



ETHEL ERICKSON
Superintendent

Tuberculosis Hospital

ANYONE who has ever been associated with Tuberculosis, knows the vast amount of work that can be done in any community, large or small, both in treatment, investigation of cases and regular tuberculosis clinics. Oakland County has not turned a deaf ear to the many sufferers and much work has already been accomplished. The program now nearing completion will place this county at the very top in respect to tuberculosis work.

At present, a twenty bed hospital is maintained on Oakland Avenue, near the city limits. This is an old residence remodeled somewhat for this purpose and from the day it opened there has always been a waiting list. We have not been able to admit children under ten years of age.

From January 1st, 1926, to August 20th, 1926, thirty-six patients were admitted. This number does not seem large, but when the average length of stay of a tubercular patient in a hospital is considered it averages a bed capacity. It must also be remembered that the County is almost daily sending cases to Ann Arbor or to Howell for treatment.

The present hospital admits private and indigent cases but is not in a position to handle efficiently some of the various forms of tuberculosis. We have a competent trained nurse as Superintendent and the medical care is under the general supervision of the County Physician. A nurses' home is maintained nearby.

The new Tuberculosis Hospital, now under construction and ready for occupancy about April 1st next year, will be one of the most modern in the country. After much deliberation and advice from the best experts, the present site in Waterford Township on the Union Lake Road, 7½ miles from Pontiac, was selected. The property consists of 80 acres of high rolling ground and well wooded. The present building is situated on a high knoll about one-half mile from the road and 70 feet above it. Six lakes can be seen from this point. On the main road and at the entrance to the grounds stands a completed nurses' home. Twenty nurses can be accommodated here. Old farm buildings were razed, the property graded and beautified by jail labor and the coming of Spring will see a beautiful lawn.

The new hospital is built on a "Y" shaped plan, affording sunlight and air to every part. The windows are large enough to permit sun treatment, eliminating the necessity of building sun porches. Ward beds and private rooms will be available. Children will be separated from the adults and separate floors for male and female patients. In fact, nothing has been overlooked in making this building complete.

Many cases come to our attention which cannot be diagnosed as definite tuberculosis but which should be treated as such. This applies especially to children. Fresh air, rest and a balanced diet extended over the summer months will do much to prevent these children from developing tuberculosis. They will be trained how to live, how to exercise and do the things that mean most to their future well-being. This phase of the work is just as essential as the treatment of developed cases, in fact more so. In view of these types of cases a 40-bed preventorium is to be constructed in the spring.

A garage and a home for the Superintendent and Physician in charge is to be built very soon.

In the line of equipment, nothing will be omitted. X-ray and all the modern methods of examination and treatment will be available.

Radio plugs for each bed are to be installed for the patients amusement, which phase in the treatment of tuberculosis is very essential. At this writing a new type of window glass, which acts very much the same on a patient as the very much used Alpine Sun Lamp, is being investigated and quite likely to be installed.

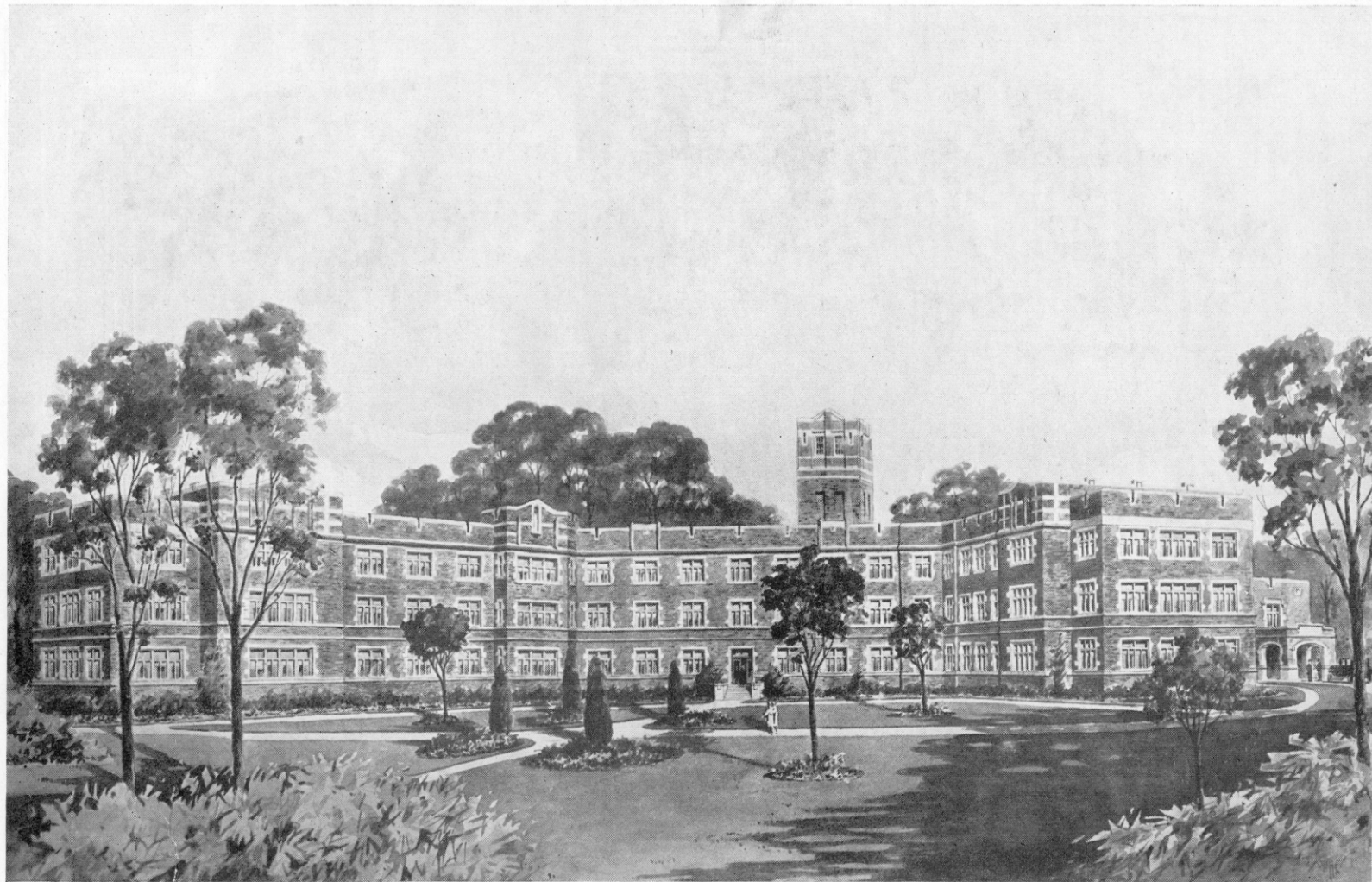
It is very difficult to picture this project to one's minds in a few words, and when the new hospital is opened in the Spring the builders of this institution will be proud to have all inspect it.

DR. JOHN D. MONROE, County Physician.
ETHEL ERICKSON, Superintendent.





PRESENT T. B. HOSPITAL—OAKLAND AVENUE



OAKLAND COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL—UNDER CONSTRUCTION