

Four Views of the Roanoke Rapids Hospital, where Local Employees' Health is Protected by Intelligent System

First started as a private institution August 1st, 1912, by Drs. H. C. Erwin, E. H. Atkins and T. W. M. Long. The Hospital Corps consisted of the above named doctors, a graduate nurse as Superintendent and two undergraduate nurses. The building held a very small operating room and twelve beds.

This hospital was acquired by the mills on April 1st, 1914, and used as such with the then existing staff of doctors and nurses until November 1st, 1918.

During the fall and winter of 1917 and 1918 it was found that a much larger building was necessary at once. The chief executives of the following business enterprises of the community: Roanoke Mills Company, Rosemary Manufacturing Company, Patterson Mills Company, Halifax Paper Corporation, Roanoke Fibre Board and The Roanoke Rapids Power Company met and made the present hospital available.



NURSES' HOME

The Roanoke Rapids Power Company donated one-half of the land, the balance being acquired by purchase from individuals who sold the land at what it had cost them. The remaining organizations agreed to being assessed fifteen dollars per room for every room in the tenements of their respective mill villages. The operatives of all the mills agreed to pay ten cents per week toward the running of the institution, with the assurance that the individual and his dependents would be entitled to free hospital treatment in case of illness. Contributions were received from several persons, both residents and non-residents of the community, to assist in carrying on the work of building and equipping the hospital.

The present hospital represents an investment of approximately \$100,000.00, and an additional investment of \$20,000.00 for a Nurse's Home.

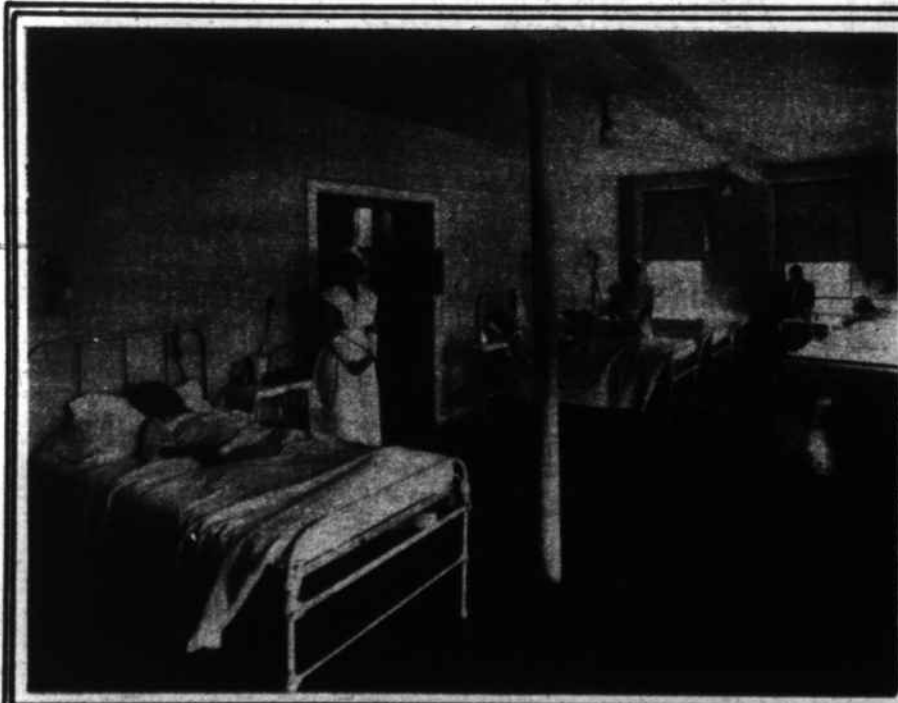


ROANOKE RAPIDS HOSPITAL

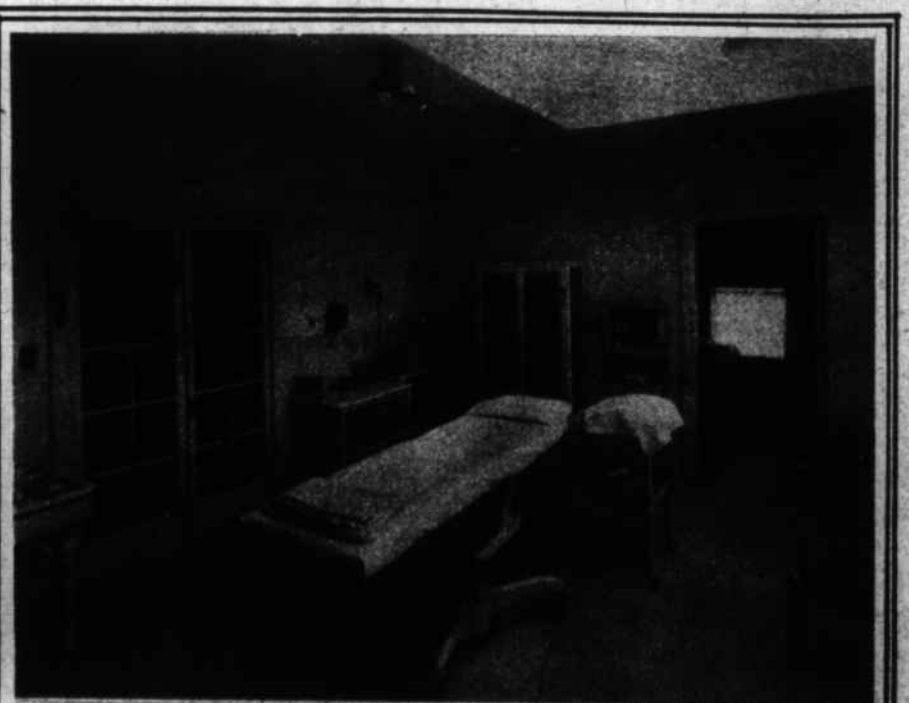
The staff consists of five doctors, Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent, Dietician, Laboratory Technician and eighteen undergraduate nurses. The building holds parlors, sun-parlors, offices, kitchens, etc., an up-to-date operating room, X-Ray room, ten private rooms, six wards—two women's wards, one men's ward, one children's ward, and a ward each for colored men and women—a total of fifty beds.

The hospital received during 1924 twelve hundred and forty admissions, of which nine hundred and fifty were surgical cases. Of the twelve hundred and forty cases there were only thirty-nine deaths, or 3.1 per cent. On the 25th of June, 1921, the employees of the vari-

ous industries of the community circulated a petition which was unanimously agreed to that they would give five cents additional weekly to purchase an X-Ray machine. This was accepted by the Board of Directors of the Hospital and the machine was installed. It was then found that this would be insufficient funds for the purchase and the industries of the community made up the deficit.



MEN'S WARD



OPERATING ROOM