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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
NEWS SERVICE
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WORK BEGINS
ON MASONIC
CANCER HOSPITAL

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

Ground-breaking ceremonies for the Minnesota Masonic Memorial hospital at Essex and Harvard streets, S. E., on the University of Minnesota campus were held at 3 p. m. Friday (May 17).

Representing Minnesota Masons, who are contributing \$1 million for construction of the cancer hospital, was Judge Leroy E. Matson, associate judge of the Minnesota supreme court and chairman of the Masonic Cancer Relief Committee of Minnesota. The University was represented by Dr. Harold S. Diehl, dean of the University college of medical sciences.

Ellerbe and company, St. Paul architects, designed the 80-bed hospital which will be open to all terminal cancer patients, regardless of race or creed, for whom no care now is available.

Scheduled for completion in the summer of 1958, the hospital will have a basement and two stories. Plans allow for future construction of two additional stories. The structure will be of concrete with a brick exterior and will contain 45,600 square feet of floor space.

The building will house a meditation room, lounge, dining room, craft room and its own kitchen facilities. An underground tunnel will connect it to the Mayo Memorial building and other University Medical Center buildings one block away.

Hospital construction is being financed by the Masons' contribution and a \$202,379 grant from the Hill-Burton funds of the United States Public Health Service.

(MORE)

MASONIC HOSPITAL

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On Friday, May 10, the University Board of Regents awarded the following construction contracts for the Masonic hospital totaling \$862,861: general construction, Viking Construction company, \$505,300; mechanical work, Spencer Air Conditioning, \$211,400; electrical installation, Sterling Electric company, \$74,962; elevator installation, Gust Lagerquist & Sons, \$39,333; and kitchen equipment, Gordon-Jensen, Inc., \$31,866 -- all of Minneapolis.

The fund-raising drive for the hospital, which will be administered and maintained by the University, began in December 1955, and Minnesota Masons and ladies of the Order of Eastern Star participated.

Clyde E. Hegman, chairman of the organization committee for the drive said that the balance of approximately \$150,000 is being raised in the next several weeks to complete the drive.

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