



# The Willis-Knighton Story

*... People Caring For People*



*Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital 50th Anniversary*

Supplement to The Shreveport Times, Sunday, Dec. 14, 1975



Architect's concept of Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital's expanded facilities

## Willis-Knighton Announces \$12 Million Expansion

Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital officially announced a \$12 million expansion program during an evening banquet at the Shreveport Country Club on Nov. 24.

Rep. Joe Waggoner Jr. was the featured speaker for the banquet which was held in conjunction with the hospital's 50th anniversary.

According to hospital president James K. Elrod, the construction and renovation project will increase the hospital's bed capacity to 426. Bids were advertised late last month.

Included in the new construction will be a 24-bed radially designed coronary and intensive care unit and an emergency department which will accommodate about 3,000 emergency cases per month. There also will be an independent outpatient surgical complex with three operating rooms and patient recovery rooms.

The construction will be highlighted by a new "critical care core concept utilizing a radial design," Elrod pointed out.

According to Elrod, this arrangement will allow the physician instant access to any of the vital service areas, providing optimum use of available space to improve the quality of acute

care.

Elrod said plans also call for a landscaped mall on Virginia Avenue which will connect the hospital with the physician office facilities and extended care nursing home across the street. The mall will house a cafeteria and auditorium which will be situated in the center.

It will have a canopy overhead which will provide weather-protected passage ways across the street. The architectural plans reveal that the boulevard will be landscaped and beautified.

The hospital has received approval from the Shreveport City Council to close Virginia Avenue between Greenwood Road and Bessie Street for the conversion of the divided boulevard into the mall.

Guests attending Monday night's banquet premiered a new sound color film produced specifically for the 50th anniversary celebration. Entitled "The Willis-Knighton Story: People Caring for People," the 15-minute film presented the historic past 50 years of the hospital's service, the current program and

the projected future plans.

Other 50-year anniversary activities included a Dec. 2 alumni meeting of nurses who graduated from the Tri-State School of Nursing which closed in 1950 when the hospital began an affiliation with Northwestern State University for nurses training.

There was a reception for physicians and other medical staff members on the afternoon of Dec. 2 during which time there was a continual showing of the hospital's new film.

During the banquet five doctors were honored for 50 years of service to the institution and a number of other people were recognized for their contributions to the hospital.

In addition to the address by Congressman Waggoner, Lee Brown, president of the Louisiana Hospital Association from New Orleans brought greetings and congratulations from the association and Mayor Calhoun Allen appeared on behalf of the City of Shreveport.

Elrod said construction of the new building which will house the critical care unit will be completed in about two years but that the entire expansion program will take four years.

## James K. Elrod To Assume Presidency Of LHA In 1976

James K. Elrod, president of Willis-Knighton, will assume the presidency of the Louisiana Hospital Association during the annual meeting in New Orleans



JAMES K. ELROD

in February.

The 38-year-old Elrod came to Willis-Knighton 10 years ago after serving on the administrative staff of the Mississippi Baptist Hospital in Jackson, Miss. He is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Tex. and holds the master of hospital administration degree from the School of Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., where he graduated in 1964 after a year's residency at Mississippi Baptist Hospital.

Elrod serves as a special lecturer on the faculty of LSU Shreveport in the area of health care administration. He is the vice president of the Northwest Louisiana Area-wide Health Planning Council and is on the board of directors of the March of Dimes. He also is a member of the Advisory Council of the Northwestern University College of Nursing. He is a member of the American College of Hospital Administrators and is a member of the board of trustees of the Louisiana Hospital Association.

He formerly served as president of the Health Careers Council and as a member of the

board of directors of the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Through the Air Force ROTC Elrod received an officer's commission in the United States Air Force and served in Japan for three years.

He and his wife Janet — a native of Shreveport — have three children, Kelly, 13, Kerl, eight, and Kendall, four.

### 50th Anniversary Observed By Willis-Knighton Hospital

This supplement to the Shreveport Times is presented by friends of Willis-Knighton on the institution's 50th anniversary.

The supplement was written and edited by Times newsman Bill Keith with photographic art and writing assistance from Bob Reeder, Jim Huckaby and Ann Dement.

The color photo on the front page is a typical scene at Willis-Knighton, an institution devoted to patient care.

### CAT Unit To Diagnose Brain Disorders

A new technique for diagnosis by x-ray of brain disorders soon may be available at Willis-Knighton.

Hospital representatives recently appeared before a hearing by a review committee of the Northwest Louisiana Area-wide Health Planning Council to request a unit known as Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT). The unit is expected to cost approximately \$400,000.

According to hospital officials, the CAT unit scans the body area in question through the use of x-

rays. The x-rays are taken from numerous angles, mathematically combined by computer and converted into 3-dimensional images representing the body structure in question.

The particular unit being considered by Willis-Knighton is made by EMI-tronics of England and a hospital spokesman said that "it has the greatest operational experience of the available units on the market."

One of the advantages of CAT is that it will lead to greater accuracy in diagnosis and treatment of brain disorders because of the 3-dimensional

view of brain tissue and other body structures. It makes over 43,000 x-ray readings of a patient's brain to diagnose diseased tissue, all in a few minutes.

Another advantage of the axial tomography unit is its non-invasive nature. Non-invasive refers to the fact that the body does not have to be entered or invaded either by surgery or the injection of dyes for the diagnosis.

The procedure involves no discomfort or risk to the patient and is one that can be done on an out-patient basis.

### New Diagnostic, Surgical Section Unique Concept

A new Diagnostic and Surgical Building of Willis-Knighton, located directly across the street from the main building, provides office space for 40 physicians. Construction cost was \$1.3 million.

Enccompassing 70,000 square feet of space, its construction constitutes a new concept in providing office space for the medical profession.

Five stories high, the building houses centralized laboratory, radiology and pharmacy facilities.

Among the doctors occupying the building are orthopedic surgeons, urologists, dermatologists, internists, general surgeons, obstetricians, ophthalmologists, oral surgeons, pathologists, a cardiovascular surgeon and a neurologist. About 60 persons are employed in the building.

The individual physicians who purchase the offices are responsible for all furnishings and have chosen interior designs ranging from old English to space-age contemporary.

About 150 additional parking spaces were included in construction of the building which has a semi-circular drive at the entrance. A scenic garden walkway is located in the building's lobby.

# Willis-Knighton's Predecessor First Opened Doors In 1925

Back in 1925 when the hospital—then known as the Tri-State Sanitarium—first opened its doors, Shreveport's population was only 67,996 but was becoming a booming industrial town.

The city was noted for its glass manufacturing industry and already was known for its rich oil and gas fields. Agriculture and lumber also were enviable natural resources.

Mayor I.E. Thomas was serving his second term in office and was working on the incorporation of Cedar Grove and the annexation of 20 square miles within the city limits.

"Hello World, Doggone Ya" rang through the air for the first time as KWKH Radio introduced Shreveporters to the wonderful world of radio.

On Thanksgiving of that year an important event occurred. Two prominent Shreveport physicians, Dr. L.H. Perkle and Dr. T.E. Williams, founded what today is Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital.

From 1929 to 1949 the privately-owned institution operated under the leadership of Dr. J.C. Willis and Dr. J.E. Knighton and continued to be known as the Tri-State Sanitarium.

In 1949 the hospital became a not-for-profit institution known as the Shreveport Hospital and Research Center. In 1951 once again the name was changed, this time to Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital in honor of Doctors Willis and Knighton.

Although in the early days the hospital aimed at treating oil field employes, railroad and glass plant

workers in West Shreveport and East Texas, it soon developed into a recognized medical center.

