



Duke University Medical Center Intercom

VOL. 25, NO. 12

MARCH 24, 1978

DURHAM, N.C.

New book discusses surgery on infants

By David Williamson

The evaluation, care and treatment of infants who require surgery is the subject of a new book just published by Appleton-Century-Crofts of New York.

The book, "The Surgical Neonate," was written by Dr. Howard C. Filston of Duke and Dr. Robert Izant Jr., of Case Western Reserve University's School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. Both are chiefs of pediatric surgery.

"Pediatric surgery is a young specialty with few fully trained surgeons and even fewer training programs," Filston wrote in his preface to the 266-page volume.

"Even in most major teaching centers in this country, the pediatric surgery service is staffed primarily by residents and interns from general surgery and pediatrics who rotate through for brief periods with little prior knowledge of the field."

Few of these young doctors have time



DR. FILSTON

to read extensively in the standard textbooks in the specialty, he pointed out. And previously written handbooks, which try to include too much information, lack needed practical details.

Filston said he and Izant have written what they believe is not a broad outline of the whole field of pediatric surgery, but rather a thorough introduction to the most important factors in diagnosing and managing the newborn who must undergo surgery.

It is intended as a rapid orientation to the subject for students, interns, residents and physicians who occasionally must treat such patients.



"PEDIATRIC SURGERY is a young specialty with few fully trained surgeons and even fewer training programs," according to Dr. Howard C. Filston, co-author of a new book on the subject. (Photo by Parker Herring)

Duke physicians cited as leaders

Town & Country magazine, in the second of a two-part directory of outstanding medical services and specialists in the country, cited five Duke physicians in its March issue.

In the February issue of the publication, the Duke Medical Center, the Comprehensive Cancer Center and seven physicians here were listed as among the best in the country (*Intercom*, March 3).

In the continuation of its directory in the current issue, the following Duke doctors were named among the leaders in their fields:

Dr. J. Leonard Goldner, hand surgery; Dr. Nicholas G. Georgiade, plastic surgery; Dr. Rebecca H. Buckley, allergies; Dr. Jerome M. Feldman, diabetes/hypoglycemia; and Dr. Charles B. Hammond, reproductive endocrinology.



NOW THE OTHER EYE—Eye Center nurses Patsy Starling (left) and Joanne Ritter, shown here with clinic patient Jonathan Frady of High Point, will serve on the faculty of "A Comprehensive Approach to Pediatric Eye Conditions." The workshop is one of three nursing inservice education opportunities planned for April. See page 3 for the story. (Photo by Parker Herring)

Computers make greased lightning seem slow as molasses

By Joe Sigler

In a flash. In the bat of an eye. As fast as greased lightning.

Those are expressions we've grown to use when we mean that something happens really fast.

Well, you can put those expressions away along with the cold molasses and the seven-year itch because greased lightning isn't even that fast compared with the picosecond.

Members of the Duke Management Club unfamiliar with the mammoth and minute worlds of computers were introduced to the picosecond (pronounced PEEK-o-second) at their March 9 dinner meeting by Dr. Louis Robinson, director of scientific computing in the Data Processing Division of IBM in White Plains, N.Y.

From tubes to chips

Robinson traced the development of computers through their generations from the use of tubes and transistors to

integrated circuits and silicon chips, but he said a more accurate way of dating computers is to look at how they are used.

Early computers, he explained, were called calculators and processors, and processing huge volumes of information became their role, even influencing their name identification to data processing equipment.

"But we've moved on from there," the former Syracuse University mathematics teacher said, "and are in an era now that I'd call the personalization of information processing. We in the industry are challenged to learn how to bring that information out to the individual."

Around the world in 24 minutes

As illustrations, he said "you start to see that happen everywhere you turn — (computer) terminals at airlines, hotels, off-track betting parlors, brokerage houses and department store check-out counters."

Forecasting the growth, Robinson said

there are several hundred thousand computers in the world today with about two million terminals connected to them. By 1982, he said, the number of terminals will grow to five million.

The computer industry, he said, "is an extraordinary kind of technology that enjoys every year a dramatic improvement in price performance," a compound rate of improvement that he said has been 23 per cent per year over the past 14 years.

If the airline industry had experienced the same kind of cost improvement ratio over the 14 years, he said a traveler could go around the world today in 24 minutes for \$43.

Mail-order computers

Further illustrating the change in computer hardware, Robinson referred to an earlier computer called ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator and Calculator).

"Today," he said, "you can buy a

computer more powerful than the ENIAC, 20 times faster, with seven times the memory capacity of the original

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