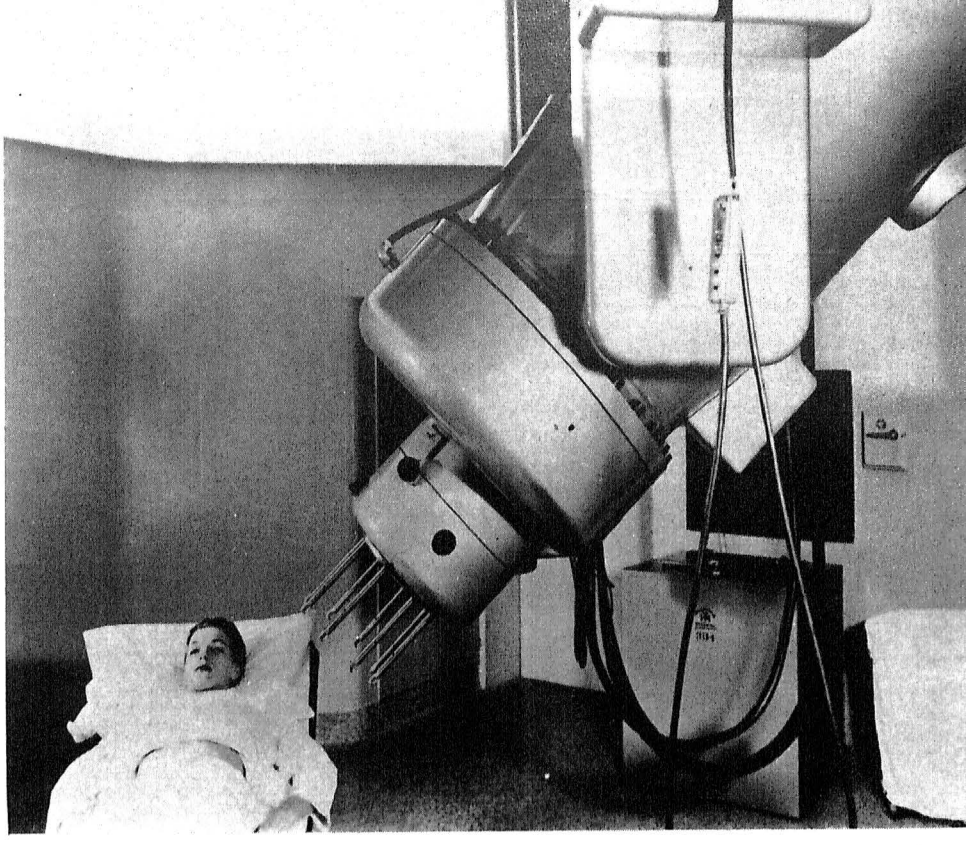
In the battle against cancer, the University and its School of Medicine have received a . . .

Powerful Gift



A TWO-MILLION-VOLT Van de Graaff X-ray generator designed for the treatment of cancer is to be given to the University and its School of Medicine. It will be a gift from the Donner Foundation of Philadelphia, one of the country's largest philanthropic foundations. A special underground laboratory will house the super-powerful equipment.

The machine is one of twelve which are being built by the High Voltage Engineering Corporation, Cambridge, Mass., for the Donner Foundation at a total cost of $822,000, and will be completed and delivered to the University early this year. The twelve machines are being awarded to hospitals and clinics selected as key centers for the treatment of deep-seated cancers.

The underground laboratory building will be built just east of the University's Teaching Hospital at an estimated cost of $55,000. Funds for the construction are available from a series of unrestricted gifts over the last three years.

President Elmer Ellis said much credit for obtaining the valuable gift should go to Dr. Roscoe L. Pullen, dean of the School of Medicine. He said Dean Pullen worked diligently in presenting the University's program to the Donner Foundation directors in support of his claim that the University of Missouri is a logical place for location of one of the twelve machines. He added that the excellent record being made by the University in re-establishing a four-year School of Medicine, and the policy set up by the Board of Curators for treatment of indigent patients in the new Teaching Hospital were also probable factors in the action of the Donner organization.

The Van de Graaff generator can provide radiation of an intensity several times greater than that obtainable from the world's entire radium supply. The machine was pioneered in the early 1940s by the High Voltage Laboratory of M.I.T. and nearly a score of the powerful X-ray generators are now in full scale clinical use here and in England. Robert J. Van de Graaff, physicist, developed the machine.

The Foundation stipulated that the equipment have suitable housing, a competent radiology staff, and that it be used to provide cancer treatment on a non-profit basis. Robert A. Maes, executive vice-president of the Donner Foundation, said the primary goal of the Foundation "is to make advanced therapy available to the greatest number of cancer victims regardless of their economic status." Hence, the stipulation that treatment be provided at cost.

Dean Pullen said that operation of the machine will be under direction of Dr. Gwilym S. Lodwick, professor and chairman of the department of radiology in the Medical School. The machine will be a regular part of the clinical equipment at the Teaching Hospital. It will also be available at times for cooperative use with the authorities of Ellis Fischel State Cancer Hospital, whose facilities have always been available for the clinical teaching program of the School of Medicine. Dean Pullen said that since the Fischel Hospital has recently received one of the largest and most modern cobalt machines for the treatment of cancer, acquisition of the Van de Graaff equipment will make Columbia one of the most important centers in the United States in research and treatment of cancer.