent of the children seen at the Duke audiology section were born deaf because their mothers had German measles during the first three months of pregnancy. Other causes include meningitis, Rh factor and other hereditary problems.

At present there are 11 severely hearing handicapped children from Durham county and 19 children from other areas of the state are being seen at the acoustic nursery. One teacher for each six children is recommended for effective education.

"Most physicians are aware of the occurrence of hearing impairment and the importance of early identification,



GROUP LESSON—Students at the acoustic nursery learn the names of pieces of clothing during a structured lesson.

but they are sometimes more interested in the vital functions of the child," King said. Parents are apt to feel that a child who appears not to understand is just slow and seldom consider the possibility of hearing loss.

There is a growing awareness of the needs of hard of hearing and deaf persons in the United States today, King noted, but the problem of getting deaf youngsters diagnosed and into a training program soon enough to attempt to catch up with hearing children in language development remains crucial.

Intercomments and Professional News Reporters for March

Reporters contributing to the "Professional News" and "Intercomments" columns in this issue of *Intercom* include:

Sheila Blackley, allergy and chest; *Mrs. Nancy Lassiter*, anesthesiology; *Inez Wilson*, audiovisual education; *Hope Jones*, biochemistry; *Nina Waite*, business office; *Dorsay Jones*, cardiology; *Peggy Lloyd*, ENT and audiology; *Janey Ferguson*, graduate program in hospital administration; *Judith Auman*, immu-

nology; *Eileen Brown*, Matas ward; *Elizabeth Vickroy*, medical center library; *Connie Jenkins*, nephrology; *Elizabeth Burroughs*, nursing service; *Patti Drinard*, orthopaedic surgery; *Anne M. Weaver*, outpatient department; *Dot Efland*, P. D. C. annex; *Mrs. Gene Winders*, pathology; Third East; *Virginia Royster*, unit administration. *Virginia Jordan*, urology; *Mrs. Jonelle Gordon*, veterinary medicine.