In the last decade the hospital has grown from 80 beds to a 455-bed complex providing both acute and custodial care.

Today the medical center employs about 1,800 persons in technical, medical, administrative and supportive medical services, with more than 600 employed by the hospital alone.

The not-for-profit facility is governed by a board of trustees with representatives from various sectors of the community. The hospital president is charged with implementing board policies and coordinating all facilities within the total complex.

Doctors Perkle, Williams, Willis and Knighton established the hospital with

high professional standards which contributed to the growth of the institution. The hospital always has been fully accredited by the highest national authority in the evaluation of hospital standards, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

The hospital was first in three major surgical procedures in the Ark-La-Tex. Implantation of the first atomic pacemaker and the first intraocular lens, and the first ultrasound method of cataract removal were performed at Willis-Knighton. Procedures in the surgery department have increased from 1,954 to 7,090 during the past 10 years.

Today the hospital is served by 191 physicians and has one of the youngest medical staffs in the city. The average age of staff physicians is 37.



Assisted by Helen Wood, CORT, skilled surgeons perform a delicate surgical procedure in top photograph. In the center picture, photographer Bob Reeder captures the drama of the removal of a cataract from a patient's eye, and in the bottom picture, the same surgical team once again undertakes a critical procedure.

## Willis-Knighton Has Fully Automated RIA

A \$100,000 nuclear energy laboratory, the first fully automated radio immunoassay (RIA) lab to be installed in a private hospital in the United States is in use at Willis-Knighton.

Operated by Dr. Walter Snow, chief of radiology and Dr. Sam Maxey, chief of pathology, the system is capable of running 720 diagnostic tests at the same time.

According to Dr. Maxey, the primary advantage of RIA as compared to other laboratory machines is that the tests are more specific and more accurate than conventional chemical tests.

RIA is also faster than other systems, Dr. Maxey said. The normal test time for a vitamin B-12 test is 24 hours but with the RIA the test can be cut to three hours, he added.

Dr. Snow said the RIA system is capable of detecting substances in the picogram range (one trillionth of a gram).

"If you had two football fields filled with 10 feet of water each and dropped one drop of any other substance in the water, the RIA would pick it up," Dr. Snow explained.

According to James K. Elrod, hospital president, "Previously, radioimmunoassay tests for many things such as hormone studies, tumor detection, drug circulation levels, allergies and other sophisticated procedures had to be sent to California for proper processing. Now we can provide the services within the hospital."

Elrod also pointed out that the uniqueness of the RIA system is the computer's ability to allow for a number of variables in its computation and analyses, providing extremely accurate and consistent results in a short period of time.

Willis-Knighton also will make the RIA services available to sister hospitals in the Shreveport-Bossier City area.



Laboratory technologist Peggy Maricelli reads the computer printout from the radio immunoassay laboratory at Willis-Knighton, the first to be installed in a private hospital in the United States.

## Hospital Joins Group Purchasing Plan

Willis-Knighton has announced that they have joined a group purchasing program in an effort to purchase supplies and equipment at the lowest possible prices. The group program is offered by the Hospital Bureau, Inc., a nonprofit organization with headquarters in Pleasantville, N.Y.

According to staff services director Stan Williamson, the great advantage of the group purchasing program is purchasing power.

The organization, which involves about 1,000 hospitals, receives large discounts through volume purchasing," said Williamson who recently attended the group's orientation

meeting in Lake Charles.

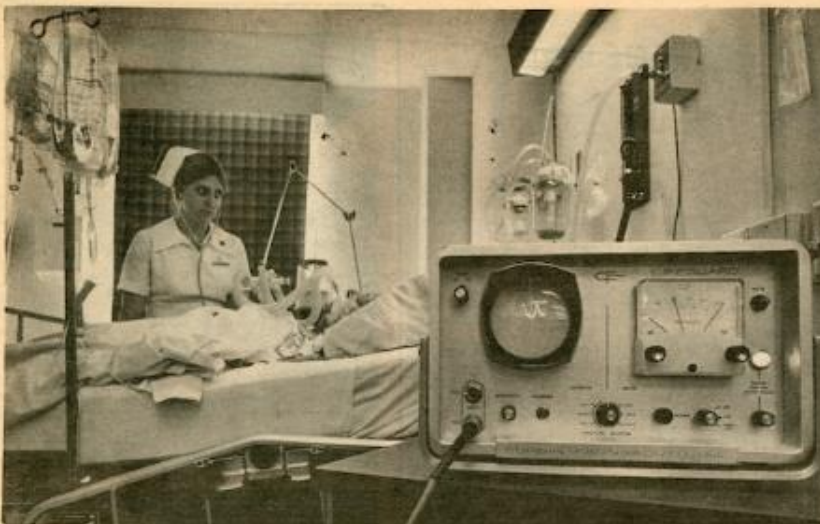
"They spend a lot of time researching the products from the producers with whom they have contacts," Williamson said. "Through their research they find out what's new on the market."

Williamson pointed out that historically hospitals have

relied on the manufacturers' evaluation of their own products.

He estimated that participation in the program will lead to a savings from between eight to 16 per cent for the hospital.

Willis-Knighton and Shriners' Hospital are two Shreveport hospitals participating in the program.



Willis-Knighton's Coronary Care Unit has 12 specially-trained nurses who assist in providing acute care to heart attack victims. Pictured is Mrs. Anthevise Hite, RN, who observes the heart monitor which detects any serious complications.

## Coronary Care Section One Of Finest In Area

The highly sophisticated Coronary Care Unit at Willis-Knighton is one of the finest in the Ark-La-Tex area with 12 specially trained CCU nurses providing acute care to heart attack victims.

The unit is staffed by nurses trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, heart disease, heart testing procedures, and bed monitoring.

When a heart attack victim arrives at Willis-Knighton, he is immediately transferred to CCU. Nurses attach the heart monitor to the patient to be aware of any further serious complications. Usually something is given the patient for pain and most importantly, a lot of psychological support is given the patient.

After the patient is settled in CCU, nurses begin tests procedures such as EKG and blood work. If serious complications develop, they are treated immediately. Physicians are in constant contact with CCU nurses and are available 24-hours a day for any emergency situation.

Patients in CCU usually stay five days or until their vital signs stabilize. The heart beat pattern must be stable, and there must be no pain or congestion before the patient is allowed to go to regular hospital room.

The heart patient is transferred to Willis-Knighton's 4th floor for his next step in coronary care. This "progressive care" is handled by special nurses who are responsible for close monitoring of the patient, offering psychological support and education on how his diet and exercise should be arranged. At times do nurses or medical personnel discourage the heart patient or imply he cannot return to his normal active life. Although sometimes a heart patient must modify his lifestyle, all indications are given that he will not be an invalid or unable to perform as a normal person.

On the 4th floor, the heart patient is in a room near the nurses station so that the nurses can frequently look-in on the patient. Patients feel more secure knowing a nurse is near. The patients also can be monitored from these rooms by CCU who nurses can spot any irregularities.

After moving from CCU to a private room, the patient's hospital stay ranges from two to three weeks. This period of time is spent counseling the patient and his family on what to expect and what should be done in progressive recovery. At Willis-Knighton, heart patients often are counseled by persons whose own family members have been victims of heart attacks.

Inez Kernick, CCU supervisor, says Willis-Knighton's CCU has been in operation since 1966 and maintains an average census of five patients. "At Willis-Knighton we are able to provide personal service to patients and their families. This means a lot," Mrs. Kernick said.

