

Historical Figures and Facts
Medicine in the country/Indiana and the beginning of pediatrics as a specialty

1800's -Late 1800's in the United States only half a hundred physicians dealt with the care of children and, at that, only because of interest in children and still saw adults.

1849 – June 6 – Physicians at organizational meeting for the Indiana State Medical Association. Names of interest in that meeting were John L. Mothershead (father of future James Whitcomb Riley Memorial Association board member, Wilson Mothershead), John S. Bobbs of the publishing company, William H. Wishard (Father of William Niles Wishard) whose daughter, Elizabeth Moreland Wishard, wrote William Henry Wishard: A Doctor of the Old School.

1854 – Medical College of Evansville established and suspended in 1854, but was reorganized and reopened in 1871 and closed in 1884.

1862 – Indiana State Medical Society continued meeting during the Civil War.

1919 – Indiana University Medical School Building (now Emerson Hall) completed and opens.

1920 – IU Medical Center consisted of Long Hospital and the Medical School building (now Emerson Hall). City Hospital was in close proximity which was later called Marion County General Hospital, then Wishard and in 2011 changed to Eskenazi Hospital.

In the 1920's the faculty received no compensation.

(Following information from my typed Notes from 1992 – material written by me for Dr. Richard Schreiner for the School of Medicine along with the final report for the history of the Medical Center put together by Dr. Glenn Irwin) -- Plus other facts along the way.

1923 – Eli Lilly and Company began distributing insulin.

1924 – Mr. and Mrs. William H. Coleman donated \$250,000 for the erection of a woman's hospital in memory of their daughter, Suemma Vajen Coleman Atkins.

1928 – Penicillin discovered.

1928 – Ball Residence completed.

1930 – Kiwanis Wing (K-Wing) opens.

1931 – Rotary Convalescent Home building opens.

1931 – Dr. Lyman Meiks became the first full time faculty member in pediatrics at Riley Hospital for Children. He joined Dr. Matthew Winters who still continued as Chairman of the Department on a part time basis from 1931-1951.

1932 – June, Dr. Willis D. Gatch becomes Dean of the Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM). Dr. Clyde G. Culbertson organizes and becomes head of the IUSM Central Lab.

Dr. James O. Ritchey becomes Chair of the Department of Medicine (Ritchey Courtyard at Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health is named after him—now outside of Ronald McDonald House at Riley).

1935 – Hydrotherapy Pool added to Riley Hospital.

1936 – President Franklin Delano Roosevelt visits Riley Hospital for Children to see hydrotherapy pool as part of his visit to Indianapolis in September.

1936 – Campus becomes known as IU Medical Center Indianapolis.

1937 – Clinical Building (part of Long Hospital—built with WPA funds).

1939 – Faculty – Plastic Surgery – Dr. Harold M. Trusler Sr. Received national attention for his pioneering work in treatment of burns.

1939 – State Board of Health (SBH) building completed. In 1949, a new building was erected directly on Michigan Street. The old SBH building became known as Fesler Hall which had educational auditoriums, and housed offices for the Dean of School of Medicine and others.

1942 – WWII accelerated medical school early graduations.

1944 – December -- Dr. Morris Green and other medical students went directly into military service after graduation.

1946 – Dr. Gatch resigns over disagreement with IU President, Herman Wells, on vision for IUSM. (In the Vo. 13, Issue 31 of the IU Newspaper on Oct. 13, 1989, it is reported that Dr. Gatch was the inventor of the forerunner of today's adjustable hospital bed. This was done while he was Chairman of Surgery.

1946 – July – Dr. John D. Van Nuys (pronounced Van Neees) accepted position of executive secretary of interim committee.

1946 – Dr. Dwain Walcher joined the faculty as an infectious disease physician being the second full-time member in 1946.

1946 – First heart surgery in Indiana was performed by Dr. Harris B. Shumacker Jr.

1946 – Clinical clerkships added to senior curriculum (one week in pediatrics).

