

At Hospital Here

Average Patient Load Now Exceeds Capacity

By T. H. Pearce

When Franklin Memorial Hospital first opened its doors, some 12 years ago, there were a few persons around who were somewhat dubious about the county's need for, or ability to support a 50 bed hospital. These doubters have been proven wrong many times.

As is the case with most hospitals, the going was rough for the first few years, but its successful operation in recent ones has proved, many times over, the far sightedness of the men who were responsible for its existence.

A comparison of the average patient load for the month of February, during the past five years, should give ample support of the growing manner in which residents of this area have come to depend on it. During this period the daily patient load has more than doubled. In February of 1959, for example, the average number of patients was just 25. In 1960 it was up to 39, tapered off to 38 the following year, then in February of 1962 there were 46 patients. It wasn't until February of this year though that the saturation point was reached, even though it had been approached during about all of the year preceding. February of 1963 saw the average patient load hit 52, and don't forget this is a 50 bed hospital. Needless to say it was necessary for patients to be placed in the hall.

To say that the hospital is suffering from growing pains and badly in need of more patient space is putting it mildly. Had space been available there is no telling how many patients would have been on hand for treatment, as there is quite often a list of those waiting for beds to be admitted for needed medical or surgical treatment.

A number of improvements have recently been completed which, while doing much to increase efficiency of operation, will probably result in an even greater demand for patient space as a result of that very improvement.

One of the most important of these changes, and one completed only last week, was the installation of new X-Ray equipment, which will more than double the capacity of this department. This includes a power driven unit which provides for the making of all types of X-Rays with the least possible amount of inconvenience to the patient.

An expert radiologist is on hand three mornings a week to supervise the making of and to read the films. This is a far cry from a few years back when a doctor came in only once a week for this purpose.

In addition to the radiologist the hospital laboratory including the X-Ray facilities, now has five full-time employees, four technicians and a clerical assistant.

Also doubled in size in recent months was the hospital drug room, which is under the supervision of Mrs. Edith McKlane, Nursing Supervisor. Here the countless hundreds of different medications, so vital to the operation of the hospital, are kept so that an almost constant inventory can be made to see that the supply is kept up to date.

The Coffee Shop, operated by the Hospital Guild is the third department which has recently been moved into larger and more convenient quarters. With three full time employees the shop fills a vital need and is open daily from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. All profits from the Coffee Shop are used by the Guild to pay for needed hospital improvements.

Room for these three mentioned first floor expansions was made, for the most part, by consolidation of storage areas, but the limit now seems to have been reached. Practically every inch of space is being officially utilized. There is no place to put another emergency room, or an additional operating room, without mentioning facilities for more patients. These needs can be met



Hospital Pharmacy

Nurse (Mrs.) Frances Peterson is pictured in the new pharmacy or drug supply room at Franklin Memorial Hospital. -Times Photo

only by an addition to the building.

No mention should be made of Franklin Memorial Hospital without commenting on the fact that visiting doctors and State Health Department Employees have on numerous occasions stated that it is one of the cleanest and best kept hospitals in the entire state, from the spotless kitchen with its modern stainless steel equipment on the ground floor, to the most out-of-the-way storage closet.

Another point, which should be of interest to people, in the light of today's emphasis on obtaining industry is the fact that the hospital can be considered as quite an important industry.

From this angle it would be well to consider the fact that it gives employment to 72 persons, full time, and has an annual payroll of \$175,000. Just four years ago only 50 employees were on the payroll.

Bill Introduced

A bill introduced by Franklin County Rep. James Speed Monday night would repeal the maximum limit now set as payment for court appointed attorneys in Franklin.

Speed said that under a 1941 act, judges could award payment of no more than \$100 a case to attorneys appointed by the court to defend persons charged with capital crimes in Franklin.

He said a Statewide law has allowed attorneys appointed in such cases to receive payment in the discretion of the presiding judges and that his bill would put Franklin under this statute. Judges in Franklin have been following the Statewide law and not the local one in recent years, Speed said.



Patient In Hall

Patients in the corridor are the rule now rather than the exception as the hospital now con-

Saturday Night

Demos To Hear Eure

Upwards of some 250 or more of the Democratic Party faithful of Franklin County are expected to attend a \$5 a plate party fund raising affair here Saturday night to feast and hear North Carolina Secretary of State Thad Eure.

Representative James D. Speed, Chairman of the Franklin County Democratic Executive committee, which is sponsoring the county version of the \$50 a plate statewide Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner, announced that the popular "Sons of Fun" Quartet of Raleigh would also be on hand to furnish entertainment for the occasion.

The affair will get underway promptly at 6:30 p.m. at the Louisburg School Cafeteria.

Eure, who has served as Secretary of State since 1936, longer than any other Secretary of State in the nation, will make the keynote address.

Others on the program include Dr. Cary J. Perry, who will give the invocation, Charles Yarborough, President of the Franklin County YDC, and Times Editor A. F. Johnson, Jr., who will introduce the speaker.

Mrs. H. R. Chesson will provide music at her organ for the occasion and the drawing for delegates to the State Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner will also be held during the meeting. A capacity crowd attended the function here last year.

Pre-School Clinics Are Slated

The Franklin County Health Department this week announced Clinics for Pre-School children as follows:

Friday, March 15th.-Harris School-9:30 a.m.

Friday, March 22nd.-Youngsville High School (White)-9:30 a.m.

Monday, March 25th.-Edward Best Elementary School-9:30 a.m.