## Staff-Administration Relationship 'Good'

Physicians at Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital are proud to be a part of the hospital organization because it offers a "progressive medical environment" cognizant of the

### Willis-Knighton Has Young Staff

Willis-Knighton is served by 191 staff physicians with one of the youngest medical staffs of any hospital in the state. The average age of Willis-Knighton's physicians is 37.

The young medical staff has greatly enhanced the aggressive medical advancements of the hospital. New physicians, who have joined the staff in the past three years, note their association with Willis-Knighton was because of the aggressive hospital administration, the growth of west and south Shreveport and the opportunity to practice in a progressive medical environment.

Physicians are attracted to Shreveport because of the location of Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport and the opportunity to remain in an academic environment to keep abreast of the latest in medical accomplishments. However, the majority of the physicians polled on "why Willis-Knighton" responded "it serves the growing portion of Shreveport, and the administration supports us and the high quality of medicine."

The young physicians point out that this hospital was founded by other physicians, many who have seen it grow through the years and who still practice at the hospital. "Although Willis-Knighton is a place where we have common interests and goals as young physicians, we also have the great advantage of having the finest examples in the city of good physicians," said one new staff doctor.

community's medical needs, according to Dr. S. Bewell Combs, chief of the hospital's medical staff.

Willis-Knighton has a good staff-administration relationship unique to other medical communities, said Dr. Combs. "Willis-Knighton is different from any other hospital I have ever seen with a good staff relationship between doctors and hospital personnel. Everybody makes an extra effort to get along and work together for the betterment of the hospital and the quality of health care."

Unlike some medical communities who let petty jealousies get in the way of a days work, Combs explained, "We work with and for each other."

Another plus that the staff physicians like is the location of the hospital. Located at 3600 Greenwood Road and at the intersection of Hearse Avenue

and Greenwood Road, Willis-Knighton is in the center of activity in West Shreveport," Combs said.

"Most of all, I think the attitude of the entire hospital staff is the important factor at Willis-Knighton. We have a group of hard-working, aggressive physicians who put medicine before themselves. We attempt to wisely plan the medical

direction and services of the hospital and we have a strong administration pulling in that same direction," said Combs.

Although Combs admitted that everybody does not agree on everything 100 per cent of the time, he added, "We all may have our professional differences but they never stand in the way of getting along with each other."

## Hospital Offers Health Care In Ophthalmology

One of the most innovative and progressive areas of health care at Willis-Knighton is ophthalmology—two young ophthalmologists began practice at the hospital within the past five years.

Dr. William Steen and Dr.

Donald Hall completed the first lens implantation in the city of Shreveport in March 1975. This highly sophisticated and technical surgical procedure was performed with the use of costly microscopic equipment.

Steen, who first decided to come to Willis-Knighton to practice, was enticed to the area by the location of Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport and the opportunities Shreveport offered as a booming medical community moving from New Orleans to Shreveport. Steen chose Willis-Knighton because it had no practicing ophthalmologist and because of the receptive administrative spirit on the hospital.

Steen said the hospital administration "was willing to get the equipment to do super ophthalmology." Willis-Knighton purchased an operating microscope at cost of \$10,000. It also purchased special ophthalmology instruments for \$15,000; the first laser unit in the City of Shreveport for \$35,000; the first cataract suction machine in the city for \$30,000; and has continued to upgrade equipment and instruments for operation by staff ophthalmologists.



Ophthalmologist uses microscopic equipment to perform a highly-sophisticated and technical surgical procedure on a patient's eye. Betty Walker, COA assists. A team of Willis-Knighton surgeons recently completed the first lens implantations.

## Howell Chapel Offers Patients Spiritual Care

Howell Chapel, located near the main hospital entrance, offers spiritual care for the patients at Willis-Knighton.

Named in honor of the late Dr. James A. Howell, the chapel was financed entirely by contributions from a host of friends.

At the time of his death in 1959, Dr. Howell was a partner in Willis-Knighton Clinic, president of the hospital medical staff, chief of the department of medicine, and director of the intensive care unit, the first to be established in the Ark-La-Tex.

An oil portrait of Dr. Howell hangs in the chapel, which seats 24 and is non-denominational in concept.

Architectural style is contemporary giving the chapel a quiet dignity as provided by the inner design. The walls are built of Flemish bond brick and stone and the windows are stained in abstract designs. The furniture is made of Appalachian oak.

Besides offering a place for prayer or meditation for patients and visitors the chapel also is available for use by staff and employes for special services throughout the year as well as by religious groups of all denominations.



A student nurse observes a surgical procedure as part of her training through the medical education program at Willis-Knighton.

## Willis-Knighton Offers Expanded Programs In Medical Education

Medical education programs at Willis-Knighton are nothing new for it was the first hospital to offer training for intensive care nurses and trained ICU nurses for hospitals throughout this area.

Today it continues to offer expanded educational opportunities with more than 65 student nurses and physicians utilizing the hospital daily in their studies.

Mrs. Opal Wimberly, director of in-service education, said student nurses from Northwestern State University College of Nursing, Kilgore College School of Nursing, the Shreveport-Bossier Vocational Training Center, and the Caddo Career organization train at Willis-Knighton.

There are two degree programs of Northwestern State University College of Nursing—

a two year Associate Degree (AD) program and a four year Bachelor of Science degree (BS) program, both of which are taught at Willis-Knighton. Instructors from NSU supervise the trainees.

Another college which trains nurses at Willis-Knighton is Kilgore College of Nursing, Kilgore, Tex. Students utilize the hospital for training in pediatrics and surgery.

Willis-Knighton recently became associated with Shreveport's Louisiana State University School of Medicine and participates in the training of physicians in the field of Family Medicine. Willis-Knighton had one of its buildings, which previously had been utilized as office space for physicians, moved to a location on Portland Ave. for use by the medical school. The building now operates as part of the

medical school and is called the Family Practice Center.

Family medicine resident physicians rotate in-service at Willis-Knighton to acquaint themselves with the varied fields of hospital service. Staff physicians of the hospital, who are also on the teaching staff of the medical school, assist with the teaching of these physicians.

Mrs. Wimberly conducts an extensive in-service education program within the hospital for nurses aides, orderlies, and ward clerks. Staff nurses are encouraged to attend various meetings and seminars to keep themselves and the hospital abreast of advancements in nursing.

The Shreveport-Bossier Vocational Training Center trains students studying for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN). These students complete classroom requirements at the

Center and fulfill their practical studies at the hospital.

The Caddo Career Center is an organization in which high school students work half-a-day at the hospital. According to hospital officials, this on-the-job experience provides invaluable training to high school students who are interested in health-care professions.

Also utilizing the teaching environment for medical training is the 114th Medical Evacuation Hospital, Army Reserve Corp. One weekend a month, approximately 20 members of the local Army Reserve Unit work in all areas of the hospital, from the emergency room to the intensive care unit. The reservists are medical corpsmen and nurses who maintain other jobs but attend monthly reserve meetings to fulfill military obligations.

## Hospital's Renal Dialysis Unit Part Of International Network

Willis-Knighton's renal dialysis unit, which treats patients with chronic kidney failure, recently became a member of an international network which assists dialysis patients throughout the world in planning vacations or essential travel.

Sponsored by the National Renal Dialysis Association, the local unit will provide lifesaving kidney functions to persons traveling through Shreveport.

A kidney dialysis unit is an artificial means for filtering blood when a person's kidneys no longer are able to perform the function. According to Hazel Clements, a nurse working with the unit, Travenol dialyzers are used to purify the patient's blood from an artery and then puts it through a coil which purifies it through osmosis and returns it through the venous

side of the circulatory system. Through the network, persons who require the services of a renal dialysis unit can contact the national association for information on the location of such units across the country, including Shreveport.

