

THE VON KELLER HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION.

The explosion of 1915 totally destroyed one of the best institutions this city had, the Rose Croix hospital, which was located on Main street near the Whittington Hotel. This was a thoroughly modern sanitarium on a small scale, and was directed by two of the most skilled physicians and surgeons in the entire community—Drs. F. P. Von Keller and J. S. Son. This sanitarium seems to have started under a dark moon, as a fire in a hardware store beneath it partially destroyed it at one time, and in a few months later it was totally destroyed by the terrific explosion, after which time they decided not to rebuild for the present.

Recently, however, Dr. von Keller has organized a stock company with an authorized capital of \$30,000, which will be used to erect an up to date fireproof hospital building, one of the best to be found in the state. He has associated with him several of Ardmore's most competent surgeons and a number of physicians who will be interested in a financial way and who will carry their patients who need hospital treatment to this institution.

This building will be located in the northwest part of the city near Dr. von Keller's home, which is situated on one of the highest points to be found overlooking the city, giving excellent view of the surrounding country and making an ideal location for patients when they are recuperating. The building will be constructed of rough brick with stone trimmings and will have three exits. The first floor will have public wards and public baths and toilets, and there will be private rooms on this floor with baths, telephones, fans and signals. There will be screened sun parlors for convalescents on both the first and second floors on the west side of the building, which will be a great drawing card for patients inclined to be nervous. The second floor will be arranged similar to the first with the addition of general bath, both shower and tub. Bath rooms will have tiled floors, enamel finished walls and woodwork, guaranteeing perfect sanitation. The plumbing fixtures will be of the very best quality.

Ten-foot corridors will run the entire

length of both floors, all rooms entering from this hallway.

The institute will be run under the direction of a competent board of directors, with a staff of physicians and surgeons.

The operating room, which will be one of the finest equipped and most thoroughly modern to be found anywhere, will be located in the northwest corner of the building, on the second floor. The physicians' waiting rooms, sterilizing rooms, nurses' signal and chart rooms will also be located on this floor.

A part of the covering of the second floor will contain a magnificent skylight, arranged as are the skylights in the standard Pullman sleepers, serving also as ventilators for the room. This was one of Dr. von Keller's original ideas and will be a source of much pleasure at all times, especially in the winter season when sunlight is so necessary for the treatment of patients. This skylight will give much cheerfulness to the institution, and will add materially to the usefulness of the operating room. The operating room will be furnished further light from the sides, coming from the north and west, from the improved skylights.

The building was designed by Mr. J. B. White, of this city, who has become a noted architect in the last few years, and no expense has been spared in arranging the plans and none will be spared in the construction of the building. Every known convenience will be installed that may be found in any hospital in the United States of like size and no doubt this institution will become very popular within the next few months.

The location of the institution makes it most attractive, and the grounds will be so arranged with shade trees and lawn as to make it a place of beauty.

The board of directors of the association need no introduction to the citizens of this community as they are prominent men connected with most every big enterprise to be found in this section. They are: B. A. Simpson, Roy M. Johnson, L. H. Love, Harold Wallace, Frederick P. von Keller, Wirt Franklin, Mark Kirkpatrick, R. P. Poland, P. D. Maxwell, Max Westheimer and J. W. Harreld. These are all local men and well known throughout the entire section of the country.

The association was incorporated February 23, 1917, since which time due diligence has been given the arranging of plans and specifications and other details, with the result that the contract calls for the building ready for occupancy by September 1, 1917. The contract was awarded several weeks ago to Mr. Herber of Muskogee, and actual work will begin as soon as materials can be contracted for.

The von Keller Hospital will be open to all ethical physicians and surgeons who will be given the use of the operating rooms. The hospital will be devoted to general surgical cases and treatment of all diseases except contagious ones.

Dr. von Keller has built up in this community a wonderful practice both in medicine and surgery and is a notable physician and surgeon throughout the entire country, going each year to all of the principal medical associations in the United States and keeping thoroughly familiar with all new developments in this line. His associate, Dr. D. G. Johnson, is a well known physician in this community and has built up a very satisfactory practice and will be a drawing card for the institution. The stockholders are some of Ardmore's most progressive citizens who believe in the future of this city and in taking care of the sick and afflicted. The officers of the association are Dr. F. P. von Keller, president; J. W. Harreld, vice president; Dr. D. G. Johnson, secretary, and Perry Maxwell, treasurer.