

Hospital Needs Aided By New School Of Medicine At UNC, Surgery Oldest Branch

Campaign Launched In 1945 To Improve Health Standards Throughout State

By DR. HENRY T. CLARK, JR. Administrator, Division of Health Affairs

Back in 1944 a distinguished group of 50 representative North Carolinians was asked by Governor Broughton to study the health needs of the state and to recommend a program to meet these needs. The results of the study startled most citizens.

By many of the yardsticks which can be used to measure comparative health standards, e. g., physicians per 1,000 population, per cent of draftees rejected because of physical defects, infant and maternal mortality rates, hospital beds per 1,000 population, etc., North Carolina ranked very poorly as a state.

A brilliant action program was charted under the battle-cry of "More Doctors, More Hospitals, More Insurance."

The campaign for improved health standards was carried to the people of the state in 1945 and 1946. As one consequence, the general assemblies of 1947, 1949 and 1951 made significant appropriations for new health facilities and services.

Since 1946, in the field of "More Hospitals," North Carolina ranks second in the country in new hospital beds which have been built or are presently under construction. Many of the past needs for health facilities are being filled.

Much Progress
Considerable progress has been made since 1946 in the field of medical economics, also with Blue Cross and Blue Shield enrollments having expanded markedly and many local governmental agencies having assumed a greater responsibility for the care of indigent patients. Major problems of financing health care have yet to be overcome, however.

In the field of "More Doctors" (or, more accurately, of more health personnel) it was proposed in the 1944 report that a complete health training center be develop-

ed at the University of North Carolina by converting the existing two-year School of Medicine to a full four-year program, by activating a new teaching hospital and new Schools of Dentistry and Nursing, and by strengthening the long-established Schools of Pharmacy and Public Health.

Continuing Agency
It was further recommended by the 1944 committee that the University Health Center become a continuing agency to evaluate the health needs of the people of the state and to coordinate the effort toward meeting those needs.

In 1947, planning was started for the expansion of health facilities of the University. In October, 1949, construction was begun on the first new major unit, the North Carolina Memorial Hospital. Other construction was started in the months that followed. New staffs have been assembled and these are being expanded. New curricula have been and are being planned and new teaching programs started.

The tooling-up phase of the basic components of the enlarged Health Center is nearly complete.

The following is a brief summary of the current picture in the Division of Health Affairs at the University of North Carolina:

411-Bed Hospital
Construction on the 411-bed North Carolina Memorial Hospital was essentially completed by the early fall of 1952 and the Hospital accepted its first patient last September 2. At present, some 122 beds plus complete laboratory and out-patient facilities are in operation to serve patients referred from all parts of North Carolina with a wide variety of complex medical problems. Over 6,000 such patients have already been served during this beginning operation period of the Hospital. An excellent basic hospital service staff has been assembled and this is being expanded as the days go by to provide for an orderly activation of a complex teaching and service facility. An 80-bed psychiatric wing, which will contain one floor for alcoholic patients, is under construction. It is

currently expected that this wing will be ready to accept patients during the summer of 1954. Construction on a 100-bed tuberculosis unit, a new facility of the North Carolina Sanatorium system, has reached an advanced stage. This unit started receiving patients in the late summer of 1953.

Expanded Medical Staff
The School of Medicine rapidly expanded its clinical staff during the past year and started its first class of third-year students in the fall of 1952. The first class of students from this expanded program will be graduated in June, 1954. A "north wing" to the School of Medicine building, which provides enlarged facilities for three basic science departments, was completed and put into use in the fall of 1952. A similar "south wing" is now in use. A training program for laboratory technicians by the School of Medicine began in September, 1953.

The new School of Dentistry building, which was begun in May, 1951, was essentially completed by September, 1952. It was immediately put into use as a clinical facility for the training of dental students. The first class of dentists will be graduated from this school in June, 1954. Already, many low-income patients from all parts of North Carolina have been given service in the dental clinics. A new program for training dental hygienists was activated in September, 1953.

School of Nursing
The new School of Nursing building and dormitories were completed during the fall of 1952 and are occupied by two classes of student nurses. The first of these classes will be graduated for service in North Carolina in June, 1955. Plans are now being drawn for the activation of a training program for practical nurses and the inauguration of a master's degree program for graduate nurses.

The Schools of Public Health and Pharmacy are carrying forward their normal programs. As an indication of their vigor, however, the School of Public Health added a twelfth department, the Department of Mental Health, during

Retailers Like Packaging With Olin Cellophane, Booth Popular

A store-level pre-packaging technique of particular importance in soft goods merchandising, which was first worked out and tested in conjunction with L. Bamberger & Co., of Newark, N. J., by Olin Cellophane, was unveiled for the National Retail Drygoods association meeting in New York last week.