1947 – September – Dr. Van Nuys was appointed Dean of the IUSM.

1947 – Medical research Building on Riley Hospital built with a \$250,000 grant from the Riley Memorial Association (RMA).

1950 – Research Building opens at Riley Hospital.

1950 – Dr. Paul Lurie joined the faculty as the 3rd full time member in July. He was the first pediatric cardiologist in Indiana and the first at Riley Hospital. He is considered one of the pioneers in pediatric cardiology. He left Riley Hospital for California and USC in 1967.

1951 -- Dr. Lyman Meiks became Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics from 1951-1967.

1952 – Dr. Jonas Salk and colleagues develop a potentially safe, injectable vaccine against polio. Vaccine became available in 1955 after announcement of successful field trials of the vaccine.

1952 – LaRue D. Carter Memorial Hospital opens.

1953 – Student Union building opens.

1954 – Cancer Research Wing at Riley Hospital opens.

1955 – Camp Riley opens at Bradford Woods.

1955 – Eli Lilly and Company was packing the newly discovered polio vaccine. Eli Lilly and Company was one of five U.S. companies to begin mass production. (Picture in INPerspective from the Indiana Historical Society May/June 2012: Volume 18/Number 3).

1958 – Medical School Building opened across the street from Riley Hospital. It is now called the Van Nuys Building. At this time the School was able to provide all four years of training at the Indianapolis Campus. Previously the first two years were all at Bloomington.

1958 – Kiwanis Diagnostic and Outpatient Clinic opened in the old area at Riley Hospital that had housed the faculty dining room. Eating facilities were now available in the Student Union building. This Center through the efforts of Dr. Morris Green brought national attention not only to Riley Hospital but to the Medical Center.

1963 – Krannert Institute of Cardiology dedicated.

1964 – First kidney transplant in an Indiana hospital was performed by Harold King at the IU Hospitals.

1965 – Medicare and Medicaid signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson.

1967 - *Taken from notes of Dr. Robert J. Haggerty's introduction of Dr. Green when he received the Joseph St. Geme Award in 1992.*

When Dr. Green became Chair in 1967, the annual budget of the pediatric department was \$400,000. In 1988 when he retired it was \$6.5 million. He expanded the outpatient visits from 17,000 in 1958 to over 100,000 today, built a research base in the department initiated by a fund from a remarkable locally grown organization – the Riley Memorial Association which many of have had the pleasure of sitting on, to award starter grants to his junior faculty and recruiting a faculty in all the subspecialties of pediatrics. When he became chair in 1967 there were four full time faculty in the department. When he retired there were fifty-nine. While Dr. Green is the epitome of the academic generalist, he has developed a series of subspecialties—a first-class trauma center, intensive care

newborn and children's units, a transplant center and a full array of inpatient as well as outpatient services.

Dr. Morris Green was Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics from 1967-1987.

1970 – Indiana University Hospital opened in January after many mishaps that included strikes by workers and building contractor disputes. Because of this when the new Riley addition was being planned much effort went into preplanning to be sure these kinds of problems would not exist.

1971 – Statewide medical education programs began. First two years of medical school could be obtained at Ft. Wayne, Evansville, Gary, Terre Haute, and Muncie in addition to programs that were already being used in West Lafayette, South Bend and Bloomington.

1971 – Phase II of Riley Hospital opens. Moving in began in stages. The Pediatric Department Offices moved to the 5th Floor East Wing to oversee the patient moves and other departmental offices.

The first procedure to repair tracheobronchial fistula in infants was pioneered at IU by Dr. James Battersby. It was one of the largest series of original clinical trials in the country. (From the IU Newspaper, October 13, 1989).

2011 – January 27 – Patients moved into the Simon Family Tower at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health.

Notes provided by Mary Ann Underwood, Assistant to Dr. Morris Green, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, 1967-1987. For more information about Mary Ann, see footnote #21 in Brief History of Department of Pediatrics.

Review and update March 4, 2018 by Riley Hospital Historic Preservation Committee.