

Letter

The following is an excerpt of a letter sent to Charles B. Wade, chairman of the Duke University Board of Trustees.

About Duke Hospital, I was really most impressed. The attitude of everybody from the orderlies to the top were most attentive and gave excellent service under trying conditions of today.

A Dr. Donald E. McCollum impressed me the most. He was my chief surgeon and really did an excellent job, I think, and it was a serious operation. He is also the kind of doctor that is able to communicate with the patient on a laymen's level which I think is most important.

Years ago I read a book *Tobacco Tycoon* about the life of Duke and most North Carolinians and throughout the South don't realize what Mr. Duke has really done for the common man.

I hope under your guidance as chairman of the Board of Trustees that this plan will continue. In my opinion he caused North Carolina, through Duke, to become the leading medical and educational state of our nation and I am very proud to be a part of it.

Of course this is just a layman's or common man's point of view, but I feel this way anyway.

Poetry

My Summer

The day after school is out
I will not sit and cry and pout
I'll don my pinafore of red and white
And go to Duke Hospital to candystripe.
To serve the doctors and technicians will be a joy
And one of the patients may be a boy!

Doris Anne Tilley



ROSES FOR MRS. STICHT—Mrs. Verna Sticht, who served as acting director for nursing service until July 1, is presented a bouquet of roses by Dr. William G. Anlyan, vice-president for health affairs, at a reception in her honor June 25. Mrs. Sticht also received a plaque from Dr. Anlyan, and a gift from the Duke Hospital Chorus. (photo by Dave Hooks)

Duke Clinical Chemistry Laboratory Lowers Its Charges 50 Per Cent

Duke University Medical Center's Clinical Chemistry Laboratory charges to patients have been lowered an average of 50 per cent, according to the laboratory's director, Dr. Robert L. Habig.

Clinical Chemistry at Duke completes some 500,000 chemical tests on blood serum, urine and other body fluids each year to aid physicians in diagnosis of disease.

These reductions, which were effective July 1, are possible because of recent installation of the SMA 12/60 and SMA 6/60 Auto Analyzers to mechanize 18 common medical tests.

The new automated equipment is more efficient, Habig said. More

test determinations can be completed in less time. Also various combinations of these tests can run more efficiently.

The SMA 12/60 will run tests for total protein, albumin, calcium, phosphorus, cholesterol, uric acid, creatinine, total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, CPK, LDH and SGOT at the rate of 60 specimens per hour.

The SMA 6/60 will do sugar, BUN, and electrolytes, also at 60 specimens per hour.

In addition to supplying these tests to inpatients, the lab will offer all 18 or a variety of combinations of them to Duke outpatients as requested by physicians.