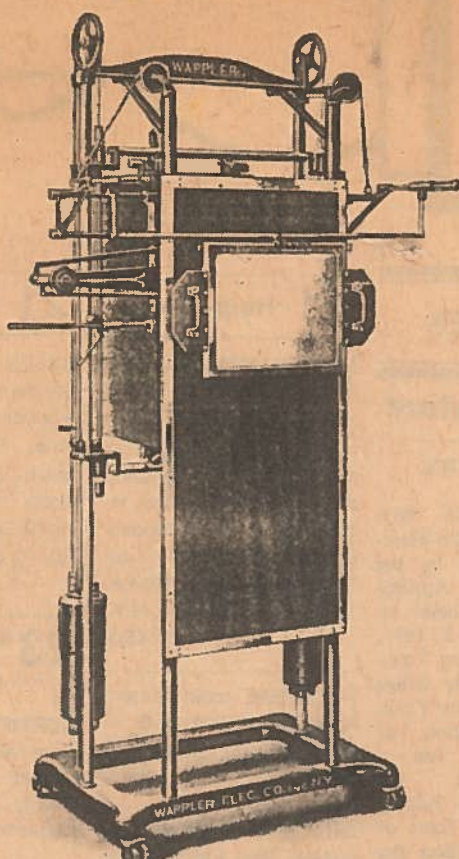


PART OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT



Vertical Fluoroscope. Height 7 ft. 4 in. Width of Base 2 ft. 10 in. Net weight 590 lbs. Presents on screen image of any part of body desired

## X-Ray At AGMH

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Arnold Gregory Memorial Hospital is in its 75th year of service to the people living within central and eastern Orleans County. To commemorate this 75 years of dedicated service the hospital is now involved in what they have termed an "Extra Step" capital fundraising campaign. The purpose is to modernize and upgrade the Arnold Gregory Memorial Hospital's facilities so as to enable the hospital to rededicate itself to the health care needs of its patients. "Extra Step" provides an opportunity to support life-saving work in six key areas identified by the hospital's Board of Trustees. Donors may choose to support any or all of these key areas by designation of their gift. These six areas include: Emergency Room Expansion, Physical Plant Management, Ophthalmologic and Microsurgery, New X-ray Suites, Laboratories Improvement and Medical/Surgical Equipment.

Of the six identified areas it is X-ray which has been budgeted to receive the most amount of money. In fact, of the \$700,000 overall goal in "Extra Step", \$280,000 is required for X-ray improvement. This money will replace equipment and renovate the two radio-graphic suites in the hospital's X-ray department. Because of the age of the present equipment, repairs are difficult due to the availability of parts. In Room #1 there is a Westinghouse unit which was installed in 1969. Room #2's apparatus dates to 1961 and has become largely obsolete. In fact, the fluoro part of the unit was disconnected several years ago because of its age. Certain attachments are not usable because the table design is incompatible with the types of tomograph accessories now manufactured. In a recent test done by a Physicist it was found that the Radiologist is getting only about 30% of the normal visual quality necessary in the present equipment in Room #1. By replacing the present equipment better care and increased volume will result.

Let's now look at all this X-ray business in an historical perspective. The first X-ray outfit installed at AGMH occurred in 1921. At that time the Albion Chapter American Red Cross appropriated \$2,000 to place X-ray equipment in the hospital in the interests of public health. Hospital management agreed to install, maintain it and give free use of it all soldiers of the World War residing in Albion, Barre, Carlton and Gaines and their dependents. The original outfit purchased by the Red Cross committee was Wappler equipment which consisted of an oil insulated high tension transformer, a vertical fluoroscope which is illustrated with this article and a tubestand for doing radiographic work. With this equipment the medical practitioner could then make radiographic and fluoroscopic examinations of all parts of the human body. Fractures, dislocations, sprains and displacements were then positively located as were foreign substances in the human system. This equipment was also especially useful for chest and gastrointestinal examinations. How wonderful a gift and what an improvement this equipment was for the patients of AGMH. The equipment shown here was used on the first floor of the old hospital adjacent to a developing room.

Considering the fact that it came in 1921, shows that AGMH was probably pretty well up-to-date at that time as it had only been about twenty-five years since the x-ray was discovered.

Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen (1845-1923) was a German physicist who in 1901 won the first Nobel prize in physics for his discovery of X-rays. From this discovery a new era was ushered in for modern physics and medicine. Roentgen was born in Lenep, Prussia and studied in Zurich, Switzerland. In 1888 he became a professor and director at the University of Wurzburg. It was in 1895 that he made his monumental