Hazel Delude, another nurse assigned to the unit, said, "People call us from all over the United States and Canada asking if we can dialyze a patient."

In operation since 1970, the unit has six artificial Travenol kidney machines which operate 16 hours a day, six days a week. Six staff members work with the unit under the supervision of several doctors. They provide continuous monitoring of the patients receiving the kidney treatment.

Hospital president James K. Elrod said, "When our board of directors approved the in-

situation of a renal dialysis unit, it was specified that the patient's financial condition would not be a factor in providing this lifesaving service." Each treatment costs about \$150, but the hospital provides the service free to people unable to pay.

The unit currently has 22 regular patients plus transient patients.

Willis-Knighton is the only hospital in Shreveport participating in the network which includes hospitals in all 50 states and a number of foreign countries.

According to Mrs. Clements, people who have used the hospital's unit have come from Oklahoma, Mississippi, Kansas, California, Illinois, Alabama, Michigan, Missouri, Washington, D.C. and Ohio. One of the patients was a football coach and another a judge.



Dialysis technician Beatrice Haynes of Willis-Knighton talks with patient Dale Carpenter while he receives treatment for chronic kidney failure.

## New Concept In Emergency Care Introduced At Hospital

A new concept in hospital emergency care has been introduced at Willis-Knighton.

Included in the new emergency medicine system is a method for monitoring the patient's vital signs while en route to the hospital and 24-hour service of emergency room physicians. This is the first program of its type in North Louisiana.

As part of the program, four physicians have been employed by the hospital. They are specially trained in treating trauma cases and will be available 24-hours a day.

According to hospital president James K. Elrod, special vital-signs monitoring equipment is to be installed in the vehicles operated by the local ambulance service and will be fed into the emergency room.

"When an ambulance arrives on the scene of an accident or other traumatic incident, immediate radio contact can be made with the physician while en route to the hospital by special radio telemetry," Elrod said.

The equipment in the ambulance will be designed to indicate vital signs—heart beat and blood pressure—and the emergency room physicians can call other area hospitals and advise on the patient's condition, in case the ambulance is en route to another hospital other than Willis-Knighton.

Elrod pointed out that the new system will cost the hospital \$300,000 to \$350,000 annually and that it has the complete en-

dorsement of the hospital's medical staff.

Similar emergency medicine programs have been instituted in Alexandria and Baton Rouge and have been very successful, Elrod said.

Dr. Edward J. Cooper is head of the department of emergency medicine and he has promised to work to recruit local doctors for the program.

According to Dr. Cooper, the volume of emergency cases brought to the hospital is expected to increase as knowledge of the facilities becomes more widely known.



ABOVE: Joe Dennis, a therapy aide in the Physical Therapy Department, assists patient Christy Dillon in gait training.



ABOVE: Nurse Leah Treadway carefully examines information from the Corometric Fetal Monitor which is an important part of labor room care for expectant mothers.

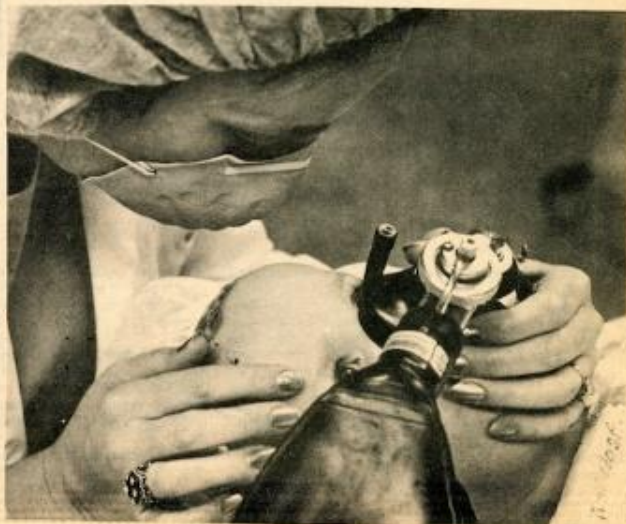


RIGHT: Rodney Loffin, RN, consoles little Phillip Hardin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry R. Hardin of Shreveport, who was at Willis-Knighton for a routine tonsillectomy.

BELOW: Nurse anesthetist Shirley Kelly tenderly administers anesthetic to young Phillip who soon will have his tonsils removed.



RIGHT: Personal concern is the keynote in pediatric care at Willis-Knighton and sometimes the children even have fun. Nurse Judy McClung transports Dion Wilson back to his room in the hospital's famous Kiddie Kar.



# 5 Doctors Serve Hospital 250 Years



**DR. THOMAS STRAIN:** "Then came penicillin. . ."

Through its 250-year history hundreds of doctors have been associated with Willis-Knighton. However, five of those doctors have been an integral part of the hospital since its beginning and have a total composite of 250 years service to the fast-growing institution.

The five, who received plaques for their long service during the 250th anniversary banquet Nov. 14, include Drs. Thomas E. Strain Sr., Erle Harris, W. Samuel Kerlin, Douglas Kerlin and Willis P. Butler.

Recently, during an interview, the doctors discussed a wide

"Then came penicillin," Dr. Strain said. "We've had more improvements in my lifetime than in all the previous history of medicine."

Dr. Strain, who came to Willis-Knighton as an intern in 1925, was the first young doctor to serve a full internship at the institution.

About the current operation of the hospital, Dr. Strain said, "Good doctors going at medicine the right way—that's what they're building on here."

The 77-year-old Dr. Strain, is a 1925 graduate of the Baylor University School of Medicine in Dallas, Tex., and the founder of Strain Clinic in 1964.

Although he is semi-retired, he says, "I'm still practicing some and fishing a little more than usual."

Dr. W. Samuel Kerlin well remembers when the great depression hit the country in 1929.

"We had to close the second floor of the hospital because

Texas Avenue where he got off the trolley to ask a bystander how to get to Charity Hospital.

He said when he arrived at Charity he was wearing a suit his mother had made for him back in Tennessee.

"After spending the entire night riding the train my britches and suit coat looked a mess," Dr. Harris said. "I was wearing a 25 cent straw hat which had gotten wet and the brim had fallen off—and that's how I looked when I walked into Charity Hospital."

Dr. Harris said he was carrying a cardboard valise which had gotten wet and he had to hold it upside down to keep the contents "from falling out."

"When the nurses saw me they got together and had a good laugh," he said.

Dr. Harris says through the years he has attempted to evaluate the changes in medicine and learn something every day.

"Personal contact—patient to doctor and doctor to patient has



**DR. SAMUEL KERLIN:** "... a great past, a wonderful future"

centration on the patients and the doctor's relationship to the patient," he said. "When that relation is eliminated there's nothing that can replace it."

"We simply see too many patients and don't have enough time to talk over their personal problems with them," he added. "And when you eliminate that you don't have much left."

Dr. Kerlin retired in 1965 after 52 years of practicing medicine. The 79-year-old doctor is a 1920 graduate of the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans.

Dr. Butler, who began his practice of medicine in Shreveport in 1912, said that his

profession, pathology, has changed so much in the last 53 years "that you wouldn't know it was the same thing."

The 88-year-old Dr. Butler said, "Willis-Knighton Hospital is my first love and has been since 1925."

Hospital president James K. Elrod said of the five doctors, "They have been supporters of quality health care and many of the younger doctors look up to them as guiding lights in their lives."

Elrod added, "Their loyalty has caused the younger doctors to have the same kind of dedication to the hospital and the community."



**DR. WILLIS BUTLER:** "Willis-Knighton. . . my first love."

people just weren't coming in for treatment," Dr. Kerlin said. "A few months later the East Texas oil field came in and from that time on the hospital was full."