Friday, March 29th.-Bunn School-9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 3rd.-Perry's School-9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 5th.-Gold Sand School-9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 8th.-Louisburg School-9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 10th.-Epsom School-9:30 a.m.

Friday, April 19th.-Gethsemane School-9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 26th.-B. F. Person - Albion School - 9:00.

Monday, April 29th.-Franklin School-9:00 a.m.

Parents are requested to accompany their child.



Accepts Army Certificate

Clay McBride of Radio Station WYRN accepts the Army Recruiting Service's Certificate of Achievement from Captain Robert E. MacNeil as Sergeant Harvey P. Smith, Jr., (right) and Sergeant Theresa M. Cullen look on. (Army Photo by PFC Don G. Lewis)

Killer Dogs Reported

Franklin Dog Warden Tyree Lancaster has warned of the possibility of a pack of sheep-killing dogs in the Edward Best vicinity.

Lancaster reported that two dogs killed 3 sheep and cut throats of 6 others at C. T. Dean, Sr.'s Tuesday. Lancaster quoted Dean as saying he shot at the dogs, but they got away.

Army Commends WYRN

Radio Station WYRN, Louisburg, has been officially recognized for outstanding service to the U.S. Army Recruiting Service by the presentation of a Certificate of Achievement.

The presentation was made by Raleigh Recruiting Main Station Commander, Captain Robert E. MacNeil and was accepted by Clay McBride in behalf of WYRN.

Also present at the ceremony were local Army Recruiter Sergeant Harvey P. Smith, Jr. and local WAC Recruiter Sergeant Theresa M. Cullen.

Cancer Clinic

The cancer detection clinic for March will be held at the Franklin County Health Dept. Wednesday afternoon March 20 starting at 1 P.M. Anyone desiring an examination should call Miss Esther Andrews at Gy 6-3553 for an appointment. There is no charge.

Test Evacuation "Success"

Between 2,000 and 2,500 white and colored school children were evacuated from schools here in Louisburg Wednesday afternoon in a matter of minutes in a mock Civil Defense attack-alert exercise.

Civil Defense Director Robert M. Hicks said the evacuation took place in a total elapsed time of 11 minutes without so much as a single casualty - not even a scratch.

Hicks said that it would be some time before the results of the test could be fully evaluated, but that the test as a whole was very satisfactory. The one single and largest chance, he said, that the overall plan in case of a real test or a real attack-alert emergency will remain the same with the possibility of minor alterations.

Traffic poses the biggest problem at Louisburg School, where upwards of two hundred cars calling for students have to enter and leave via a single street. Hicks said that more study will be given this situation.

He indicated that his office would request the town to budget funds for additional warning equipment in the upcoming budget.

Hicks said that he wished to commend and thank local CD, Fire, Police, Rescue and State Highway Patrol personnel for taking part in the test as well as school officials, teachers, parents of students and the students themselves.



Test Evacuation Scene

In spite of the bumper-to-bumper traffic bottleneck in a above photo, Louisburg School authorities were able to completely evacuate the school in 11 minutes in Wednesday's test evacuation alert. -Times Photo.

Photo Policy

Our conversion to offset printing has necessitated a change in our Photographic policy.

Pictures furnished The Times for publication should be of the regular black & white glossy finish type, preferably 5 x 7 or 8 x 10. There will be no charge for society, wedding or other type photos deemed worthy of publication.

Polaroid prints are not generally of acceptable quality for reproduction and will not be accepted unless they meet minimum requirements.

Photo mats will not be accepted for publication.

Editor Will Not Seek Re-election

Louisburg City Councilman A. F. Johnson, Jr., announced today that he did not plan to seek re-election to the City Council this May to become the first member of the administration to announce his plans for the upcoming May 7 municipal election.

Johnson's announcement plus the fact that the town will elect 6 Councilmen and a Mayor this time, leaves vacant spots for three with the filing deadline still five weeks off. To date no one has filed either for the Council or Mayor, who will be elected separate from the Council this time.

The local newspaper editor, who is completing his second term on the Council, said that he is well pleased with the progress the town had made during his tenure on the Council. The man things I had hoped to see done that still remain, he said, are a better program of dirt street maintenance and making repairs to or some disposition of the Armory.

The Town has done about all it could with its present finances, he said. The current water-sewer project was the single largest need in Johnson's estimation and he pointed to accomplishments in zoning, city planning and urban renewal, all of which will come to mean a great deal to the town in years to come.

There will, however, he said, be large projects to face in years to come, fought on by the continued growth of the Town. Probably the next large one will be a switch over of the electrical distribution system at a cost of from \$200,000 to \$300,000. This, like the present water-sewer project is something that cannot be done piece-meal, he said, and will more than likely become absolutely mandatory within the next 3 to 5 years-its badly needed now.

Johnson viewed his experience on the Council the past 4 years as an educational experience. He said, as a privilege, a pleasure and my duty, and I feel certain that it will better enable me to serve our town and county through the newspaper in the years to come.

UNC Singers At College Here 20th

The University of North Carolina Folksingers will appear in concert in the Louisburg College auditorium Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m.

The four some, taking the name of the "Migrants" are like a score of other current folksinging trios and quartets which have originated on college campuses across the nation. Although mainly performing in the Capitol City area, they have already appeared on a number of radio and television shows in Durham and Chapel Hill.

The two-hour concert, sponsored by the Student Concert Committee, will consist of over thirty folksongs.

Tickets to the public will be available at the door.

HE SURE WILL
Justed: "My wife likes coffee for breakfast while I like tea."
Longwed: "You'll soon get used to coffee."