Viewers at the Olin Cellophane booth saw a demonstration of the basic technique which has been in actual operation at the Newark store for a year. A bag-making ma-

chine turned out cellophane bags in seven different bag widths to accommodate department store merchandise suitable for cellophane wrapping. A clerk at a counter inserted goods in the bags and deftly sealed and labeled each bag.

Featured in the exhibit was a display of cellophane-polyethylene-packaged items — each one em-

bodying a fresh idea in the merchandising of multiple, related or gift items.

"Each item illustrates one of the most exciting opportunities which has come up in the department store field in many years," said Charles Pfeifer, Olin Cellophane's New York-New England sales manager who developed the

technique used at Bamberger's. "For years department stores looked for a way to use cellophane to combat losses due to soilage markdowns. The Olin Cellophane technique has not only accomplished this superbly but it has opened an entirely new concept in increasing sales through multiple packaging and in ensemble combinations."

Scrubbing Hands Important Job At Local Hospital

Even washing hands is important when it is part of the preparation for an operation.

Doctors and nurses scrub their hands and wrists to the elbows 10 minutes with a brush and antiseptic soap, and then rinse in alcohol, and dry them with a sterile towel that has been kept in a sealed package. Finally they put on rubber surgical gloves.

During all this scrubbing it would not be sanitary for the doctors and nurses to regulate the flow of water with ordinary hand faucets. Water is controlled by a lever that is operated by the knee. Temperature of the water is determined by knee pressure: the greater the pressure the hotter the water. They also don a surgical mask before starting to wash and wear a cotton scrub suit under their uniform.

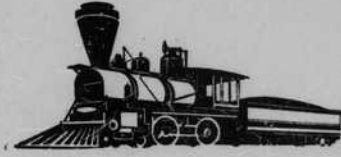
Everyone is familiar with movie scenes in which nurses are seen helping the doctors into their white operating gowns. But such scenes, if ever, show the nurses getting dressed; they help each other.

Such preparations for operations are taken for granted and infection nowadays is simply not heard of.

the past year, and the School of Pharmacy awarded its first Ph. D. degree at the last University's commencement. Both of these schools are urgently in need of better housing in order to serve the people of this state more effectively.

Although this main tooling-up phase of the Division of Health Affairs is approaching an end, there is an enormous job ahead of expanding facilities, of maintaining sound financing and of carrying forward excellent teaching, research, and service programs. There is an equally large task ahead of making available the benefits of this Health Center to the communities and rural areas of the state. The future health of North Carolina is our job, however, and the size of the task seems less when compared with the size of the opportunity.

NO TURNING BACK



when man's ingenuity and his conscience (that force which urges him to seek the

good, the true and the beautiful) unite in action, achievement results . . . and whether or not all men agree on what is good, true, beautiful, there is no mistaking progress when it



can be measured in terms of human welfare . . .

thus are hospitals conceived, built, staffed, operated . . .

thus their services are brought within the reach of everyone through blue cross—blue shield . . . thus we grow toward practise of a realistic brotherhood which



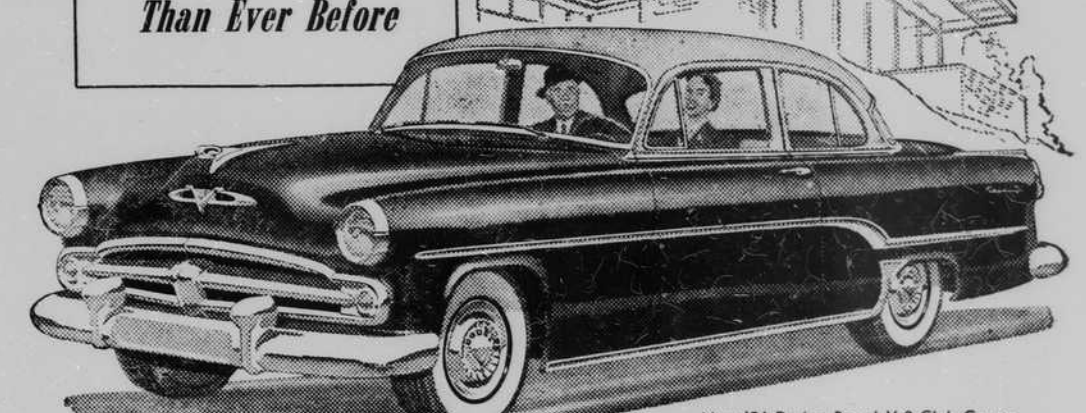
understands that a benefit to one is a benefit to all . . . thus we go forward on the road from which we can no more turn back than we can retreat to the modes of life our ancestors lived . . .



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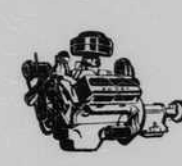


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