"People like Dr. Willis and Dr. Knighton really put this hospital together," he said. "Although it has a great past it also has a wonderful future."

"The golden years of medicine were the years when people paid you in chickens and turnip greens—then there wasn't so much emphasis on money," he said. "During the depression when people came in without money we just treated them anyway and never thought anything about it."

An internist, the 87-year-old Dr. Kerlin is a 1913 graduate of the Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans.

Dr. Erle Harris came to Shreveport in July of 1915.

He said that when he arrived here he caught a trolley down on Marshall Street and rode to

been the key to any success I may have had," Dr. Harris said.

The 83-year-old Dr. Harris is a 1915 graduate of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. Douglas Kerlin is a younger brother of Dr. Samuel Kerlin and served as a consulting psychiatrist at the hospital from the time it was taken over by Drs. Willis and Knighton in 1928. In 1935 the hospital organized its first psychiatric department and named Dr. Kerlin head of the department where he served until 1962.

"There's too much socialism in medicine today in the form of government intervention which puts too many burdens on doctors," he said.

He also said he had noticed a trend toward "too much intellectualization" which affects doctors today.

"There's not enough con-



**DR. DOUGLAS KERLIN:** "... too much intellectualization."



**DR. ERLE HARRIS:** "Personal contact... key to success."



A view from Virginia Avenue of the proposed expansion reveals the new construction (inside white lines) and also the new mall which will be built on Virginia Avenue.

## Hospital Hosts Nurses Reunion

A nurses reunion was held at the hospital on Dec. 2 and was attended by a number of alumni who graduated from the hospital's nurses training program up through 1950.

Known as the Tri-State School of Nursing, the school opened in 1929 and continued through 1950 when the hospital entered into a clinical affiliation with Northwestern State University in Natchitoches.

During a program which was held in the hospital's cafeteria, hospital president James K. Elrod brought the graduates up to date on recent hospital developments. Also, the oldest graduate and the one traveling the furthest to attend the reunion were honored.

Mrs. Opal Wimberly, who was the last president of the nurses alumni association, presided over the events and also conducted a brief business meeting. She currently serves as in-service education director for the hospital.

A style show depicting nurses uniforms from 1929 to the present time, also was held during the reunion.

According to Mrs. Wimberly, the nurses training program has changed considerably since 1929.

"The basic difference is that Tri-State was a diploma program," she said. "Most of our work then was done strictly at the hospital. But under our present program the trainees spend two years on the college campus before being introduced to the hospital."

She said it takes the young nurses a little longer to get adjusted but after the period of adjustment "they do quite well."

"Earlier our training was directed more toward clinical experience than theory," she said.

Mrs. Wimberly said she likes the changes that have taken place in nurses education and added, "It's come a long way."

"When it was known as Tri-State School of Nursing we didn't have practical nurses to assist, no aides, or orderlies—nurses did all of this in addition to taking care of patients," she said. "Now the young nurses get to spend more time learning as hospitals have come a long way in providing these other services."

According to Mrs. Wimberly, nursing students today spend two years on the college campus then come to Willis-Knighton for their clinical practice which takes an additional two years and leads to a bachelor of science degree. They then are eligible to take the state board examinations and are licensed as registered nurses.

Back in 1925 when the hospital—then known as the Tri-State Sanitarium—first opened its doors, Shreveport's population was only 67,966 but was becoming a booming industrial town.

The city was noted for its glass manufacturing industry and already was known for its rich

oil and gas fields. Agriculture and lumber also were enviable natural resources.

Mayor L.E. Thomas was serving his second term in office and was working on the incorporation of Cedar Grove and the annexation of 26 square miles within the city limits.

"Hello World, Doggone Va" rang through the air for the first time as KWKH Radio introduced Shreveporters to the wonderful world of radio.

On Thanksgiving of that year an important event occurred. Two prominent Shreveport physicians, Dr. L.H. Perkle and Dr. T.E. Williams, founded what today is Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital.

From 1929 to 1949 the privately-owned institution operated under the leadership of Dr. J.C. Willis and Dr. J.E. Knighton and continued to be known as the Tri-State Sanitarium.

In 1949 the hospital became a not-for-profit institution known as the Shreveport Hospital and Research Center. In 1961 once again the name was changed, this time to Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital in honor of Doctors Willis and Knighton.

Although in the early days the hospital aimed at treating oil field employees, railroad and glass plant workers in West Shreveport and East Texas, it soon developed into a recognized medical center.

In the last decade the hospital has grown from 89 beds to a 455-bed complex providing both acute and custodial care.

Today the medical center employs about 1,000 persons in technical, medical, administrative and supportive medical services, with more than 600 employed by the hospital alone.

The not-for-profit facility is governed by a board of trustees with representatives from various sectors of the community. The hospital president is charged with implementing board policies and coordinating all facilities within the total complex.

Doctors Perkle, Williams, Willis and Knighton established the hospital with high professional standards which contributed to the growth of the institution. The hospital always has been fully accredited by the highest national authority in the evaluation of hospital standards, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals.

The hospital was first in three major surgical procedures in the Ark-La-Tex. Implantation of the first atomic pacemaker and the first intraocular lens, and the first ultrasound method of cataract removal were performed at Willis-Knighton. Procedures in the surgery department have increased from 1,264 to 7,000 during the past 10 years.

Today the hospital is served by 191 physicians and has one of the youngest medical staffs in the city. The average age of staff physicians is 37.

## Willis-Knighton Serves Wide Area

The geographical locations from which patients come to Willis-Knighton have changed a lot during the past 10 years.

A decade ago the hospital's service primarily was confined to the people of West Shreveport. Of course, there were occasional patients who came from out of Caddo Parish and

even from out of state.

However, about 10 years ago a trend developed and continued which led to the fact that today about 34 per cent of all patients at the hospital are from outside of Caddo and Bossier parishes.

Hospital president James K. Elrod believes that one of the major reasons why so many

patients are coming from out of parish—as well as out of state—is that the hospital has become known as a medical center.

Among the 34 per cent who come to the hospital from out of the area are those from East Texas, Southeast Arkansas, from various areas of Louisiana and from other states.

Recently, the hospital joined an international renal dialysis network for treating patients with chronic kidney failure.

Patients who have used the facilities have come from Oklahoma, Mississippi, Kansas, California, Illinois, Alabama, Michigan, Missouri, Washington, D.C., and Ohio.

## J. B. Reflects On Hospital Changes

Things have changed a lot at Willis-Knighton—all for the better, according to orderly J.B. Charles, who joined the staff as a porter 43 years ago.

As J.B. reflects back on those years he recalls the indelible impressions that people—doctors, nurses and patients—have made on his life.

"I like to go home at night thinking I've helped someone during the day and that gives me the strength to do my best tomorrow," the 63-year-old Charles said. "It makes me feel real good when I meet people on the streets and they recognize my face and say 'You helped me while I was in the hospital.'"

Then, Charles remembers the day a pig paid a visit to the hospital.

"In the old building we once had a visit from a pig who fell out of a truck out on the highway," he said. "He walked right up the ramp to the emergency room and into the hallway before we caught him."

He added, "We called the police to come and get the pig and I just told them the pig was sick and stopped off at Willis-Knighton to get some medicine."

The hospital holds another

particularly important place in his memory.

When he first walked into the hospital in 1932 to apply for a job the first person he met was a young woman named Adeline.

"When I came out here she was the first person I talked with," he said. "She was the one who showed me where the administrator's office was."

A short time later he and Adeline were married.

He said that in addition to his wife, the two most important things in his life are working at the hospital and fishing.

"I like to fish, that's my life—working and fishing," he said. "And I have pretty good luck with both."

However, he said Adeline, who doesn't like to fish, tells him, "I haven't lost nothing in that water."

"But she does clean the fish for me," he said.

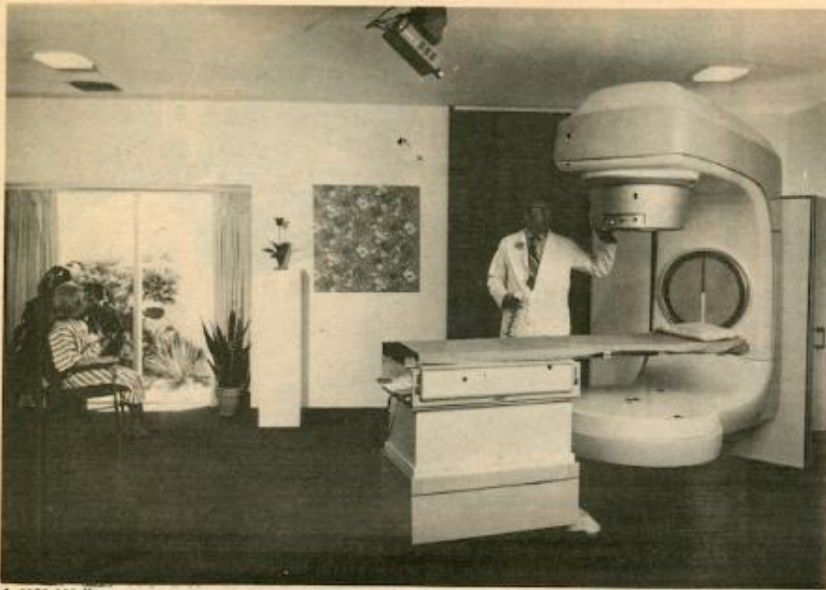
J.B. said he was only 20 when he came to Willis-Knighton looking for a job but that he had been supporting his elderly grandmother since he was 14.

When asked if he is thinking about retirement, J.B. replied, "Not at all—I'd get tired doing nothing but fishin'."



J. B. disconnects catheter equipment





A \$250,000 linear accelerator, like the one above, has been purchased by Willis-Knighton and is being installed at the present time.

## Willis-Knighton: A Medical Center

Through the years—and particularly the last decade—Willis-Knighton has become known as a medical center.

There are a number of factors which have led to the medical center concept.

During the past 10 years some 57 physicians have been recruited and have located their offices near the hospital and practiced solely at Willis-Knighton. These include a number of specialists.

According to hospital president James K. Elrod, as the specialists begin their practice at the hospital the hospital purchases equipment for them to use as tools in their work.

Elrod also pointed to the fact that during the past decade the hospital has spent \$10.5 million

on construction and equipment—much of the equipment to be used by the specialists practicing at the hospital.

Elrod said one of the reasons for the "regional concept" which has evolved concerning the hospital is that it is located in the geographical center of the city.

"We have an ideal situation because we are located geographically almost in the hub of the city," Elrod said. "We are only five minutes from downtown and five minutes from the regional airport. Then, the intersection of Interstate 20 is only two blocks away from the hospital."

Also, Willis-Knighton has developed around it a complex made up of physicians' office buildings. The building also has a centralized laboratory and X-ray facility. The X-ray and laboratory facilities are used for outpatients under the professional supervision of the hospital's pathologists and radiologists.

Located immediately across the street from the hospital is an extended care nursing home which provides rehabilitative and restorative nursing services.

"It is a nursing home for custodial care—people living out their everyday lives with no unusual illnesses," said Elrod. "It is a place where geriatric patients live normal lives."

Also contributing to the medical center concept is the Shreveport Homecare Agency which cares for the patients after they go home.

Elrod said that Willis-Knighton also is planning for the future development of a satellite hospital in Southwest Shreveport and this also will add to the medical center concept.

Willis-Knighton has become more than a hospital—it now is a medical center, Elrod pointed out.

### Families Of Ill Patients Receive Special Service

Willis-Knighton has a special program for caring for families of critically ill patients.

Nursing Service provides the families of a seriously ill patient with private waiting rooms, counseling, medical attention and continuous reports on the condition of the patient. The CCU and ICU waiting rooms are near the Nursing Service Office, convenient for nursing personnel to attend the family and care for their needs.

Nursing personnel concern themselves with the emotional and psychological needs of the family. They alert ministers and other family members of the patient's condition and assist in any personal way during this critical period.

## Linear Accelerator Purchased By Hospital

The Department of Radiology and Nuclear Medicine at Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital is engaged in a comprehensive development program to provide the highest quality of diagnosis and treatment of the disease of cancer.

Dr. Walter Snow, head of the department, says more than \$1.4 million has recently been invested in sophisticated diagnostic and therapy equipment. More than 25 persons staff the Brown Memorial Diagnostic and Treatment Center which is located in the basement of the hospital. Patients are treated on an out-patient and in-patient basis and are referred from physicians throughout the Ark-La-Tex.

According to Snow, there is a continual upgrading of equipment and personnel to meet the needs of the community with innovative techniques and equipment.

#### Cancer Detection

Utilized in cancer detection is the conventional X-ray equipment with the most recent addition of a Xerography Unit. The Xerography equipment provides radiologist with extremely accurate and detailed X-rays. Through the use of Xerography, breast cancer can be detected at an early state. Snow explained that the equipment can also be used to diagnose other small lesions throughout the body.

Conventional X-ray procedures have been upgraded with patients receiving shorter exposure times.

Willis-Knighton has a remote control three-phase X-ray unit which allows the technician to visually trace irregularities in great detail with better quality. These exams are extremely accurate and reduce repeated tests.

Tomograms are used to screen a particular body section with

films portraying a thin slice of a specific body area. This technique is used throughout the body with the physicians moving layer to layer in search of a possible mass lesion or bone destruction.

One of the most innovative highly-technical pieces of equipment soon to be installed at Willis-Knighton is the \$400,000 computerized axial tomography. According to Dr. Snow, this equipment will provide the physician with an extremely detailed view of any part of the body with computerized slides

showing masses and irregularities presently invisible to the human eye. "This computerized Axial Tomography is so revolutionary that the authorities say it is the greatest advance in diagnostic abilities since the discovery of the X-ray in 1895," Snow said, adding that this equipment should be in use at Willis-Knighton within the next six months.

In Nuclear Medicine, flow studies are being done to study various parts of the body for obstruction and for cancer. The new Radioimmunoassay (RIA)

equipment allows physicians to make extremely accurate computerized determinations on many tests which previously had to be tested chemically or biologically. Thousands of tests can be run daily at less expense to the patient.

#### Cancer Treatment

Willis-Knighton, in addition to their traditional Ortho-voltage X-ray treatment for non-deep-seated tumors, recently purchased a \$250,000 Linear Accelerator which has a super voltage capability and can enhance the treatment of cancer

patients with deep-seated lesions.

This equipment has the capability of treating large cancer areas and is particularly advantageous in treating certain types of Hodgkins Disease and Lymphoma.

Although this equipment is quite costly, the cost to the patient will be less expensive than in the past, according to Dr. Snow. "For one thing, the length of treatment will be shortened, and it will be convenient for persons who previously had to travel out of town for treatment."

Willis-Knighton also provides cancer therapy with radioactive materials. Snow explained that the hospital has resources to do various intra-cavitary radium treatments which are frequently used in the treatment of cancer of the cervix and uterus. Also available for therapy use is radioactive phosphorus and radioactive iodine for the treatment of thyroid, breast and prostate cancers.

Dr. Snow calls the department a "full-service" radiological center with a complete approach in treating cancers.

Willis-Knighton has established a working arrangement with a Houston, Tex. medical unit whereby computers in the Houston medical unit can analyze "patient contours" sent from Willis-Knighton and recommend treatment programs after the disease has been localized.

Dr. Snow emphasized the hospital's continual efforts in upgrading personnel as well as equipment.

"We can have the best equipment in the world but it would benefit no one if we couldn't use it," he said, adding that technicians and physicians constantly are attending seminars and classes as part of a continuing education program.



Radiology specialist Dr. Clinton Lewis reads nuclear medicine studies. He is looking at a bone scan, lung ventilation and perfusion scans and a heart flow study. As he reads the studies, he dictates his findings into a dictaphone to be transcribed into notes.

## Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery Has 24-Hour Monitoring

Special care for premature babies and babies with other medical problems is provided in Willis-Knighton's Neonatal Intensive Care Nursery.

In operation about one year, the intensive care nursery is staffed by 14 specially trained nurses with registered nurses on duty 24-hours a day to provide around the clock coverage.

Eleven staff pediatricians utilize the nursery's facilities and for special problems, neonatologists from Louisiana State University School of Medicine are on call.

The nursery is equipped with sophisticated monitoring equipment and warmers to adequately care for the neonates. One piece of equipment, the Apnea Heart Monitor, alerts the medical team if the baby stops breathing or if there is any irregularity in the heart beat.

At the present time the nursery can accommodate five moderately ill babies. Additional respirators and monitors have been ordered by the hospital to care for more babies requiring intensive care.

The majority of babies requiring the neonatal intensive care nursery are premature babies. Their length of stay varies from six weeks to three months, depending on weight and general condition. Mothers

are encouraged to visit their babies while being cared for in the nursery to become familiar with special care which must be provided.

National statistics indicating a drop in the birth rate do not pertain to Willis-Knighton's labor and delivery department. There has been more than a 200 per cent increase in the number of deliveries in the past ten years.

Mrs. Margaret Atkins, supervisor of the department, says there has been a continuous rise in the number of births and this is because of the addition of five new staff OB-Gyn physicians.

Also Mrs. Atkins notes the utilization of the \$7,000 fetal monitor which allows nurses and physicians to determine the baby's heart beat and uterine contractions while the mother is in labor. The monitor prints this vital information on a graph for easy reading by medical personnel.

The fetal monitor is used in high risk pregnancies, when labor is induced and when there is any question about possible complications in delivery. The monitoring equipment is painless and can be attached externally for reading.

According to Mrs. Atkins, the baby business at Willis-Knighton is really booming.



Nurse Olive Savell examines the fetal monitor attached to a newborn baby.

## Employees Term Willis-Knighton Hospital 'A Family With Lots Of Warm People'

Willis-Knighton employs people who genuinely believe in its philosophy and actions in health care. More than 500 full-time employees were polled recently on why they like to work at Willis-Knighton and the majority of the responses indicated that Willis-Knighton is like "a family with lots of warm people."

Responses ranged from "we give the best in patient care" to "patients are people as well as patients."

Individual answers to the question "I like to work at Willis-Knighton because" were:

"The staff all work together. The patient gets excellent care. The doctors as well as other professionals see the patient as an individual not as a disease or injury." Susan Chandler—Respiratory Therapy.

"The hospital staff is like a family. People are friendly and eager to do their jobs. Among many of the staff, there is much love and happiness. These qualities are found in a true family." Robert P. Devon—Microbiology.

"There is a closeness in the working conditions in our office and hospital. It is like one big happy family." Debbie Valentine—Admitting Office.

"Our nursing and medical staffs really care about their patients and we have administrative staff members who exercise authority without creating an atmosphere of regimentation—I love getting up in the morning knowing this is where I'll be coming to work." Joan Holland—Nursing Service.

"The people are friendly and I like doing things for people who can't do for themselves." Esther Thomas—ICU.

"The employees all care about

the well-being of our patients. I like being a part of the service to the patients and help them in some small way." Edna Massey—X-ray.

"Willis-Knighton is home to me. I'm happy here. I was born here." Sandra Davis—X-ray.

"I have the privilege of serving the sick and discouraged people in the community in some small way." Emma J. Bryant—Building Service.

"I receive a great deal of satisfaction from working with people and enjoy helping them." Brian F. Posey—Central Supply.

"The congenial atmosphere and friendly relationship of all employees, not only in one department but every department. The relationship between the medical staff and all ancillary services is of a cooperative nature in delivering quality patient care." Jan Haffey—Medical Records.

"I know I'm part of a team that strives to give the very best in individual patient care." Pamela Yeager—EEG Lab.

"The people are warm and friendly and a pleasure to work with." Sara Kennedy—Nursing Service.

"The congenial co-workers, from maintenance through nursing personnel, they all show they care." Patricia DeMoss—4th Floor.

"The staff is friendly and cooperative and very helpful." N. Remedies—3C.

"I have been here a number of years and the people here are just another part of my family." Catherine Sistrunk—3B.

"The staff and personnel make you feel as you belong." Rachel Shelton—3B.

"The warm, friendly, compassionate and family attitude exhibited by the administration and all employees." Francis Poxley—Nursing Service.

"The people I work with are extremely nice." Billie L. Thomas—Emergency Room.

"I am most happy and content in the department in which I work. Also I have a great admiration for the employees and

the doctors in the hospital." Marjorie Rambin—Emergency Room.

"It is gratifying to me to know that in some way I am contributing to someone's well-being. Generally speaking, all of us have to work for a living and what better way than with people you like and doing work that you like." J.A. Schmidt—Purchasing.

"I have worked at Willis-Knighton since 1949 and they have shown me every consideration and courtesy possible. I love our hospital." E. Harrington—3A.

"The doctors and nurses are genuinely concerned about our patients." Natalie Wilson—4th Floor.

"Friendly atmosphere between staff and doctors and other personnel. It has offered special classes and seminars to attend which has helped me give better nursing care." Rita J. Repood—ICU.

See EMPLOYEES Page 11



This rocking chair is a permanent fixture in the hospital's pediatric recovery room. Nurse Xenia Sebastian here rocks a little boy who has had his tonsils removed.

## Patients Are Hospital's Stockholders

"Our patients are our only stockholders," said hospital president James K. Elrod while discussing the comparison between the not-for-profit status of the hospital as compared to its proprietary status of the past.

"This hospital never has accepted a penny in federal grants of any kind," Elrod said.

However, without federal grant assistance the hospital has spent \$10 million on

building expansion and equipment during the last decade.

Expansion programs included the following: 1965, \$3.2 million; 1967, \$1.5 million; 1969, \$1.2 million; 1972, \$1.2 million; and 1973, \$2.2 million.

According to Elrod, the original structure of what is now the Willis-Knighton Memorial Hospital was erected in 1926 as the Tri-State Sanitarium and operated 24 years as a proprietary (for profit)

hospital. In 1949 the hospital was incorporated as a not-for-profit institution.

"Our not-for-profit status permits continued growth since every penny of profit derived from the operation of this hospital is returned to our patients by maintaining and improving the services given to them," Elrod said. "A lot of people think you have to run to Uncle Sam every time you need something but this hospital has proven that is not so."

# Statistics Gauge Hospital Growth

Statistics are an outward barometer that reveal the inward care, growth and development of Willis-Knighton.

Although statistics sometimes fail to reveal some of the really important things — like a doctor talking to an expectant father in a waiting room, a nurse's gentle care of a restless patient or the smile of a pretty young lady staff member as she walks down the hall — hospital statistics vividly portray the overall picture of the institution.

More than a 900 per cent increase is reflected in the statistical data on the annual budget. Although it was \$1.3 million 10 years ago, the budget for next year is \$13.2 million. The budget graph reveals a steady growth over the 10-year period.

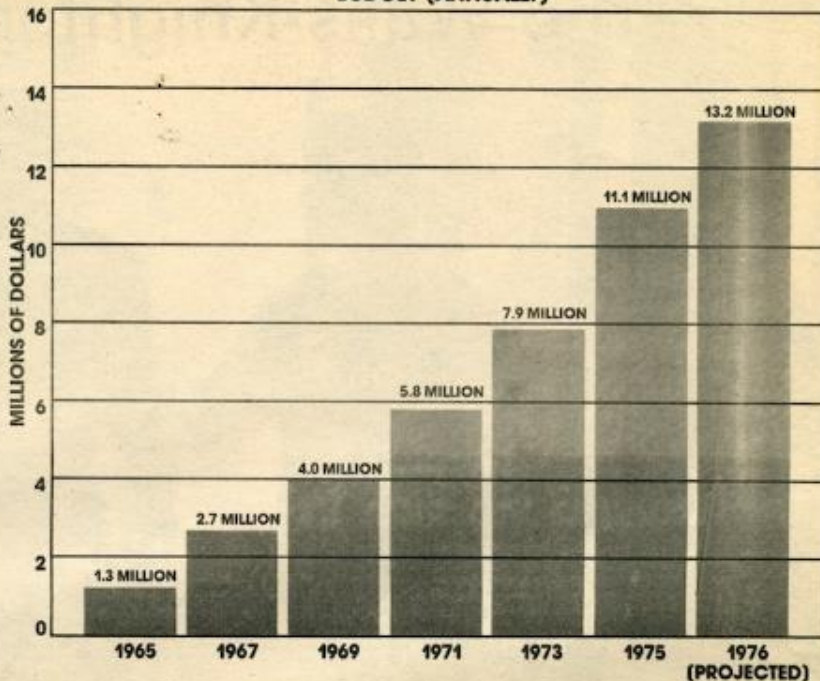
Admissions 10 years ago totaled 4,400 but soared to 14,080 this year for a 220 per cent increase. During the same period annual surgical procedures increased from 1,954 to about 7,000 or an increase of 258 per cent.

Monthly births increased from 25 per month in 1965 to 78 per month 10 years later for an increase of 212 per cent. Also, per month emergency room visits totaled only 260 in 1965 but today have reached 1700 per month for an increase of 553 per cent. They are expected to reach as many as 3,000 in the near future.

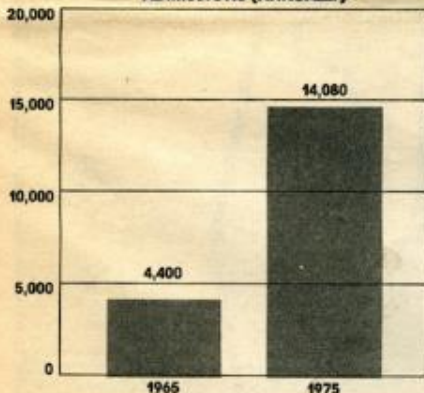
Statistics never can tell the story of a doctor who works 48 hours without sleep caring for a premature baby, of an administrative staff member who devotes much of his own time working with crippled children or the doctors and nurses in the emergency room who 24-hours a day care for emergency patients while Shreveport is asleep.

But these statistics do tell their own story — one of development, growth and excellence. They reveal the past record of Willis-Knighton that has made it one of the fastest growing hospitals in Louisiana. It is on that record that the hospital is building for the future.

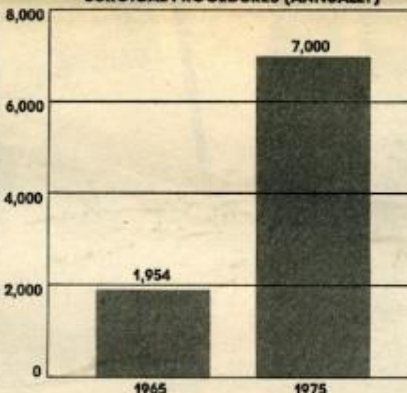
BUDGET (ANNUALLY)



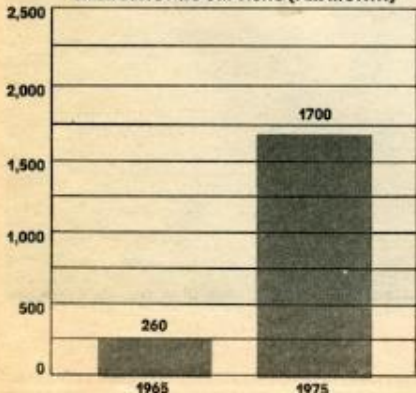
ADMISSIONS (ANNUALLY)



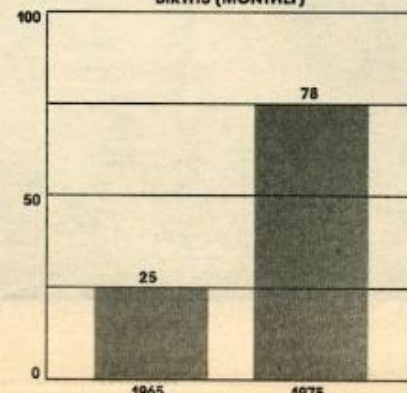
SURGICAL PROCEDURES (ANNUALLY)



EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS (PER MONTH)



BIRTHS (MONTHLY)



## EMPLOYEES

Continued from Page 10

"the personnel work well as a team." T. Gibson—2A.

"the friendly atmosphere, people who really care and patients keep coming back. Patients tell us this is the friendliest hospital in town." Bruce Godwin—3C.

"it gives me a lot of personal satisfaction to know I played a small part in helping someone to get well and go home again." Freddie Moseley—Dietary.

"because Willis-Knighton is a place everyone can care for the sick in some way." Lillie Hays—Dietary.

"it is a good job and I love my job." David Chatman Sr.—Housekeeping.

"I enjoy the type of work I do and the people I work with. Having been here 28 1/2 years it has become a part of me." James Johnson—Emergency Room.

"it has given me the opportunity to learn and experience the joy of caring and understand those of us who are ill. It has helped me to broaden my interests and goals in life. Working here I feel that I have become a better person, inspired by my co-workers to get ahead. I feel that my skills have been greatly increased and I have found a new awareness through helping and learning with others. The experiences I have encountered here have made me fully aware of the sufferings that face us today and working here, with people who really care and who are capable of showing love and affection, has helped to make me realize and know that

this is a very 'special' and 'important' place to work and grow." Dorothy Mae Smith—3C.

## Willis-Knighton Hospital Takes Victims of MD

Willis-Knighton's Muscular Dystrophy Clinic receives patients on the third Thursday of each month from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

According to Nurse Opal Wimberly, about 10 to 12 patients attend the clinic each month where they are examined by orthopedic surgeons and pediatricians.

Mrs. Wimberly said that while the patients are in the clinic any necessary laboratory or X-ray work is done. The clinic also provides braces and wheelchairs for those who need them.

At the clinic those persons suspected of having the muscular dystrophy disease can have their specific needs diagnosed.

The Muscular Dystrophy Association's local chapter fills the needs of those requiring prescriptions, whether they be for braces, wheelchairs, hospital beds or whatever else is needed.

Although the specific cause of the disease still is unknown, those in the Shreveport area who suffer from the disease can take hope in such clinics as the one operated at Willis-Knighton.

# The Willis-Knighton Story



*...People Caring For People*